

## Hittite & Seljuk Tour (Segment A) Aug 21 – Sep 2

Here we just outline the day-to-day explorations, with links to much more historical detail, pictures and selections from our journals of previous trips. Besides the listed itinerary whenever possible we have optional, guided evening walks, a great opportunity for night photography without getting lost, or to just observe the local evening culture.

We're [leading 4 small group tours to Turkey](#), Uzbekistan and Bulgaria this year. You can easily combine several segments.

[Contact us](#) for prices

21-Aug **Day 1** Arrival in Istanbul

22-Aug **Day 2** We cross the Sea of Marmara from the European to the Asian side of Turkey. Drive to Iznik (Nicaea) to visit the St. Sophia Church and the Museum of the famous Iznik tiles. Nicaea was the site of the first two Ecumenical Councils, convened by the emperor Constantine to resolve the controversy of Arianism. Overnight in Bursa

[Early Christian and Ottoman history in Iznik](#) and Nicaea

23-Aug **Day 3** Bursa was the first capital of the Ottoman Empire. Visit the Koza Han (silk market), Yesil Turbe (Ottoman sultans' tombs) and Ulu Cami (Grand mosque). Overnight in Bursa

[Early Christian and Ottoman history in Bursa](#)

24-Aug **Day 4** Drive to Gordium to visit King Midas tomb. Then drive to Ankara for ovree

[Gordium – When Alexander the Great met King Midas](#)

25-Aug **Day 5** Full day in Ankara- Anatolian Civilization museum, old and new parliament buildings and Mausoleum of Ataturk

### [Ankara Where Modern Turkey Connects With Its Past](#)

26-Aug **Day 6** Visit Bogazkale / Hattusas, the capital of Hittites and on to Amasya (375 km)

27-Aug **Day 7** Full day in Amasya (Prince's city )

28-Aug **Day 8** Tokat to visit Ballica Cave and old town and head to Sivas for overnight

### [Seljuk Remains in Tokat and Ballica Cave](#)

29-Aug **Day 9** Full day in Sivas to see the Seljuk sites, "doctor fish" therapy and Kongal dog farm Overnight in Sivas

30-Aug **Day 10** visit Kaniş and Karum (old Hittite trade centers) in Kayseri then on to Cappadocia hotel

**Day 11** Full day in Cappadocia

Even with 2 full days in Cappadocia, we can't explore all that Cappadocia offers. We'll decide as a group what we'd like to do. These blog posts describe some of the many possibilities.:

- [Cappadocia – Troglodyte Caves and Fairy Chimneys \(cascoly-images.com\)](#)
- [Natural history of Cappadocia](#)  
[Hiking in Cappadocia](#)  
[Christian art in Cappadocia](#)

**Day 12** Full day in Cappadocia



**Day 13** Transfer to airport (included), and fly home.



## **Istanbul extra days**

We can arrange independent or guided nights in Istanbul pre- or post-trip

For example – 2 full days in Istanbul

1 Hippodrome Obelisk, Marathon serpents, Blue mosque, Hagia Sophia / Ayasofya, Basilica cistern, Grand Bazaar (Kapali Carsi) walk downhill thru local markets to Spice (Egyptian) market. Boat trip on Bosphorus from Galata Bridge

2 Topkapi Palace, Rustem Pasa Mosque. Walking tour to Galata Bridge, Tunnel funicular to Galata Tower and Taksim Square. Return by metro