



Tour Programme:

Day 1. Transfer on Metro from Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport to Aksan hotel (or similar)

We recommend that you use the IZBAN suburban service, or the state railway service from Adnan Menderes Airport to Basmane station, close to your hotel.

When we know your arrival time we can advise you. Hotel is within easy walking distance of the station. Once settled in you can visit the Agora of Smyrna and the waterside, before finding dinner in one of the many restaurants serving tasty Aegean cuisine.



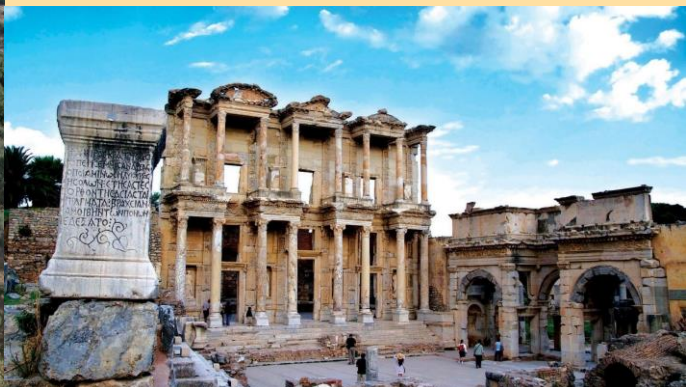
Day 2. Walking tour of Selçuk and Ephesus 9 Km trek. Night in first class sleeper train.

After **breakfast**, you walk the short distance to Basmane station.

We take the **train** to Selçuk 09:00 – 10:18 Meet your guide, Yalçın İkizoğlu at Selçuk Station.

We take a walking tour, first to the newly renovated **Museum of Ephesus**, from there we pass the site of the famous **Temple of Artemis**. From there our walk takes us past a café where we can buy coffee and a light lunch before we continue our walk to the south gate of Ephesus. We tour **Ephesus**, continuing our walk from the North gate back to the station to get the 15:53 train back to Izmir.

You can have dinner and a few drinks in Izmir, before picking up our bags and getting a taxi to Alsancak station in time for the Konya **Sleeper train** 21:10. First class 2 berth sleeper compartments. Single available.



Day 3. Day tour of Konya. Night in Mesnevi Hotel (or similar)

Arrive in Konya at 09:00. You can have **breakfast** on the train before a very short transfer to Mesnevi Hotel.

Tour the Mevlana Museum, lunch in local café, Karatay Madrassa, Allaeddin Keykubad Mosque, and Tile Museum. **If you are here on Saturday do not miss the Whirling Dervish ceremony!**



Day 4. Travel to Cappadocia. Night in Çiner Hotel or similar

After **breakfast** you will be met by your guide for the next 2 days, Mr Necip Ataseven, and are taken by private car to **Çatal Höyük**, known as the oldest town on earth. From there you stop at the grand caravansary at **Sultanhanı** before continuing on to **Ihlara Valley** where we have a **light trek** in the church-lined valley, before continuing on to your hotel in the centre of Cappadocia.



Day 5. Guided Walking tour of Cappadocia. Night in first class sleeper train

After **breakfast**, a walking tour 14 Km approx of **Üçhisar**, Pigeon valley, Göreme and **Göreme open air museum**, Zelve.

Evening transfer to Kayseri by private minibus

Board 'Eastern Express' at 00:48

First class 2 berth sleeper compartments. Single available.



Day 6. Travel on Eastern Express to Erzurum. Overnight in Rafo Hotel or similar

Wake up to spectacular views of Anatolian steppe and with long stretches following the Euphrates river.

You can have breakfast on train as the spectacular journey continues. This part of the journey is actually one of the highlights of the holiday!



Arrive in Erzurum at 13:57. Taxi to hotel, then visit the **Yakutiye Medrese and Turkish Islamic Arts and Ethnography museum.**



Day 7. More sightseeing in Erzurum, Çift minare mosque and the Selçuk 'Kumbet' Mausoleum or Trek in the Palandöken mountains (Transport charge extra) to be followed by afternoon train to Kars. Visit Kars Castle and Church of the 12 Apostles. Night in Karabag Hotel or similar.





Day 8. Visit Ani, Doğubeyazıt and Van. Sleeper train to Iran.

Breakfast in Hotel. Meet Mr. Mahnut Gezer and drive to the Armenian border, to visit the ancient capital city **Ani**. Continue to the enigmatic **İshakpaşa** palace at Doğubeyazıt, walk 2.5 hours to palace with fine views of Mt. Ararat.

Continue to Van.

Have **dinner with Mahmut's family** before boarding the train to Tabriz in Iran. Train leaves at 19:48.

If tour is to be done exactly as above then it must be a Tuesday start, as the Van – Tabriz train only runs on Tuesday.

If another start day is needed then could drive from Doğubeyazıt to Tabriz, without stopping in Van.

Includes:

All entrance fees to sites mentioned.

7 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner.

Discovering the Highlights of Iran, Tour provided by our partner company in Iran

Itinerary – Starts in Tabriz . Fully guided

Day9: Tabriz – arrive Tabriz from Van. City tour, visit El Goli Park,

National museum, UNESCO certified Grand Bazaar, Blue Dome, Jame mosque.



Night in Tabriz Gostaresh Hotel or similar



Day 10: Tabriz – A day of relaxing in Tabriz Evening train 433. in Sleeper to Tehran.



Day 11: Tehran – Tehran city tour, visit National museum, Carpet museum, glassware museum, Grand bazaar. Night in Tehran Enghelab / Kosar Hotel or similar.



Day 12: Tehran -Isfahan – take morning train to Isfahan at 6:00
city tour of Isfahan visit Naghshe Jahan square.
Imam & sheikhlotfoalh mosques, Alighapou palace , old bridges.
Night in Isfahan Alighapou Hotel



Day 13: Isfahan – Shiraz—drive to Shiraz visit Persepolis and Naghshe
Rostam on the way. continue to Shiraz. Overnight Shiraz Arg Hotel or similar



Day 14: Shiraz – city tour of Shiraz visit Karimkhan citadel, bazaar, Narenjestan, Nasir mosque and Hafez tomb. Overnight Shiraz Arg Hotel or similar.



Day 15: Departure – transfer to airport take departure flight

Price includes:

Visa invitation letter

5 night's accommodation at hotel base on DBL / Twin room

Daily buffet breakfast

All transfers & transportation with A/C Comfortable Vehicle with professional driver per itinerary

Accompany Professional English speaking tour guide

Entrance fees of all monuments as mentioned in program

Tips and gratuities at hotels

Portage / Refreshment during Trip



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Depends on the Departure flight it is possible to take flight from Shiraz to Tehran and departure From tehran which per person : 135 USD (include domestic fligh shiraz to tehran / one night accommodation Tehran) will be added to the package.

Price does not include:

Fee for issuing visa at embassy

International air ticket

Tip of guide & driver

Extra Meals

Extra services that not included in above.

