Turkish Cultural Foundation

1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20036 USA
Tel: 978-318-0039 (Concord office) -- Tel: 301-571-0980 (Washington, DC office)
Website: www.turkishculturalfoundation.org E-Mail: director@turkishculture.org

TEACHERS' STUDY TOURS 2009
12 Days

GROUP 1: June 29-July 10
GROUP 2: July 13-24
GROUP 3: July 27-Aug 7

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

Day 1, Mon June 29 July 13 July 27

ISTANBUL

PM: Arrival in Istanbul, transfer to your hotel.

19:30 PM Welcome drink and tour briefing with your Tour Guide and fellow travelers at the hotel.

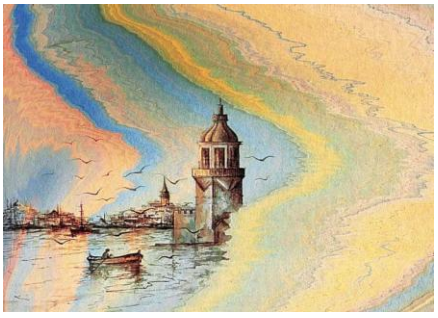
20:00 PM Welcome dinner. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 2, Tue June 30 July 14 July 28

ISTANBUL

07:15 AM Departure for Bosphorus cruise after breakfast. We will sail past opulent palaces, fine mosques, imposing fortresses and traditional, wooden Ottoman mansions.

Then, 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 Barutcugil in Uskudar (Asian side).



PM Lunch with a guest speaker on domestic/foreign policy issues at Istanbul Chamber of Commerce – ITO's Kandilli Social Facilities (Asian side).

After lunch, we will drive to Darussafaka Schools, a school for orphaned children.

Dinner at Develi Restaurant. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 3, Wed **July 1** **July 15** **July 29**

ISTANBUL

08:00 AM Departure for full day Istanbul tour. We will first 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.

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.

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. Later, we will 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.

PM: Lunch at the Konyali Restaurant at Topkapi Palace.

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.

Then we will visit the Istanbul Archeological Museum is housed in three buildings just inside the first court of Topkapi Palace and includes the Museum of the Ancient Orient, Archaeology Museum, and Enameled Kiosk Museum. The museum has an excellent collection of Greek and Roman artifacts, including finds from Ephesus and Troy.

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. Dinner at Asitane Restaurant in Edirnekapi. A private performance of Turkish Classical Music called "Fasil" will accompany the tastes of authentic Turkish cuisine. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 4, Thu **July 2** **July 16** **July 30**

ISTANBUL

08:00 AM After breakfast, city tour will start with visit to 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 that 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. Then, 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.

12:00 PM we will drive to Bahcesehir Science Technology High School. Lunch will also be taken there. 16:30 PM In the late afternoon, an informational session with educational NGO's and reception at the Turkish Cultural Foundation Turkey office. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 5, Fri **July 3** **July 17** **July 31**

ISTANBUL – ADAPAZARI – IZNIK – BURSA

07:00 AM Early morning departure for Adapazari. Visit to the Adapazari Enka Schools.

Then we will depart for Iznik, famous with its Lake and beautiful "Iznik tiles," which decorate mosques and palaces throughout Turkey. Iznik 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. We will visit the Turgut Tuna Ceramic Atelier which is reviving and conveying the tradition of Turkish tile-making from past to present. PM Lunch will be served in Iznik.

Depart for Bursa, rich in religious monuments, mosques, tombs, and traditional Turkish baths. Bursa was a center of Ottoman silk production, a tradition still enduring today and is also home to the famous "Turkish towel". We will visit the Great Mosque which was built by Bayezid I after the Nicopolis (Nigbolu) victory. After being burnt down by Timur in 1402, the building was damaged by fires in 1493 and 1889 and by an earthquake in 1855 and restored extensively. Then, we will enjoy shopping at the Koza Han, home of the Silk Trade.

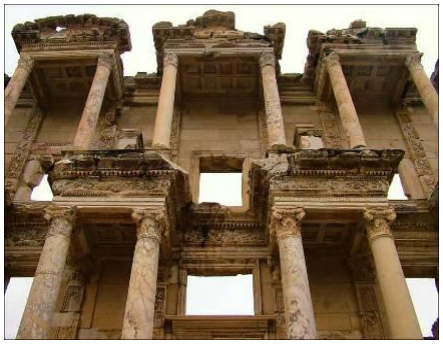
Bursa is also the hometown of the famous traditional Turkish shadow puppet theatre, Karagoz and Hacivat. After dinner, the group will enjoy a traditional Turkish Shadow Theatre: Karagoz. Overnight at the Hotel in Bursa.

Day 6, Sat **July 4** **July 18** **Aug 1**

BURSA – EPHESUS – KUSADASI

7:30 AM Departure for Kusadasi.

PM Lunch will be taken enroute at Ramiz Restaurant in Akhisar, Manisa.



Afternoon visit to Ephesus. If you've ever heard the words ¨an epistle to the Ephesians¨, now is your chance to sit in the theatre where St. Paul preached. Walk along colonnaded streets imagining them crowded with people visiting the shops and taverns or simply strolling in the shade.

Ephesus was one of the greatest cities of antiquity with a population approaching 100,000 and its vast Temple of Artemis was numbered among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

The city housed everything that was necessary for civilization to flourish, education, politics, entertainment, sport, and the good life in general. Examples are the Library Celsus, bathhouses, a gymnasium and luxurious mansions, decorated with mosaics and frescoes rivaling those of Pompeii.

Ephesus is among the best preserved classical cities of the Mediterranean, and the perfect place to get a feeling for what life was like in Roman times.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel in Kusadasi.

Day 7, Sun **July 5** **July 19** **Aug 2**

KUSADASI – APHRODISIAS - PAMUKKALE

8:30 AM We depart for Pamukkale, Denizli.

After breakfast we move on to the Ephesus Archeological Museum and the vast, cruciform Basilica of St John, which was built by the Emperor Justinian in the early 6th century, and provided the model for the cathedral of San Marco in Venice.

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

Late afternoon visit to the remains of Aphrodisias, the city dedicated to the goddess of love and home to one of the most important schools of sculpture in the Roman world. Aphrodisias was recognized as a sacred sanctuary and was awarded special privileges that began in the time of Augustus.

We will visit the Temple of Aphrodite, built around the 1st century B.C. and converted into a basilica in the 5th century A.D and one of the finest ancient stadiums ever built.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel in Pamukkale.

Day 8, Mon **July 6** **July 20** **Aug 3**

PAMUKKALE –CATALHOYUK – KONYA

8:00 AM After breakfast, 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. Then, we will drive to Konya.

PM Lunch will be on-route 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.

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.

Dinner and overnight at the Hotel in Konya.

Day 9, Tue **July 7** **July 21** **Aug 4**

KONYA - CAPPADOCIA

8:00 AM After breakfast, we will drive to Cappadocia.
PM We will have our lunch enroute and then visit the magnificent, early 13th century Sultanhan Caravanserais from the Seljuk period. Cappadocia is a breathtaking and rare wonders with its unique mix of natural geography, Anatolian history and vibrant traditional Turkish culture. In the Neolithic period, Cappadocia was caught between two active volcanoes, Mounts Hasan and Erciyes, which buried it under a thick layer of ash. 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 10, Wed **July 8** **July 22** **Aug 5**

CAPPADOCIA
8:30 AM After breakfast, departure for full day Cappadocia tour. Our first stop will be the Kaymakli underground city. Then we will visit the celebrated Goreme Open Air Museum, which was once a major center of monasticism. The finest of its frescoed churches are undoubtedly the Elmali Kilise (the Apple Church), and the Tokali Kilise (the church with a Buckle).

PM Lunch will be served at a typical regional restaurant. In Avanos, the town famous for its pottery, we will visit a pottery workshop. Then we will enjoy visiting Mustafapasa (Sinasos), one of the nicest villages in Cappadocia and the scenic view of Uchisar, Pasabag (Monks Valley) and Pigeon Valley. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel. After dinner, we will attend a Whirling Dervishes ceremony at the magnificent Saruhan Caravanserai.

Day 11, Thu **July 9** **July 23** **Aug 6**

CAPPADOCIA – ANKARA

7:00 AM We depart for 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. First visit to the Mausoleum of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder and first President of the Republic of Turkey.

PM 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 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. Later, we will participate in a briefing on domestic/foreign policy issues at TEPAV, a think-thank. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel.

Day 12, Fri **July 10** **July 24** **Aug 7**

ANKARA – ISTANBUL – USA

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

HOTELS

City	O/N	Hotel	Web
ISTANBUL	**4 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
KONYA	**1 night**	Dedeman Hotel (5*)	www.dedeman.com/Konya.aspx
CAPPADOCIA	**2 nights**	LykiaLodge Kapadokya (4*)	www.lykialodge.com
ANKARA	**1 night**	Gordion Hotel (Boutique)	www.gordionhotel.com