Mysteries of Mediterranean History

Istanbul
3-Night Post-Cruise Program

June 2-5, 2027

Discover **Istanbul**, where Europe and Asia meet in a tapestry of history and culture. Admire majestic mosques and palaces, explore the fragrant Spice Market, and cruise the Bosphorus for sweeping city views. Wander through ancient streets, step into Hagia Sophia, and ascend Camlica Hill for a panoramic perspective. From hidden cisterns to bustling bazaars, Istanbul offers a rich, immersive journey into one of the worldâ??s most fascinating cities.

ITINERARY

June 2

Istanbul

Disembark your ship and begin your half-day tour of Istanbulâ??s most legendary landmarks. Admire the striking exterior of the Blue Mosque, crowned with its six minarets, before stepping inside the Hagia Sophia, an architectural wonder blending Byzantine and Ottoman artistry. Feel the layers of history that echo through its grand dome and mosaics. Then, follow your senses through the bustling Spice Market, where vibrant stalls overflow with saffron, teas, and sweet Turkish delights. After your tour, transfer to the Hotel Barcelo. Spend the rest of the day at leisure, taking in the cityâ??s energy or relaxing at the hotel.

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June 3

Istanbul

Begin your journey with a full-day exploration of Istanbulâ??s rich heritage and breathtaking views. Youâ??ll start with an inside visit to Dolmabahce Palace, a stunning example of Ottoman architecture. Next, enjoy a panoramic boat tour along the Bosphorus Strait, offering incredible views of the cityâ??s skyline as you sail between two continents. Following this, embark on a tour of Kadikoy, where youâ??ll experience the unique culture of both Europe and Asia in one day. For lunch, indulge in a cultural food-tasting experience, savoring traditional Turkish dishes. The day concludes with a visit to Camlica Hill, which offers panoramic views of Istanbul, perfect for capturing memories of this unforgettable day.

June 4

Istanbul

After breakfast, explore the cityâ??s ancient history and remarkable landmarks. Visit the grand Topkapi Palace, once the heart of the Ottoman Empire. Then, take a stroll through the historic Hippodrome Square, where chariot races were held in Byzantine times. Descend into the mysterious Underground Cistern, an ancient water reservoir with an awe-inspiring atmosphere. Midday, youâ??ll enjoy a delightful lunch at an Ottoman restaurant, savoring the flavors of the region. This full-day tour offers a deep dive into Istanbulâ??s glorious past and cultural significance.

June 5

Istanbul

After breakfast, transfer to Istanbul (IST) airport for your return home.

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights at 5-star Hotel Barcelo Istanbul or similar accommodations, with daily breakfast

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- 2 full-day and 1 half-day sightseeing excursions as specified in itinerary, including entrance fees
- Professional tour guide
- Exclusive Go Next Program Manager and hospitality desk
- Transfers between cruise ship, hotel, and Istanbulâ??s (IST) airport,* with related luggage handling on applicable program dates.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Barcelo

Your stay at the **Hotel Barcelo** offers a welcoming blend of modern elegance and authentic Turkish warmth. Spacious, well-appointed rooms provide a relaxing retreat after days of exploration, while the hotelâ??s stylish lounges and restaurants invite you to savor international cuisine alongside local flavors. Unwind at the wellness facilities, enjoy sweeping city views, or simply recharge in a calm and comfortable setting. Conveniently located in one of Istanbulâ??s dynamic districts, the hotel serves as both a sanctuary and a gatewayâ??placing you within easy reach of the cityâ??s iconic landmarks while ensuring every evening ends in comfort and luxury.

PRICING

$2,499 per person
double occupancy

$2,899 per person
single occupancy

ADD TO YOUR CRUISE

3-Night Rome
Pre-Cruise Program

1-Night Rome
Pre-Cruise Program

1-Night Istanbul
Post-Cruise Program

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ACTIVE PLUS:

Travelers should be confident in their ability to walk and stand for a minimum of 5 hours with a total of 2-4 miles per day while keeping a steady pace with a group or tour guide. This tour can involve walking on uneven ground for extended periods and occasionally stairs, some without handrails. Travelers should be able to board a coach or tour bus independently. This tour is not recommended for those with a walker or wheelchair.

LOCAL CUSTOMS: Local customs require covering knees and shoulders when visiting religious sites. Ladies also need to cover their heads when entering a mosque.

The *Go Beyond* program pricing, itinerary (including order of sites) and accommodations are subject to change.

***TRANSFERS:** Airport transfers are only applicable during program dates. Transfers are only provided to Istanbulâ??s (IST) airport.

FOR GUESTS BOOKING THEIR OWN AIR ARRANGEMENTS: Transfers are only provided on program dates. Flights should be booked from Istanbulâ??s (IST) airport. You must provide your complete flight details to Go Next 30 days prior to departure to ensure airport transfers.

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