



Turkish Cultural Foundation

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TEACHERS' STUDY TOURS 2008 10 Days

GROUP 1: June 30-July 9

GROUP 2: July 14-23

GROUP 3: July 28-Aug 6

ISTANBUL – BURSA – KUSADASI – PAMUKKALE – KONYA – CATALHOYUK – CAPPADOCIA – ANKARA

Day 1, Mon June 30 July 14 July 28

ISTANBUL

PM: Arrival in Istanbul, transfer to your hotel.

PM Tour briefing to be held by the tour guide at the hotel.
Welcome cocktail at the hotel

PM Welcome dinner. Overnight at the Hotel.



Day 2, Tue July 1 July 15 July 29

ISTANBUL

08:45 AM Depart for visit to the 17th century Spice Bazaar, where you can find a vast diversity of spices, sacks of henna, many varieties of oils and herbs, and of course the world's very best Turkish delight. After Spice Bazaar, the Tour will continue with Istanbul Modern.

Visit to Darussafaka Schools, a school for orphaned children.

We then continue with our Bosphorus cruise on privately chartered local boat. Crossing back and forth between Europe and Asia, we will sail past opulent palaces, fine mosques, imposing fortresses and traditional, wooden Ottoman mansions.

Seafood lunch in Arnavutköy.

After lunch drive to Uskudar, there you will have a chance to see, and try your hands at a demonstration of the ancient Turkish art of "Ebru" (paper marbling) by one of the leading ebru artists of Turkey, Mr.Hikmet Barutcuğil.

Later a two hour informational session with educational NGO's and reception at the Turkish Cultural Foundation Turkey office. Overnight at the Hotel.



Day 3, Wed July 2

July 16

July 30

ISTANBUL

8:45 AM Departure for full day Istanbul tour.

We will visit Blue Mosque, so called because of its exquisite tile decoration. Its courtyard is exceptionally beautiful, and it is the only mosque in Istanbul to have six minarets.

We next visit Hippodrome, the former center of sportive and political activities of Constantinople. During the visit you will be able to see the Obelisk from Egypt, Serpentine Column from Delphi and Fountain of Wilhelm II.

Then visit to the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum, which contains a priceless collection of Ottoman calligraphy in gold, intricate miniatures, ceramics, and magnificent carpets, some of them dating back to the 13th century. What makes the museum unique is the fact that it is housed in the Palace of Ibrahim Pasha, one of Suleyman the Magnificent's grand vezirs.

Before lunch visit Topkapi Palace, lavish home to the Ottoman Sultans. For centuries, this was the place from which the Sultans ruled over an empire that stretched from eastern Europe to the Atlantic Ocean. It contains a priceless collection of jewelry, porcelain and costumes. (www.topkapisarayi.gov.tr)

PM: After lunch at Konyali Restaurant, which is located inside the palace overlooking the Bosphorus, we enter the intricate maze of the Harem and rooms decorated with superb Iznik tiles. Lunch at the Konyali Restaurant at Topkapi Palace.

Tour will continue visit Ayasofya (Hagia Sophia), which was built by the Emperor Justinian and inaugurated in 537 AD. For over nine centuries it was the center of the eastern Orthodox Church, was turned into a mosque with the Ottoman conquest of Istanbul and now is a museum. It contains some of the finest mosaics to have survived from the Byzantine period.

If time permits, we will see the underground cistern, which is the work of Justinian. This is the most impressive of Istanbul's ancient cisterns with a roof supported by more than 300 columns.

Live Turkish classical music at dinner. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 4, Thu July 3

July 17

July 31

ISTANBUL – ADAPAZARI – IZNIK – BURSA

7:30 AM Early morning departure for Adapazari.

Visit and meeting with teachers at Enka Schools. Lunch at Enka Schools.

Depart for Iznik, famous with its Lake, visit to St.Sophia. The town has witnessed many civilizations which have left their marks on every corner. It was the center of tile production in the 16th century, producing tiles for famous architectural landmarks. The tour will visit the Iznik Foundation, an organization reviving the tradition of Turkish tile-making (www.iznikvakfi.org).



Lunch in Karacasu. Visit to a village school, *Atakoy İlkogretim Okulu*, in Karacasu.

Then, we will drive to the delightful "frozen waterfalls" and the healing hot mineral springs of Pamukkale, the main cotton growing area of Turkey and an ancient health resort for the Roman. We will visit Hierapolis and see distinctive limestone travertines created over the millennia and the large Roman bath which later became a church, theater, main streets, gates and Necropolis.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel in Pamukkale.

Day 7, Sun July 6 July 20 Aug 3

PAMUKKALE – KONYA– CATALHOYUK – CAPPADOCIA

8:30 AM Drive to Konya.

In the 12th and 13th centuries Konya was the capital of the Seljuk Sultanate of Rum, one of the most enlightened and tolerant states of the entire medieval period. It was also home to the great Sufi mystic and poet Rumi, who founded the Mevlevi Order of the Whirling Dervishes.

We will visit the Museum and Tomb of Rumi, which is one of the supreme achievements of Turkish Art. Its dome is completely covered with an amazingly intricate faience mosaic.

Lunch will be taken enroute.

Our next stop will be the Neolithic site of Catalhoyuk where humans first congregated in villages. We will be given a private tour of this neolithic Anatolian site, excavated by an international team, by Dr. Ian Hodder of Stanford University, who leads the excavation project.

Then we will visit the magnificent, early 13th century Agzikarahan Seljuk caravanserai.

We drive to the land of wonders that is Cappadocia. In the Neolithic period Cappadocia was caught between two active volcanoes, Mounts Hasan and Erciyes, which buried it under a thick layer of ash. This formed the soft malleable stone known as tufa, and over the centuries erosion and human effort combined to create the fantastic landscape we see today, with its many thousands of varicolored pinnacles and surreal rock formations. The Byzantines carved hundreds of churches into the rock of Cappadocia and sheltered themselves from the armies of the Abbasid Caliphate in enormous refuges descending hundreds of feet into the earth. Many of the churches are lavishly decorated with frescoes dating mostly from the 9th to 11th centuries.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel.

Day 8, Mon July 7 July 21 Aug 4

CAPPADOCIA

8:30 AM Departure for full day Cappadocia tour. Our first stop will be the celebrated Goreme Open Air Museum, which was once a major center of monasticism. The finest of its frescoed churches are undoubtedly the Karanlik Kilise (the Dark Church), the Elmalı Kilise (the Apple Church), and the Tokali Kilise (the church with a Buckle). The last named has frescoes painted by a certain Nikephoros in an exceptionally sophisticated, classicizing style.



Lunch will be served enroute at a typical regional restaurant.

We will visit the Underground city of Kaymakli (or Ozkonak). In Avanos, the town famous for its pottery, we will visit a pottery workshop.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel. After dinner, we will attend a Whirling Dervishes ceremony at the magnificent Saruhan Caravanserai.

Day 9, Tue July 8 July 22 Aug 5

CAPPADOCIA – ANKARA

8:30 AM We depart for the city tour of Ankara.

Although it only became Turkey's capital in 1923, Ankara is by no means a new city, indeed it is considerably older than Istanbul, having been founded by the Hittite, circa 1.200 B.C. It was soon taken over by the Phrygians whose vast necropolis came to light in 1925. It prospered under the Romans and a number of monuments have survived from this era, including a Temple of Augustus and a Column of Julian.

First visit to the Mausoleum of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder and first President of the Republic of Turkey.

Lunch at Ankara Castle.

Then, we will visit the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. The museum has a priceless collection stretching from prehistoric times to the classical period. It is undoubtedly one of the world's greatest museums, and is housed in a restored Ottoman Han. The different cultures of Anatolia are presented here in chronological order and include outstanding examples of the art of the Hatti, Hittites, Phrygians and Urartians.

We will attend a briefing on domestic/foreign policy issues hosted by Eurasia Strategic Research Foundation -- ASAM.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel.

Day 10, Wed July 9 July 23 Aug 6

ANKARA – ISTANBUL -- USA

Departure from the hotel. Transfer to airport for homebound flights through Istanbul.



HOTELS

City	O/N	Hotel	Web
ISTANBUL	3 nights	Arcadia Hotel (4*)	www.hotelarcadiaistanbul.com
BURSA	1 night	Kervansaray Hotel (5*)	www.kervansarayhotels.com
KUSADASI	1 night	Charisma Hotel (5*)	www.charismahotel.com
PAMUKKALE	1 night	Richmond Thermal Hotel (4*)	www.richmondhotels.com.tr/eng/pamukkalethermal.asp
CAPPADOCIA	2 nights	LykiaLodge Kapadokya (4*)	www.lykialodge.com
ANKARA	1 night	Gordion Hotel (Boutique)	www.gordionhotel.com