

Trip of the Week — Istanbul, Türkiye

5 days — Explore the timeless charm of Istanbul from ancient palaces to vibrant bazaars.

Itinerary

Day 1 — Historic Sultanahmet District

- 09:00 Hagia Sophia
Explore the iconic Byzantine masterpiece.
- 11:30 Blue Mosque
Visit the stunning mosque with its blue tiles.
- 14:00 Topkapi Palace
Tour the former Ottoman palace and its treasures.
- 17:00 Gülhane Park
Relax in the historic park near the palace.

Day 2 — Bosphorus and Asian Side

- 10:00 Bosphorus Cruise
Enjoy a scenic boat ride along the strait.
- 13:00 Üsküdar
Explore the Asian side with its mosques and markets.
- 16:00 Çamlıca Hill
Panoramic views of Istanbul from the hilltop.

Day 3 — Grand Bazaar and Spice Market

- 09:30 Grand Bazaar
Shop and wander through one of the largest covered markets.
- 12:30 Spice Bazaar
Discover exotic spices and local delicacies.
- 15:00 Süleymaniye Mosque
Visit the grand mosque with impressive architecture.

Day 4 — Modern Istanbul and Art

- 10:00 Istiklal Avenue
Stroll the lively pedestrian street with shops and cafes.
- 13:00 Galata Tower
Climb for panoramic city views.
- 15:30 Istanbul Modern Museum
Explore contemporary Turkish art.

Day 5 — Cultural Immersion and Farewell

- 09:00 Chora Church (Kariye Museum)
Admire exquisite Byzantine mosaics.
- 12:00 Balat Neighborhood
Wander colorful streets and historic houses.
- 15:00 Turkish Bath (Hammam)
Experience a traditional Turkish bath before departure.

Tips

- Wear comfortable shoes as Istanbul's streets can be cobbled and uneven.
- Try local specialties like simit, Turkish tea, and baklava during your visits.