



10-Day Turkey Itinerary

A day-by-day plan from Poppy Carla

Best time to go: April to May, or September to October, for pleasant weather.

Getting around: Trams, ferries and walking in Istanbul. Short domestic flights link the major regions.

Book ahead: Internal flights, a hot-air balloon ride and a hammam visit.

DAY
1

Sultanahmet

Visit Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque and the Basilica Cistern, then explore Topkapı Palace in the afternoon. Keep shoulders and knees covered for the mosques.

DAY
2

Bazaars & the Bosphorus

Shop the Grand Bazaar and Spice Bazaar in the morning, take a Bosphorus cruise after lunch, and climb Galata Tower for the evening view.

DAY
3

The Asian Side

Take the ferry to Kadıköy for its food market and cafés, wander Moda by the water, and finish with a traditional hammam.

DAY
4

Princes' Islands or Dolmabahçe

Take a ferry to the car-free Princes' Islands, or tour Dolmabahçe Palace and the Bosphorus shore.

DAY
5

Fly to Cappadocia

Take a morning flight (about 1.5 hours) and spend the afternoon exploring Göreme and its rock-cut valleys.

DAY
6

Balloons & Valleys

If the weather allows, start with a sunrise hot-air balloon ride, then hike a valley such as Rose Valley.

DAY
7

Underground Cities & Ihlara Valley

Visit an underground city such as Derinkuyu and walk part of the Ihlara Valley canyon.

DAY
8

Fly to Izmir & Ephesus

Fly to Izmir and visit the ancient city of Ephesus, one of the best-preserved Roman sites.

DAY
9

Pamukkale

Travel to Pamukkale (about 3 hours) to see the white travertine terraces and the ancient pools.

DAY
10

Izmir & Farewell

Return to Izmir, stroll the Kemeraltı bazaar and the seafront, and head home.

Opening times, ticket rules, travel times and prices change, so check each detail before you book. More guides, stays and packing lists at poppycarla.com.