

Travel Tips To Turkey

Turkey is a major Tourist attraction with its sunny Aegean and Mediterranean coastline and unique landscapes as in Cappadocia and Pamukkale. More than 20 million people visit this beautiful and interesting country every year.

Essential Information about Turkey

Republic of Turkey, Founded in 1923 by M. K. Ataturk.

Location: Eastern Mediterranean. Located on two continents Europe and Asia. The European part of Turkey is called Thrace, while the Asian part is called Anatolia or Asia Minor.



Anamur	0	345	286	155	498	311	426	394	274	584	441	185	128	298	501	568	672	633
Ankara	552	0	409	337	235	169	433	406	385	276	358	160	293	299	418	246	451	411
Antakya	458	654	0	437	640	299	708	676	556	682	660	323	159	580	720	486	528	819
Antalya	248	539	699	0	328	335	272	239	121	431	288	186	278	144	348	583	788	479
Bursa	797	376	1024	524	0	404	298	242	376	148	194	307	504	289	158	463	668	176
Cappadocia	497	271	479	536	647	0	526	529	454	443	482	149	183	393	542	259	383	581
Didyma	681	693	1133	435	477	842	0	56	164	446	104	384	549	153	163	679	884	295
Ephesus	630	649	1081	383	387	847	90	0	170	389	48	388	518	121	108	652	857	239
Fethiye	439	616	890	193	601	727	262	272	0	479	218	306	398	134	278	631	836	409
ISTANBUL	935	441	1091	689	236	709	713	623	766	0	341	410	566	393	305	448	653	184
Izmir	706	573	1056	460	311	771	166	76	349	545	0	339	536	168	60	604	809	192
Konya	296	256	516	298	491	238	614	620	489	656	543	0	197	250	399	381	586	483
Mersin	205	468	254	446	806	293	879	828	637	905	858	315	0	422	596	440	544	679
Pamukkale	477	479	928	231	463	628	244	193	214	629	269	400	675	0	228	545	750	360
Pergamon	802	669	1152	556	252	867	261	172	444	488	96	639	954	365	0	620	825	143
Samsun	908	394	778	933	740	415	1086	1043	1010	717	967	610	704	872	992	0	205	631
Trabzon	1075	722	845	1261	1068	613	1414	1371	1338	1045	1295	938	870	1200	1320	328	0	836
Troy	1012	658	1310	767	282	929	472	383	655	295	307	772	1087	576	228	1009	1337	0

Capital: Ankara **Population:** 71 Million

Religion: Officially 98% of Turks are Sunni Muslim, and 2% are Orthodox, Catholic or Protestant Christians and Jews.

Time: Turkish Standard Time is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. It advances by one hour in summer (Apr-Oct) to GMT +3.

Official Language: Turkish, and Hungarian. English is widely spoken.

Major Cities: Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Bursa, Adana, Antalya

Currency

New Turkish Lira (TRY; symbol YTL) = 100 New Kurus (Ykr). Notes are in denominations of YTL 100, 50, 20, 10, 5 and 1. Coins are in denominations of YTL 1 and 50, 25, 10, 5 and 1 New Kurus.

Currency Exchange

Cash can usually be exchanged commission free in bureaux de change, banks or hotels. Traveller's cheques can only be exchanged in banks with a passport.

Credit/Debit Cards and ATMs

American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are accepted. ATMs are available in most areas.

Banking Hours

Mon-Fri 0830-1200 and 1330-1700. Some banks in tourist areas and large cities are open daily.

Exchange Rate: 1 USD = 1.34 Turkish Lira (Appr.)

Climate

Marmara, Aegean, and Mediterranean coasts : These coasts have a typical Mediterranean climate with hot summers and mild winters.

The swimming season becomes shorter the further north one goes : Marmara and North Aegean - June to September; South Aegean and Mediterranean - April to October.

Black Sea Coast : Warm summers, mild winters, and relatively high rainfall.

Central Anatolia : Steppe climate with hot, dry summers; cold winters.

Eastern Anatolia : Long snowy cold winters with mild summers.

Southeast Anatolia : Hot summer with mild, rainy winters.

Local Transport

Taxis, as in all countries, ask a rough estimate of the fare before you travel. Ask the driver to use the taxi meter and check your change carefully.

Electricity

Voltage is 220V and you will need a continental 2 pin plug adapter. It is advisable to carry Power Adapters, a power converter.

Smoking

Smoking is widely acceptable but prohibited in cinemas, theaters, buses, coaches and *dolmuses* (collective taxis).

Valuables

We strongly advise you to keep all valuables in the safety boxes provided at the Reception desk. Never leave them unattended in your room or cabin. This includes Travelers Cheques, cash, credit cards, passport and your air ticket which should be retained for departure.

The hotels and cruises accept no responsibility for the loss or damage of any valuables left unattended.

Tipping

If you are happy with the service in your restaurant, taxi, hotel or any other service, a tip of 10-15% is an appropriate way to show your appreciation.

Health Tips

- Drink plenty of bottled water in-order to avoid dehydration throughout the day as well as your usual favorite drink.
- You will find it cheaper to buy in the various shops, than buying at your hotel or cruise boat.
- **Never drink the tap water!** It is okay to wash, shower and clean your teeth with it, but not advised to drink. Bottled water is cheap and plentiful; use it instead!
- Avoid eating in really cheap places at roadside.

Clothes And Accessories

- Loose comfortable Cotton Outfits during summer. Avoid synthetic outfits.
- Warm Woollen clothes as there will strong chilly winds during winters. a light jacket or sweater. Heavy woollen clothes in the month of December/January.
- When visiting a mosque, dress modestly and take off your shoes before entering. Women may be asked to wear a scarf on their heads.
- One or two dressy outfits for evenings out.
- Swimsuit, as most good hotels and cruise ships have nice, warm, swimming pools

Things to carry

- Travel light is the most sensible advice
- Sunscreens Lotion (High Factor Advised)
- Pair of Sun glasses, spare spectacles or contact lenses and fluid,
- Comfortable Sports Shoes, quiet a lot of walking around sight seeing. for visiting archeological and historical sites. Especially in Cappadocia, Pammukale.
- Cap / Hat / Something to Cover Your Head during sightseeing.
- Wet Tissues
- Camera/Video camera
- Take a small, pocket, flashlight with you.

- Water bottles
- Some tidbits especially for kids like Waffers, Choclates, candies, Biscuits etc
- Few dry eatables such as Farsan, Thepla, Khakhra, Dry fruits. etc
- Take things to keep the children entertained at the airport and on the flight. Books, paper, pens, travel games, packs of cards - anything that will keep them occupied. If possible take an old favorite and something new as a surprise.
- Take some favorite snacks for the kids in your hand luggage in case the in flight meal isn't to their taste.
- Make up a small “**medical-kit**” before you go! Include things like safety pins, plasters (different sizes), antiseptic cream, Tablets for diarrhea, nausea, headache cold, fever travel sickness pills, Etc . If you take prescribed medicine make sure that you take enough for your stay in Turkey.
- **And if you are planning to hire a car you're driving license.**

Shopping in Turkey

Best Buys (*Bargaining is a trend*)

- 1 - Blue Eye
- 2 - Carpets and Kilims
- 3 - Leather Clothing
- 4 - Pottery
- 5 - Jewelry
- 6 - Ceramics
- 7 - Onyx
- 8 - Spices
- 9 - Copper Ornaments
- 10- Turkish Delight

Shopping places : Grand Bazaar, spice bazaar etc

Recommendations : Local Delicacies

- The Turkish Delight or Lokum is one such delicacy, which is not just popular in Turkey, but has found favor with tourists from all over the world.
- French wine or the Swiss cheese or the Dutch chocolates.
- The typical Turkish meat item is Kebab. The popular varieties of kebabs are the 'sis' kebabs and the 'doner' kebabs. Sis kebabs are grilled pieces of skewered meat. Doner kebabs are made by stacking alternate layers of ground meat and sliced leg of lamb and grilling them over slow fire. The fine taste of kebabs really depends on the breed of cattle or sheep rather than the chef or the recipe.
- Among vegetables, eggplants are a special favorite. Olive oil is generally used for cooking vegetables A special Turkish food item is 'Dolma'. Vegetables are stuffed with rice or spiced meat fillings and cooked in olive oil. ' Dolma' is eaten with yogurt sauce

★ *We also provide customize Packages .* ★