

Special 16 night tour

June 11, Friday; Departure from USA

June 12, Saturday; Arrival day – Over Night in **Istanbul**

Transfer to hotel from ATATURK airport

June 13, Sunday; Over Night in **Istanbul** (D)

Optional - Traditional Turkish bath & Royal Massage experience

- Grand Bazaar
- Welcome cocktail & dinner at sunset on Bosphorus cruise boat (cruising is between Asian & European continents)

June 14, Monday; Over Night in **Istanbul** (B/D)

After breakfast departure to visit

- Topkapi Palace,
- Blue Mosque,
- Hipodrome
- Little Hagia Sophia and Turkish & Islamic fine Art quarter. Meet the world know Calligraphist to learn more and experience about Calligraphy, Illumination, and Marbling

June 15, Tuesday; Over Night in **Istanbul** (B/D)

After breakfast departure to visit

- Spice Market
- Dolmabahce Palace
- Nakkas 6th C. Underground water Cistern
- Nakkas Traditional Hand Arts shopping center (Royal Rugs, Royal Iznic Ceramic & Jewelry collection of Hitites, Trojan, Byzantine & Ottomans antique designs).
- Lecture from the expert about the art of the magic fingers and meaning of the symbols coming from the past
- Dinner at Nakkas breathtaking terrace

June 16, Wednesday; Over Night in **Canakkale** (B/D)

Check-out and early departure to Troy via Marmara sea shore & Gallipoli visit;

- Hero's land of WW1 battlefields/Gallipoli national park
- Cross the Dardanelles channel by ferry
- Troy ancient city

June 17, Thursday; Over Night in **Izmir** (B/D)

Check-out and early departure towards Izmir on route visit;

- Acropolis of Pergamum kingdom
- Red Basilica

- Asclepion of Pergamum kingdom (ancient medical center).
- Thyatira in Akhisar (ancient commercial place between Troy & Sardes/Sart)
- St. Policarp Church in Izmir

June 18, Friday; Over Night in **Pamukkale** (B/D)

Check-out and early departure towards Pamukkale on route visit;

- Philadelphia in Alasehir
- Sardes/Sart (capital of the ancient **Lydia** with temple of the Cybele & Diana)
- Ancient Trade Road
- Laodicea, (home of Zenon and the city of the rich people)
- One of the seven churches of Apocalypse and the remains of the Cathedral
- Natural hot Thermal water bath for those who would like to use benefit of the minerals

June 19, Saturday; Over Night on **Yacht** (B/D)

Check-out and departure to visit;

- Aphrodisias Ancient city (the only city dedicated to Goddess of the love)
- Mausoleum of Halicarnassus
- Castle of St. John's knights. The castle houses the Museum of Underwater Archaeology where artifacts from antiquity, uncovered during ship wreck excavations are on display

Seven Days of Blue Cruise. We will sail a simple route and enjoy the sites. We will no longer have wake up calls. You will have the same bed and toilet for the next week.

Please note that following sample Itinerary may be adjusted for the necessary reason and also to allow for Dylan River, Caunos optional excursion on Friday. The Greek Islands of Simi, Kos and Rhodes may be added for a additional fee due to Greek taxes. You will be served 18 meals, sail on deluxe class yacht. You will have plenty of water toys. On two evenings you will eat out at local restaurants at your own expense. A four to six cabin yacht may be chartered for private minigroup.

Sail Across the Gokova Gulf to the ancient port of Knidos (centre of art and culture in the 4th C. BC) Drop anchor in the larger of the two harbors and go ashore to visit the site of Knidos itself which includes city walls, two theatres, terraced streets and the remains of several temples including the temple of Aphrodite

June 20, Sunday; Leaving Knidos we sail for Palamut Buku where we enjoy watersports and lunch at anchor. A short bay-hop via Ince Burun takes us to Kargi Bay. Arriving into Datca harbor in the early evening, we take a stroll through the streets of this quaint little town with its rug merchants and colorful souvenir shops.

June 21, Monday; Leaving Knidos we sail for Palamut Buku where we enjoy watersports and lunch at anchor. A short bay-hop via Ince Burunu takes us to Kargi Bay. Arriving into Datca harbor in the early evening, we take a stroll through the streets of this quaint little town with its colorful souvenir shops.

June 22, Tuesday; A leisurely sail along the southern side of the Datca peninsula takes us to Kuruca Bay, excellent for swimming, snorkelling and waterskiing. Sailing to Bencik, a long pine-

fringed inlet which winds up into the peninsula, we find a quiet anchorage for the night.

June 23, Wednesday; Sail for the Bay of Orhaniye, set amid forested slopes and perfect for all manner of watersports. Here we explore the ruins of a Byzantine fort sitting a top a small island in the bay. Orhaniye is only a short distance from the waterfalls of Turgut where one can enjoy an icy dip in the height of summer. Overnight in the bay of Selimiye with perhaps dinner ashore in one of the fine fish restaurants for which the town is renowned.

June 24, Thursday; Sail around the Cape of **Kara Burun** takes us into a large land-locked bay known as **Bozukkale**. We anchor beneath the **Hellenistic citadel of Ancient Loryma** which was primarily used as a harbour of refuge for trade ships heading north and south along the coast.

June 25, Friday; After breakfast it's a leisurely cruise to our lunch stop at **Gerekse Creek**. Here we can explore the ruins of a Byzantine trading station. Heading for our evening destination of Marmaris, we make a swimming stop at **Kadirga or Kumlubuku**. Tonight enjoy the night time attractions of Marmaris

June 26, Saturday; Over Night in **Kusadasi** (B/D)
Check-out from the boat and departure to visit;

- Apollon Temple of Didyma
- Blessed Virgin's last home and monastery
- Ephesus ancient city (with remarkable Odeon, Fountains, Temples, Library, Great Theatre for 24.000 spectators, double church and Stadium)
- Temple of the Artemis
- Kusadasi Town

June 27, Sunday; Over Night in **Istanbul** (B)
After leisurely breakfast check-out from the hotel and departure to Izmir airport for Istanbul late afternoon flight. On route visit;

- St. John's basilica
- Sirince village
- Church of St. John in Sirince
- Fly to Istanbul
- Chora Church,
- Piyer loti Hill

June 28, Monday Over Night in **Istanbul** (B/D)
After breakfast optional or free day:

- Prince's island tour by boat, Free time for Horse carriage ride, bicycling, trekking, swimming
- Jewish Heritage Tour- Jewish neighborhood, Galata, Neve Shalom and the Ahrida Synagogue.
- Gala dinner at the Turkish night club with traditional Turkish folk groups, belly dancers, singers, Zenne dancers

June 29, Tuesday Departure day for Home over night at your own home

- Late Tuesday, arrival in USA
- Event date may move due to airline schedule