

10 Days 9 Nights Old Testament Journey with Cappadocia

Travel from Ani and Mount Ararat to Akdamar and Göbeklitepe, discovering Mesopotamia's religious heritage, sunset on Mount Nemrut, Cappadocia's rock churches and Istanbul.

Duration: 10 Days 9 Nights

Category: Turkiye Tours

TOUR PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Istanbul – Kars

Meet your tour director at Istanbul Airport and connect to the domestic flight to Kars (flight excluded). Depending on arrival time, visit Kars Castle for city panoramas and explore Ani's ruined churches beside the border valley. Lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Kars.

DAY 2

Kars – Doğubayazıt – Van

After breakfast, travel to Doğubayazıt to visit Ishak Pasha Palace. Enjoy views of Mount Ararat, traditionally associated with Noah's Ark, and visit the museum/visitor centre devoted to the Ark narrative. Continue to Van. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Van.

DAY 3

Van – Akdamar Island – Midyat – Mardin

After breakfast, cross Lake Van by boat to Akdamar Island. Visit the Church of the Holy Cross and see its exterior reliefs depicting biblical scenes. Visit the House of Van Cats before the long road journey to Midyat. Walk among its traditional stone buildings, then continue to Mardin. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Mardin.

DAY 4

Mardin – Harran – Göbeklitepe – Şanlıurfa

After breakfast, visit Mardin's historic post office and the Syriac Orthodox Deyrulzafaran Monastery. Explore Harran's beehive houses and historic remains, then Göbeklitepe's monumental prehistoric stone structures. In Şanlıurfa, visit Balıklıgöl and the cave traditionally associated with Abraham's birth. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Şanlıurfa.

DAY 5

Şanlıurfa – Mount Nemrut – Adıyaman

After breakfast, discover the heritage of Commagene at Karakuş Tumulus, the Severan Bridge and Arsameia. Continue to Mount Nemrut to see the monumental tomb sanctuary of Antiochus I and its colossal statues. Watch sunset if weather and road conditions permit. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Adıyaman.

DAY 6

Adıyaman – Halfeti – Gaziantep

After breakfast, travel to Halfeti for a Euphrates boat trip with views of Rumkale. Continue to Gaziantep to explore the local markets and Coppersmith Bazaar, with a stop at historic Tahmis Coffeehouse. Enjoy time to discover regional flavours such as baklava and katmer. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Gaziantep.

DAY 7

Gaziantep – Niğde – Cappadocia

After breakfast, drive towards Niğde and visit Gümüşler Monastery, known for its rock-cut courtyard and frescoes. Explore the living and worship spaces of Derinkuyu Underground City. In Avanos, visit a traditional pottery workshop. Mass at Dereyamanlı Church is subject to church permission and availability. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Cappadocia.

DAY 8

Cappadocia

Optional sunrise hot air balloon flight at extra cost, subject to weather and approval. After breakfast, learn about carpet weaving and visit Pigeon Valley, Göreme Open-Air Museum's frescoed rock churches, Uçhisar village and the castle panorama. Stop at a turquoise and onyx handicraft store. End the day with sunset views around Red/Rose Valley. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Cappadocia.

DAY 9

Cappadocia – Istanbul

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and fly to Istanbul (flight excluded). Enjoy an approximately 70-minute private Bosphorus cruise, then visit the historic Hippodrome, Hagia Sophia's visitor area and the Spice Bazaar. The sequence depends on the flight schedule. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Istanbul.

DAY 10

Istanbul – Departure

After breakfast, visit a leather outlet for a fashion show and shopping stop. Discover Chora's Byzantine mosaics and frescoes and walk through Fener and Balat. Visit St. Anthony of Padua Church; Mass depends on the church schedule and permission. Explore Istiklal Street and Taksim Square before transfer to the airport. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included; sightseeing is arranged around the departure flight.

PRICING

Price	**Contact us for price**

HOTEL PROGRAMME

Day	City	Hotel	Stars
1	Kars	Katerina Sarayı / similar	
2	Van	Elite World / similar	★★★★★
3	Mardin	Hilton Garden Inn / similar	
4	Şanlıurfa	Hilton Garden Inn / similar	
5	Adıyaman	Park Dedeman / similar	★★★★
6	Gaziantep	Tuğcan Hotel / similar	★★★★★
7	Cappadocia	Under Cave / similar	
8	Cappadocia	Under Cave / similar	
9	Istanbul	Radisson Blu Merter / similar	★★★★★

INCLUDED IN TOUR FARE

✓ 9 nights: Kars 1, Van 1, Mardin 1, Şanlıurfa 1, Adıyaman 1, Gaziantep 1, Cappadocia 2, Istanbul 1. Listed hotels or similar; availability confirmed at booking. accommodation

✓ Transportation by Air-conditioned Mercedes Sprinter, Isuzu or Mercedes coach according to group size. Domestic flights excluded.

✓ Professional guiding service

✓ Sightseeing tours listed in the program

NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR FARE

- Personal expenses
- Extra orders during lunch and dinner
- International departure tax and visa costs

PAYMENT POLICY

Current prices and payment terms are confirmed with the quotation and reservation. Availability has not been checked and no space is held.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Unless otherwise stated: full group cancellation is free up to 21 days before arrival. Final rooming/name list is due 21 days before arrival. Partial cancellation of up to 10% of total rooms is free up to 10 days before arrival. Less than 10 days: 100% penalty, except cancellations supported by an official medical or death certificate.