



Turkish Delight Food & Bazaar Tour: Culinary Istanbul & Cooking Class

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Turkey



Duration
5 Nights 6 Days



Starting from
Rs. 62,000 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

📍 **Istanbul · 5N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/turkey/turkey-5-nights-6-days-package-980>

Overview

Turkish Delight Food & Bazaar Tour: Culinary Istanbul & Cooking Class is a flavorful 6-day, 5-night Turkey tour package designed for food lovers and families seeking an immersive Istanbul culinary experience. This Turkey Family tour package blends historic bazaars, Bosphorus flavors, hands-on cooking, and market strolls—perfect for travelers looking for an authentic taste of Turkish cuisine and culture.

Highlights:

- Hands-on Cooking Class with local chef and market visit
- Grand Bazaar & Spice Bazaar guided tastings
- Bosphorus Cruise (short scenic cruise)
- Kadıköy Food Market and Asian-side culinary exploration
- Princes' Islands (Büyükada) day trip with seaside lunch

Tip: Book the cooking class early — spaces fill fast. Comfortable walking shoes recommended for bazaar alleys.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ 5 nights accommodation in a centrally-located 3/4-star hotel in Istanbul (daily breakfast)
- ✓ Airport transfers (arrival and departure)
- ✓ Guided tours of Grand Bazaar, Spice Bazaar, and market visits
- ✓ Short Bosphorus cruise (shared, unless private upgrade selected)
- ✓ Hands-on cooking class with market visit, ingredients, and lunch/dinner (as listed)
- ✓ Princes' Islands ferry tickets and island orientation
- ✓ Selected entrance fees and local guide services
- ✓ Local VAT and service charges
- ✓ Emergency local assistance and 24/7 support
- ✓ Note: Hotel category can be upgraded on request.

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ International flights to/from Turkey
- ✗ Turkish entry visa fees and travel insurance
- ✗ Personal expenses, optional activities, and additional meals not specified
- ✗ Tips/gratuities for guides and drivers (recommended but not included)
- ✗ Early check-in/late check-out fees
- ✗ Any items not mentioned in 'Inclusions'
- ✗ Important: Optional private transfers, private Bosphorus cruise, or premium dining reservations are available at an extra cost.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival & Welcome Walk in Sultanahmet

Arrive at Istanbul Airport and transfer to your hotel in Sultanahmet. After check-in and a short rest, enjoy a gentle introduction to the city with a guided walk through the historic quarter. Visit the exterior of Hagia Sophia and the Blue Mosque, stroll the ancient Hippodrome, and finish the evening with a welcome dinner featuring traditional mezes and Turkish specialties. Evening at leisure.

Day

2

Grand Bazaar & Spice Bazaar — Tastes of Old Istanbul

Dive into the sensory delights of Istanbul's markets. Begin with a guided exploration of the Grand Bazaar, sampling simit, Turkish delight, and lokum while learning about artisanal crafts. Continue to the Spice Bazaar for saffron, dried fruits, teas, and spice tastings. Enjoy a riverside lunch at Eminönü and a short ferry ride to take in the Golden Horn views. Evening free for independent exploration or optional Turkish bath (hammam).

Day

3

Bosphorus Cruise & Asian Side Food Market

Set sail on a short Bosphorus cruise to see the palaces, bridges, and waterfront mansions that line the strait. Disembark on the Asian side and explore Kadıköy Food Market—a neighborhood favorite for street food, cheeses, and fresh fish. Sample local specialties such as midye dolma (stuffed mussels) and freshly brewed Turkish coffee. Return to the European side for dinner or enjoy an evening at leisure in Karaköy or Galata.

Day

4

Local Market Visit & Hands-on Cooking Class

This signature day begins with a guided tour of a local market (early morning) to learn about seasonal produce, spices, and Turkish ingredients. Shop alongside your chef for fresh items, then move to a hands-on cooking school for a full interactive class. Prepare a multi-course menu—typically including a starter (meze), a main (stews, kebabs or pide), and a dessert (baklava or sütlaç). Enjoy the meal you've prepared with wine or ayran. Dietary needs can be accommodated with advance notice.

Day

5

Princes' Islands Day Trip — Relaxation & Seafood

Escape the city for a day on the Princes' Islands. Take a ferry to Büyükada, explore by bicycle or traditional phaeton (horse carriage), and enjoy picturesque streets and Ottoman-era mansions. Savor a seaside lunch of fresh seafood at a local restaurant. Return to Istanbul in the late afternoon; optional sunset visit to Galata Tower or Pierre Loti Hill for panoramic views.

Day

6

Leisure Morning, Last-minute Shopping & Departure

Spend your final morning at leisure—enjoy breakfast, stroll along Istiklal Avenue, or pick up last-minute souvenirs from local boutiques. Check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport for your departure. If your flight is late, consider adding an optional Istanbul culinary walking tour or museum visit.

? Frequently Asked Questions

? What is the best time to visit Turkey and what weather can I expect?

The best time to visit Turkey is during the shoulder seasons: April–June and September–October, when temperatures range from 18–28°C with pleasant weather ideal for sightseeing. Summer (June–August) is perfect for coastal areas but can be hot inland, with temperatures reaching 30–38°C. Winter (December–March) is excellent for skiing and fewer crowds, but central regions like Cappadocia can be very cold (–5 to 5°C) with snow. Istanbul experiences a temperate climate year-round. Spring offers blooming tulips and mild weather, while autumn provides clear skies perfect for photography and hot-air ballooning. Coastal areas remain warm through October, making it ideal for extended beach time.

? How can I reach Turkey from India and what are the main airports?

Most Indian travelers reach Turkey by air, with frequent direct and one-stop flights from major Indian cities. The main gateway is Istanbul Airport (IST) on the European side, with Sabiha Gökçen (SAW) on the Asian side as an alternative. Other key airports include Antalya (AYT) for beach destinations, Izmir (ADB) for Ephesus, and Kayseri (ASR) or Nevşehir (NAV) for Cappadocia. Airlines like Turkish Airlines, Air India, and Gulf carriers offer good connections via Dubai, Doha, or direct routes. Flight time is typically 6–8 hours direct or 8–12 hours with one stop. Book in advance for better deals, especially during peak seasons (summer and festivals).

? What are the visa requirements for Indian citizens visiting Turkey?

Indian passport holders generally need a visa to enter Turkey. Many Indians apply through VFS Global centers in major Indian cities for a tourist visa. Some may be eligible for an e-Visa if they hold valid US, UK, or Schengen visas, but eligibility criteria change frequently. The process typically takes 5–10 working days and requires documents like passport photos, bank statements, hotel bookings, and return flight tickets. Visa fees vary based on duration and type. It's crucial to check the official Turkish Embassy website or consulate for current requirements, as policies update regularly. Apply well in advance of your travel dates to avoid any delays.

❓ **What are the best local transportation options within Turkey?**

Turkey offers excellent transportation networks. In Istanbul, use the rechargeable Istanbulkart for metro, tram, buses, and ferries, including the cross-continental Marmaray train. Dolmuş (shared minibuses) are economical for short distances. For intercity travel, comfortable buses with reclining seats connect all major destinations. High-speed trains (YHT) link Istanbul-Ankara-Konya efficiently. Domestic flights are affordable for longer distances, especially to Cappadocia. Taxis are metered in cities; use official stands and ensure the meter runs. Car rental is popular for coastal drives, but requires an International Driving Permit. Ride-hailing apps operate in major cities. For scenic routes like the Turquoise Coast, consider renting a car for maximum flexibility.

❓ **What are the best accommodation options and areas to stay in Turkey?**

Turkey offers diverse accommodation from luxury resorts to boutique cave hotels. In Istanbul, stay in Sultanahmet for historic sites, Beyoğlu/Galata for nightlife, or Kadıköy for local culture. Luxury options include Çırağan Palace Kempinski and Four Seasons Sultanahmet. Cappadocia is famous for unique cave hotels like Museum Hotel and Argos in Cappadocia, offering authentic experiences in Göreme or Uçhisar. Antalya's Belek area features all-inclusive beach resorts like Maxx Royal and Regnum Carya. For coastal charm, Bodrum offers boutique hotels and beach clubs. Budget travelers can find quality pensions and hostels throughout. Book cave hotels in Cappadocia well in advance, especially for balloon season (April-October).

❓ **What are the must-visit attractions and places in Turkey?**

Turkey's top attractions span ancient history and natural wonders. Istanbul's highlights include Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Topkapı Palace, Grand Bazaar, and a Bosphorus cruise. Cappadocia offers surreal landscapes, cave churches at Göreme Open-Air Museum, and hot-air balloon rides. Pamukkale's white travertine terraces and ancient Hierapolis are UNESCO-listed. Ephesus near Izmir showcases magnificent Roman ruins including the Library of Celsus. Antalya combines beach relaxation with historic Kaleiçi old town. The Turquoise Coast features Ölüdeniz's blue lagoon and Butterfly Valley. Don't miss Göbekli Tepe near Şanlıurfa, the world's oldest temple complex. Each region offers distinct experiences, from Byzantine churches to Roman theaters and Ottoman palaces.

🔗 What Turkish food and cuisine should I try during my visit?

Turkish cuisine offers incredible variety, especially for vegetarians. Must-try dishes include various kebabs (Adana, İskender), pide and lahmacun flatbreads, and extensive meze platters with hummus, ezme, and stuffed vine leaves. Vegetarian favorites include gözleme (stuffed flatbread), menemen (tomato-egg scramble), mercimek çorbası (lentil soup), and imam bayıldı (stuffed eggplant). Coastal areas excel in fresh seafood like grilled sea bass. Don't miss Turkish breakfast with cheese, olives, honey, and fresh bread. Sweet treats include baklava (especially from Gaziantep), künefe, and Turkish delight. Drink strong Turkish coffee, endless çay (tea), and refreshing ayran (yogurt drink). Many dishes are naturally vegetarian, and Turkish hospitality ensures dietary needs are accommodated.

★ Traveller Reviews



Nishant Narayan

★★★★★ 5/5

A Wonderful Culinary Exploration

The culinary exploration was fantastic! I fell in love with Turkish delights!



Yashwant Jain

★★★★☆ 4/5

Art & Culture Snapshot

Great for those who want a snapshot of Turkey's arts and culture! Definitely worthwhile.



Sakshi Verma

★★★★★ 5/5

Lovely Weather and Scenery

The weather during my trip was perfect. The scenery just made everything better!



Bhupendra Singh

★★★★★ 5/5

Unmatched Architectural Wonders

The architectural wonders of Istanbul are simply unmatched. Each mosque tells a different story.



Tanvi Soni

★★★★★ 5/5

Aleppo Pepper and Spices Tour

The spice bazaar was delightful! Came back with an assortment of spices. Can't wait to cook!

⚡ Why Choose TourGrids?

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