



Travel Talk tours will take you on a pilgrimage of culture, history, adventure, fun and relaxation. You will visit ancient sites, explore the treasures of Egypt, discover the magnificent pyramids and sphinxes, meet local people and partake in numerous activities throughout your Egypt experience. Before you leave for your adventure, it is important that you read this pre-departure information to ensure that your trip runs as smoothly as possible. While we appreciate that you are embarking on an adventure holiday that will produce its own share of surprises, it is also true that forewarned is forearmed. This information is not written with the intention of being anything other than general information that we hope will help you be more prepared for your holiday. The philosophy of Travel Talk is simple: to provide excellent value for money for budget conscious and adventurous travellers without compromising their experiences. We achieve this by providing quality transportation, accommodation, sightseeing and information services. We hope that our philosophy will exceed your expectations and the following information will help you have a memorable journey in Egypt.

VISAS

All visitors to Egypt are required to have a visa and a passport valid for another six months. Visas can be arranged through Egyptian embassies worldwide. Visitors from the US, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Korea, Colombia and EU countries may be able to purchase a visa stamp upon arrival in Egypt, please note that visa fee USD 25, it can only be paid in USD, GBP or EURO. South Africans need to arrange their Egyptian visa prior to arrival.

ESSENTIALS

Before you leave your country, we recommend you to make sure you have the following:

- ➔ Passport
- ➔ Airline or transportation ticket
- ➔ Tour voucher
- ➔ Insurance policy
- ➔ Visas (if necessary)
- ➔ Label on your travel bag
- ➔ Pre-departure information
- ➔ Money (cash and/or travellers cheques)
- ➔ Credit card

HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is recommended to all passengers travelling on Travel Talk tours to have personal insurance to assist with any medical and other costs. Please do not forget to take a copy of your insurance policy with you. While there are no mandatory vaccinations for travellers to Egypt, it is advisable to ensure your typhoid, polio and tetanus inoculations are up to date. Some travellers feel more confident with hepatitis and meningitis inoculations as well. Rabies exists only in rural areas and it is very unlikely that you will come in contact with a rabid animal on tour.

Immunisation is generally available in a series of three injections over a period of one month (lasts 3 to 5 years) or a single visit booster dose (lasts only 6 to 12 months). Please consult a medical practitioner for advice. Most people find Egypt to be a friendly and hospitable country and feel quite comfortable wandering around alone during the day. However, as with most foreign countries, it is recommended that you exercise more caution at night and do not walk alone. It is wise not to accept gifts of food or drink from any strangers. Take care with your passport, credit cards and money - a money belt to fit beneath your clothes is highly recommended.

It is also recommended to take at least one set of modest clothing. It is a sign of respect to cover your shoulders and legs when visiting mosques and also helps to avoid unwanted attention. A headscarf for women is necessary when visiting mosques in Egypt.

WHAT TO WEAR...

As a general guideline, clothing should be lightweight, loose fitting and easily washed. In Summer, cotton clothing is much more comfortable than other materials like nylon. Clothing and accessories that will protect you from the sun is also necessary. It's a good idea to pack a white or light coloured, long sleeve cotton shirt. In Winter you will need warmer clothing, especially at night. Please also keep in mind that when visiting religious sites, appropriate attire is required. It is recommended for females to pack a scarf.

MONEY

The local currency is Egyptian Pound(EGP) and 1GBP is approximately 23 EGP. Most towns in Egypt have ATMs that are linked to major international networks. Credit cards are accepted in most tourist areas, but if you are travelling off the beaten track, be prepared to have some cash. It is difficult to guess how much money you will need each day, however as a general rule approx. 15-20 GBP per day helps for extra meals and entrance fees.

WEATHER

Egyptian summers are hot and dry in most of the country & humid in the Delta and along the Mediterranean Coast. In recent years the humidity has spread to Cairo and the city swelters in August. Winters are mild with some rain, but usually there are bright, sunny days and cold nights. Spring and autumn are only short seasons and during the 50 days (khamaseen) between the end of March and mid-May, dust storms can occur sporadically. If you are travelling between November and March on a tour that includes trekking in the Sinai or cruising on the Nile you should expect temperatures to fall considerably at night. At this time of year temperatures can often fall below freezing near Mt. Sinai.

Month	Cairo		Luxor		Aswan		Dahab	
	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F
Jan	18	65	21	70	21	70	22	72
Feb	20	68	23	74	23	74	23	73
March	22	73	28	83	27	82	26	78
April	27	82	33	93	33	92	30	86
May	31	89	37	100	37	99	34	94
June	33	93	40	104	39	103	38	99
July	33	93	40	104	39	103	38	100
Aug	33	92	38	102	38	102	38	101
Sept	32	90	37	99	37	99	36	96
Oct	29	85	33	93	33	93	32	89
Nov	23	75	27	81	26	80	28	81
Dec	19	67	22	73	22	72	24	74

EATING & DRINKING

Egyptian eating habits differ from our norm. Most natives begin the day with a light breakfast of beans (or bean cakes), eggs, and/or pickles, cheese and jam. Most families eat their large, starchy lunch between 14:00 and 17:00 and follow it with a siesta. They may take a British-style tea at 17:00 or 18:00 and eat a light supper (often leftovers from lunch) late in the evening. Dinner parties however, are scheduled late, often no earlier than 21:00. In restaurants, lunch is normally between 13:00-16:00 and dinner is between 20:00-24:00.



The shish-style kebab is extremely popular and can be served with or without skewers but always with traditional sides of greens and tomato salad, tahini sauce and pita bread. Bread is always whole wheat pita, coated with coarse ground wheat - it is heaven warm and straight from the oven. Often pita is served with a dipping sauce; tahini, hummus or babaganoush, and makes a fast, healthy, and delicious meal. The traditional and ubiquitous salad is chopped tomato, coriander, mint, little green peppers (not jalapenos but similar) and onions coated with garlic oil.

Other vegetables that grow well and are popular include beans, chickpeas and fava, which are stewed for breakfast, hearty stewed for lunch and ground and pasted for tahini and hummus dips. Mashed eggplant is the main ingredient in babaganoush and is also used in Egyptian moussaka with a mild, white cheese. Okra, cabbage, cauliflower and potatoes are used frequently; stewed with tomatoes and garlic. Rice is a staple food and is consistently wonderful, even for breakfast! Grilled pigeon is the acclaimed delicacy. You can taste local fish caught in the Red Sea; i.e. perch and tuna.

Egyptian bazaars display staggering amounts of spices, sculptured into colourful spice pyramids - from yellows of saffron and ochres of curries, to deep blues of powdered indigo dye. Food is usually spiced, but not spicy. Cumin and salt are found on restaurant tables.

There are not so many Middle Eastern deserts to speak of but fresh fruit and juice bars are very popular. There is nothing quite as refreshing as a freshly squeezed orange juice, sweetened with cut sugar cane, on a hot Egyptian day. Most of the hotels serve alcoholic drinks, but during Ramadan some hotels may close their bars.

Locally produced spirits and wine are worth a try (and cheaper than imported brands) and the local beer "Stella" is very good.

SHOPPING

Shopping, shopping, and shopping! What holiday is complete without checking out the local wares; and Egypt is no exception to the rule. Shopping ranges from the famous Khan el-Khalili Bazaar, which remains largely unchanged since the 14th Century, to the modern air-conditioned centres displaying the latest fashions.

Particularly good buys are: spices, perfumes, gold, silver, brass and copperware, carpets, leatherwork, glass, ceramics and mashrabiya. You can try some of the famous street markets for fabrics (including Egyptian cotton), the Tentmakers Bazaar for applique-work, Mohammed Ali Street for musical instruments and the Camel Markets for that out of the ordinary souvenir... okay maybe not to buy, but definitely worth a visit for interest's sake.

The typical souvenirs for tourists are Egyptian themed clothing and statues which can be purchased from almost any stalls catering for tourists.

A considerable aptitude for negotiation will unquestionably result in lower prices in tourist areas - such as the Khan and shops around the pyramids and old or Coptic Cairo.

Most other places such as grocery stores and shopping malls, the prices are fixed and not really negotiable. In some shops, a friendly effort aimed at getting a discount may be fine, but in most cases this could cause offense.

OPENING HOURS

Normally shops and department stores are open from 9:00am to 9:00pm with possible variations from town to town (except for the Ramadan period). Banks in Egypt are open Sunday through Thursday from 9:00am to 2:00pm and they are closed on Friday and Saturday. Post Offices are open from 9:00am to 2:00pm and are closed on Friday.

ELECTRICITY

All appliances require a double round pin type plug for 220 volts AC, 50- hertz.

TIPPING

Tipping is a way of life in Egypt. It is not just a "reward" and should not really be called a tip. In Arabic, it is called "baksheesh" and is part of the traditional payment structure for services, whether they are good or bad. Everyone tips everyone. You should budget for around US\$ 4-5 per day for tipping. Your bus driver, felucca staff and guide may also be honoured with such a traditional appreciation.

DISTANCES

The following information will give you a better idea of the times travelled to help you plan your day:

- ➔ Cairo-Aswan : 982 kms, 12 hrs
- ➔ Aswan-Luxor : 247 kms, 3 hrs
- ➔ Aswan-Abu Simbel : 309 kms, 3.5 hrs
- ➔ Luxor- Cairo : 735 kms, 9 hrs
- ➔ Cairo-Hurghada : 453 kms, 6 hrs
- ➔ Hurghada-Luxor : 286 kms, 4.5 hrs
- ➔ Cairo-Dahab : 630 kms, 9.5 hrs
- ➔ Cairo-Nuwebia : 540 kms, 8.5 hrs
- ➔ Dahab-Sharm : 100 kms, 1.5 hrs

FELUCCA BOAT

Feluccas are traditional sailing boats that have been used on the Nile for centuries. They are very simple sailing boats and have no engines or toilets. There is a single deck on which you can stretch out during the day under a shade awning. Each felucca sleeps 6-8 people and is crewed by a captain and a deck hand - both of whom have grown up along the banks of the Nile. As well as being experienced Nile sailors they also make the most delicious meals out of simple local ingredients. You may sit down to a lunch of local bread, white cheese, hummus and delicious fresh juicy tomatoes or a dinner of pasta and mixed vegetables with delicious tomato sauce. The deck is covered with mattresses and cushions and you will sleep sardine style across the boat, however a light sleeping bag will be necessary if you are travelling in the winter.

NILE CRUISER

We use 5-star cruisers on our Nile Cruise tours. On the Nile Cruise boat, there is an ample deck space, a large sundeck and a spacious, shaded seating area with its own bar and the best views of the majestic Nile. Meals are served in the air-conditioned restaurant and there is a lounge bar where you can enjoy your evening listening to music or playing cards. The air-conditioned cabins have a private ensuite shower, toilet and washbasin as well as a large window offering a panoramic view of the river. Although the meals are included in the tour price, drinks will cost extra and please note the prices on the cruise boat can be higher than the usual Egyptian restaurants & bars.



AIRPORT TRANSFER

Your arrival airport transfer is included if;

- You fly into the city in which your tour starts
- You arrive on the first day of your tour OR you have booked pre-accommodation through us
- You forward your flight details to us, at least 10 days in advance, including:
 - Date of flight
 - Flight number
 - Arrival time
 - Name of travellers to be picked up

If you do not want an airport transfer to the hotel, please let us know by either phoning the office (0208 099 95 96) or sending us an email (info@traveltalktours.com). Please note the hotel check-in time is from 13:00.

ACCOMMODATION

The hotels used on Travel Talk Egypt tours are rated 5-star (Boutique hotel in Dahab). The main criteria in the hotel selection process is cleanliness, private bathroom facilities and location (usually central). If you are travelling on your own, you'll be allocated a twin or triple room with other group member/s of the same gender. Travellers who have paid a single supplement will stay in single rooms. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee the availability of double beds for couples.

Your tour leader will organise the rooming arrangements at check-in according to the rooming lists. We can therefore not guarantee any last minute changes.

PRE&POST TOUR ACCOMMODATION

Should you require pre or post tour accommodation, please notify us (or your agent) at the time of booking and we can make the arrangements for you. This information will be clearly stated on your voucher. Unless a room is immediately available, most hotels will not allocate your room until at least midday.

TRANSPORTATION

You can expect comfort and reliability on our modern coaches and mini buses. Most vehicles feature air-conditioning, safe and secure luggage storage, comfortable seats, and a sound system.

TOUR LEADER

Your tour leader's role is to ensure that all aspects of the trip run smoothly. He/she will share their local knowledge, advise you on ways to spend your free time and coordinate the day-to-day running of the tour. From time to time situations can arise and things may not always go according to plan. If this occurs, your tour leader may require your cooperation and understanding. Furthermore, should you have any problems on tour please let your leader know so that the correct steps can be taken. Please bear in mind that when you travel on a combined tour, you will have different groups and a different leader for each leg.

ENTRANCE FEES

- ➔ Giza Pyramids/Sphinx - Cairo ££ 160
- ➔ Sakkara Pyramids - Cairo ££ 150
- ➔ Valley of the Kings - Luxor ££ 204
- ➔ Luxor Temple - Luxor ££ 150
- ➔ Karnak Temple - Luxor ££ 150
- ➔ Edfu Temple - Aswan ££ 140
- ➔ Komombo Temple - Aswan ££ 100
- ➔ Philae Temple Aswan ££ 160
- ➔ Egyptian Museum Cairo ££ 180
- ➔ Salah El Din Citadel - Cairo ££ 140
- ➔ Unfinished Obelisk Aswan ££ 80
- ➔ Hatchepsut ££ 102

Last update on 20 August 2019.

Note: In Egypt the entry fees may be discounted if they are purchased with an international student ID. All fees are subject to change and have been quoted in Egyptian Pound.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Blue hole Excursion (Dahab) 34 USD
- ➔ Quad bike (Dahab) 29 USD
- ➔ Mountain dinner (Dahab) 24 USD
- ➔ Nubian dinner (Aswan) 26 USD
- ➔ Abu Simbel (Aswan) 85 USD
- ➔ Hot air ballon (Luxor) 124 USD
- ➔ Pyramids S&L show (Cairo) 26 USD

MISSED THE WELCOME MEETING

Being avid travellers ourselves, we know that unforeseen circumstances can arise. If you are late and miss the welcome meeting, don't stress, just check the information board in the hotel lobby for the next day's programme as the Cairo city tour starts around 8:00am. If you arrive on Day 2 or after, please contact your tour leader to organise to meet up.

THE TOUR PRICE AND LOCAL PAYMENT

We ease your cash needs by dividing the tour cost into two payments. You only need to pay the tour price in advance and the local payment is paid once your tour commences. The local payment is part of the tour cost and does not cover any extra costs like meals, entrance fees, tips, personal expenses or other costs.

LANGUAGE

The language used in Egypt is Arabic. Please find below some words and phrases to help you during your stay.

Hello	Selaam
Goodbye	Ma Salama
Yes	Aiwa
No	La
Welcome	Marhaba
Please	Minfadluk
Thank you	Shokran
Excuse me	Lao Samaht
Sorry	Assef
Perhaps	Yenken
How are you ?	E-zayak
Good morning	Sabah El-kheir
Good evening	Masa El-kheir
Good night	Tesbah Ala kheir
Today	En nahar-da
Tomorrow	Bukra
Yesterday	Imbarih
I'm well, thank you	El Humdoolleala
Money	Fuluss
How much is it ?	Bekam ?
Too much !	Ketir !
I don't understand	Ana mish fahem
Leave me alone	Etrokny wahdy
Where is ...?	Fein...?
Here	Hena
Water	Maya
Coffee	Ahwa
Tea	Shy
The bill	El Hesab
Pharmacy	Ssaydaliya
Doctor	Doctur

TURKEY

PRE-DEPARTURE GUIDE



Travel Talk tours will take you on a pilgrimage of culture, history, adventure, fun and relaxation. You will visit historic sites, explore the treasures of Turkey, venture into the surreal region of central Cappadocia and experience sun-kissed days on pristine beaches... Before you leave for your adventure, it is important that you read this pre-departure information to ensure that your trip begins and continues to run as smoothly as possible. While we appreciate that you are embarking on an "adventure holiday" that will produce its own share of surprises, it is also true that forewarned is forearmed. This information is not written with the intention of being anything other than general information that we hope will help you become more prepared for your holiday. The philosophy of Travel Talk is simple: to provide excellent value for money for budget-conscious and adventurous travellers without compromising their experiences. We do this by providing quality transportation, accommodation, sightseeing and information services. We hope that our philosophy will exceed your expectations and the following information will help to ensure you have a memorable time in Turkey.

VISAS

From the 10th of April 2014, citizens of countries requiring visas must arrange a visa on-line, prior to arrival in Turkey. For the on-line visa applications & costs, please visit the following link: www.evisa.gov.tr

No visa fee currently applies for New Zealand passport holders.

Applications are very straightforward & only take a few minutes.

ESSENTIALS

Before you leave your country, we recommend you to make sure you have the followings with you ;

- ➔ Passport
- ➔ Airline or transportation ticket
- ➔ Tour voucher
- ➔ Insurance policy
- ➔ Visas (if necessary)
- ➔ Pre-departure information
- ➔ Label on your travel bag
- ➔ Money (cash and/or travellers cheques)
- ➔ Credit card

HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is recommended to all passengers travelling on Travel Talk tours to have insurance cover to assist with any unforeseen costs, especially medical expenses. It is advised to take a copy of your policy with you. While there are no mandatory vaccinations for travellers to Turkey it is advisable to ensure your vaccines are up to date. Some travellers feel more confident with hepatitis and meningitis inoculations. Rabies exists only in the rural areas of Turkey and it is very unlikely that you will come in contact with a rabid animal.

Immunisation is available in a series of three injections over a period of one month (lasts 3 to 5 years) or a single visit booster dose (lasts only 6 to 12 months). Please consult a medical practitioner for advice. Each year, thousands of visitors return home from Turkey with nothing but happy memories. Turkey is a safe country compared to some parts of the world. Street crime is not a current problem but you should always make sure to take the normal travel precautions. It is not wise to accept gifts, food or drink from strangers. Take care with your passport, credit cards and money - a money belt to fit beneath your clothes is highly recommended. It is also recommended that you pack at least one set of modest clothing. It is a sign of respect to cover your shoulders and legs when visiting mosques and also detracts from unwanted attention. For females, a headscarf is necessary when visiting mosques.

WHAT TO WEAR...

In Spring (April-May) and **Autumn** (October-November) it will be comfortable during the day but may be cool or even chilly at night and you may encounter rain. It is advised to bring a warm jacket or sweater and a windbreaker. In the Central Anatolian region, be prepared for near-winter conditions. It will be warm in the Southeast region, so pack for mild summer conditions.

In Summer (June-September) wear cool, cotton clothing, a hat and sunblock lotion. It is recommended to have a light sweater for cool evenings but rain won't be a big problem. In the South, get ready for hot, hot weather. **In Winter** (December-March) you will need warm, woolen clothing and rain gear, even though some days will be sunny. In general, the weather is warmer along the seacoasts and in the Mediterranean coast and cooler at higher altitudes.

Please also keep in mind that when visiting religious sites, appropriate attire is required (scarves for women etc).

MONEY

We recommend you carry a mixture of cash and a debit/credit card. The Turkish Lira is fully convertible and can be obtained before departure or upon arrival. ATM facilities, banks and Exchange booths are available in all major cities and towns. Avoid changing the bulk of your money at the airport as the exchange rates are usually more favourable in the city.

WEATHER

Istanbul has wet, cold and often snowy winters and has the highest rainfall from November to February. Spring in Istanbul is damp with mild temperatures and it is relatively dry in the summer. The city also tends to be windy. The southern, coastal regions of Turkey are warm and pleasant during the summer. In winter the temperatures rarely fall below 7°C making the Turquoise coast an ideal destination even in early spring and late autumn. The central Anatolian plateau (because of the altitude) can make Cappadocia cool in the evenings, even in the summer, but it remains hot during the day - often in the mid thirties. Spring and autumn can be very crisp and suitable clothing is advised.

Month	Istanbul		Selcuk		Fethiye		Cappadocia	
	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F
Jan	5	41	9	48	10	50	0	32
Feb	6	43	10	50	11	52	1	34
March	7	45	11	52	13	55	5	41
April	12	54	16	61	16	61	11	52
May	16	61	20	68	20	68	26	61
June	21	70	25	77	25	77	20	68
July	23	73	28	82	28	82	23	73
Aug	23	73	27	81	28	82	23	73
Sept	20	68	23	73	24	77	18	64
Oct	16	61	18	64	20	68	13	55
Nov	12	54	15	59	15	59	8	46
Dec	8	46	10	50	12	54	2	36



EATING & DRINKING

Turkey is a food connoisseur's paradise! Don't let the clichés fool you; there is more to Turkish cuisine than just doner and shish kebabs (which many unadventurous travellers solely consumes during their stay). Start your day with a delicious "Turkish Breakfast" of Turkish breads, pastries, cheese, olives, tomatoes, cucumber, boiled eggs and of course, Turkish tea. There are two types of restaurants in Turkey: restaurants which have an a-la-carte menu and "ready meal" restaurants which have a range of preprepared dishes in warming trays for you to choose from. The beauty of this is that you can sample a wide range of dishes for a relatively cheap price. In more upmarket restaurants you can order "meze" (appetizers) and sample a bewildering array of dishes ranging from stuffed vegetables and tightly rolled cheese pastries to pickled vegetables usually accompanied with an array of purees and vinaigrettes - vegetarians are especially catered for in mezes.

Main dishes are generally on display, so you can select the piece of meat or fish that you want prepared for you (fish is usually charged by weight). Shish and doner kebabs are served everywhere, but perhaps a better alternative are the Adana kebabs - spicy minced meat with a sprinkling of purple sumac herb. Don't forget to save room for dessert! Some traditional sweets to try include "baklava" (a sweet, flaky pastry usually with pistachio), "kadayif" (shredded pastry dough filled with nuts and drenched in syrup), "tavukgogusu" (a creamy and signature dish made with chicken and milk), and "helva" (sesame paste). Tourists are often surprised to find out that tea (cay) is the national drink of Turkey rather than coffee. It is served in a small fluted glass with a very small spoon and saucer and cubes of sugar (although it is normally sweet enough). There are various flavours of tea to try from the traditional to apple and lemon. Of course there is also Turkish coffee, which is generally very strong and thicker than what you would get at Starbucks, but worth a try. And in answer to a popular question - yes, you will find a wide variety of alcoholic drinks here too. Beer (bira) is very popular, local brands include Efes, Pilsen and Tuborg and go down well after a long day of sight seeing in the sun. sight seeing in the sun.

"Raki", is the national aperitif served with ice and water which turns the clear spirit into a cloudy liquid. This is how it should be drunk, not in shot-form like many tourists... try either way, but you will see which leaves you feeling better in the morning! It also goes very well accompanying meze. Domestically produced gin, vodka and brandy are also available in most of the bars, pubs and restaurants.

SHOPPING

Shopping in Turkey is one of the great experiences of visiting this fantastic country; the colours, textures, sights and sounds will have you spell-bound. It is a beautiful chaos so don't let the seeming madness fool you. The markets are generally laid out in an organized manner with each of the vendors displaying their particular wares; whether it be spices, clothing garments or jewellery. You will find similar stands throughout the stalls so be sure to peruse at your leisure. There are plenty of bargains to be found and while haggling can be a stressful experience for some, for most it is all part of the fun. Often you will be invited into the shop for tea or coffee while you and the shopkeeper chat and negotiate.

OPENING HOURS

There are no hard and fast rules for opening hours in Turkey, but banks and main post offices are generally open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 12.00 midday and 1.30pm to 5.30pm. Shops are usually open from around 9.00am to 6.00pm, later in bazaars and shopping malls. They are usually closed on Sunday.

ELECTRICITY

All appliances require a double round pin type plug for 220 volts AC, 50- hertz.

TIPPING

Tips are a common reward for service staff in Turkey. Your tour guide and crew will be especially appreciative and honoured with this kind of traditional gratitude at the end of your tour. If you join a belly dancing show, the dancer will expect a tip of around £2.

DISTANCES

The following information will give you a better idea of the times travelled to help you plan your day:

- ➔ Istanbul-Gallipoli: 295 kms 5 hours
- ➔ Gallipoli-Troy-Pergamum-Selcuk: 382 kms 11 hours.
- ➔ Selcuk-Pamukkale: 193 kms 3.5 hours
- ➔ Pkale-Cappadocia: 630 kms 11 hours
- ➔ Cappadocia-Ankara : 287 kms 3.5 hours
- ➔ Ankara-Istanbul : 443 kms 5 hours
- ➔ Pamukkale- Istanbul : 664 kms 9 hours.
- ➔ Marmaris- Fethiye : 126 kms 2 hours.
- ➔ Selcuk-Fethiye: 288 kms 4.5 hours
- ➔ Marmaris-Pamukkale: 211 kms 4 hours

ARRIVAL

Istanbul Arrival (Turkey Only Tours)

On arrival at the airport you will be met by our local representative who will arrange your transfer to the hotel.

Please make sure that you inform us, in advance, of your correct arrival details (date, time, flight code). Please find below the address details of your arrival hotels/meeting points.

Guide Meeting

Please note that your guide will meet you for a briefing about the days ahead at 06:30pm on day 1 at your arrival hotel, unless otherwise notified.

TURKEY

PRE-DEPARTURE GUIDE

traveltalk
adventure travel company



AIRPORT TRANSFER

Your arrival airport transfer is included if:

- You fly into the city in which your tour starts
- You arrive on the first day of your tour OR you have booked pre-accommodation through us
- You forward your flight details to us, at least 10 days in advance, including:

- Date of flight
- Flight number
- Arrival time
- Name of traveller/s to be picked up

If you do not want an airport transfer to the hotel, please let us know by either phoning the office (0208 099 95 96) or sending us an email (info@traveltalktours.com). Please note that check-in time is 13:00 and we have no airport transfer service for `Sail Turkey` tours.

SELF TRANSPORTATION

The Istanbul Airport (ISL) is located 45 km North West of Old Town. Before you exit the terminal you will need to go down below Level 2 for the Havaist shuttle which will take you to Sultanahmet (Old town) for 18TL and the drive takes approx. 80 minutes. The payment method for the shuttle is IstanbulKart that you can easily get from the machines at airport (works for all public transportation in Istanbul & can be refilled). From Sultanahmet, you will need to take the tram to Eminönü. The arrival hotel is only a couple of minutes walk from Eminönü tram station. The total cost is approximately 25TL. You can also take a taxi from the airport directly to the hotel and can expect to pay around 150 TL.

The journey from Sabiha Gokcen Airport (SAW) to Istanbul is straightforward and inexpensive. After you leave the terminal you will see Havabus shuttle which will take you to Taksim for 18TL (cash accepted) and the drive takes approx. 90 minutes. From Taksim, you will need to take the funicular to Kabatas, then catch the tram to Eminönü. The total cost is approximately 28TL. If you prefer to take a taxi straight to the hotel, it will cost around 160TL.

ACCOMMODATION

Travel Talk Turkey tours use 4 or 5-star hotels, with some 3-star hotels used in the Mediterranean Region. The main criteria used for hotel selection is: cleanliness, private bathroom facilities and location (generally central).

If you are travelling on your own, you will be allocated into a twin or triple room with other group member/s of the same gender. Travellers who have paid a single supplement will stay in single rooms except on the Gulet cruise, if booked. Unfortunately we can not guarantee the availability of double beds, but will try our best. Your tour leader will allocate rooms upon arrival at the hotel in accordance with the rooming lists, therefore, any last minute changes can not be guaranteed.

PRE&POST TOUR ACCOMMODATION

Should you require pre or post tour accommodation, please notify us (or your agent) at the time of booking and we can make the arrangements for you. This information will be clearly stated on your voucher.

TRANSPORTATION

You can expect comfort and reliability on our modern coaches and mini buses. Most vehicles feature air-conditioning, safe and secure luggage storage, comfortable seats, and a sound system.

ENTRANCE FEES

- ➔ Topkapi Palace 60 TL
- ➔ Hagia Sophia Museum 60 TL
- ➔ Blue Mosque Free, Hippodrome Free
- ➔ Kabatepe War Museum 13 TL
- ➔ Troy 35 TL
- ➔ Pergamum (Asklepion) 35 TL
- ➔ Ephesus 40 TL
- ➔ Saklikent 5 TL
- ➔ Hierapolis 35 TL
- ➔ Goreme Open Air Museum 45 TL
- ➔ Underground City 45 TL
- ➔ Dalyan Mud Bath 5 TL
- ➔ Iztuzu beach 3,5 TL
- ➔ Pamukkale 40 TL

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Hot-air ballooning 190 Euro (Cappadocia)
- ➔ Turkish Bath 130 TL (Cappadocia)
- ➔ Turkish Night 160 TL (Cappadocia)

MISSED YOUR WELCOME MEETING ?

Being avid travellers ourselves, we know that unforeseen circumstances arise. If you are late and miss the welcome meeting, don't stress, just check the information board in the hotel lobby for the next day's programme. Should you be a day late, contact your leader for arrangements to meet up.

THE TOUR PRICE AND LOCAL PAYMENT

We ease your cash needs by dividing the tour cost into two payments: tour price and local payment. You only need to pay the tour price in advance to be able to book on tour and the compulsory local payment needs to be paid when your trip commences. The local payment is part of the tour cost and does not cover any extra costs like meals, entrance fees, drinks, tips, personal expenses or other type of travel costs.

LANGUAGE

The official language of Turkey is Turkish. Below you can find some important phrases that will make your stay in Turkey a little easier:

Yes	Evet
No	Hayir
Maybe	Belki
Please	Lutfen
Thank you	Teshekkur
Pardon me	Pardon
Who ?	Kim ?
When ?	Ne zaman ?
Today	Bugun
Yesterday	Dun
Tomorrow	Yarin
I'm sorry	Ozur dilerim
Help	Imdat
Police	Polis
Hello	Merhaba
Goodbye	Hoshchakal
Good night	Iyi gejeler
How are you ?	Nasilsin ?
Bill, please	Hesap, lutfen
Open	Acik
Closed	Kapali
Bad	Kotu
Good	Iyi
Hot	Sicak
Cold	Soguk
How much?	Ne kadar ?
Too much !	Pahali
Water	Su
Coffee	Kahve
Tea	Chai
OK	Tamam