



## **2014 Teacher Study Tours Quotes - Group 2**

“The time with Turkish Teachers to discuss life in Turkey provided a much appreciated perspective, which I am grateful for.”

- Kimberly McVey, Arapahoe High School, Colorado

“The study tour of Turkey is truly life changing. TCF takes excellent care of its teachers. This is a once in a life time opportunity not to be missed!”

- Lynne Johnson, Jefferson High School, Minnesota

“It’s hard to put into words exactly how incredible this experience was from the hotels we stayed in, to the food we ate, the sites we saw, to our magnificent guide, Orhan, everything was great. My high expectations were all surpassed. Thank you, TCF.”

- David Knoeckel, Cherry Creek High School, Colorado

“The TCF Study Tour gave me experiences that will greatly impact my classroom and colleagues, and others. I have a much better understanding of the vast history of Turkey and how it has shaped the country today. The first hand experiences from being immersed in Turkish culture and politics have opened my eyes to how important Turkey is in world affairs.”

- Jay Nelson, Orono Middle School, Minnesota

“Turkey is rich and dynamic culture with many historical influences. This tour brought aspects of the multi-dimensional country to life.”

- Paul Hoelscher, Clayton High School, Missouri

“The TCF’s Teacher Study Tour to Turkey is unbelievable. We saw so much and learned even more. The information was always being tied together from past sites which helped immensely. I will encourage all my colleagues to apply for this amazing opportunity.”

- Lisa Lemons, Grant Sawyer Middle School, Nevada

“Prior to coming to Turkey, my knowledge base about the country was fairly low. I have done other teacher study tours, but I am positive I learned more on this trip than on previous ones. It’s my goal and hope to be share this knowledge and passion about Turkey and pass it on to others in my community.”

- Jerry Bizjak, Albert Lea High School, Minnesota

“Turkey is a wonderful complex and dynamic country. It cannot be summarized neatly in one sentence. To understand Turkey you must take into account its long history, the role of Ataturk, the relationship between secular and religious beliefs and then you may come to understand the view that Turkey has of itself and its place in the world today.”

- Bret Thayer, Arvada West High School, Colorado

“The modern nation-state of Turkey is one that is steeped in history and diversity thanks to its location, Southwest Asia and its foothold in Europe, though it is so much more than the crossroads between the two continents. It is a modern nation with extensive manufacturing that balances its modern culture without sacrificing its past.”

- Robert Cowles, Silvestri Junior High, Nevada

“If you want to get a real authentic taste of Turkey attend this amazing two week learning adventure through TCF.”

- Susan Seilstad, Lockwood School, Montana

“This was a remarkable tour. I have learned so much from this experience about Turkish history, life and culture.”

- Sarah Arneson, Central High School, Minnesota

“The study tour through Turkey was absolutely awe inspiring. I fell in love with Turkey’s beautifully complex mix of east and west ancient and modern country. I look forward to sharing my journey with my family, colleagues, and community.”

- Kimberly Caipa, Silvestri, Nevada

“I have traveled fairly extensively, but this tour was the most amazing travel experience I have had. I had very high expectatios from talking to past participants, and the trip lived up to or surpassed them all!

- Sandy Armstad, Fergus High School, Montana

“Learning takes time, like cooking a good meal. These past two weeks I have been in the Turkish kitchen. With TCF, I have tasted, stirred, simmered, and baked a great deal of knowledge. I have feasted on Turkish culture and I am so excited to go back home and cook all this knowledge for my students, co-workers, friends, and family.”

- Nia Vestal, Troy High School, Montana

"I am so grateful to the Turkish Cultural Foundation for this trip. These past two weeks have been extremely valuable in highlighting various time periods of Turkish history and rich culture, and getting to meet representatives from Turkish NGO's and learn more about Turkey's present challenges and realities. I feel much more prepared to incorporate Turkish culture into my curriculum, and I will encourage students to visit this gorgeous and fascinating country to experience it for themselves."

- Amanda (Meg) Kaupp, Ladue Horton Watkins High School, Missouri

"A once in a lifetime opportunity to experience an insider's perspective of Turkey. Thank you TCF for sponsoring this fantastic trip! TCF staff has such a heart! They are passionate about sharing the complex ins and outs (this and that!) of Turkey. I saw so many facets of this incredible country. I made friends with Turks-the most important part of our trip! GO! Don't hesitate to take advantage of this other-worldly opportunity!"

- Carol Zimmer-Gnauck, Chief Joseph Middle, Montana

"This was an eye opening experience to see that Turkey is more than just the crossroads of trade as portrayed in textbooks. Turkey is a truly unique mix of modern and traditional culture built upon a rich heritage."

- Julie Mavek, Anthony Saville Middle School, Nevada

"The TCF Teacher Study Tour will stay with me throughout my life. I learned so much about myself and Turkish history and culture. I even discovered my family has roots in Edirne-a Western region in Turkey. Not only is there much to take back to the classroom-both in knowledge and material objects-but there is much I take back in my heart. From breathtaking views from a hot air balloon soaring over Cappadocia to smiling children at Atakoy Primary School in Geyre, the experiences I enjoyed on the TCF Teacher Study Tour will remain in my heart forever."

- Amanda Louise Henry, De La Salle Middle School, Missouri

"Turkey is an amazing country filled with history-culture-diversity-and beauty. Thank you TCF! The memories will be treasured and shared."

- Sara Lea, Rocky Mountain High School, Colorado

"We are all interconnected by the people and land. Turkey exemplifies this sentiment from ancient times to modern and brings it alive today for us all to share."

- Laura Ross, Rockwood South Middle School, Missouri

"This tour was really amazing. I learned a tremendous amount of information about Turkey and visited some incredible places. It was a once in a lifetime experience."

- John J Rockney, Canarelli Middle School, Ohio