

# 11-DAY CAPPADOCIA & AEGEAN RHAPSODY VIA THE CORINTH CANAL CRUISE TOUR

Athens to Istanbul

POST CRUISE LAND TOUR – 3 DAYS



**HAND PAINTED IZNIK TILES IN DEEP LAPIS LAZULI**, turquoise, emerald, and coral. Fairy chimneys of taupe and burnt umber. The white, charcoal, and Aegean blue palette of Santorini. On this journey through Turkey and Greece you may expand on your list of favorite new places, and even add new favorite colors, aromas, and flavors. Istanbul is your portal to this sensory world, with its Ottoman mosques, sultans' palaces, Grand Bazaar and Spice Bazaar. Cappadocia's weird landscape of rock pillars and subterranean homes is next, followed by a string of pearls. Sparkling Aegean isles, the marble ruins of Ephesus, an ancient oracle, a Trojan horse. And while larger ships must go around, you cut straight through the narrow Corinth Canal to Athens, one of the world's oldest cities, and some say one of the finest.

Please note: Bring your hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, insect repellent, and comfortable walking shoes. This tour is not wheelchair accessible and is not suitable for people with mobility issues. Order of sites visited may vary based on availability and dates.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 3 hotel stays – 1-night accommodation at Pera Palace Hotel in a Deluxe Golden Horn Room, 2-night accommodations at Argos in Cappadocia in a Stone Standard Room
- Daily breakfast
- Lunch at Sira Restaurant in Cappadocia
- Domestic flights Istanbul to Kayseri and Kayseri to Istanbul (Turkish Airlines - Economy Class)
- All transfers to and from the airport, to and from sites and from the ship
- 2 full days and 1/2 day sightseeing in a luxury air conditioned vehicle with a professional driver and English-speaking tour guide
- Entrance fees to Ayasofya, Blue Mosque, Kaymakli Underground City, Grand Bazaar, Goreme Open-Air Museum, Spice Market
- 9-day cruise round trip from Istanbul

## DAY TO DAY – POST CRUISE LAND TOUR

---



### DAY 1 – Disembark and Istanbul, Turkey

Depart the ship in Istanbul, a magical city of bejeweled buildings, sultans, Silk Road intrigue, and a mouthwatering foodie scene. Begin where Istanbul began, in the historic heart of the city. Back in the day, chariots used to race here at the Hippodrome, cheered on by thousands of fans. You can still see the footprint of the track and the exquisite artworks that used to decorate the infield. The Blue Mosque will dazzle you with its blue Iznik tiles and colorful stained glass, and Ayasofya Mosque with its vast size, soaring dome, and sunlit interior. But it's Topkapi Palace that brings Istanbul's romantic history of sultans, harems, and exotic lifestyles to life. Search for mementos at the Grand Bazaar – handicrafts, oriental carpets, and rare jewels are just a few possibilities.

(Includes overnight at Pera Palace Hotel.)



### DAY 2 – Istanbul and Flight to Cappadocia, Turkey

After breakfast it's off to the Spice Bazaar, an aromatic market that's been around since the days of the Silk Road. This used to be the last stop for the camel caravans, but today it's our first stop before heading to the airport and Cappadocia. After arriving at the Kayseri Airport, take a scenic drive through Devrent and Pasabag Valleys. What draws visitors to the Devrent Valley is the incredible pink-hued rock formations formed by centuries of erosion. The Pasabag Valley is where you'll find incredible cave dwellings and stone towers early inhabitants called fairy chimneys.

(Includes breakfast, flight and overnight at Argos in Cappadocia Hotel.)



### DAY 3 – Cappadocia, Turkey

After breakfast, enjoy the perspective at Kaymakli Underground City with its five subterranean levels of living space carved out by early Christians. At the Goreme Open-Air Museum, get a good look at the area's best rock-cut churches, some dating back to the 6th century. Lunch is included at the unique Sira Restaurant. An underground cave gallery in the pretty town of Avanos is your last stop of the day, and you'll have a chance to meet with the pottery artisans before returning to your hotel.

(Includes breakfast, lunch and overnight at Argos in Cappadocia Hotel.)



### DAY 4 – Flight to Istanbul and Homebound

Enjoy a final breakfast in Cappadocia before heading to the airport and Istanbul for your flight home.

(Includes breakfast and flight to Istanbul.)

---

WINDSTAR<sup>®</sup>  
CRUISES  
180° FROM ORDINARY<sup>®</sup>