İstanbul

Golden Horn Unplugged



Tour code: IB-TR-022

Duration: 1 day

From €149.00 / person

Starting point: İstanbul

Languages: English

Overview

This tour includes visits to Fener, Balat, Miniatürk, and Eyüp Sultan Mosque, followed by a cable car ride to Pierre Loti Hill. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. Lunch, soft drinks, water, and hot beverages are included. Please dress respectfully when visiting religious sites.

Your itinerary

GOLDEN HORN UNPLSGGED

Go behind the scenes of your favorite soap operas as we explore the Golden Horn shores, a natural harbour and former commercial center of Ottoman Era. It offers a unique blend of the three

monotheistic religions; Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. See traces of Ottoman life, including mosques, churches, and synagogues, standing together and demonstrating the multicultural and religious ways of the Ottoman Empire. We will drive past along the Golden Horn, City Walls, initially built to protect the city againist attack from both sea and land, ultimately fell from sheer force of Ottoman forces on 29 May 1453 after a 6-week siege. St. Stephen Church, the only church in the world constructed entirely of iron and steel and Feshane where military uniforms and world famous Fez (flat-topped conical red hat with a black tassel on top) was produced.

Hit the top 3 most photographed sights made famous by instagram influencers. Have the chance to snap great photos of Patriarchate of Constantinople believed to have been used in the binding and flogging of Jesus in Jerusalem. Fener Greek Orthodox College on Sancaktar Yokusu. Just down the road is courtyard of Rainbow Stairs and Umbrellas known locally as Renkli Merdivenler which is part of Dimitrie Cantemir Museum Café. It was home of the former Balkan Prince and a global man of music. Potential Russian victory against Ottomans forced him and his family to exile from Ottoman territory. Ladder Street or Merdivenli Yokus and the Colourful Houses also known as Renkli Evler on Kiremit Avenue. The tradition of painting houses in bright colors dates back to the Ottoman era, when residents of Balat were required to paint their homes in a specific color to indicate their religious affiliation. Greeks painted their houses blue, Jews painted yellow and Armenians painted red. In recent years, many of the houses in Balat have been restored and preserved, thanks in part to a government-led initiative to revitalize the neighborhood.

No time to see all of Turkey’s historic sights? No problem. Enjoy a comprehensive overview of Turkey’s many treasures at Miniaturk, the largest miniature park in the world. The park contains 105 models converted into a 1:25 scale. 45 of the structures are from Istanbul, 45 from Anatolia, and 15 are from the Ottoman territories that today lie outside of Turkey. All just like the real thing – except displayed on a 1:25 scale. Stay fueled with a local lunch, soft drinks, water, and hot drinks.

Before tour’s end, enjoy a visit to the Mosque and Mausoleum of Abu Ayyub Al-Ansari, standard-bearer of the Prophet Muhammed (PBUH). Perhaps the most sacred place of pilgrimage in the Islamic world; indeed after Mecca and Jerusalem. Sahaba is said to have fallen in battle during the attack on the walls of Constantinople by Arab armies in the 700s. After Conqueror Sultan Mehmet’s siege of Constantinople, his grave miraculously rediscovered and buried here. He was not only a friend of the Prophet but the key to the greatest Ottoman victory over the Byzantines, Hence Ottoman Sultans would be girt with the Sword of Osman in here, signifying their ascension as monarch of the Ottoman Empire. Ride the cable car uphill to the Pierre Loti to sip a drink while enjoying the panoramic view.

Good to know

This tour includes visits to the historic Fener and Balat neighborhoods, Miniatürk, Eyüp Sultan Mosque, and Pierre Loti Hill. Lunch, soft drinks, water, and hot beverages are included. The cable car ride to Pierre Loti is subject to availability and operational conditions. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended, and modest clothing is required when visiting religious sites.

Plan your journey

Contact our team for dates, availability and a personalised quote.

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