

Hittite & Seljuk Tour (Segment B) May 6 - 18

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 3 tours to Turkey](#) this year, that also may be combined.

[Email for pricing](#)

Day 1 Arrive in Istanbul & later fly to Cappadocia. In the evening meet the group from Part A, day 12. The 2 groups merge for the 2 days in Cappadocia

Day 2 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 3 Full day in Cappadocia

Day 4 To Sivas, visit Kaniş and Karum (old Hittite trade centers) in Kayseri

[Crossing Millenia in a Day – From Hittite Kultepe to Seljuk Sivas](#)

Day 5 Full day in Sivas to see the Seljuk sites, “doctor fish” therapy and Kongal dog farm **pic**

[Crossing Millenia in a Day – From Hittite Kultepe to Seljuk Sivas](#)

Day 6 Drive to Tokat. Visit Ballica Cave and old town and head to Amasya

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

Day 7 Full day in Amasya (prince city)

Day 8 Visit Bogazkale / Hattusas, the capital of Hittites and on to Ankara



Day 9 Full day in Ankara- Anatolian Civilization museum, old and new parliament buildings and Mausoleum of Ataturk



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

Day 10 Drive to Gordium to visit King Midas tomb. And drive to Bursa

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

Day 11 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).

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

Day 12 Our last stop is Iznik (Nicaea) to visit the St. Sophia Church and the Museum of the famous Iznik tiles. Nicaea was the site of the first Ecumenical Council, convened by the emperor Constantine to resolve the controversy of Arianism. Afterwards we cross the Sea of Marmara from the Asian to the European side of Turkey. We arrive in Istanbul for dinner (on your own) and overnight.

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

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