

TRAVEL WITH FRIENDS IN 2016

Sultanahmet Blue Mosque © Krupal Bhavsar/Flickr



# Magnificent Turkey

CROSSROADS OF CULTURE

with Andrew Yip  
07–24 October 2016 (18 days)



# Magnificent Turkey

## CROSSROADS OF CULTURE



### TOUR LEADER

**Dr Andrew Yip** is an art historian, writer and producer whose areas of expertise range from 19th century Ottoman and European Orientalism to 21st century Australian art. His major research interest is in the art of war, and he completed his PhD on paintings of Gallipoli. Andrew has published in numerous art journals and museum publications and is a Research Fellow at the Art Gallery of NSW and the National Institute for Experimental Arts, UNSW. Andrew has lived in Turkey, travelled widely across the country and is an enthusiastic speaker of Turkish and drinker of Turkish coffee.

The world's largest 'open-air museum', Turkey is a complex, rich and fascinating destination for anyone with an interest in art, archaeology, history, religion and humanity.

Bounded by the Black, Aegean and Mediterranean Seas, Turkey has for millennia been inhabited by a multitude of peoples, all of whom have left their mark. A bridge between East and West, a 'melting pot' of civilisations, Turkey has also been at the crossroads of numerous religions, not only Christianity and Islam.

From bustling Istanbul to mystical Cappadocia, via the extraordinary Greek and Roman cities of the coast and through an astonishing variety of landscapes, this comprehensive tour will uncover ancient and modern Turkey in all its splendour.

### At a glance...

- Enjoy six nights in the heart of Sultanahmet, the historic heart of Istanbul
- Spend an afternoon on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Anzac Cove and Lone Pine
- Journey down the Aegean coast, visiting ancient Troy, Pergamum and Ephesus
- Explore the Neolithic site of Çatal Höyük and Hierapolis at Pamukkale
- Marvel at the natural and religious wonders of Cappadocia
- Discover the vibrant culture, cuisine and lifestyle of modern Turkey



# Itinerary

**Thu 06 October 2016**

**Depart Australia**

Suggested departure from Australia on Emirates (via Dubai).  
Overnight in flight.

**Fri 07 Oct**

**Arrive Istanbul**

Arrive Istanbul in the early afternoon and transfer to your hotel in the heart of Sultanahmet, the old town of Istanbul.

This evening, join Andrew and fellow travellers for a welcome briefing and dinner. **B**

**Sat 08 Oct**

**Istanbul**

Begin your exploration of Istanbul with your visit to the Hippodrome, the 'Square of Horses', inspired by the Circus Maximus in Rome and the centre of the city in Byzantine times.

Visit the Blue Mosque, whose stunning interior is decorated with 21,000 blue Iznik tiles. Continue to Hagia Sophia, Church of the Divine Wisdom. Dedicated by Justinian in 537CE as the cathedral of Constantinople during the Byzantine era, it became one of the most important imperial mosques of Istanbul for almost five centuries following the Turkish conquest.

After lunch, descend beneath the city to explore the grandest of the hundreds of Byzantine cisterns which served Constantinople, Yerbatan Saray Sarnici. With a capacity of 80,000 cubic metres and 336 marble columns the area is well lit and furnished with walkways.

Finish the day with a visit to the Archaeological Museum with its impressive collection of antiquities and great selection of Turkish tiles and ceramics in the Tiled Pavilion. **B L**

**Sun 09 Oct**

**Istanbul**

Begin the day with a visit to the newly renovated Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts. The museum is housed in the restored Palace of Ibrahim Pasha, a sumptuous residence built by Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent's Grand Vizir. The collection includes notable examples of Islamic calligraphy, tiles, and rugs as well as ethnographic displays on various cultures in Turkey, particularly nomad groups.

Continue to explore at the Eminönü district including a visit to the Rustem Pasha Mosque, built by the celebrated architect Sinan in 1561 for the Grand Vizier Rustem Pasha. The façade and the small, but attractive interior are decorated with the finest examples of Iznik tiles. This is the heart of the walled city of Constantine, and covers the area on which ancient Byzantium was built.

After lunch in a local restaurant visit the Spice Market, built in the 17th century to finance the upkeep of the nearby Yani Cami mosque, the market is one of the largest covered markets in the city. Lunch at a local restaurant above the market. **B L**

**Mon 10 Oct**

**Istanbul**

Today continue to marvel at the art and architecture of Istanbul with a visit to Topkapi Palace, the residence of the Ottoman Sultans between the 15th and 19th centuries. The jewelled turban crests, silken caftans and priceless Chinese porcelains of the palace bear witness to the grandeur of a bygone era.

Visit the Sulemaniye Mosque, the Mosque of Suleyman the Magnificent, where he and his wife, Hurrem Sultan (Roxelane), are buried. Designed by renowned Ottoman architect Mimar Sinan, it is considered the most beautiful of all the imperial mosques in Istanbul.

After lunch in a local restaurant drive along the Golden Horn and visit the 11th century Church of St Saviour in Chora, one of the most important Byzantine monuments in Istanbul. The walls are decorated with superb 14th century frescoes and mosaics on a gold background.

Today's tour will leave you at the Grand Bazaar, a city in itself with more than 4000 shops, 2000 ateliers, 500 stalls, 12 storehouses, 18 fountains, and 12 mescits or small mosques. **B L**

**Tue 11 Oct**

**Istanbul – Gallipoli – Çanakkale**

Depart Istanbul early for the drive to Gallipoli (approx.5 hr).

In the afternoon, see the Ari Burnu Cemetery, Anzac Cove, Beach Cemetery and John Simpson's grave (The Man with the Donkey). The low and steep slopes of the shore, the beautiful wavy coves,



Hagia Sophia, Church of the Divine Wisdom © Enrique Freire/Flickr



Anzac Cove © Griselda Ramirez/Flickr

the long shores, the thickly wooded hills and valleys of the Gelibolu Peninsula, now hide a bloody battle ground where so many Australian, New Zealand and Turkish soldiers' lives were lost.

Late afternoon continue to Çannakale, situated at the narrowest point in the Dardanelles Straits. **B L D**

### Wed 12 Oct Çanakkale

This morning visit the Canakkale Naval Museum, beautifully positioned within Cimenlik Castle which dates back to 1461. Continue to the site of the ancient city of Troy. The remains of the city were uncovered by the German archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann who used Homer's 'Iliad' to locate the site. Excavations have delineated nine periods (layers) of settlement as well a temple of Athena (from Augustan times), a much earlier sanctuary and altar, a small theatre (odeion) and houses dating as far back as the 3rd millennium BCE.

This afternoon enjoy an afternoon drink on the Cannakale waterfront, the best place to be as the sun sets over the Dardanelles. **B P**

### Thu 13 Oct Cannakale – Pergamum – Izmir

Early departure heading south down the Aegean coast visit the ruins of the ancient city of Pergamum, which include the Acropolis with the Temple of Athena, Altar of Zeus (much of which is now located in Berlin) and Temple of Dionysos. The impressive 10,000 seat theatre was built into the hillside to take advantage of the spectacular view, and conserve precious space on top of the hill.

Enjoy a home hosted lunch before heading to Aesclepiion, located about 1km west of the ancient site of Pergamum it was founded during the 4th century BCE; this institution gained its reputation during the Hellenistic and Roman periods and played an important role in the treatment of the sick of Asia Minor. Continue to Izmir for overnight. **B L D**

### Fri 14 Oct Izmir – Ephesus – Kuşadası

This morning begin your exploration of ancient Anatolia. Famous in antiquity for its Temple of Diana, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and later the home of Saint John, the port of Ephesus

became the greatest city in Asia Minor during the years of the Roman Empire. Enter the ancient city through the Magnesian Gate and marvel at the many monuments including the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus and the steam-heated Baths of Scolastika.

The afternoon will include a visit to the House of Virgin Mary who accompanied St. John to Ephesus, spent her last years and died in a small stone chapel-like hut on a hill, among a forest of olive trees close by to Ephesus. A visit is considered to be a Pilgrimage by the Vatican.

Continue to Kuşadası for the next three nights. **B L D**

### Sat 15 Oct Kuşadası

Today explore the three ancient sites of Priene, Miletus and Didyma. Situated high above the Meander Valley, on the slopes of Mt. Mycale, Priene remains one of the most picturesque and best-preserved towns of antiquity. It was visited by Alexander the Great who paid for the construction of its famous Temple of Athena. Miletus, laid out on a grid plan by the famous Hippodamus, was an important port city in Asia Minor and home to numerous philosophers and scientists while Didyma, with its massive temple of Apollo (still wonderfully complete) was one of the most renowned sanctuaries in the Graeco-Roman world. **B L**

### Sun 16 Oct Kuşadası

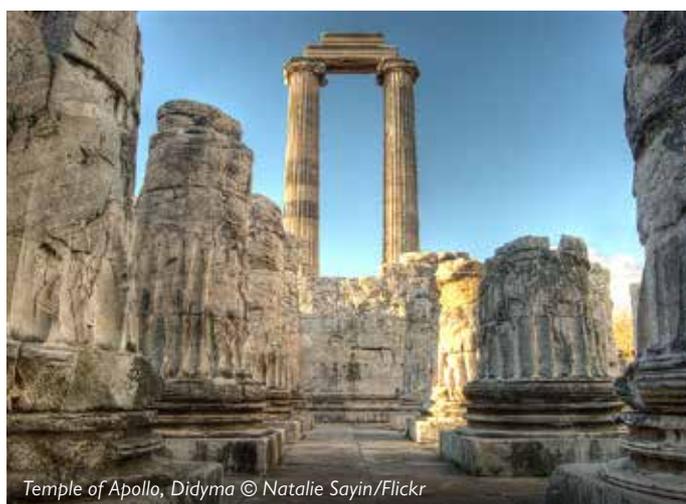
Today is at leisure in Kuşadası. You may wish to take the 90 minute ferry to the Greek island of Samos for further discoveries, or wander along the palm-lined boulevard in Kuşadası. **B**

### Mon 17 Oct Kuşadası – Pamukkale

Depart early this morning for the drive to Pamukkale, to view the ancient city of Hierapolis with its magnificently preserved necropolis, thermal baths, the Roman theatre and the museum. The ancient city is located on a 200m high terrace of limestone deposits amid a wonderland of mineral water pools and petrified limestone waterfalls. **B L D**

### Tue 18 Oct Pamukkale – Konya

Depart Pamukkale early this morning for Konya, one of the oldest urban centres in the world, where you visit the Mausoleum of



Temple of Apollo, Didyma © Natalie Sayin/Flickr



Sarcophagus of Mevlânâ, Konya © Dennis Jarvis/Flickr

Mevlana, a 13th century mystic poet who was a firm believer in the virtues of music and dance as a means of connecting with God.

**B L D**

### Wed 19 Oct Konya – Cappadocia

This morning visit Çatal Höyük, the oldest (approximately 8000 years old) and largest Neolithic site (believed to have housed thousands of people) and home to many spectacular wall paintings and other art.

Continue to the magical area of Cappadocia. An historical region in Central Anatolia, Cappadocia is an area of exceptional natural wonders and a unique historical and cultural heritage.

En route stop to visit the underground city of Kaymakli within the citadel of Kaymakli.

After dinner this evening, experience the mystical performance of the 'Whirling Dervishes' at the Saruhan Caravanserai. **B P D**

### Thu 20 Oct Cappadocia

This morning, drive to the Göreme Open Air Museum through the unique landscape typical of Cappadocia, including the 'fairy chimneys' and dwellings built by early Christians seeking refuge. The museum, a complex of at least ten painted rock chapels and churches covered with frescoes, are decorated in a distinctive Cappadocian artistic style.

Visit the Zelve Valley, situated on the northern slopes of Aktepe. Here the ruins are spread over three valleys with the 'fairy chimneys' being the most remarkable. At Pasabaği the 'fairy chimneys' abound with double or triple-neck and crowned with basalt rocks resembling gigantic mushrooms.

This afternoon, continue to Avanos, famous for its carpet weaving and pottery ateliers. Evening at leisure. **B P**

### Fri 21 Oct Cappadocia

Today is free to explore Cappadocia at your leisure. Amongst the options (not included in tour cost) is the opportunity to experience the area from the air with a hot air balloon ride at sunrise. Or spend the day hiking in one of the beautiful valleys. **B**



Travertine Pools of Hierapolis, Pamukkale

### Sat 22 Oct Cappadocia – Istanbul

Transfer to Kayseri Airport for a morning flight to Istanbul (NB. Economy class, 20 kg luggage allowance).

On arrival in Istanbul the remainder of the afternoon and evening are at leisure to further explore Istanbul on your own. Stroll along bustling İstiklal Avenue, visit the plethora of museums on offer or explore the wonderful bazaars throughout the city. **B L**

### Sun 23 Oct Istanbul

On your last morning in Turkey enjoy a private cruise along the Bosphorus. One of the most beautiful sights in the world, the Strait runs a winding course between Europe and Asia from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea.

Following the cruise visit Istanbul Modern, Turkey's centre of contemporary art.

After an afternoon at leisure, celebrate the conclusion of the tour with a special farewell dinner. **B D**

### Mon 24 Oct Depart Istanbul

Tour arrangements conclude after breakfast with a transfer to Istanbul Airport for afternoon departure on Emirates (via Dubai).

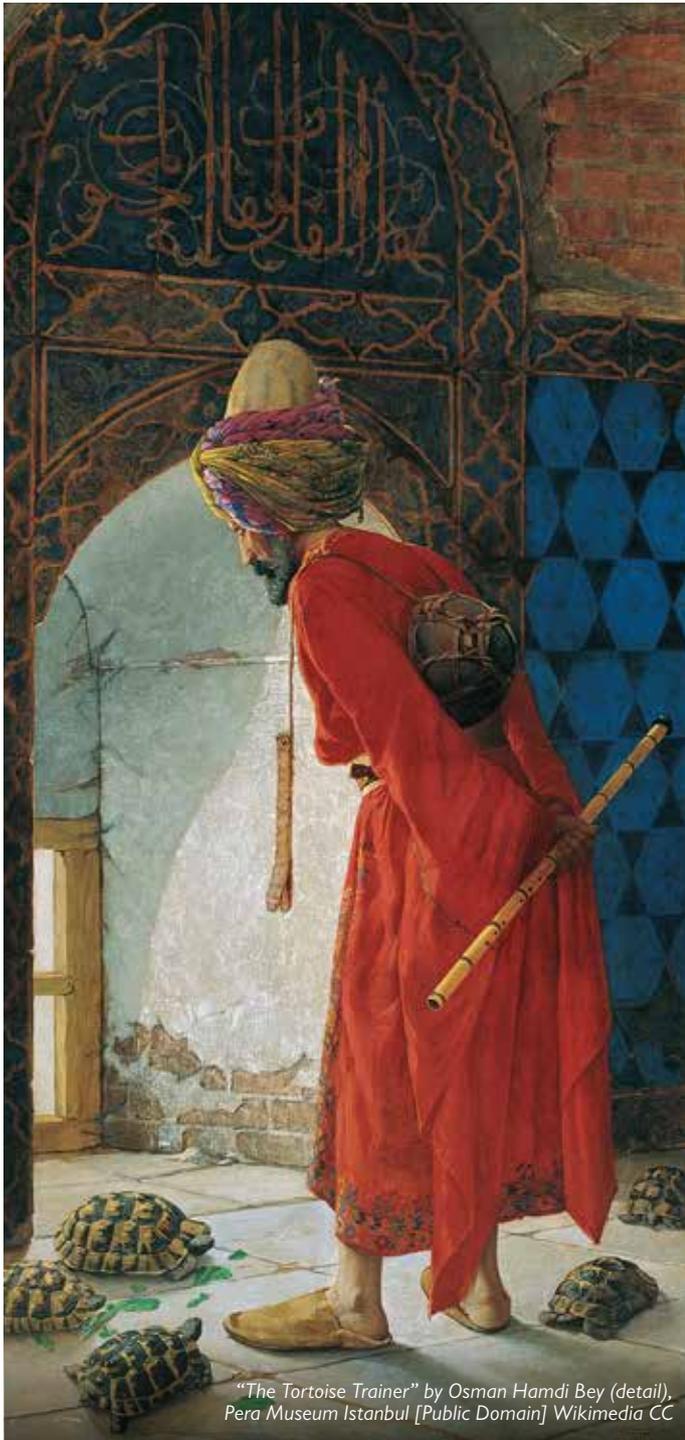
**B**

### Tue 25 Oct Arrive Australia

Evening arrival in Australia.



Göreme, Cappadocia © Moyan Brenn/Flickr



"The Tortoise Trainer" by Osman Hamdi Bey (detail), Pera Museum Istanbul [Public Domain] Wikimedia CC



Library of Celsus, Ephesus © Lukas Bergstrom/Flickr

## Tour prices

Per person, twin-share	AUD 9,150
Single supplement*	AUD 1,750
Deposit per person	AUD 500
Final payment due	02 August 2016

\*Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.

**Tour code** AGI618

**Fitness level** Above Average  
Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

**Suggested airline** Emirates  
Please contact Renaissance Tours for current fares and flight reservations.

### Tour price includes

- Accommodation in centrally located hotels with daily breakfast (B)
- Meals as per itinerary (L=Lunch, P=Picnic, D=Dinner). Wines with welcome and farewell dinners.
- Transfers on arrival and departure if travelling on suggested group flights
- Economy class flight Kayseri (Cappadocia) – Istanbul (NB. 20 kg luggage allowance)
- Comprehensive sightseeing, including entrance fees as per itinerary, in comfortable air-conditioned coaches
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (1 piece per person)

### Tour price does not include

- International airfares
- Visa for Turkey (current cost USD60, obtained on-line in advance or on arrival)
- Transfers on arrival and departure if not travelling on suggested group flights
- Alcoholic drinks with meals (except welcome and farewell dinners)
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, room service etc.
- Travel insurance
- Airport portorage

### Your hotels

Istanbul – Hagia Sophia Hotel Old City ★★★★★  
 Canakkale – Akol Hotel ★★★★★  
 Izmir – Swissotel Grand Efes ★★★★★  
 Kuşadası – Korumar Hotel ★★★★★  
 Pamukkale – Doğa Thermal Hotel ★★★★★  
 Konya – Dedeman Hotel ★★★★★  
 Cappadocia – Gamirasu Cave Hotel ★★★★★  
 Istanbul – The Divan Hotel ★★★★★

NB. Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted

# Terms & Conditions

## HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit and page one of your passport.

## DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Your deposit is due at the time of booking and is used to pay hotel, airline, performance tickets and/or other deposits. It is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make the final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit.

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express.

Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

## CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

**a) Cancellation by You** – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to cancellation fees for tours operated by Renaissance Tours as shown below, airlines, hotels and other third parties may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above, cancellation charges may apply for additional arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours, such as air tickets, hotels and travel insurance premium. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

**b) Cancellation by Us** – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for

force majeure, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. No further compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability.

Cancellation and/or amendment fees may apply for additional travel arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours.

## PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

All travellers must be in possession of a valid passport – most countries require a 6-month validity from your date of entry or exit. For some countries (e.g. China, Vietnam, India, Russia), visas are included in the tour cost and will be arranged by Renaissance Tours prior to travel. For other countries, it is your responsibility to ensure you have the appropriate visa(s).

You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour.

## TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received.

In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid.

Once final payment is received, all prices will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. Your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

## FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

Most of our tours require a MODERATE level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (e.g. remote rail), certain tours will require an ABOVE AVERAGE or CHALLENGING level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

## MODERATE

For the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

## ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

## CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 metres and above).

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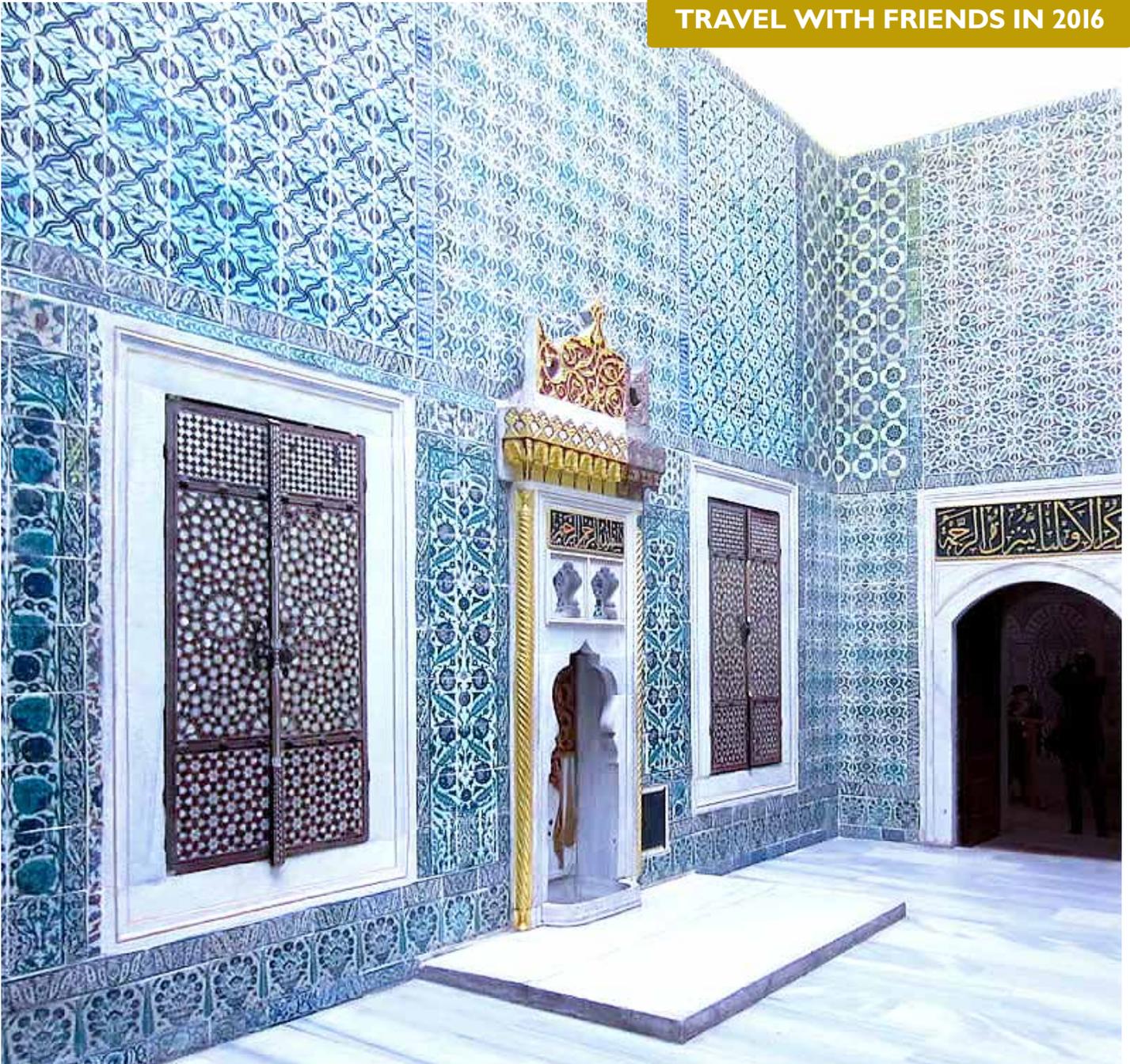
You can find the full terms & conditions at [www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions](http://www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions) or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.



Whirling Dervishes © Kyle Taylor/Flickr



The theatre at ancient Pergamum © Sarah Murray/Flickr



Tiles, Harem, Topkapi Palace © David Stanley/Flickr

**R**  
Renaissance  
Tours

1300 727 095 (AU)  
0800 403 621 (NZ)  
call (+61 2) 9299 5801  
fax (+61 2) 9299 5805  
email [info@renaissancetours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancetours.com.au)  
visit [www.renaissancetours.com.au](http://www.renaissancetours.com.au)

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001  
ABN 14 069 591 448

Travel agent

# Booking form

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Renaissance  
Tours

www.renaissancetours.com.au

Please return pages 1 and 2 to:

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia or [info@renaissancetours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancetours.com.au)

Toll free AU 1300 727 095 or NZ 0800 403 621 | Tel: +61 2 9299 5801 | Fax: +61 2 9299 5805

- Please complete, sign and return this Booking Form, along with a copy of page one of your passport (international tours only and deposit). NOTE: Flight bookings cannot proceed without passport copy. This is an airline security requirement.
- Complete credit card authority (if paying by credit card) OR forward a (deposit) cheque (made payable to Renaissance Tours).
- Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive confirmation of your place on the tour(s) from Renaissance Tours.

Tour name

Tour code

## Personal details – Passenger 1

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

Yes

No

## MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION** (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

MODERATE

ABOVE AVERAGE

CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

## Booking conditions

- I have read, understood and accept the **Booking Conditions** on page 3. I have enclosed the deposit and understand that the balance of the tour cost must be paid at least 60 days prior to departure (45 days prior for domestic tours) or my reservation may be cancelled.

Sign here

## Personal details – Passenger 2

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

Yes

No

## MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

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Sign here

# Booking form

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Renaissance  
Tours

## Travel details – Passenger 1

### AIRFARE

Economy  Premium Economy  Business Class  First Class

LAND ONLY

### CITY OF DEPARTURE

Sydney  Melbourne  Brisbane  Perth  Other

### FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

### AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

### ACCOMMODATION

Double  Twin  Single  If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

### TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

Yes  No

### PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

### NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ( )

After hours contact

### HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER?  Yes  No

## Travel details – Passenger 2 (only fill if different from Pax 1)

### AIRFARE

Economy  Premium Economy  Business Class  First Class

LAND ONLY

### CITY OF DEPARTURE

Sydney  Melbourne  Brisbane  Perth  Other

### FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

### AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

### ACCOMMODATION

Double  Twin  Single  If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

### TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

Yes  No

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Name

Relationship

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After hours contact

### HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER?  Yes  No

## Payment

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express. Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

AMOUNT   CREDIT CARD  CHEQUE  CASH  EFT

### CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY

Cardholder's name

American Express  MasterCard  Visa

Cardholder's number

### SIGN

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Account name: Renaissance Tours

BSB: 062-032 / Account: 2800 4163

Swift code: CTBAU2S (use for transfers from overseas)

Travel agent

Expiry (month/year)

DATE

# Booking form

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## FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

Most of our tours require a **MODERATE** level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (eg. remote rail), certain tours will require an **ABOVE AVERAGE** or **CHALLENGING** level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

### MODERATE

for the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

### ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

### CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 m and above).

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is highly recommended that you are covered by travel insurance for domestic tours.

However, it is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. You can make your own arrangements or your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours. In either case all participants must provide the following information no later than 60 days prior to commencement of travel:

- a copy of your travel insurance policy (or details of master policy)
- the emergency telephone number of your insurance company
- next of kin emergency contact.

## 1. TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received. In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid. Once final payment is received, all prices (excluding air taxes) will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

## 2. PAYMENT

Your final payment is due 60 days before departure (45 days prior for domestic tours). Failure to make your final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit. We reserve the right to charge a late payment fee in the event of late booking and/or payment to cover additional communication and other expenses.

## 3. FLIGHT BOOKINGS AND FARES

Renaissance Tours will use its best endeavours to ensure that all flight prices are correct at the time that they are quoted. However, once a deposit is paid on an air fare, it guarantees that a booking is being held for you, it does not guarantee the fare and applicable taxes.

The fare and taxes can only be guaranteed when the flight booking has been paid in full and a ticket has been issued. Flight bookings cannot be transferred.

## 4. CHANGES

a) Changes by You – Because of additional communication and other expenses, we reserve the right to charge an appropriate administration fee per amendment to your original booking. While every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate changes and additional requests their availability cannot be guaranteed.

b) Changes by Us – While we will use our best endeavours to operate all tours as advertised, by entering into this contract the Client accepts that it may prove necessary or advisable to vary or modify a tour or its contents due to prevailing local conditions. We reserve the right at any time to cancel or change any of the facilities, services or prices described in the brochure (including flights, transport, accommodation or other arrangements) and to substitute alternative arrangements of comparable monetary value without compensation.

If a service or facility becomes unavailable due to circumstances beyond our control ('force majeure') and no alternative arrangement of comparable monetary value is available, we will substitute the best alternative available and will refund the Client for any cost saving or charge the Client for any additional costs incurred. 'Force majeure' includes any event which Renaissance Tours or its suppliers could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid (e.g. advice against travel from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), war, threat of war, riot, civil strife, industrial dispute, epidemics, health risks, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire or adverse weather conditions, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes imposed by cancellation or rescheduling of flights by an airline or main charterer, the alteration of airline or aircraft type). Renaissance Tours is not liable for any penalty charges associated with 'supersaver' type connecting rail or air fares, in the event of a change to a holiday departure time, date or airport.

## 5. SUBSTITUTION OF CLIENT

If any member of the party is prevented from travelling because of the death, injury or serious illness of the passenger, close relative or friend, redundancy or jury service, it may be possible to transfer the booking to another suitable person (acceptable to Renaissance Tours) provided that written notice is given at least one calendar month prior to departure. An administration fee of \$100 + GST per person will be levied plus any costs imposed by our suppliers. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

## 6. CANCELLATION

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to the charges shown below airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

### International Tours

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

### Domestic Tours

45 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

\* Includes any flight deposit paid.

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above cancellation charges, the full insurance premium together with any existing administration fees is also payable in the event of a cancellation by the Client. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for *force majeure* (as outlined in clause 4b) or the Client's failure to pay the final balance, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure for international tours and 45 days before departure for domestic tours. Unless the Client fails to pay the final balance, we will return all monies paid, excluding payment for travel insurance and administration fees. No compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

## 7. PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

It is your responsibility to be in possession of a passport valid for 6 months after the date of your return to Australia. You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary visas, inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour. Information about these matters or related items is given in good faith but without responsibility on the part of Renaissance Tours.

## 8. ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Anyone suffering from illness or disability or undergoing treatment for any physical or medical condition must declare the true nature of such condition at the time of booking and make arrangements for the provision of any medication or other treatment which may be required during the tour. Failure to make such disclosure will constitute a breach of these booking conditions and result in such persons being excluded from the tour in which case all monies paid will be forfeit.

## 9. LOCAL LAWS

All participants of the tours we operate are expected to obey the laws and regulations of the countries visited and any failure to do so will relieve Renaissance Tours of all obligations that they may otherwise have under these booking conditions.

## 10. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT

If you have a complaint about any of the tour arrangements, you must bring it to the attention of the tour leader or other representative of Renaissance Tours at the time so that they may use their best endeavours to rectify the situation. It is only if we are made aware of any problems that there will be the opportunity to put things right. Any complaints must be made in writing to Renaissance Tours within 28 days of the completion of the tour.

## 11. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

All bookings are accepted on the understanding that the Client appreciates that travel does involve some risk and that they undertake all tours of their own volition.

i) Renaissance Tours accepts liability should any part of the tour arrangements booked with us not be supplied as described in the brochure(s) and not be of reasonable standard. In such a case, we will pay reasonable compensation if the Client's enjoyment of the tour has been adversely affected but will pay no compensation if there has been no fault on the part of Renaissance Tours or our suppliers and the reason for the failure in the tour arrangements was the Client's fault, the actions of someone unconnected with the tour arrangements or could not have been foreseen or avoided by Renaissance Tours or its suppliers even if all due care had been exercised.

ii) Our acceptance of liability to pay compensation pursuant to clause 11(i) is limited, in the case of air travel, rail travel, sea travel or hotel accommodation, to the amount set out in the provisions of, respectively, the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955, the 1961 Berne Convention, the 1974 Athens Convention and the 1962 Paris Convention.

iii) Our acceptance of liability in clauses 11(i) and 11(ii) above is subject to assignment by the Client to Renaissance Tours of the Client's rights against any agent, supplier or sub-contractor of Renaissance Tours which is in any way responsible for the unsatisfactory tour arrangements.



**Renaissance**  
Tours

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