

EPHESUS (KUSADASI)

TURKEY

LAND  Discoveries



Discover the treasures of deep antiquity in Ephesus and Kusadasi.



Once the second largest city in the Roman Empire, Ephesus remains an archaeological wonder unlike any other in the world.

Rising to prominence under Greece in the 10th century B.C., Ephesus later joined the Ionian League and eventually came under Roman rule.

Today, wondrous ruins show a theatre, library, music hall, fountain, bath complexes and wealthy homes — all signs of a prosperous and peaceful era in a splendid city.

Explore the vestiges of this once-illustrious metropolis and the surrounding merchant's town of Kusadasi for an unforgettable walk through ancient times.

LOCAL CUISINE



Turkish street food is excellent. Try the kebab, a seasoned meat skewer or lahmacun, a pizza-like flatbread served with salad and a lemon wedge. Eat it like a local — dump the salad on the bread, squeeze the lemon on top, roll it up and bite!

In restaurants, all meals start with mezes or little savory plates, like hummus, eggplant, stuffed grape leaves, mussels or liver. Adventurous diners might try çığ köfte, raw meatballs in bulgur and red pepper, or stick to basics with delicious grilled fish, served almost everywhere.

SHOPPING



Shopping is a colorful enterprise in Kusadasi. Crafts dazzle with intricate patterns and vivid hues. Look for leather, ceramic and loomed gifts in the Kusadasi Market, a bustling bazaar full of gifts and souvenirs.

The Market also has Turkish carpets, stunning rugs made by weavers on site and nearby. The rugs are plush and vibrant, often taking over a year to complete. Bargaining is welcome.

CURRENCY

Turkey uses the Turkish lira.

Tip 10-15% in restaurants, even with a service charge.

Tip 15-20% in baths or to masseurs.

PLACES OF INTEREST

BEYOND CITY CENTER

EPHESUS

See the profound history at the ruins of Ephesus, a thriving city in the 10th century B.C.

HOUSE OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Enter the home where Catholics believe Mary was miraculously assumed into heaven.

BASILICA OF ST. JOHN

Visit the burial site of John the Apostle amidst ancient columns and mosaic tile.

TERRACE HOUSES

Walk through the remnants of the Terrace Houses, where wealthy Ephesians once lived.

SIRINCE

Browse the stalls and shops in Sirince, before stopping for a cup of thick Turkish coffee.

CITTANTICA EPHESUS PARK

Live like the ancients with cuisine, tradition, art, shows and more at this themed park.

CARPET WEAVING

Watch weavers work on outstanding carpets at their looms at the Kusadasi Market.

TOP 3 LAND DISCOVERIES

ULTIMATE EPHESUS SMART TOUR



Tour the astounding ruins at Ephesus, a city over 12,000 years old, with a smart device to guide the way that showcases fully restored versions of the sprawling ruins. See the Odeon, an ancient hall for music and poetry, the Fountain of Trajan, the steam baths of Scholastica, the Temple of Hadrian, the Library of Celsius and the Terrace Houses of the wealthy.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EPHESUS



Visit The House of The Virgin Mary, where Jesus' mother reputedly spent the last years of her life. Next, tour the ancient city of Ephesus, an archeological stunner, including the Magnesia Gate, the Odeon, the Fountain of Trajan, the Temple of Hadrian and the magnificent Library of Celsius.

KUSADASI WALKING TOUR



Stroll the hidden treasures of Kusadasi, the gateway to Ephesus. Walk Pigeon Island and tour the Byzantine Castle and surrounding pathways overlooking the sparkling blue Aegean. Settle into the ultimate relaxation in Turkish baths before lunch and close the day with a presentation of beautiful Turkish carpets.



Visit the
Land Discoveries Desk
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