

SHORE EXCURSIONS

Guest: Mr Jeffrey Guard

Booking Number: 7722017

❖ Ephesus (Kusadasi)

TRKUS03 Ancient Ephesus

Duration: 3.50 Hours



Date: December 20, 2024 08:30 AM **Sold Out**, 09:00 AM **Sold Out**, 12:45 PM **Available**, 01:00 PM **Available**

A Tour of This Fascinating Ancient City – Explore one of the best-preserved cities of antiquity in the world as you walk the length of ancient Kuretes Street. Stroll from Ephesus's upper gate to its lower gate. Join your guide on a scenic drive through the stunning countryside of Selçuk to the Magnesian Gate, the ancient city entrance at the top of Kuretes Street. Then follow a gently descending route through one of the Roman Empire's most powerful outposts. Navigate some steps along the way, passing the finely crafted 2nd-century Temple of Hadrian and the spectacular Great Theater, able to host 25,000 spectators. Marvel at the most recognizable building in the city, the Library of Celsus, built to house 12,000 scrolls. Its colonnaded facade is an outstanding example of a typical Roman public building. You will have free time to browse the craft stalls at the lower gate before returning to your ship.

TRKUS04 Homes of the Ancient Roman Elite

Duration: 3.50 Hours



Date: December 20, 2024 08:45 AM **Available**

Visit the Ancient Roman Homes and Monuments of Ephesus -- Delve more deeply into Ephesus, combining an overview of key sites with exploration of its impressive Roman houses. At its height, Ephesus was home to more than 250,000 people, but only Roman citizens were allowed to live in the city center. You will join a local guide for a visit to the remarkably preserved homes of successful merchants and prominent city leaders. Because the houses' remains have been protected from the elements by a roof, their walls are still adorned with fine colorful mosaics and frescoes. Constructed on terraces, they are testament to the highly developed building skills and techniques of the Romans. See the underground heating system and the private courtyards of the wealthy. At the end of the tour, you will have free time to browse the craft stalls outside the ancient city's gates.

TRKUS06 Step Back Into the Bronze Age & Visit an Oracle's Temple

Duration: 4.50 Hours



Date: December 20, 2024 08:45 AM **Available**

Explore Didyma and Miletus -- Journey to see a once-powerful oracle and visit one of the wealthiest cities of ancient Greece. Join your local guide for a scenic drive to the Oracle of Didyma and Temple of Apollo, part of a once-elaborate Hellenic sanctuary. One hundred columns surrounded the original shrine, second only to the Oracle of Delphi. Today only a few remain standing. You will have time to ponder this mystical site. At the ancient city of Miletus, walk in the footsteps of citizens who may have turned to the Didyma Oracle for guidance. Once the wealthiest of all Greek cities, Miletus's streets are lined by a magnificent amphitheater, Roman baths and a palaestra, or Greek wrestling school. Miletus gained its wealth as a port town, but its bay silted up, leaving it six miles from the coast.

TRKUS07 Biblical History & Beautiful Vistas

Duration: 3.50 Hours



Date: December 20, 2024 09:15 AM **Available**

Tour the House of the Virgin Mary and City of Ephesus -- View the modest abode of the most famous woman in biblical history, and see the ancient sites of Ephesus. With your guide, you will enjoy a scenic drive into the rolling terrain past the ancient city. Here you will find the modest House of the Virgin Mary. It is believed that St. John brought Mary, the mother of Jesus, here to live out her final days after the Crucifixion. You can visit the house and admire its surroundings. Enter Ephesus through the lower gate and walk to view a gymnasium, one of the educational institutions of the day, and the massive Great Theater built for 25,000 spectators. Marvel at the incredible colonnaded facade of the magnificent Library of Celsus. This extraordinary example of a Roman public building was built to store 12,000 scrolls.

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TRKUS05 Wonders of the Ancient World

Duration: 4.00 Hours



Date: December 20, 2024 09:30 AM Available

The Temple of Artemis and the Ephesus Archaeological Museum of Selçuk -- Witness one of Turkey's great archaeological finds and see many of the finest artifacts of Ephesus. Journey to the edge of Selçuk, where the great Temple of Artemis once stood. One of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, it resembled the famed Parthenon of Athens with its many marble columns. Imagine its former glory with the help of your guide. You will walk to the remains of the Byzantine Basilica of St. John, said to have been built over the burial site of St. John the Apostle, and the impressive 14th-century Isa Bey Mosque. At the Ephesus Archaeological Museum, you can explore some of the ancient city's relics, including excellent examples of Roman sculpture. The museum was established after an export ban was imposed in the early 20th century to stop the flow of artifacts to the British Museum.