CAPPADOCIA TOURS

We offer 2 group and PRIVATE tours offering the best of the best in Cappadocia. The new tours, reorganized to suit our guest's preferences and interests are the Historical Cappadocia Tour (Red Tour), Ihlara Valley & Underground City Tour (Green Tour).

SCHEDULE

All tours begin between 09:30 and 09:45 with pick up from your hotel. If you would like to combine a hot air balloon flight on the same day, the balloon flights return to your hotel around 08:30 allowing enough time for a full breakfast before your tour begins.

GENERAL INFORMATION & CONDITIONS FOR CAPPADOCIA

- Tour fees include A/C transportation, guidance in multiple languages, entrance fees and mentioned meals/drinks,
- Free for the ages of 0-6(NO SEAT GIVEN FOR INFANTS), %50 discount for the ages 7-12
- We kindly request our guests to be ready by the hotel's reception 10 minutes before departure time,
- Courtesy transfers from/to in-city hotels. Pick-up transfers may last from 15 to 45 due to heavy traffic. Guests who prefer not to spend time at courtesy transfers should be ready at tour departure point 10 minutes before given departure time,
- No smoking on our tours but all tours make frequent stops,
- Cancellation is not possible. There will be no refund for any unused portion of any tour program.
- Kartaca reserves the right to alter, postpone or cancel the tour without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances,
- Kartaca disclaims any responsibility and shall not pay any indemnity or reimbursement in the event that certain
- Museums or monuments included in the program could not be visited with any reason beyond control,
- Kartaca is not responsible for any loss or theft of personal belongings during the tour; Guests are to be promptly on time at the meeting points given by the tour guide. Tours will proceed without waiting the delayers,
- Tour programs and prices may change without prior notice. Any increase in museum entrance fees will be reflected in the prices.

Historical Cappadocia Tour (Red Tour)

Exploring the spectacular natural valleys and rock formations of northern Cappadocia, together with some of its most important historic sites, the North Cappadocia Red tour covers the highlights of this famous region. Accompanied by an expert, local guide, you will have time to wander through its magnificent landscapes and witness ancient frescoes that combine to make Cappadocia a UNESCO World Heritage listed destination. Combined with the South Cappadocia tour, this day trip is ideal for those wanting to experience the best Cappadocia has to offer.

SIGHTS VISITED

Goreme Esentepe for Panoramic View
Our next stop is at the Esentepe viewpoint, located between Uchisar and Goreme. This stunning panorama overlooks not only the town of Esentepe, but also the surrounding landscape of fairy chimneys.

Pasabag – Monks Valley
We will then have time to explore the Monks Valley, famed for its three-headed fairy chimneys. This region of is also known as Pasabag, or 'Pasha's Vineyard', as its stunning earth pillars are located within a vineyard.

Devrent Valley
After a short drive we will stop in the Devrent Valley, famed for its lunar-like landscape of small, pointed fairy chimneys. We will take the time to explore the valley and witness some of its most unusual rock formations.

Avanos Pottery workshop
Our final destination is the small town of Avanos, home to a terracotta industry that dates back to 3000BC. The clay is sourced from the Red River which passes through the town and we will have the opportunity to visit a traditional pottery workshop and see how it is crafted first-hand.

Three Beauties
Three Graces are the brilliant three fairy chimneys located near Urgup. It is the most famous natural beauty and symbol of Urgup. This amazing natural formation is well known not only its enchanting landscape but also its incredible story.

Ihlara Valley & Derinkuyu Underground City Tour (Green Tour)

Our tour will start with direction to the province of Aksaray.

Derinkuyu Underground City, which is the biggest and deepest underground city of Cappadocia, is our first stop. You will be amazed when your guide tells you the story of the places where thousands of people were living in the time of the Roman Empire.

After the trip to the Derinkuyu underground city, we will leave for Ihlara Valley again. After leaving us at the beginning of the valley, we go down to walk in the biggest valley of Cappadocia using 350 stairs. After a 1-hour walk to the middle of the valley we reach Belisırma Village.

Here we have lunch in a beautiful restaurant on the Melendiz River. After the meal, we reach Selime Monastery and visit it. We will listen to how the monastery life is, where it is built, what is taught and the living conditions from our guide.

After this stop, we return to Uchisar town of Nevsehir for our last stop. Once you have visited the Güvercinlik Valley and have a short break, you will return to the hotels.

SIGHTS VISITED

DERINKUYU UNDERGROUND CITY
Derinkuyu is Cappadocia's biggest underground with approximately 7 floors and 85m deep. It contains all the usual rooms found in an underground city (stables, cellars, storage rooms, refectories, churches, wineries etc.). Apart from these, a large room with a barrel vaulted ceiling on the second floor was a missionary school, the rooms to the left being study rooms. From the 3rd and 4th floors onwards the descent is by way of vertical staircases, which lead to a cruciform plan church on the lowest floor. The 55m deep ventilation shaft was also used as a well. Not every floor was provided with surface access in order to protect the dwellers from poisoning during raids. Derinkuyu Underground City was opened to visitors in 1965 but so far only 10% can be visited.

IHLARA VALLEY - TREK
Early Christians have constructed their rock houses and temples by carving the tuffs in the valley of Ihlara, through the valley runs the Melendiz River. The waters of the river are named Ihlara as Peristrema meaning "The people of circulating waters". To search the source of the water in Ihlara is in fact trying to reveal the meaning of life. It takes 2 1/2hrs to walk from the Ihlara Vadisi to Belisirma and about 3hrs to walk from Belisirma to Selime.

BELISIRMA AND LUNCH
After walking through Ihlara Valley you will be driven to Belisirma for a smorgasbord lunch, a mixture of Turkish and Western food including dessert.

PIGEON VALLEY
You will stop on the outskirts of Goreme village and look down into Pigeon Valley to see the centuries old pigeon houses carved from the cliffs. Throughout the years farmers have used pigeon manure as a rich source of fertilizer for their crops.

SELIME MONASTRY
Selime Monastery is an astonishing rock cut structure incorporating a vast kitchen and soaring chimney. A church with a gallery all around it, stables with feeding troughs and other evidence of the troglodyte lifestyle.

GOREME ESENTEPE (PANAROMIC VIEW)
The magnificent landscape around Goreme has been formed from its solidified lava streams, its ash and tuff stone, all dating from the Neocene period. A result of thousands of years of continual erosion makes this area look like a lunar landscape. The fairy chimneys also have a great color variety. There are light and dark colors from white to yellow, pink, grey and black.