# ISTANBUL 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS AGGRESSOR

AGGRESSOR ADVENTURES

Perfect add-on to any Red Sea Aggressor II\*, Red Sea Aggressor IV\*, Aggressor Floating Resort\*, or Nile Queen II\* vacation





Days #1 to #4 at the Levni Hotel-Istanbul / BB
- 3 nights included with breakfast

**Day #1** Arrive in Istanbul Airport and transfer to the hotel with an English speaking transferman.

#### **Day #2 Bosphorus & Asia** (08:45-17:00)

On PRIVATE basis, includes guidance in English, admission fees, lunch and taxes.

A full day tour to visit the aromatic Spice Bazaar from 1663 with its domed and vaulted shops selling spices and herbs along with a wide variety of commodities, also known as Egyptian Bazaar as it was once endowed with the Cairo imposts. Then proceed to the pier so as to embark the public boat. Sailing through the waterway separating the two continents - Asia and Europe - with a possibility to take pictures of the marble palaces, ancient wooden villas of Ottoman architecture besides modern residentials. During this trip Dolmabahce Palace, Ciragan Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Bosphorus and Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridges as well as Rumelian Fortress, historical armament built by the Conqueror in 1452 to control and protect Bosphorus, will be visible from the sea. Disembark the boat. In the afternoon, cross to the Asian side to visit the Beylerbeyi Palace (Closed on Mondays), the summer residence of the Ottoman Sultans, with its original furniture and magnificent gardens. Then proceed to Camlica Hill (or Nakkastepe) to observe one of the lovely panoramic views of Istanbul. Drive back to the hotel.





\*Please note that public transportation (taxi, subway, tram, funicular or ferry) may be used on this tour to avoid the traffic congestion and loss of unnecessary time.

#### Day #3 Historical Istanbul (09:00-17:00)

On PRIVATE basis, includes guidance in English, admission fees, lunch and taxes.

A full day walking\* tour with Topkapi Palace - Harem section is excluded - (Closed on Tuesdays); built in 1468 on one of the seven hills of Istanbul by Mehmet the Conqueror, the seat of the Ottoman sultans for 400 years and a huge complex serving as a museum today facing superb views of the Sea of Marmara, the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn. The palace houses the treasures of the Sultans including the extravagant Treasury with its magnificent jewels, and the priceless Chinese porcelain, one of the best collections in the world, weapons, calligraphy section, and more. Then on to Sultan Tombs, located behind St. Sophia Museum. In the afternoon, St. Sophia (Closed on Mondays during winter months. If still closed on the tour date, it will be replaced with the Underground Cistern – only on the PRIVATE tours), one of the great architectural marvels of the ancient world, constructed as a basilica in 536 AD by Emperor Justinian, turned into a mosque

## ISTANBUL 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS (CONTINUED)

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### Day #3 Historical Istanbul Continued

in 1453 and now into a museum, takes the breath away with the sheer size of its interior and its magnificent dome. Continue to Blue Mosque (Closed on Friday mornings and the last minute occasions beyond our control and therefore no responsibility is assumed), famous for its mosaics with some 20.000 blue Iznik tiles and its six minarets, built in the name of Sultan Ahmet in the 17th century, one of the best examples of classical Turkish art. Cross through the Hippodrome, the scene of Byzantine chariot races, athletic events, victory celebrations and political activities of the old city where one can also see the "Obelisk of Egypt", "Serpent Column" from Delphi, the "German Fountain of Wilhelm II" and the "Colossus". Thereafter proceed to Grand Covered Bazaar (Closed on Sundays), which is the biggest "souk" in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry, gold, carpets, ceramics and leatherwear.

\*Depending on the traffic conditions, public transportation including taxi, subway, tram or funicular can also be taken whilst touring

**Day #4** Transfer to Istanbul APT (IST) for the international flight. Only with a driver.







