



# TURKEY

## TRAVEL GUIDE

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### **YOUR TRIP IS COMING UP!**

Travel necessitates being a good-natured realist as well as a romantic, and requires an agreeable acceptance of situations as they exist, not as each of us might prefer them to be. A pleasant tolerance makes for an enjoyable travel experience – especially in light of health protocols and the constantly evolving policies and procedures, which vary country by country. We at GOMEGA Travel and Tours would like to provide you with the following tips that we feel will ensure a safer and more enjoyable journey.

# TURKEY TRAVEL GUIDE

Everything you need to know to be better prepared for the trip of a lifetime.

## #1 BE A CONSIDERATE TRAVELER

Remember you are traveling as a group and should always consider the comfort and well-being of the entire group. If you are late getting on the motorcoach, everyone loses valuable time.

You should settle any personal incidental charges you may have (such as laundry, telephone, etc.) directly with the hotel the night before you checkout. This way you will not hold up the group at the last moment while you settle your personal bills.

If you must be absent from a day of touring for any reason, please notify your tour host or guide as soon as possible.

Please be prepared to rotate your seat on the motorcoach daily.

No smoking is allowed in hotel rooms, the dining rooms or on the motorcoach.

## PHYSICAL EXERCISE

In Turkey you will be walking a lot on the tour and if you begin walking regularly now, you won't have any trouble on the tour.

Be sure you have comfortable walking shoes. Don't buy new shoes just before the tour – get them early and wear them so they will be “broken in” ahead of time.

## ILLNESS

If you need immediate medical attention while abroad, contact the reception area of the hotel. A doctor or an emergency service will be called for you. You will find that most medical personnel speak English well. Your tour host/guide should also be notified.

You are responsible for any /all expenses incurred (medical treatment, transportation, quarantine accommodations, flight arrangements, etc.) due to illness or injury. It is recommended that you begin an insurance claim when seeking medical treatment, as most insurance companies will assist directly with logistics should you be required to separate from the group.

GOMEGA Travel & Tours will not provide reimbursement for any expenses or missed portions of the tour.

Reimbursement requests should be directed to your travel insurance company. GOMEGA Travel & Tours will be happy to assist you with any tour- related documentation to support your claim.

## PREPARING FOR TRAVEL

**Passport Requirements:** An original, signed passport valid for a minimum of 6 months beyond your intended return date is required to enter and depart Turkey. Please ensure that your name on your passport matches all travel documents we have issued. If this is not the case, please contact us immediately. Please note that as the passenger, you are responsible for observing regulations and that non-compliance may result in travel being rejected. Tip: Keep a photocopy of your passport's identification page stored separately from your passport. You should also keep a digital copy on your mobile device, and a copy with your emergency contact at home.

**Visas:** American citizens do not require an entry visa into Turkey and can visit for up to 90 days without a visa for tourism. Citizens from other countries may require a valid visa. These requirements can change often, and therefore it is best to check with the Turkish Embassy for the most up-to-date visa information.

**Medications:** Please remember to fill any prescriptions you may require and ensure you pack them in their original packaging.

**Money:** Make sure that our ATM and credit card(s) are active. Also, it is a good idea to alert your bank(s) and/or credit card companies about where and when you'll be traveling to ensure your foreign transactions are not flagged for suspicious activity.

**Luggage:** We assume you will be traveling with 1 checked and 1 carry-on piece of luggage. Please attach the GOMEGA Travel & Tours luggage tag(s) on the handle of the suitcase(s) you will check. Please inform GOMEGA Travel & Tours if you will be traveling with additional luggage.

**Lanyard:** You need to wear your name tag each day of the tour as it will identify you at airports, hotels, and sites, as well as help us get to know one another.

## ON ARRIVAL

Our aim is to ensure that you experience fast, responsive and 24/7 support throughout your trip. As such, you will find all pertinent contact telephone numbers contained in your final travel documents. Please feel free to call our team should you have any questions or concerns.

If you booked a private airport transfer, you will be met by your driver, who will be holding up a sign with your name on it. If your flight is delayed or you miss a connection, please use the contact numbers provided in your final travel documents to alert us so that you will be met at your new arrival time.

Of course, if you have any questions about our in-destination support to your journey, please don't hesitate to contact GOMEGA Travel & Tours.

## INTERNATIONAL GROUP AIRFARE

You should arrive at the airport about 3 hours ahead of the departure time, to check-in. Group reservations do not allow passengers to access their booking via the airline website-this is due to confidential information of the other group passengers in the booking. Therefore, you must check in at the airport for your international flight. The airline is required to check your passport, visas (if needed),

and other documents to board the plane. Some airlines now do this online, by asking you to upload proper documentation, but most still require checking-in at the airport especially for group reservations.

If your flights have not been booked through the GOMEGA Travel & Tours Air team, it is important that you let us know about any changes in your flight itinerary.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

If you have purchased a travel insurance policy through GOMEGA Travel & Tours, you will find documentation in an email from the travel insurance provider. You will need to print the policy and include it in your travel documents. For those passengers that did not purchase a travel insurance policy through GOMEGA Travel & Tours, please make sure to include your Confirmation of Coverage or Declaration of Coverage in your travel documents.

## SMART TRAVELER ENROLLMENT

Depending on your citizenship, your government may offer a free travel registration service. American citizens can submit their travel plans online and in the event of a natural disaster or civil unrest, your government can provide you with necessary information or assistance. Here is the American link: <https://step.state.gov/step/>

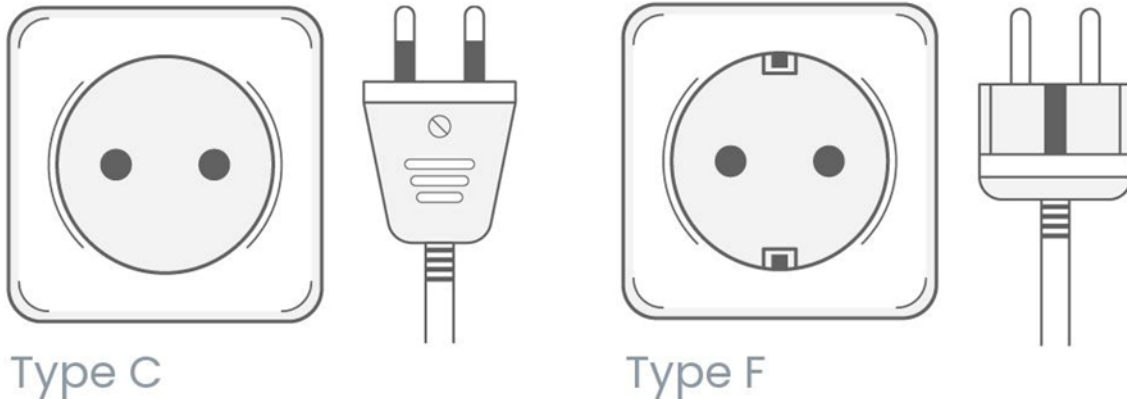
## TRAVEL LIKE A LOCAL

### Payment Methods and Currency

The currency in Turkey is the Turkish Lira (TRY). Debit and major credit cards are widely accepted, but please note that small transactions by card may incur a transaction fee. Some shops, restaurants, and vendors may not accept payment by card, so having cash on hand is recommended, especially for small transactions. ATMs are common in Turkey; it is best to use one that is located outside of a national bank and during regular business hours. We suggest bringing some cash with you on arrival.

### Electricity and Voltage

In Turkey the standard voltage is 220 V, and the frequency is 50 Hz. The plugs in Turkey are types C and F, which have two small round pins. We suggest a multi-adaptor with different plug configurations. Also, ensure that you have a power converter for any appliances like a hair dryer or curling iron, as the voltage may not be compatible.



### Cell Phones and Internet

Always check with your cell phone provider to find out about roaming plans before you travel. If you want to keep your phone on airplane mode, many public spaces like the airport, restaurants, and cafes will offer free Wi-Fi which you can log on to use. In most populated areas you will be able to connect to either 3G, 4G, or 5G networks, though in more remote areas your cell phone signal may be limited. *Tip: The country code for Turkey is +90.*

## CUSTOMS AND CULTURAL NORMS

Even with different languages, dialects, and culture, like most countries, North Americans can feel relatively at ease when traveling through Turkey. With that said, there are some cultural norms that may be useful to know a little bit about before your trip.

**Greeting people** – Hugs are reserved for close friends and family members.

**Beverages upon meeting** - It is customary to be offered a beverage such as coffee or tea whenever you meet someone, as this demonstrates hospitality. You should always accept the offer even if you are unable to finish it, as declining can be perceived as an insult. Turkish coffee is thick and meant to be sipped slowly after a meal. It is important to stop drinking it when you get to the grounds since they are extremely bitter and are meant for fortune telling instead.

**Eye contact** – It is hard to ignore the Turkish eyes that are everywhere in Turkey. This good luck charm is believed to protect against everything.

**Attire for female travelers** - Women must be careful to cover themselves appropriately, as modest clothing is the norm and is considered respectful. When visiting religious sites, modesty is key, and it is important for women to cover their heads and not have their arms or legs showing. For men, it is important to wear long shorts or pants that cover their knees.

**Respect for elders** - Elderly members of the community are highly respected, as their respect is thought to have been earned with age. It is important to remember this and uphold this level of regard when interacting with locals.

## WEATHER

Turkey's summers are generally cool for the Mediterranean, but warm for oceanic climates, which means around 68-77°F (20-25°C.) The climate in the winter typically ranges from 36-43°F (2-6°C) with noticeable decrease in temperature inland. Turkey has four seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter. For packing, it is essential to know what the weather may be like during your visit, and we encourage you to check online before you pack for your trip. Depending on the season, you may require more or fewer layers, but smart and comfortable items for your trip to Turkey are essential.

## LUGGAGE

Since you may be on the move quite frequently during your trip, our advice is to pack as light as possible and choose durable luggage that can withstand rigorous use. We recommend limiting your luggage to 1 piece of checked baggage and 1 piece of carry-on baggage per traveler. Please always consult with your airline carrier for detailed luggage requirements and luggage restrictions specific to your international and internal flights.

## VALUABLES

No matter how safe a destination may be, tourists can be easily targeted for theft. As a result, and even with Turkey being a relatively safe country, we strongly urge you to leave your valuable belongings, including excess cash and jewelry, at home. Please review your personal insurance policy to make sure you are adequately covered for the belongings you do plan to take with you. We assume no responsibility for personal belongings left behind, although we will always do our best to help you recover them. Additionally, hotels will not compensate their travelers for theft from the hotel premises.

## USEFUL APPS FOR YOUR TRIP

With growing technology comes an increase in user-friendly mobile apps to assist on your journey. Here are some apps we think you might find useful:

**XE Currency Exchange App** is a trusted resource for daily currency exchange rates around the globe. is a trusted resource for daily currency exchange rates around the globe.

**The Google Translate App** is always handy to help with new words and pronunciation.

**The Weather Channel App** is an excellent way to stay up to date with the weather forecast all over the world.

If you need more details or have any questions, please [contact us](#).