BIBLE & WORLD HISTORY TOUR — TÜRKIYE

12 DAYS, 10 HOTEL NIGHTS, 10 DAYS TOUR

Saturday 3 May 2025 – Wednesday 15 May 2025

This is a special historical tour designed to educate you in Bible history, Church history & World history. Türkiye is a land so rich in history reaching back to 1600 BCE. You will certainly be enriched in your Bible knowledge and learn to interpret the archaeology of the ruins you will be visiting. Ask questions, seek answers! Enjoy the land, people and food!

HOTELS

CITY	NIGHTS	HOTEL or Equivalent
Nevşehir, Cappadocia	3	Mustafa Cappadocia Resort ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Antalya	1	Ramada Plaza ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Pamukkale	1	Richmond Thermal Spa ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Kusadasi	2	Charisma De Luxe Hotel ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Canakkale	1	Kolin Hotel ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Istanbul	2	Lionel Hotel ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

Note: ***If the stated hotels are unavailable, an equivalent quality hotel will be provided.***

MEALS

- 10 x BREAKFAST
- 10 x LUNCH
- 11 x DINNER

CARRIER

- **Turkish Airlines**

SPECIAL LECTURES

Apart from the information provided by the local expert tour guide, there will be special mini lectures during the longer bus trips. Special lectures and briefings will begin 1 month before the actual tour over ZOOM. The lectures are designed to enhance your Tour experience.

ITINERARY

DAY 1, SATURDAY 3 MAY 2025

KUL (KLIA) ✈️ IST (ISTANBUL)

Meet at KLIA 3 hours before departure for flight to ISTANBUL

(Be at KLIA at 05:30 on 3 May 2025)

08:50 🛬 🛬 🛬 14:45 (10 hrs 55min) TK63

Arrive IST airport at 14:45 and transfer to domestic flight to Cappadocia

IST (ISTANBUL) ✈️ (NAV) CAPPADOCIA

Flight to Nevşehir airport (NAV) in Cappadocia

18:45 🛬 🛬 🛬 20:05 (1 hour 20 min)

Arrive Nevşehir, Cappadocia, in the late evening and we check into the hotel for dinner and rest.

Buffet Dinner

Overnight in Nevşehir.

DAY 2, SUNDAY 4 MAY 2025

Nevşehir, CAPPADOCIA

OPTIONAL: SUNRISE HOT AIR BALLOON (subject to weather conditions). Estimated price: USD 250-280. (Time: 06:00 08:00). Depart for the site at 04:30. If the weather is not suitable we will have the HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE on DAY 3.

We visit **Dervent and Monks Valley** to see the mushroom-shaped rock pinnacles or fairy chimneys and St. Simeon Church at Pasabag (Monk Valley).

Then, we proceed to the **Goreme Open Air Museum** to view the rock churches carved out of volcanic rock and the beautiful Byzantine frescoes. Monks used this place for their monastic seclusion practices.

A photo stop at **Uchisar Castle**, a unique rock cut castle perched on a rock spur. Uchisar means Outer Citadel in Turkish.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Nevşehir

DAY 3, MONDAY 5 MAY 2025

OPTIONAL : SUNRISE HOT AIR BALLOON (subject to Weather conditions) for DAY 2 or DAY 3.

A visit to **Kaymakli Underground City** built by early Christians. Three levels are open for public access and each level becomes more challenging requiring some bending and squatting because of the low ceilings and narrow tunnels. Explore the rooms, ventilation outlets and communication pipe systems. There is an exit at Level 1 if you are uncomfortable.

A stop at **Avanos Village** which has a historic tradition of pottery making. The Red River yields the red clay to make their iconic pottery vessels . We will be given a demonstration of

how pottery is made the ancient way. Pottery has been produced as far back as early 2nd century BCE in the time of the Hittites, an ancient Anatolian people.

SUNSET: Cappadocia Jeep Safari Tour (120 minutes). This is an exhilarating fun filled trip, 4 pax per jeep and the tour takes us off the beaten track to hidden and unaccessible spots in Cappadocia.

We will visit a **carpet weaving** factory and also **shop for local semi-precious stones** such as turquoise and sultanite .

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Nevşehir

DAY 4, TUESDAY 6 MAY 2025

Cappadocia 🚌 Konya 🚌 Aspendos 🚌 Antalya

We will start off early today as it will be a long drive first to Konya (3 hours) and then to Antalya (4 hours).

A stop at **Tepesi Delik Han Caravanserai**, a walled 13th century Sultanhan Caravanserai. As the name suggests, it was a roadside inn where travelers in ancient days could stop and rest themselves and feed their animals.

We stop in **Konya,** the home of Sufism (Whirling Dervishes), for **lunch,** make a photo stop at the **Mevlana Museum** and then take a scenic drive to **Antalya** through the magnificent Taurus Mountains**.**

Along the way, we will stop at **Aspendos** to view the worlds best preserved Greco-Roman Ampitheatre and aqueduct.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Antalya

DAY 5, WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 2025

Antalya 🚌 Perge 🚌 Pamukkale

After breakfast, we make a stop at the **Lower Duden Waterfalls** which is unique because it roars down into the sea from 50 m high cliffs. Enjoy the Mediterranean Sea view.

Then we drive to the ancient city of **Perge** to view the Agora, Roman Baths and Colonaded streets. Perge was the first stop of Paul and Barnabas from Cyprus on his first missionary journey and also after that Paul proceeded inland to Pisidian Antioch.

After lunch, we drive to Pamukkale. (3.5 hours)

Arrive in **Pamukkale (Cotton Castle)** famous for its unique geological formations and calcium oxide rich waters causing a build up of white travertine terraces over the millennia. At the ancient Roman **city of Hierapolis** in Pamukkale, we take a hike/walk to see the Gate of Domitian, Arcadian Way, the Necropolis and St. Philips tomb (he was traditionally believed to be crucified here in 80 CE), the stadium, and learn of the history of this ancient Greek city.

The dazzling **white travertine thermal pools** are located just below Hierapolis and we will spend some time there walking along the terraces and dipping our feet in the pools.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Pamukkale

DAY 6, THURSDAY 8 MAY 2025

Pamukkale 🚌 Laodicea 🚌 Philadelphia 🚌 Sardis 🚌 Kusadasi

After breakfast, we head for Laodikya to see **ancient Laodicea** (the lukewarm church) which was a prosperous financial hub famous for a special eye salve made from a local stone. However, their water supply came from the Lycus River by stone pipes and was tepid neither refreshing nor piping hot like Hierapolis. We will view the remains of the Aqueduct that carried the water, the Stadium and the Ephesian Gate.

We then visit **Philadelphia (Alaşehir)** (the faithful church) to see the remains of this early church, St. John Basilica which was built over a pagan temple. Then, we proceed to the Roman ruins of Philadelphia.

Then we proceed to **Sardis** (the dead church). This was the capital city of ancient Lydia. See the gymnasium, synagogue and the ruins of the Temple of Artemis (Diana). We will stay the night at Kusadasi by the Aegean Sea.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Kusadasi

DAY 7, FRIDAY 9 MAY 2025

Kusadasi 🚌 Ephesus 🚌 Kusadasi

Today we take a 20 min drive to **Ephesus,** the city where Paul visited and stayed during his 2nd missionary journey for almost 3 years. **EPHESUS** the loveless church.

In **Ephesus,** we will explore the Baths of Scholastica, Library of Celsus, Temple of Hadrian, the Temple of Artemi and the Amphitheatre. We will also view **THE TERRACE HOUSES** an ongoing archaeological site inside Ephesus to see the rich mosaics and furnishings of the wealthy.

We visit the **Basilica of St John** which is believed to be the traditional burial place of apostle John and visit the traditional **House of Mother Mary** nearby.

Breakfast , Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Kusadas

DAY 8, SATURDAY 10 MAY 2025

Kusadasi 🚌 Izmir 🚌 Pergamum 🚌 Canakkale

After breakfast we depart Kusadasi and drive to Izmir (1 hr). In **Izmir,** we will view the ruins of **Smyrna (**the suffering church), the **Roman Agora** and a stop to view the exterior of **St. Polycarp Church** which is only open on Sundays.

A visit to **Pergamum** (the compromising church) (seat of Satan). In Pergamum, we will take the **Cable Car to the Acropolis** on top of the hill to see the Temple of Athena, the Library of Pergamum, Zeus Altar, the temple of Trajan and the Theatre. A tour of the **Pergamum Asklepion**, a world renowned holistic treatment centre dedicated to the God of Health to learn how treatment is made with natural methods. This is a fascinating exposure to advance medical treatment.

A stop at a **leather production centre** and to see a fashion show.

Drive to Canakkale.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Canakkale

DAY 9, SUNDAY 11 MAY 2025

Canakkale 🚌 Nicaea (Iznik) 🚌 Istanbul

After breakfast, we detour to the city centre to view the replica of the Hollywood **Trojan Horse** that was used in the epic Hollywood movie **TROY** to catch a photo shot with something that came out of the famed Troy history. We will miss the ancient city of Troy.

We depart Canakkale and drive along the Gallipoli Peninsula to Istanbul.

A stop at Bursa for lunch and then on to the ancient city of **Nicaea**.

We visit the remains of **Constantines Palace** now covered by water at the shore of Lake Iznik (Lake Ascanius). The 1st Ecumenical Council in 325 CE was held here by there Roman Emperor Constantine and archaelogists have found the sunken ruins that could be the hall where the council convened.

A brief stop at **St Sophia's church** (one of 4 of similar name) in Nicaea which served as the venue for the Seventh Ecumenical Council in 787 CE. Nicaea is an important place in church history as two Ecumenical Counclis were held here, of particular importance was the first.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Istanbul

DAY 10, MONDAY 12 MAY 2025

ISTANBUL

We begin the morning to the **Bulgarian Iron Church (St. Stephens Orthodox Church)** in **Balat.** It is famous for being made of a unique prefabricated cast iron elements in the Neo Byzantine style and given the moniker the Iron Church. It is the only church that belongs to the tiny Bulgarian community in Istanbul.

A tour of **Topkapi Palace**, the headquarters and residence of the Ottoman Sultans. Visit the Holy Relics Room and the Harem section in the second courtyard. This is also the house of the oldest copy of the Quran found to date, called the *Topkapi Manuscript*. *(Topkapi Palace is closed on Tuesdays)*

We will also stop by **Hagia Irene** in the first courtyard and place of the Ecumenical Council of Constantinople in 381 CE by the Roman Emperor Theodosius I. This is the only Byzantine church that was not converted into a mosque because it was used as a store for military arsenal.

A tour of the **Hippodrome, the Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmed Mosque)** and the famed 4th century **Hagia Sophia** (now a mosque with the upper deck opened to tourists to view the ancient frescoes). This is a walking tour as buses are not permitted to enter the area.

Then, we tour the **Underground Byzantine Cistern (Basilica Cistern)**, a 1500 year old underground reservoir built by Emperor Justinian in the 6th century CE to meet the water needs of Constantinople.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight in Istanbul

DAY 11, TUESDAY 13 MAY 2025

ISTANBUL

Today, we visit **Chora Church** (now converted into a mosque) **and museum** to see the best preserved Byzantine mosaics dating from the 14th Century CE.

A private boat cruise on the **Bosporus Strait** to view the famous historical buildings, palaces and hotels. This is an incredible experience on the waterway straddling between Asia and Europe (1.5 hours).

GRAND BAZAAR and **SPICE BAZAAR —** Time will be allocated to visit these places.

ISTIKAL AVENUE which is connected to **TAKSIM SQUARE.** We will take a stroll along the most famous pedestrian street in Istanbul. This street is a 1.4 km long pedestrian street and dotted with colourful stores, quaint cafès and street performers. There is also a quaint old Catholic church just off the avenue. An iconic vintage red tram traverses the street. Enjoy the sights and sounds of Istanbul on the last day. You may want to try out their street food.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

After dinner we transfer to the IST airport to catch the flight to KUL.

DAY 12 , WEDNESDAY 14 MAY 2025

IST (ISTANBUL) ✈️ KUL (KLIA)

01:35 🛬 🛬 🛬 17:05 (TK 60) (10 hrs 30 min)

Arrive back in KLIA with sweet memories of the trip.

Türkiye Package INCLUDES

1. Return international economy class air ticket by Turkish Airways.
2. One way Domestic flight by Turkish airlines from Istanbul to Cappadocia.
3. 3 N Cappadocia, 1 N Antalya, 1 N Pamukkale, 2 N Kusadasi, 1 N Canakkale and 2 N Istanbul (Total 10 Hotel Nights)
4. 5* Hotel. Buffet breakfast and dinner in the hotel and lunch in local niche restaurants. In Istanbul, lunch and dinner are in niche restaurants. All Breakfasts, Lunches and Dinners as mentioned.
5. 2 bottles of bottled mineral water (500 ml) per day.
6. All sites and entrance fees as per the itinerary. The order of carrying out the itinerary is subject to the discretion of the local tour operator.
7. Transportation throughout the journey in luxury air-conditioned bus .
8. Basic tips to hotels, restaurants, tour guides and coach driver
9. English speaking licensed tour guide.
10. Price is based on per adult person twin sharing in standard room. There will be additional charge of RM3,000.00 for single supplementary.
11. Cappadocia Jeep Safari Tour, cable car up Pergamum, and Bosporus private boat ride.

Türkiye Package **EXCLUDES**

1. Any item not mentioned in the itinerary
2. Personal travel insurance
3. Beverages consumed at mealtimes
4. Hot Air balloon tour

5. Turkish Visa fee for Non-Malaysians.

The itinerary is subject to change without notice depending on weather, traffic delays, security, coup d'etat, strikes, natural disasters, flight rescheduling, availability of sites, etc.

It is our commitment to operate the tour as planned. However, changes may occur beyond our control resulting in changes in ground arrangement, tour program, travel date, etc, and therefore, we reserve the right to alter the itinerary when deemed necessary.

PRICE

THIS TOUR IS A COLLABORATION WITH KIARA HOLIDAYS SDN. BHD.

PRICE : RM TBD per pax.

Price is based on per adult person twin sharing in a standard room. Additional charge for single supplementary is RM3,000.00

To secure your booking:

- Deposit of RM3,000.00 (non refundable) to be paid on or before <date>.
- Balance Sum of RM TBD to be paid on or before <date>.

Account Name: **KIARA HOLIDAYS SDN. BHD.**
Bank: **MAYBANK BERHAD**
Account No: **562237020014**
Swift Code : **MFBBMYKL**

Bank slip or proof of payment must be sent via WhatsApp to KL @ +6012-3210870

CANCELLATION POLICY

- If notice of cancellation is received 90 days or less before the departure date, the following charges will apply:
  - 50% cancellation charge if 31-90 days
  - 75 % cancellation charge if 15-30 days
  - 100% cancellation charge if within 14 days from departure date.

PRICE CHANGE POLICY

The tour company reserves the right to revise the tour fare if the exchange rate increases to RM4.50 and above vs USD 1.