

An Invitation to

TURKEY

2024 & 2025



INTERNATIONAL
NATURE & CULTURAL
ADVENTURES



An Invitation to Turkey

Delve into the blend of history and cultures that converge in Turkey, a mesmerizing crossroads of tradition and modernity. Join us on 19-Day and 14-Day active adventures that peel back the layers of time, revealing the captivating stories of this ever-evolving region.

Since 1996, we've been crafting unforgettable journeys to this incredible destination, for adventurous travelers who share in our belief that profound encounters with culture and heritage are the richest luxuries of travel.

Turkey stands as a captivating and varied country, boasting many aspects that define an enthralling adventure—welcoming locals, a rich and intricate history, breathtaking archaeological sites, magnificent art, exquisite crafts, and stunning landscapes.

Our passion lies in acquainting travelers with these wonders, whether through leisurely village and ruin walks, soaring over Cappadocia in a hot air balloon, countryside hikes, or indulging in exploration along secluded coastlines aboard a luxurious live-board *gulet*, the Turkish version of a yacht.

In line with our ethos for all small group expeditions, the emphasis is on both education and enjoyment. Our Turkish guides stand out for their exceptional expertise and vibrant personalities, ensuring that learning is as enjoyable as it is enlightening.

Visiting Turkey is an immensely rewarding experience and we're delighted to share it with you.

Highlights

*Four days in Cappadocia hiking, exploring underground cities, discovering local Turkish wines**

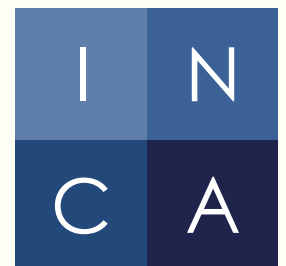
Four day blue-water gulet cruise, hiking and trekking to remote Graeco-Roman ruins, visiting crusader castles, swimming, and relaxing

Four days immersed in dynamic Istanbul and Four nights at Four Seasons Hotel Sultanahmet

Visits to Çatalhöyük the oldest known city in the Western world, Rumi's tomb*, the Oracle, and Ephesus*

Hands-on cooking, wine-tasting, expert led museum visits, in-depth learning

**Only on 19-Day Origins of Civilization*



19-Day Origins of Civilization

Day 1./

Arrival in Kayseri

Arrive in Kayseri from your international flights via Istanbul. Transfer to Wyndham Grand for check-in.

Hotel: Wyndham Grand

Day 2./

Arrival in Cappadocia

After breakfast, transfer to Uçhisar, a small, picturesque village in the Cappadocia region.

After checking in at Argos Hotel, take a late afternoon guided hike from the hotel and explore the unique landscape.

This evening you will be treated to a welcome dinner at Argos Hotel.

Hotel: Argos Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Days 3-5./

Cappadocia

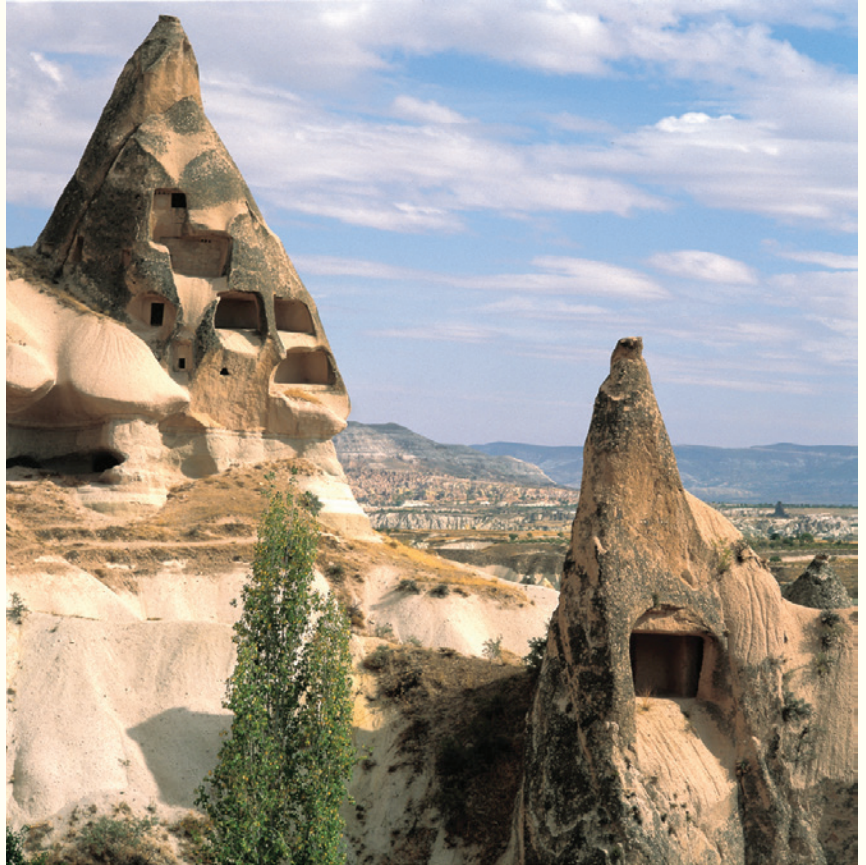
Enjoy an optional dawn hot-air balloon ride over Cappadocia's sculpted landscape or rise and watch the balloons float past in the early light.

During your stay in Cappadocia, you will participate in a variety of activities, each day bringing something new and wonderful.

Enjoy a brisk hike through the vineyards in the delightful Red Valley of Cappadocia. This beautiful valley gets its name from the rose-colored rock that varies in hue and intensity. Find the "secret" stone cathedral and climb into other beautiful, mysterious rock churches.

Visit one of the dozens of underground cities in the region. These troglodyte cave cities were long-term hiding places from marauding armies traversing Anatolian search of captives and plunder.

Hike through the fascinating geology of Cappadocia. The trails run through orchards,



“Cappadocia is spectacular, and the Hotel Argos is top drawer! Bihter was great.” - Harry S., CA

gardens, and vineyards, past hidden rock churches and cave dwellings. Visit the Göreme Open Air Museum which perhaps was the most important monastic center in the area. Enjoy a grand, well-earned picnic in a secluded glen.

Hotel: Argos Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch daily, Dinner Day 5

Day 6./

Cappadocia to Konya and Antalya

Early in the morning, you are off to southwest Turkey, crossing ancient Anatolia following the Silk Road. En route, visit a restored caravansary that ancient Silk Road traders used as a “camel motel.”

In Konya, visit the Museum Tomb of Mevlânâ Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi, known as Rumi, poet and founder of the Sufi order famous for Whirling Dervishes. Next, visit Çatalhöyük, an important site as it is possibly the first urban center in the world (at 7000 BC). This very early Neolithic site was first discovered in the late 1950s. It covers a large area and is believed to have been densely populated. Spectacular wall paintings and other art have been unearthed by a Stanford University team directing the extensive excavations.

Continue into the Taurus Mountains, heading to the Turquoise Coast where you join the coastal highway and, time permitting, stop to visit the



enormous, well-preserved theater of Aspendus. After exploring this impressive Graeco-Roman site, continue to Antalya where you spend two nights. Dinner is on your own to partake of the local restaurant scene.

Hotel: Casa Sur

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 7./

Termessos and Antalya

This morning, hike up a steep, forested canyon to explore one of antiquity's most dramatically situated sites. Termessos is set on a mountaintop with a commanding view of all sides. Termessos was a Pisidian city built at the south-west side of the mountain Solymos (modern-day Güllük Dag). It is one of the best-preserved ancient cities of Turkey and is now a national park.

After lunch, visit the Antalya Museum. Exhibits include artifacts collected from local, south coast, and mountain excavations dating from prehistory, including the Late Paleolithic through the Late Bronze Ages. The collection from the 12th century BC through the classic periods and ethnographic displays enhances our understanding of Turkey's complex history.

Hotel: Casa Sur

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8./

Phaselis, Myra, and the Gulet

Head south along the Turquoise Coast to explore the ancient site of Phaselis, not far from the ancient site of Olympus. Nearby, the unquenchable Chimaera burns to this day. Continue to Myra to see impressive rock tombs, a fine theater, and the Church of St. Nicholas. (Guess who got his start there!)

Meet your gulet (yacht) and sail immediately for the Kekova Roadstead and several days of relaxing cruising, shore visits, hikes, and more good times. Cruise to the hillside village of

Kaleköy, formerly known as Simena. Explore the village and its castle.

Gulet: Tanem H

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9./

Cruising, Kas, Gemiler Island

Cruise slowly along the submerged ruins of the sunken village of Simena. After a leisurely shore visit in the charming village of Kas, ancient Antiphellus, cruise on to Gemiler Island, a Byzantine stronghold, and a popular monastic center on the route of the Crusades. At Gemiler Adasi (Island) explore the remains of several churches and a monastery and ponder the purpose of a mysterious covered passageway that runs for nearly a thousand meters along the spine of this narrow island. Gemiler was but one of many stopovers on the long road of the Crusaders and the Knights of St. John. Locals will come by the gulet in put-put boats selling gözleme, a tasty crepe-like traditional treat sprinkled with spices and feta and baked on an inverted wok.

Gulet: Tanem H

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10./

Kayaköy, Cruising, Cleopatra's Bath

Hike to the abandoned Greek village of Kayaköy. Over a freshly squeezed orange juice and a warm gözleme, you'll talk of the post-WWI events that led to Kayaköy's abandonment. After lunch, sail along the coast and across the bay to anchor for the night just offshore of the trailhead at Cleopatra's Bath.

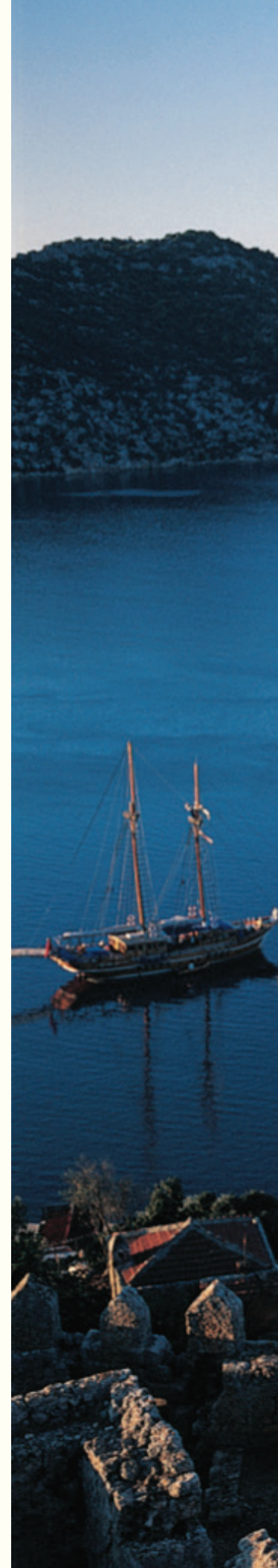
Gulet: Tanem H

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11./

Lydae, Ekincik

Hike the scenic yet challenging trail through the pine forests to the mausoleum at ancient





Lydae. Located in the middle of a peninsula in a basin surrounded by mountains, the site is reachable only from the sea. Well hidden by the natural landscape, Lydae is rarely visited, even by specialists. In the afternoon, cruise to a peaceful cove on the Bay of Ekincik where you anchor for two nights.

Gulet: Tanem H

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 12./

Caunus, Dalyan

Board an African Queen-style put-put to motor past Iztuzu Beach, a long sand spit, now a protected sea turtle nesting site, and meander through the silt marshes and cattails up the Dalyan River to visit the Lycian site of Caunus. On the way, see the huge rock cut Lycian tombs carved into the cliffs. After this visit, the hikers among us head to the lovely Bay of Ekincik. Everyone else will go into the village of Dalyan for bit of shopping before rejoining the gulet in Ekincik Bay. There, laze away the afternoon, swimming, reading, and getting ready for sundowners.

Gulet: Tanem H

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 13./

Euromus, Didyma, Priene, Sirince

Disembark and drive north through farmlands and pine-forested mountains to visit the Temple of Zeus at the Carina site of Euromus. After a brief visit, continue to the Aegean coast to explore the remains of the enormous Temple of Apollo at Didyma which dates from the 3rd century B.C.

The gigantic columns of the temple reach far into the blue Aegean sky. The sculpted face of Medusa looks just like her photos which always makes us think she might be having a “bad hair day”! The tiny tortoises crawling around these immense ruins provide sharp contrast. (Just think what their ancestors had to put up with



“Thank you for your assistance setting up my itinerary to awesome Turkey with INCA. It was a truly fabulous vacation. One I will NEVER forget.” - Barbara W., CO

compared to their giant relatives in Galápagos!) In its heyday, everyday folks and political and military leaders worth their salt would always consult the Oracle here before taking any major action. Over centuries, earthquakes, fires, and building material scavengers reduced this magnificent structure to rubble. However, recent restoration activities give us some sense of its former splendor.

Going north, visit the classic site Priene, an important Graeco-Roman city overlooking the Menderes River delta. Then motor north through farmlands and in the late afternoon, arrive in Sirince, a historic village located in the hills not far from Ephesus, where you spend two nights.

Hotel: Nisanyan Hotel
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 14./

Ephesus, Selçuk

Explore Ephesus, the largest Graeco-Roman site in the world, and the Ephesus Museum at Selçuk. You have the entire day to take in this magnificent site. Visit the sites around Ephesus: The Basilica, the House of the Virgin Mary, and the Temple of Artemis, another ancient Wonder of the World. Have lunch in Selçuk at a typical small restaurant. In the evening, return to your hotel where you'll enjoy a hands-on cooking class where you'll prepare dinner.

Hotel: Nisanyan Hotel
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Cooking Class Dinner



Day 15./

Istanbul

After a quick ride to Izmir airport and a short flight, arrive at a crown jewel among cities-Istanbul. There you spend three (you need thirty and can arrange for more) wonderful days exploring the legacies of Greek, Byzantine, and Ottoman civilizations.

We mix the “must-see” with some of our lesser-known favorites and give you some time on your own! Most of us arrive lost and remain mystified during our first visits to a large city. Istanbul is complex, spread out on two continents. The Golden Horn further splits the European part.

To get an overview and sense of Istanbul’s amazing layout, start with the old walls that defined Constantinople, go along the Golden Horn, and then head to the heart of the Sultanahmet where the sumptuous Four Seasons is conveniently situated, right next to the Aya Sophia, Blue Mosque, and Topkapi Palace. There you luxuriate for four nights.

Hotel: Four Seasons Sultanahmet
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Days 16-18./

Istanbul

During the next three days, explore the Sultanahmet, visit the Blue Mosque, Aya Sophia, and the site of the ancient Hippodrome where you see the great obelisk brought from Egypt by the Romans. Enjoy a cruise on the Bosphorus and visit Taksim Square one of the highest points in Istanbul. Stroll down Istiklal Caddesi, a historic commercial and residential street open only to pedestrians and its cute little red trolleys. For a sweeping 360° view of Istanbul, including the Asian side, climb the Galata Tower, built by the Genoese in 14th century.

Travel across the Golden Horn to the medieval citadel of Galata, a colony of the Republic of Genoa. Explore Topkapi Palace, the seat of the Ottoman Sultans for 400 years, and visit the Süleymaniye Cami’i—a vast religious and

educational complex built for Suleyman the Magnificent by the great Turkish architect Sinan. Find a cacophony of sights and sounds as you stroll through the Spice Bazaar’s warren of passages. The marvelous Rustem Pasha Mosque, located in the heart of a bustling marketplace, is one of the finest examples of the architecture of Sinan. Discover the Grand Bazaar and have some time on your own to shop, visit the splendid Archaeological Museum, Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, the Mosaic Museum, have a Turkish bath, or just wander around savoring the aromas and sights.

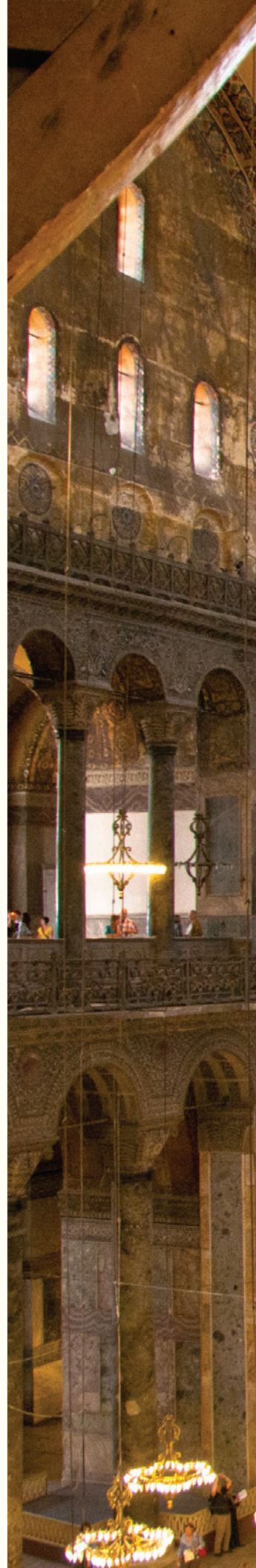
Hotel: Four Seasons Sultanahmet
Meals: Breakfast & Lunch daily, Dinner Day 18

Day 19./

Depart Turkey

Depart Istanbul for home.

Meals: Breakfast





عَنْ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

14-Day Turkish Adventure

For those who wish to join after Cappadocia for a shorter experience, our 14-Day Turkish Adventure meets the group in Antalya.

Day 1
Arrive Antalya

Day 2
Antalya, Termessos

Day 3
Phaselis, Myra, and the Gulet

Day 4
Cruising, Kas, Gemiler Island

Day 5
Kayaköy, Cruising, Cleopatra's Bath

Day 6
Lydae, Ekincik

Day 7
Caunus, Dalyan

Day 8
Euromus, Didyma, Priene, Sirince

Day 9
Ephesus, Selçuk

Days 10-13
Istanbul

Day 14
Depart



*"We had an incredibly wonderful trip to Turkey. INCA put together a great itinerary. We loved the country and its rich history, and all were so impressed with our guide, Bihter Kuranel. She really made the trip so special."
- Suzanne S., CA*

"We are all trying to remember what are the highlights of the trip, and there are so many it is hard to pinpoint only one or two! What a wonderful country" - Lisa W., NH

"Bihter is top notch amazing!! Goddess. More than outstanding. Could not have been better. Great sense of humor, concerned about our comfort, had a handle on everything." - David M., OH



Trip Information

14-Day Turkish Adventure Dates and Prices

May 11 - May 24, 2024
September 28 - October 11, 2024
May 10 - May 23, 2025
September 27 - October 10, 2025

2024
\$10,995 per person, double occupancy
\$9,995 single supplement

2025
\$12,995 per person, double occupancy
\$11,995 single supplement

Trip Cost Includes

Expert leadership and local guides
Accommodations
Gulet cruise
Transportation as noted in itinerary
Meals as noted in itinerary
Entry fees & port taxes

Trip Cost Does Not Include

International or domestic airfare, any meals not specified, airport taxes, optional gratuities to guides, staff, and gulet crew, travel insurance, medical evacuation insurance, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors, bar tabs, laundry and other expenses of a personal nature.

19-Day Origins of Civilization Dates and Prices

May 6 - May 24, 2024
September 23 - October 11, 2024
May 5 - May 23, 2025
September 22 - October 10, 2025

2024
\$12,995 per person, double occupancy
\$10,995 single supplement

2025
\$14,995 per person, double occupancy
\$12,995 single supplement

Payment Schedule

Initial Deposit at time of reservation	\$3000
150 days prior to departure - Second Deposit	\$3000
90 days prior to departure	Balance

Cancellation and Transfer Schedule

- Up to 181 days before departure: Deposit may be refunded or transferred to another departure within one year of the original trip date
- 180-151 days before departure: Deposit is non-refundable but may be transferred to another departure within one year of the original trip date
- 150-91 days before departure: Initial and Second Deposits are forfeited
- 90- 61 days before departure: 75% of trip cost is forfeited; the balance is non-refundable but may be transferred to another departure within one year of the original trip date
- 60 days or less before departure: 100% of trip cost is forfeited

"The itinerary was exceptionally well planned and we chose INCA based on this difference. Our guide was Intelligent, knowledgeable in all subjects and well-read in three languages." - Michael E., NY



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Lodging

Argos, Cappadocia

Once a monastery, the Argos offers individually appointed rooms spread over several natural stone buildings. Some have breathtaking views of Pigeon Valley or private outdoor areas. All rooms feature original details, and are furnished by combining traditional Turkish handicrafts with modern furniture. Farm to table includes the award-winning wines made from Argos' vineyards.

4 nights



Casa Sur, Antalya

Situated in the heart of Antalya, surrounded by the historical ancient walls, just next to the outstanding Hadrian's Gate, Casa Sur has a perfect location for your two night's stay. Walk the extensive gardens or take your drinks at Terrace bar with views of the Hadrian's Gate, one of the most important points of Kaleiçi.

2 nights



Nisanyan hotel

A unique hotel in the charming village of Sirince, just minutes from Ephesus, Nisanyan Hotel is a collection of historic village houses restored for discerning travelers. The gardens are extensive and the kitchen is excellent. Here, you will have a hands-on cooking class where you prepare a Turkish dinner.

2 nights



Tanem H.

The 98'5" ft. luxury gulet *Tanem H.* comfortably accommodates 12 guests with her 2 Double, 2 Master, and 2 Twin Cabins, and is operated by four experienced and dedicated crew. Your Blue Water time aboard *Tanem H.* will include kayaking, swimming, and relaxing at your own pace.

5 nights



Four Seasons Sultanahmet

Your home base in Istanbul is located in the heart of old Istanbul, the Sultanahmet, just steps away from top historic attractions such as the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia. Savor the comforts and service of Four Seasons in a unique, historic property that will delight the senses.

4 nights





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While as accurate as possible at the time of creation, this itinerary should be considered an example of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than a schedule of events; it is subject to change at any time. This trip is subject to the release of liability and all the terms and conditions detailed on our website www.inca1.com