GROUP TOURS

HISTORICAL PENINSULA Half Day Morning Tour

COMPLIMENTARY TOUR

We start our tour in Istanbul with the highlights of the city. Istanbul has been the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire and our tour starts at the Roman Hippodrome where once wild animals fought and gladiators waged numerous battles. The Roman Hippodrome is built in 203 by the mighty Emperor Septimus Severus.

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The tour continues with the famous Sultanahmet Mosque also known as Blue Mosque which is a masterpiece of architecture from 17th century. Located in the very heart of the historical peninsula of Istanbul, Sultanahmet Mosque is built in 1616 by Architect Mehmet Aga for Ottoman Sultan Ahmet I. Wouldn't you like to discover the ethereal workmanship in its domes, mastership of its fine blue Iznik tiles and fine details of its exterior with us?

Another world famous highlight of Istanbul is the Museum of Haghia Sophia which is built in 537 as a Greek Orthodox Cathedral and it means Holy Wisdom. It continued to serve its millions of visitors as a mosque since 1453 and now is a museum since 1935. Be prepared to be captivated by an extensive interior design, authentic historical mosaics at Haghia Sophia Museum offering the best examples of Oriental and Western art to its visitors.

The last stop will be the oldest shopping mall of the world, Grand Bazaar offering beautiful sights for the sore eyes with its 4400 shops, 61 streets and 2 Bedesten (inner covered bazaars). The Grand Bazaar has been elected as the best Tourist Attraction Sight most visited in the world in 2015 by Travel & Leisure magazine followed by Times Square in New York City as the second most visited site.

ITINERARY

Transportation by air conditioned vehicles , English Speaking Guide and Admission Fees

08:15 Depart from Ciragan Palace Kempinski

09:45 The visit of Hagia Sophia **09:00** Arrival at Historical Peninsula (Sultanahmet)

10:45 Drive to Grand Bazaar & Free Time for shopping **09:10** The first visit is to Hippodrome and Blue Mosque

12:15 Drive back to Congress Valley

13:00 Arrival at Ciragan Palace Kempinski



