ANZAC Day Tours, Gallipoli 2016. Starts: 23 April. Pay your respects at Gallipoli then head to Egypt to explore Pyramids, tombs and temples, and round it off with snorkelling or relaxation time on the sunny coast of Hurghada.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights
• Istanbul - old city, Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, Hagia Sophia and the Underground Cistern
• Cruise along the Bosphorus Strait
• Gallipoli Peninsula - ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair memorials, battlefields and trenches
• Battlefields and trenches
• ANZAC 2016 Dawn Service and option to attend the New Zealand Memorial Service
• Cairo - Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza Plateau, Necropolis of Saqqara, Egyptian Museum
• Aswan - High Dam and Philae Temple
• Nile felucca cruising - islands en route
• Kom Ombo - Temple of Kom Ombo
• Edfu - Temple of Horus
• Luxor - Temple of Karnak. Opt ot see Luxor Temple by night
• Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon and Temple of Queen Hatshepsut

What's Included
• 14 breakfasts, 3 lunches including our ANZAC Eve Turkish BBQ and 2 dinners
• Turkey: 6 nights 4 star & Special Class hotels, 1 night ANZAC Cove. Egypt: 4 nights 4 - 5 star hotels, 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck) and 2 overnight sleeper trains.
• Airport arrival transfer on day 1 from Ataturk International Airport at any time of day or from Sabiha Gokcen Airport at 2.30pm and 8pm.
• Airport arrival transfer to Cairo on day 5 and departure transfer to Cairo airport on day 16.
• Guided sightseeing of the Blue Mosque, Underground Cistern, Hippodrome and Hagia Sofia.
• Cruise along the Bosphorus Strait – Istanbul
• Escorted by an English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide in Turkey and degree qualified Egyptologist in Egypt
• Modern air-conditioned touring coach
• Commemorative ANZAC hoodie/ jumper
• Touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Edfu and Luxor
• All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles
• 4 days - Red Sea stay - swim, sun and sand

What's Not Included
• Tipping Kitty: Turkey: $0 Egypt: $45-$55
• Entrance Fees: Turkey: US$40-50 Egypt: US $105-$110
• International flights, visas and flight from Istanbul to Cairo
• Tip for your tour guides in Turkey and Egypt - we recommend you allow $3 - 5 USD per day, per traveller. Tip for your driver in Turkey and Felucca Crew/ Nile Cruise staff in Egypt, we recommend you allow $10 USD for each. These tips are an entirely personal gesture.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Istanbul
Saturday 23rd April 2016. Welcome to Turkey and your ANZAC experience! Airport to hotel arrival transfer. The earlier you arrive the more time you’ll have to independently explore the city its fantastic sights. Istanbul is easy to get around on foot and there are plenty of attractions dotted about the old city.

This evening after our welcome meeting opt for a drink in the bar, a great way to break the ice and meet fellow travellers. Overnight - Istanbul
Anzac & Ancient Egypt

Day 2 : ANZAC Eve - Gallipoli

Istanbul - Gallipoli. Today its an early morning departure to the WW1 battlefields on Gallipoli. There will be a wake up call, which your guide will arrange, though please set your personal alarm as well to avoid missing the bus). Breakfast from 06.30hrs. Please bring your bags with you and place them on the bus. Pay all room bills and hand your key into reception before going to breakfast. Please make sure you have separated your luggage into a smaller day pack that you want to keep with you at Anzac Cove, ie warm clothes, blankets, snacks, toiletries etc and place them on the bus with you. Large bags will go underneath the coach and will not be accessible until the following morning.

At this point it is a good time to fix in your mind the letter of your coach. All On The Go coaches are clearly identifiable by an On The Go Tours sign on the right side of the windscreen front and more importantly remember your coach letter – ie – coach A, B, C etc.

08.00hrs: we depart for Gallipoli. A stop will be made at a medium-sized grocery store with adjoining take away restaurant or similar facility for you to purchase lunch and stock up on food and snacks for the following day at lower prices than on the peninsular. Whilst some hot food can be purchased at Gallipoli from Turkish vendors present at Lone Pine and other points, prices than on the peninsular. Whilst some hot food can be purchased at Gallipoli from Turkish vendors present at Lone Pine and other points, some people consider the range limited and more expensive.

Arriving to Gallipoli early, will allow us the maximum time to visit the sites that dot the region. Visits will be made to many of the war memorials for example; Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair, Johnston’s Jolly, trenches and battlefields (sites visited are subject to ANZAC Cove opening times as set by the ANZAC Day Organising Committee).

Early this evening we all relax at our exclusive ANZAC Eve Turkish BBQ before the Australians can head to Lone Pine for the Australian Wreath Laying Ceremony and later taking all taking our places amongst the many at the Dawn Service site for the atmosphere charged ANZAC Eve vigil. Important instructions will be given about where to meet with your coach on 25 April, after the national services have concluded. It is very important you follow meeting instructions in order that you rendezvous with your correct coach.

Whilst drop-offs usually run smoothly, be prepared for a long walk from where your coach is ordered to stop, to get to ANZAC Cove proper on ANZAC Eve. At the Dawn Service site we take our places amongst the many, with the atmosphere charged we wait for dawn’s first light.

Overnight - Dawn Service site (ANZAC Cove) (B, L)

Day 3 : ANZAC Day - Gallipoli 2016

Gallipoli. Today, the 25th April is the reason we came to Turkey and Gallipoli. Dawn and light signals the commencement of the annual Dawn Service, attended by Australian, New Zealand and other foreign dignitaries, military personnel and a strong following of regular Australian and New Zealand folk. The poignant and emotive service commemorating this important and historical date allows us time to reflect. Lest we forget.

The service lasts for an hour before we drive to Eceabat – a seaside village approx 20 minutes away for breakfast (payable locally). Later this morning Australian’s have the option to visit Lone Pine Memorial for independent exploration of the cemetery and dignified, quiet reflection (please note the usual Australian ceremony has been discontinued). Our New Zealanders are invited to attend the New Zealand service at Chunuk Bair at 11:30. Australians will be picked up at 12:00 at Lone Pine (time and location to be confirmed) and the NZ service concludes at 12:30. We will then move to Hill 261 for coach loading. 13.30 is the anticipated departure time from Gallipoli for onward travel to Istanbul.

With On The Go’s precision organisational skills and plans honed through many years, we take the sweat and frustration out of visiting during the region’s busiest time. Still, it’s important that you take any little hiccups during the hosting of such a large event, in your stride. Remember our Diggers had it a lot harder. Evening arrival back to Istanbul. Timings on 25 April subject to coach traffic.

Overnight - Istanbul

Day 4 : Istanbul Old City Tour

This morning we spend a couple of hours cruising the Bosphorus before embarking on a guided sightseeing tour of the old city, taking in the Hippodrome area, the stunning Blue Mosque, Hagia Sofia, the ancient Underground Cistern and more. This afternoon, time is given for you to explore the mammoth Grand Bazaar and exotic Egyptian Spice Market, the later located opposite from the ferry terminal. From here we return to our hotel for a little R&R.

Overnight - Istanbul

Day 5 : Istanbul - Cairo

Wednesday 27 April 2016. Today, make your own way to the airport and fly to Cairo where your Egyptian adventure begins.

Turkish Airlines offers open jaw flights between London, Istanbul and Cairo, check the THY website for more details or we can arrange

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TRIP NOTES

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

updated on 03-03-2016
Anzac & Ancient Egypt

flights on your behalf! If you provide us with your incoming flight details to Egypt we will be there to meet you at Cairo airport and transferred to your hotel. For more info on our arrival transfer from Cairo Airport, please read notes titled ‘Arrival Transfer Egypt’ found further on in this document. Afternoon and evening at leisure.

Upon arrival to Cairo, you will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

**Day 6 : Pyramids & Saqqara**
Cairo – Aswan. After a good night’s rest, we have a full day of touring planned for today. You’ll need to have your bags packed as we’ll be travelling down to Aswan in southern Egypt tonight. Throughout the tour, you’ll be fully briefed by your tour guide as regards touring arrangements.

We then visit the famous pyramids and huge Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet’s oldest tourist attraction! Known as Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus, the pyramids were already more than 2,000 years old when Herodotus the Greek historian visited them (5th century BC). A highly skilled corps of mathematicians, masons, surveyors and stonemasons did the job of building the Pyramids. 100,000 slaves were used to carry out the backbreaking task of moving and laying the stones of the largest pyramid–Cheops. About 2.5 million limestone blocks, quarried locally and weighing in excess of 6 million tonnes, were used in the construction of Cheops.

Leaving the Pyramids of Giza, we’ll visit a Government supervised papyrus emporium. Here, you can buy genuine papyrus at quite reasonable prices. Continuing to the necropolis of Saqqara, we can explore the myriad tombs and temples at this site and see Zhoser’s step pyramid - constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh’s chief architect in 2700 BC!

Later there will be a chance to have dinner, before taking the overnight seater train to Aswan. Each member of the group’s entrance fees and tip kitty will also be collected at this time. En-route to the train station a stop will be made for you to buy more water and snacks for the trip ahead. **Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

**Day 7 : Philae Temple**
Aswan. Arrive and check into our hotel. A visit out of town takes us to the mighty High Dam – a modern feat of engineering - creating the world’s largest artificial lake, Lake Nasser! This afternoon’s highlight is a leisurely boat trip to Agilika Island for Philae Temple for a guided tour of the romantic Philae Temple - dedicated to the goddess Isis. As the sun sets, free time to shop in the colourful souqs and markets or simply relax and watch an amazing sunset in Egypt’s southern most town straddling the River Nile. **Overnight - Aswan (B)**

**Days 8-9 : Felucca Cruise**
Aswan – Nile felucca cruise – Kom Ombo. Day 8 - Optional early morning excursion by road to the famed Temples of Abu Simbel - the gargantuan rock-cut temple of King Ramses II, the Great Builder (details of this optional excursion are featured in our brochure and online). Possibly the most awe-inspiring temple of all ancient Egypt, with its gargantuan rock-cut façade, Abu Simbel was created to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. Guarding the entrance to the temple, the four famous colossal statues of Ramses II sit majestically, staring out across the desert, seemingly since time began. Famously, the temple was re-located in a multi-million dollar operation in 1972, further up from the shoreline of Lake Nasser, which had threatened to erode the foundations of this monolithic temple complex.

If you choose not to embark upon this optional excursion, there is plenty to do in Aswan, before our early afternoon departure on our Nile felucca cruise. You can relax at the hotel, explore Aswan and its beautiful shoreline and corniche or perhaps do a spot of shopping. This afternoon, we board our wind-powered Nile felucca for a 2-night voyage on the River Nile upstream to Kom Ombo. Felucca’s are simple sailboats based on a unique design and have plied the mighty Nile since ancient times.

Our feluccas are proudly owned and crewed by friendly local sailors and they have been adapted to comfortably carry our travellers. **NOTE: As feluccas are wind-powered, our itinerary cannot be rigidly defined. A felucca support boat accompanies your felucca providing toilets, washing facilities and a cozy dining area. The felucca sails during the day, and prior to sundown, the anchor is dropped and we moor at the riverside for the night. The craft carries between 5-12 passengers comfortably and the deck is strewn with soft colourful cushions and rugs and equipped with a canopy that offers shade and protection from the elements. Nothing beats the experience of sleeping under a blanket of stars, though you’ll need to bring a sleeping bag/sleeping sheet and also a towel with you. Soft drinks, water and beer can be purchased aboard.**

**THE NILE FELUCCA CRUISE:** Before boarding the felucca, it is important you prepare a day bag - taking care to pack things you feel you’ll need during the cruise, as your large bag will be placed below in below deck storage. If unable to swim, you must advise your tour leader before boarding the felucca.

**5 STAR NILE CRUISER:** Those travellers who have opted and paid the supplement to travel aboard the Nile 5 Star cruiser will be provided with their cruising schedule upon arrival in Cairo. Boarding of the Nile 5 star cruiser will be on Day 8 for a period of 3 nights. **Overnight - Felucca Cruise (B;2, L;2, D;2)**
Day 10 : Kom Ombo Temple & Edfu
Kom Ombo - Edfu - Luxor. Disembarking in Daraw we drive to Kom Ombo to explore the waterside temple dedicated to the crocodile headed god - Sobek.

After we visit the Temple of Horus at Edfu, having the distinction of being the largest and most completely preserved pharaonic, albeit Greek-built, temple in Egypt, it was one of the last monumental temples built on a large scale. Though much newer than the temples of Karnak and Luxor, its excellent state of structural preservation fills in a lot of historical gaps because it is, in effect, a 2000 year old replica of an architectural style that was already age-old during Ptolemaic times. Back on the bus, we rejoin the police convoy as we drive north to Luxor. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Temple of Karnak, 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at it’s best. Enjoy some rest and relaxation. Tonight, an optional visit is available to the Temple of Luxor with a restaurant dinner afterwards. The excursion is payable locally. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Day 11 : Valley of the Kings
This morning we have the option to take a hot air balloon ride over Luxor. An early start allows us to avoid some of the fierce heat as we venture to the awesome Valley of the Kings.

Arriving at the West Bank, the first monument you’ll see is the imposing 18m-high Colossi of Memnon, which represent the remains of the temple of the hedonistic Amenophis III. Further highlights include the legendary Valley of the Kings and the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated tombs, constructed to once house the regal sarcophagi enclosed mummies of the mighty pharaohs awaiting their passage into the after-life.

Later this afternoon after time to relax, we visit the Temple of Karnak - a spectacular complex of sanctuaries, pylons, chapels, halls and obelisks, all dedicated to the Theban gods and to the greater glory of Egypt’s Middle and New Kingdom rulers.

**Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Day 12 : Hurghada
Today we drive east to Hurghada - part of the beautiful Red Sea Riviera - where we spend the next 3 nights. **Overnight - Hurghada (B)**

Days 13-14 : Hurghada
The next 3 days are free to explore Hurghada or simply relax. On day 9 there's an optional day trip to Giftan Island for swimming and snorkelling, which can be booked locally.

Hurghada is one of the Red Sea’s most popular resorts and it is easy to see why. Hotels and expanded infrastructure provide holidaymakers with excellent aquatic facilities for sail boarding, yachting, deep-sea fishing, SCUBA diving and snorkeling. Hurghada’s central location provides a gateway to prime offshore reefs, which are some of the finest in the world. Hurghada also has plenty of restaurants and late night bars for evening entertainment. Just outside Hurghada is an ancient Roman quarry called Mons Porphyritis and Port Safarga – a famously windy place which is ideal for windsurfing.

Snorkelling at Giftan Island – 325 LE per person payable locally.
Join a day trip snorkelling and swimming at Giftan Island. You’ll be transferred by motor boat to across the blue water of the Red Sea to Giftan Island, the journey is approximately an hour. The boat will moor up and there is an opportunity to jump into the warm waters (mask and snorkel provided) to swim and marvel at the amazing marine life. Look out for parrot fish, butterfly fish, trumpet fish and angel fish – some times of the year it is also possible to see turtles and even dolphins! After snorkelling the boat continues on to the island for a lunch stop (including soft drink or mineral water). If time allows you can also laze by the beach catching some rays before heading back to shore. Departs 08:15 returning 16:30 approx.

Please note that this is not operated by On The Go and the arrangements on the day are at the captain’s discretion. It is also a shared excursion so there could well be other people not part of your group on the boat. **Overnight - Hurghada (B:2)**

Day 15 : Egyptian Museum
Hurghada - Cairo. After a leisurely breakfast we depart Hurghada and head back to Cairo. We take a guided tour of the enlightening Egyptian Museum, where you can opt to see the famed solid gold death mask of King Tutankhamen, or the Royal Mummy room.

The evening is at leisure so why not go out and visit the Khan el-Khalili bazaar - a hive of activity at night. This is a great place to pick up a few bargains or just sip some tea and people watch! **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 16 : Cairo
Monday 8th May 2016. Cairo. After breakfast, hotel check-out and onward transfer to the airport.(B)
TRIP NOTES

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Optional Backstreets Tour - 23 Apr 2016
If you arriving to Istanbul a day or two earlier than your tour commencement date you may wish to consider joining our Backstreets Of Istanbul tour taking place on 23 Apr 2016. Details to the day trip are as follows:

Departing our hotel at 9am, we begin with a guided tour of Topkapi Palace – the royal residence of the powerful Ottoman Sultans who ruled their vast empire from here for more than 400 years. Today the expansive complex, serves as a museum housing an impressive collection of royal jewellery, robes, weaponry and treasures. We continue on to Suleymaniye Mosque, an exquisite blend of Islamic and Byzantine architectural design which overlooks the waters of the Golden Horn estuary.

After a lunch break we cross the bridge over the Golden Horn to commence a walking tour of old Taksim. Starting on Istiklal Cadesi (Independence Avenue) which is a hive of activity any time of day or night, we’ll weave through the backstreets, an often neglected sightseeing route dotted with historic buildings, crumbling churches, hip cafes, swanky restaurants and market stalls. The area is one of the most colourful districts in the city. Continuing downhill we arrive at Karakoy and cross the Unkapani Bridge, before arriving at the Egyptian Spice Market where free time is given for you to buy sticky Turkish delight, a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for the cooler evenings. The south remains warm during this time but again, temperatures do drop in the evenings. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt’s Mediterranean coastline.

Health Requirements - Egypt
It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven’t had a booster in the last ten years. Food and waterborne diseases are more common, so we recommend vaccinations for typhoid (valid 3 years) and Hepatitis A (validity varies). Vaccination requirements can change so please check with your local health care provider before travel.

Currency - Egypt
The currency of Egypt is the Egyptian Pound.

Visa - Egypt
Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Egypt.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book trains and flights tickets on your behalf, if included within your holiday.

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt. It still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport. Costs are currently USD 25/ GBP 15/ Euro 20/ EGP 175. Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, On The Go Tours cannot be held responsible.

Contrary to the above the Egyptian Embassy recommends that all visitors to Egypt procure a visa in advance of arrival. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate for application forms, processing times and costs.

Note: When filling in an Egyptian visa form, you will be asked to provide your address in Egypt. For the purposes of this form, please use either of the following addresses:

Mercure Le Sphinx
1 Alexandria Desert Road,
Pyramids, Giza, 12556, Egypt
Tel: +20 233776444, +20 233776444

Oasis Hotel
Cairo - Alexandria Desert Road,
Pyramids, Giza 12556, Egypt
Tel: +20 238387333, +20 23838766

Climate - Egypt
Temperatures in Egypt are generally high (25 - 30 degrees) and even hotter in the summer months from May to September, when the sun can be fierce and temperatures soar, so pack light comfortable clothing, sunscreen and a hat.

In Cairo and the Nile Delta region, winter (October to February) can be cooler - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for

Essential Packing - Egypt

bullet Sleeping bag for the felucca or for camping in the White Desert (if applicable to your tour).
bullet A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
bullet Two spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
bullet A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
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- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch

**Airport Arrival - Egypt**

Upon arriving at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go either just before immigration or in the baggage hall near the luggage belt of your respective arriving flight. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. After collecting your luggage you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

**Entrance Fees & Tipping**

Entrance fees are not included in the cost of our tours. Funds collected in Turkey (and Egypt if travelling on one of our combo tours) for entrance fees are payable in local currency - Turkish Lira and Egyptian Pounds and will be collected by your tour guide.

Your tip kitty as noted in the ‘Not Included’ section of our trip notes is collected in local currency - we don’t have one for Turkey but we do in Egypt for those travelling onward to Egypt the kitty relevant to the Egypt section of your holiday is payable in Egyptian Pounds (EGP).

The kitty will be collected from all tour participants to cover tips throughout your holiday. This saves you the hassle of knowing when and how much to tip bellhops, luggage luggers, antiquity guards, housekeeping, waiters and other support staff throughout the tour.

This tip kitty amount does not include a tip for your tour guide or driver. For a job well done, we would suggest USD$3 - 5 per day for your tour guide and USD$1 - 2 for your driver. Tipping your guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

**Arrival Instructions**

**ARRIVAL TRANSFERS**

An arrival transfer/shuttle bus from Atatürk International Airport is provided on day 1 of your tour from 06.00 to 07:00 on day 1. If you are arriving earlier than day 1 and have purchased pre-tour accommodation with On The Go, a transfer will be provided. If you have not booked pre-tour accommodation with On The Go you will need to make your own way to the start hotel on day 1 after 14.00.

**ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Upon arrival at Atatürk International Airport or Sabiha Gökçen Airport please proceed to the Arrival Hall. Upon entering the Arrival Hall turn LEFT. Here you will be met by an On The Go Tours representative, carrying an On The Go Tours sign. Please present your tour voucher to our representative as you meet. Later you will need to hand it to your tour guide at your welcome meeting on the evening of day 1 (or relevant day). If, for any reason you are unable to commence your tour as scheduled, or on arrival are unable to make contact with our rep after 30mins of waiting in the Arrival Hall (at the Information Desk located to the left of the Arrivals Area, please do not exit the airport or make your own way to the start hotel, please call one of our 24 hour contact persons.

Mr Sevre Koc: +90 532 779 1184, Mr Orkut Atalay: +90 533 463 7035, or Mr Ihsan Aykol + 90 530 511 61 98.

**Day 1 - Hotel Check-in & Welcome Meeting**

Upon arrival, please check in with the hotel reception, you will need to complete a hotel registration card and hand over your passport to which you can collect from reception later in the day. Please look for the welcome sign located in the hotel foyer which will outline our arrangements for the coming days (including the exact time of your welcome meeting this evening, usually at 8pm) and the name of your tour guide. You’ll then receive a room key and you can head up to your room.

Please note that most accommodation is based upon twin share, i.e. rooms are made up as twin rooms with two single beds. At time of booking we do take requests for those who wish to share a double bed though with the constraints of each hotels inventory this can not be guaranteed.

**Visas**

It is no longer be possible to obtain a visa on arrival in Turkey. Australian, British, Canadian, Irish and USA passport holders can apply for a 3-month tourist e-visa online at: https://www.evisa.gov.tr. The form is easy to complete and only takes a few minutes.

Costs are currently USD$60 for Australian and Canadian passport holders, USD$20 for USA, Irish, British and South African passport holders. New Zealand passport holders currently do not require a visa for a stay not exceeding 3 months.

Ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your date of departure from Turkey. Please double-check all visa requirements with the Turkish embassy at least one month before travel, as the above is intended as a guide. Visa procurement is subject to change and remains the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

**Climate**

Turkey is a destination that can be visited year-round. Temperatures in April can spring up surprising results. Days can be amazingly warm, though temperatures do drop at night so it’s important to pack some warmer clothes.

The weather on the Gallipoli Peninsula in April can be very hot during the day and bitterly cold overnight (with temperatures below freezing). Rain and very cold winds are possible and you can also get burnt from the sun and wind.

It is important to ensure you have sufficient warm and protective clothing for all weather conditions.
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Health Requirements

Turkey - It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven’t had a booster in the last 10 years. Food and waterborne diseases are more common, so we recommend vaccinations for Typhoid (valid 3 years) and Hepatitis A (validity varies). However, vaccination information can change and this information is intended as a guide only. Please contact your local healthcare professional for the most up to date and accurate advice.

Currency

The official currency in Turkey is the Turkish Lira. Euro, British Pounds, US Dollars and other major currencies can be exchanged locally or in advance of departure. Istanbul Atatürk Airport offers speedy currency exchange facilities adjacent to the baggage hall. Additionally, exchange facilities are available at various bureaux de changes and banks in major towns have ATMs. It's advisable to request bank notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities.

Traveller’s Cheques are not recommended as they're often difficult to exchange and incur high fees.

Time

Time Zone - Turkey is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Daylight saving time (+3 hours) is observed from the last Sunday in March to the Saturday before the last Sunday in October.

Time Keeping

In order that we show the best of Turkey in a non hurried fashion to you, it is imperative you are ready for departure each day. Please do not delay and inconvenience fellow travellers. You are ready for departure each day. Please do not delay and inconvenience fellow travellers.

Istanbul Sightseeing

Istanbul sights are closed on the following days: Topkapi Palace is closed on Tuesdays and the Grand Bazaar is closed on Sundays. This in NO way affects your touring program.

Our start hotel on the Pure Anzac and Anzac Uncovered is the Ibis Hotel Istanbul. They offer a hotel shuttle bus service to and from Sultanahmet - the old City (taking approximately 35 minutes) and Taksim Square a few times a day. If you are arriving early and wish to independently explore, consider making use of the service. Taxis are also available from the hotel at all times, if all taxis are taken at any time another is typically along every few minutes, if not, ask reception to organise one for you.

For all other tours you can hop in a cab and take the short journey to Sultanahmet.

Essential Packing

• These Trip Notes
• If spending the night at the Dawn Service site you will need snacks and water, warm clothes, hat/beanie, scarf, gloves, WC paper, wet wipes, camera and cushion. A torch is also handy. Blankets & compact sleeping bags are permitted. Temperatures can be sub-zero and there is always the threat of prevailing threat of rain.
• For those not staying out all night you will still need to bring along warm clothes and possibly a cushion to sit on.
• Voltage in Turkey is 220V and outlets fit a two-pin European plug. Pack a Universal Adapter suitable for Turkey. It may also be advisable to take a portable charger for your phone or camera so you can charge on the go as well as when at the hotels.
• Spare camera batteries and memory cards.
• A small day pack for day to day use and while at ANZAC Cove - large bags or back packs are not permitted in ANZAC Cove.

The Gallipoli Environment

The Anzac Day Dawn Service is held at the Anzac Commemorative Site in the Gallipoli Campaign Historical Site, which is in an isolated area within a national park and has no permanent infrastructure or shelter. You will be exposed to the elements for the entire period you are onsite – which can be up to 24 hours.

Very basic and limited facilities including temporary seating, lighting and portable toilets are available onsite for the period of the commemorations. Limited rubbish disposal facilities are available, and where possible, visitors are asked to take rubbish with them.

There is no running water or power onsite, except for those in use for the services. You will need to bring adequate supplies of non-perishable food and unopened bottled drinking water with you – there are no cooking facilities onsite. Bottled water and limited supplies of Turkish food can be purchased from vendors onsite.

Mobile phone coverage is available at the commemorative sites.

Arriving at Gallipoli

Several kilometres from the Anzac Commemorative Site, coaches and their passengers will be welcomed by a member of the visitor services team. Each coach will be registered and given a coach identification number. Each passenger on the coach will be provided with a tag with the coach identification number, helping passengers to identify their coach number when departing Gallipoli on 25 April. Important information will also be provided during the coach registration process.

Visitors who arrive before the Anzac Commemorative Site is opened will have their coach registered then disembark their coach at the Mimoza Park Otopark and wait in Mimoza Park (across the road from the Otopark) until the site opens. If you have waited in Mimoza Park, when the Anzac Commemorative Site is opened to visitors, you can walk or catch a shuttle bus to the site.

Visitors who arrive after the site has opened will have their coach registered at Mimoza Park Otopark, before driving on to set down passengers at Beach Cemetery, which is about 1km from the Anzac Commemorative Site.

When you disembark your coach, you should take everything you need for your entire stay as coaches depart the area and you will not be able to access your coach again until you depart on 25 April. Please ensure you have everything you need for the overnight stay ready before you disembark your coach.

Anzac & Ancient Egypt - 16 days

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Timing of the Commemorative Services

The Anzac Commemorative Site, where the Dawn Service is held, closes to the public on the morning of 24 April. Following a full security sweep, the Anzac Commemorative Site opens for visitor entries at approximately 6pm.

Coach registration at Mimoza Park Otopark commences from around 11am on 24 April. The road into Anzac Commemorative Site is closed to further arrivals at 3am on 25 April. The overnight reflective program commences at 8pm on 24 April and runs until the early hours of 25 April. The reflective program includes documentaries and interviews about the Gallipoli campaign, as well as musical performances by the Defence Force band. The Dawn Services commences at 5.30am and concludes at 6.30am.

After the Dawn Service, coaches will be released to pick up their passengers from the Anzac Commemorative Site. Arriving to the Maydos Restaurant we spend a couple of hours here enjoying a Turkish breakfast (payable locally). Breakfast will typically be a buffet of Turkish and Continental items including cheese, olives, salami, tomatoes, cucumber, boiled eggs, sausages and pastries.

Departing Eceabat at 10am Australians have the option to visit Lone Pine Memorial for independent exploration of the cemetery and dignified, quiet reflection (please note the usual Australian ceremony has been discontinued). New Zealanders can make their way to Chunuk Bair for 1130 when the NZ Ceremony commences. Australians will be picked up at 12 at Lone Pine (time and location to be confirmed) and the NZ service concludes at 1230. We will then move to Hill 261 for coach loading. 1.30pm is the anticipated departure time from Gallipoli for onward travel to Ayvalik or Istanbul.

Please note that the arrangements of the afternoon are subject to change as traffic flow and road closures are determined by the local authorities at the time.

The Weather

Anzac Day commemorations are held in the Gallipoli Historical National Park, which has no permanent infrastructure or shelter. You will be exposed to the elements for up to 24 hours (including overnight) and can experience all extremes of weather. Typically, it can drop to below 0 degrees Celsius in the early hours before the Dawn Service, but warm up considerably in the afternoon. Rain and very cold wind are also possible in April, as is unseasonal heat.

A moderate level of fitness is required as you will walk around 10km during the commemorative period. The terrain includes reasonably flat sealed roads, sloped and uneven gravel tracks and grassed areas (which can become slippery or muddy when wet), as well as walking uphill on a very steep graded dirt road. You will also need to stand for long periods at times, including in queues for security screening to enter each commemorative site. Some assistance is available, by advance application, for visitors with mobility issues.

All of the basic facilities like portable toilets, lighting and non-drinking water are brought in for the commemorations. Seating is not allocated and is extremely limited at all services.

Health, Fitness and First Aid

A moderate level of fitness is required as visitors can expect to walk several kilometres over 24-25 April. The terrain includes reasonable flat sealed roads, cobblestone paths, sloped and uneven gravel tracks and grassed areas (which can become slippery or muddy when wet) as well as very steep ungraded paths. Access to seating in the stands requires climbing stairs.

Visitors will often need to stand and queue for long periods at times, for security screening to enter the commemorative site, as well as for the limited public amenities. If the site is nearing the safe capacity, visitors on the grassed areas will be asked to stand.

Limited medical support is provided by local Turkish health authorities from the evening of 24 April to the morning of 25 April. If you require any medical aids or equipment, including medications, wheelchairs or mobility aids, you will need to bring these with you.

You should bring your own prescription medication (if required) and basic first aid supplies, including non-prescription pain relief medication and band-aids. The medical support provided is equipped for medical emergencies and is not designed to treat minor ailments.

Safety & Security

You are responsible for your own safety, welfare and security of belongings at all times.

Security and crowd management are the responsibility of Turkish security personnel with airport-style screening of visitors at the entry point to the commemorative site, including bag searches.

Due to cultural sensitivities, visitors are likely to be separated into male and female lines to go through security checkpoints.

You should follow the instructions of Turkish security personnel at all times.

Children and Infants

Please seriously consider how well your child or infant would cope with the travel and environmental conditions at Gallipoli, including overnight in the open in cold temperatures, with no shelter. It is important to remember that there are only limited toilet facilities, with no infant changing or parenting facilities at the commemorative site.

Seating at the Commemorations

Seating at the commemorations is not allocated or reserved (other than for registered Assisted Mobility visitors) and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seating is available in temporarily erected metal grandstands with plastic bucket-style seats or on grassed areas (with no seats). Some seating may have restricted views, however large screens are available to view the service.

You should be aware that large groups may not be able to sit together and you may be separated from your group and/or tour guide.

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You should make sure you have your tour guide’s contact details in case you are separated.

On the Go requests that you try to obtain seating (when facing the stage) in the grandstand on the far right. We will try to gather as many On The Go groups here as possible to maintain commraderie for the evening.

Assisted Mobility Visitors
Attending Anzac Day is physically challenging and given the conditions, can be potentially hazardous to the very young, very old or those with medical conditions. You should advise your doctor of the conditions you are likely to experience overnight and seek their advice about your suitability to safely travel to Gallipoli and attend the Anzac Day commemorations.

Extremely limited onsite assistance is available to visitors who have a health or mobility issue. Visitors will need to request this assistance at the information tent when they arrive at Gallipoli. The number of places available for Assisted Mobility visitors is very limited and will be allocated on a most-at-need basis. Access to this assistance cannot be guaranteed.

Eligible Assisted Mobility visitors will be provided with an access pass and are able to have one carer with them to provide personal assistance. Onsite assistance comprises of reserved seating, access to several dedicated toilets and transport from the coach set down point to the Anzac Commemorative Site.

There is a distance of approximately 400 meters from the entry point to the Assisted Mobility seating area over uneven ground and assisted mobility visitors will need to traverse this distance unaided. The assisted mobility seating area is accessed via steps.

While staff are allocated to monitor the assisted mobility seating area they are unable to provide one-on-one or personal carers or provide medical aids and wheelchairs on request. If mobility aids are required visitors should ensure they bring them when they depart their coach.

What to take and what not to take

What to Take
- When you disembark your coach on arrival, you will need to ensure you are carrying everything you need for that night and the next day, including a sleeping bag, food, water, prescription medications, protective clothing, torch, sunscreen, camera, etc.
- As you will be seated for a long period of time, for extra comfort we recommend bringing a foam cushion to pad your seat.
- En route to the Gallipoli Peninsular from Istanbul we stop at a supermarket giving you the chance to pick up reasonably priced snacks and drinks.
- Your main luggage will be stored securely in the coach.
- You will not be able to return to your coach if you have forgotten something or wish to return prohibited items.
- You will not return to your coach until the end of the commemorations period on the afternoon of 25 April.

What is prohibited?
- You can not take large backpacks or luggage, camping or cooking equipment, opened bottles of liquid, flammable liquids, weapons or sharp objects, other large objects or alcohol to the commemorative sites.
- Drones, remote control devices and selfie sticks.
- Intoxicated persons will be denied entry to the commemorations.
- Alcohol is prohibited at the site.
- Smoking is not permitted in the stands and enclosed areas.
- Professional photographic equipment (including zoom lenses, audio visual or cinematographic equipment).
- You should be aware that Turkey has very strict penalties for the possession of drugs.
- Swimming in the waters off the Anzac area is prohibited.
- As the area is a national park, the lighting of fires on the Gallipoli Peninsula is prohibited.

Laying Wreaths or Floral Tributes
Wreathlaying by invited official representatives will occur during the Dawn Service at the Anzac Commemorative Site. Members of the public who wish to lay a wreath or floral tribute will have the opportunity to do so at the conclusion of the service.

If you wish to lay a wreath or floral tribute, you will need to bring this with you and register your details at the information tent when you arrive at the Anzac Commemorative Site. The proceedings will be announced by the Master of Ceremonies who will call individuals in order to lay their wreath or tribute.

Please note that you will need to organise your own wreath or floral tribute. It is your responsibility to carry it with you, care for it and transport it to the Anzac Commemorative Site. There are no facilities or arrangements for storage or transport of personal wreaths at the commemorations.

Departing the Gallipoli Peninsula
Following the conclusion of the Dawn Service, coaches will commence loading from the Anzac Commemorative Site. Please wait inside the commemorative site with your coach group until your coach number is called.

There may be hundreds of coaches at the commemorations, so long waits and delays can be expected. You should not make any onward travel arrangements or connections for the afternoon or evening of 25 April. Please be patient while the process occurs.

There are several coach loading zones for visitors. Coaches will not arrive in numerical order, so it is impossible to predict in advance which loading zone would be utilised by which coach. Arriving coach numbers will be called by an announcer and displayed on screens.

Once your coach number has been called, visitors should move to the coach loading zone and board the coach after it has come to a complete stop. Please follow the instructions of service officials and be mindful of your safety.

Visitors who arrive at the commemorations in private vehicles are responsible for returning to their vehicle to depart Gallipoli. Visitors who
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Arrive at the services by taxi are responsible for their own departure from the peninsula.

Visitors who choose to depart Anzac Commemorative Site on foot after the Dawn Service must ensure that they have arranged with their tour provider where they will be picked up from.

Assistance to the Commemorations

The Department of Veterans’ Affairs receives a great many requests from groups and individuals wishing to contribute to the Anzac Day commemorations at Gallipoli.

The Dawn Service at Gallipoli follows a traditional format and structure agreed by the governments of Australia, New Zealand and Turkey. Many hundreds of thousands of Australians are descendants of a veteran of the Gallipoli campaign and feel an emotional connection to the commemorations. Given the above, unsolicited offers or requests to provide content or performing a role within the ceremony will not be accepted. This includes offers of artefacts or relics, bugles or other musical instruments, songs, poems, speeches or readings.

Conservation Volunteers, provides volunteers to assist with the annual commemorations at Gallipoli. Conservation Volunteers advertise for applications each year. More information is available at the Conservation Volunteers website.

The choir that supports the services at Gallipoli is the combined choir of students from St Joseph’s College and All Hallows’ College.

Conservation Volunteers and the choir were both engaged through a tender process. Medical support is provided by Turkish health authorities. Interpreters are provided by the 18 March University in Canakkale.

The ANZAC Campaign

The Gallipoli and ANZAC Campaign - With the intention of capturing and securing the Ottoman capital of Istanbul, thus opening the road to Eastern Europe during World War One, Winston Churchill, British First Lord of the Admiralty, organised a naval assault on the strait. A strong Anglo-French fleet tried first in March 1915 but failed to secure the region.

Then, on a date now etched in history – 25 April, 1915 - British, Australian, New Zealand and Indian troops landed on Gallipoli at what is now known as ANZAC Cove. It is thought that the small harbour of Kabatepe Village may have been the object of the Allied landings on this fateful date but in the darkness of the early morning the landing crafts were swept northwards by unchartered currents to the very steep cliffs of Ariburnu. Unfortunately whilst the Allies were forced to advance inland up and over the steep cliffs, Mustafa Kemal ( Atatürk) had foreseen the landing here and sent his Turkish troops here to do ferocious battle with the partly unsuspecting Allies. Both Allied and Turkish troops fought desperately and gallantly, slaughtering one another in vast numbers.

After nine months of ferocious and often futile battle whilst trying to push forth, the Allied forces were withdrawn in January 1916. The 13,000 souls who rest in unidentified graves in the cemeteries, together with more than 14,000 whose remains were never found, are individually commemorated by name on the Lone Pine Memorial (Australian and New Zealand servicemen), the Twelve Tree Copse, Hill60 and Chunuk Bair Memorials (New Zealand servicemen) and also Helles Memorial (British, Australian and Indian servicemen).

Turkey: Fact File

Official Name: Republic of Turkey
Capital: Ankara
Population: 70 million
Total Area: 780,580 square kilometres
Official Language: Turkish. Kurdish, English and French also spoken
Religions: Islam 99.8%, Christain and Jewish 0.2%
Voltage: 230 volts
Dialling Code: +90
Time Difference: GMT/UTC +2. For other time differences please visit www.timeanddate.com

Turkey: Brief History

Present-day Turkey was created in 1923 from the Turkish remnants of the Ottoman Empire. In 1945 Turkey joined the UN, and in 1952 it became a member of NATO. Turkey intervened militarily on Cyprus in 1974 to protect Turkish Cypriots and prevent a Greek takeover of the island; the northern 37 percent of the island remains under Turkish Cypriot control. Relations between Turkey and Greece have improved greatly over the past few years. Politically, modern Turkey was almost entirely the creation of one man, Mustafa Ataturk.

Turkey: Geography and Weather

Turkey has borders with Greece, Bulgaria, Armenia, Georgia, Iran, Iraq and Syria with easy land and sea access to the Gulf States, the Levant and North Africa. It is the ninth largest country in the Middle East and the third largest in Europe. Turkey only consists of 23,000 sq. km in Europe: the remainder is in Asia. The Sea of Marmara and the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits separate the European (Thrace) and Asian (Anatolian) parts of Turkey. Anatolia is a high plateau region, rising progressively towards the east and broken by the valleys of some 15 rivers, including the Tigris and the Euphrates. There are numerous lakes including Lake Van, which is really an inland sea. In the north the chain of the Pontine Mountains runs parallel to the Black Sea; in the south, the Taurus Mountains almost touch the narrow, fertile coastal plain. The climate is temperate with hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters (harsher in interior).

Visit www.worldclimate.com to get an idea of what the weather will be like on your tour.

Turkey: Visas

Most nationalities (including citizens of the UK, Australia, Canada and the US) need a visa to enter Turkey. Citizens of these countries must obtain an electronic visa before arriving in Turkey which is valid for three months. The costs of the visa varies. Citizens of New Zealand currently are not required to purchase a visa on entry. We recommend you contact your local Turkish embassy or consulate near to your planned date of travel to obtain the latest information on your specific requirements.
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Visa services like www.travcour.com can be very helpful.

**Turkey: Money**

ALL prices stated in this dossier are given as a guide only and are subject to change. All prices are quoted in US dollars.

**Local currency**

The monetary unit in Turkey is the lira, TL. For up to date exchange rates with your own currency visit www.oanda.com or www.xe.com.

**Changing money, credit cards & ATMs**

Rates for foreign currency are always better inside Turkey. Private exchange offices have competitive rates and no commission. Banks are generally open Monday – Friday 8.30am – noon and 1.30pm -5pm. Most charge a commission of US$2.50 for travellers cheques. ATMs are widely available in cities.

**Entrance fees**

Generally speaking most entrance fees will be covered by the recommended spending money. There are, however, other sites and museums that are not part of the tour programme which you may wish to visit in your free time. If you have an International Student Card you will often be entitled to reduced entrance fees.

**Tipping**

Many workers in Turkey are poorly paid and depend on tips for their main income. As tips are a normal part of everyday culture in Turkey we operate a compulsory tipping kitty to save you money and embarrassment. Each member of the group contributes to the kitty (approx US$15 per person per week) and this is then used to cover tips to any people who provide services to the group as a whole e.g. guides, porters, drivers, housekeeping staff in hotels etc.

Except at the cheapest restaurants, a 10%-15% charge is added to the bill. As the money does not necessarily find its way to the waiter, you may want to leave an additional 10% on the table or hand it to the waiter.

**Turkey: Optional excursions**

A full list of the main excursions available on each tour can be found on daily itinerary on these trip notes. All prices given are approximate and are subject to change due to local inflation or exchange rates.

**Turkey: Local transport**

In Istanbul many of the sights are within walking distance of each other and the best way to get to know the area is on foot. However, it’s easy and relatively cheap to jump in a taxi and criss-crossing the Bosphorus by ferry is great fun.

**Turkey: Security**

Most people find that Turkey is a safe and friendly country but as in any foreign place you should exercise a reasonable degree of caution. Don’t walk around lonely back streets at night (particularly in Istanbul), don’t wear expensive looking jewellery or a classy watch and don’t carry a wallet in your back pocket. Don’t carry your camera openly; always have it in a small day pack which is firmly attached to your body, preferably in the front in crowded places. Take particular care not to become too relaxed if you have had a few drinks and are returning to your hotel at night – it is best to always take a taxi. Always wear a money belt or leave your valuables, including your passport, in the hotel security box.

**Turkey: Local food and drink**

Evening meals and lunches will generally be eaten in local restaurants. Please see your tour notes for details about any included meals.

- Simple snack - $2-$5
- Meal -$5-$15
- Fancy restaurant - $20-$25

Your tour leader will take you to local restaurants so you can experience the vast variety of Turkish cuisine.

**Food**

Lots of tasty treats are available in Turkey. Snacks include borek or poca (small pastries filled with meat, cheese or potato) sold from snack carts in the street, also simit (sesame-seed bread rings). Other snacks are lahmacun (small pizzas with meat based toppings) and in coastal cities midye tave (deep fried mussels). Main meals include several variations of the kebab, fish and seafood are good, but usually pricey and sold by the weight rather than by the item. Most budget restaurants are alcohol free. A useful exception is a meyhane (tavern) which usually serves mezze, an extensive array of cold appetisers as well as grilled kebabs and fish. Most common mezes are dolma (pepper or vine leaves stuffed with rice) and patlican salata (aubergine in tomato sauce). The best dessert is undoubtedly the honey soaked baklava. Turkish delight - solidified sugar and pectin, flavoured with rose water or pistachios, and sprinkled with powdered sugar - is another popular sweet.

**Drink**

All drinks such as bottled water or soft drinks are at your own expense at all times and are fairly inexpensive. Water from a tap or well should not be considered safe to drink. Bottled water, carbonated soft drinks and fruit juices are widely available throughout the country. Alcoholic drinks vary in price, with beer generally being the cheapest option.

- 1l of water - $0.50
- 30cl bottle of soft drink - $0.50-$1
- 40cl bottle of beer - $2-$3

Turkish coffee is served in tiny cups, and can be very strong. The same can be said for the tea (chai) which is served in delightful tulip-shaped glasses. The local firewater is anis-flavoured raki, stronger than Greek Ouzo. Alcoholic drinks are available in most places, but in smaller towns it is not as widely obtainable.

**Turkey: National holidays**

- 1 January - New Year’s Day
- 23 April - Children’s Day
- 1 May - Labour Day
- 19 May - Youth Day
- 30 August - Victory Day
- 6 October - Liberation War Day
- 25 December - Christmas Day

Important: there are several religious public holidays whose dates are determined by the

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Islamic lunar calendar and differ every year according to the universal Gregorian calendar.

The month of Ramazan (Ramadan), the ninth of the Islamic calendar, is a great time to travel in the region as you get a real insight into the Muslim faith. It is a time for spiritual reflection, prayer, doing good deeds and spending time with family and friends. The fasting is intended to help teach Muslims self-discipline, self-restraint and generosity. It also reminds them of the suffering of the poor, who may rarely get to eat well.

During the day, people must refrain from eating, drinking, smoking and sexual activity, so if you encounter someone who is a bit grumpy please be understanding, flexible and sympathetic. As tourists you will be generally unaffected although some places may close early, but your tour leader will do their best to plan around this. Most hotels bars and tourist restaurants will remain open.

In the evening you will experience a celebratory atmosphere at iftar, when people break their fast. To witness Ramazan is a real highlight making your tour in the region that bit more interesting. Each year it begins roughly ten days earlier than the year before, according to the Gregorian calendar.