

GROUP TOURS

1



OTTOMAN & BYZANTINE RELICS

Full Day including Lunch

Price Per Person
160 \$ (Inc. 18% V.A.T.)

Istanbul is an unique city that offers a multicultural architecture and life experiences. You may discover and live the rich cultural bacground of the city via Ottoman & Byzantine Relics Tour in a day.

The Basilica Cistern, one of the unique underground museums of the world also known as the Underground Palace, with its palatial marble pillars, interior lighting, exquisite acoustics, and matchless architecture. The Cistern was built to provide the Byzantine Empire with the water supply it needed and has been opened to visitors as a museum since 1987.

After the visit of Basilica Cistern we will walk through the old wooden houses built next to the gate of Topkapi Palace and give a short break in Caferaga Madrassah that used to be a school during Ottoman era. The madrassah now serving as a foundation to teach classics Ottoman art to students like marbling and calligraphy. You may sip your Turkish Coffee while watching local artists.

Topkapi Palace' gate will greet you just a few steps from Madrassah that you may witness the masterpieces built by emperors. The Palace is located at one of the most beautiful and renowned historical spots of glamorous Istanbul on a hill dominating the turquoise view of the Bosphorus for over 400 years serving as the headquarters of Ottoman Empire and home for Ottoman Sultans. Topkapi Palace is the first museum of Republic of Turkey and continues to be one of the largest palace museums in the world with its architectural structures, several collections and an archive of more than 300.000 documents.

Lunch will be served at the last courtyard of the palace overlooking Bosphorus in a famous Turkish restaurant, Konyali. Please find the menu below;

MENU

Transportation by air conditioned vehicles ,English Speaking Guide, Admission Fees, Lunch & Soft Drinks.

STARTERS

Cheese Pastry
Seasonal Salad

MAIN DISH

Mixed Shish Kebab
(Chicken&Meat)

DESSERT

Milk Pudding

DRINKS

1 bottle of Soft Drink
& Water

In the afternoon we will drive through Golden Horn and visit Chora Museum that you may witness the highest level of Byzantine mosaics depicting the life of Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ. The contradiction between its outstanding interior full of wonders and its humble exterior makes the experience for visitors especially memorable. This well preserved 11th-c. Greek Orthodox Church will impress you by the most beautiful examples of glamorous Byzantine mosaics.

20 minutes photographic walk from Chora Museum will take us to Fener Greek Patriarchate Church, this dignitary institution is the spiritual leader for the Orthodox world with 250 million believers. The Patriarchate moved to its present residency in 1602, which was restored in the 1800s to get its current appearance.

On the way back to Congress Valley you may digest the beauties you witnessed.



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ITINERARY

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08:15

Depart from Ciragan Palace Kempinski

10:00

The visit of Topkapı Palace

14:00

The first visit is to Hippodrome and Blue Mosque

17:00

Arrival at Ciragan Palace Kempinski

09:00

The first visit is to Basilica Cistern

12:00

Lunch in Konyalı Restaurant in Topkapı Palace overlooking Bosphorus

15:00

The visit of Hagia Sophia

09:30

Walk through Soguksu Street and short visit to Caferaga Madrassah

13:30

Arrival at Historical Peninsula (Sultanahmet)

16:00

Drive back to Congress Valley



Minimum 4 participants required.

"Ottoman&Byzantine Relics" tour will be fullfilled everday except Tuesday since Topkapı Palace is closed on every Tuesday.