

In Trace of Christianity (Private Full Day Tour)



ABOUT TOUR

Private Full Day Tour, advanced reservation required

Tour Program

Morning meet your tour guide at the lobby and departure from your Hotel, The **Patriarchate** at Fener, by the Golden Horn, is the heart of Orthodox Christianity After Constantine the Great' s declaration of Christianity as the religion of Roman Empire, the capital was moved from Rome to Byzantium. With the conquest (1453) of Ottoman Empire, the seat of Patriarchate remained in İstanbul.

Church of Panagia of Blachernae, the best known and most celebrated shrine of the Holy Virgin located near Golden Horn, famed with the hagiaσμα (fountain of holy water), good to cure health problems, and the Hagion Lousma (sacred bath) good to clean the soul where the emperor also came to purify himself. **St. Savior in Chora** (Kariye Museum), originally a Byzantine monastery, dedicated to Jesus Christ the Savior, survived with fantastic mosaics and frescoes, portraying scenes from the Bible, the life and miracles of Jesus. **Pantocrator** (Zeyrek Mosque), the monastic complex was one of the largest and best organized of the Byzantine period, comprising two churches and a funerary chapel, baths, a hospice for the aged, a hospital and a medical school, a hostel for travellers and alibrary (from outside) **Church of St. Mary Pammacaristos** (Fethiye Mosque), built in the 11th century by John Comnenus, displaying the aesthetic refinement attained to Paleologan Age, originally belonged to a convent of nuns. Housed the Patriarchate for a while after the conquest.

(from outside) **Zoodochos Pege at Balıklı**, dedicated to the Mother of God at Pege, with an underground cistern, full of gold fishes related to a well-known miracle, and the fountain of holy water. **St. Sergius & Bacchus**, a landmark in Byzantine ecclesiastical architecture. Today it is known as the "Little Hagia Sophia" because its general plan is a precursor of the Hagia Sophia.(from outside) **Hagia Eirene**, the old patriarchal church with its impressive size stands next to Hagia Sophia.(from outside) **Hagia Sophia**, for many centuries was the largest church of Christendom, dedicated to **Divine Wisdom**, an attribute of Christ. Hagia Sophia played an important role as emperors were crowned and many victories were celebrated in this remarkable building.

Museum CLOSED days;

- Hagia Sophia on **Monday**
- Church of St. Mary Pammacaristos on **Wednesday**
- St. Savior in Chora (Kariye Museum) on **Wednesday**

For other Private tour rates and programs Please contact with us...

Liability Included Services

Above Private tour rates include round trip transfers from/to central hotels, private A/C transportation, English speaking professional private guide (other languages are available on request), donations, museum entrance fees, lunch in full day tours and V.A.T. (18%); exclude drinks.

We kindly request our guests to be ready by the hotel's reception 10 minutes before departure time, 30% discount for children below the age 7, free for the ages of 0-2,

Guests are to be promptly on time at the meeting points given by the tour guide.

Tour programs and prices may change without prior notice. Any increase in museum entrance fees will be reflected in the prices.

Services not included in the price list

Passport and Visa expences, Hotel Accommodations, dinners and lunches, alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages other than mentioned above, personal expences and customary end-of-tour gratuities to guide and drivers...

Turkey Holiday Planner is not responsible for any loss or theft of personal belongings during the tour.

Payment and Cancellation Policy

GROUP BOOKINGS : A deposit of 10 % of the total amount is required to process and confirm the reservation at the time of registration. Balance of payment must be received 30 days prior to departure.

If your balance is not paid at the specified time (unless previously arranged with us in writing) we reserve the right to cancel your booking.

CANCELLATIONS / REFUNDS : Cancellations should be received by Turkey Holiday Planner in writing. We strongly suggest the purchase of the Trip Cancellation and Tour Interruption Insurance. Deadline for cancellation of individual bookings is 3 days, for groups 35 days prior to the departure of the tour. For cancellations on departure date or after no refund will be made regardless of the cause, whatsoever. No refund can be made for no-shows, unused hotel accommodation, meals or tours not taken cannot be refunded.

Should we cancel your holiday, your deposit and any other payments made will be refunded in full. However, if our cancellation is due to 'force majeure' any reasonable expenses we have incurred will be deducted from your refund. (War, civil or political unrest is usually known as force majeure). All refunds and compensation are strictly limited to the amount paid to us and we are not liable for any expenses you have incurred as a result of this booking. Your holiday will not be cancelled after the final payment is due unless we are forced to do so by force majeure.

The tour leader/guide who represents Turkey Holiday Planner has overriding authority on our tours. By signing our booking form, you agree to do this. If you commit any illegal act on a tour with us or if in the opinion of the tour leader or ground operator your behavior is detrimental to the safety and welfare of the group as a whole you may be asked to leave the tour without any right to refund.

Any complaints with regard to our tours must be immediately brought to the attention of the tour leader, ground operators or hotelier so that the necessary action to rectify the matter can be taken. However, if by the end of the tour you still feel you have a valid complaint you must notify the company, in writing, within 14 days of the end of your tour with Turkey Holiday Planner.

You are responsible for ensuring all necessary travel documents are in order. Many countries require passports to be valid for at least six months after entry.

We will be looking forward to hearing from you and being of service to your group...

Please do not hesitate to contact us If you would have any further questions...

Best Regards,