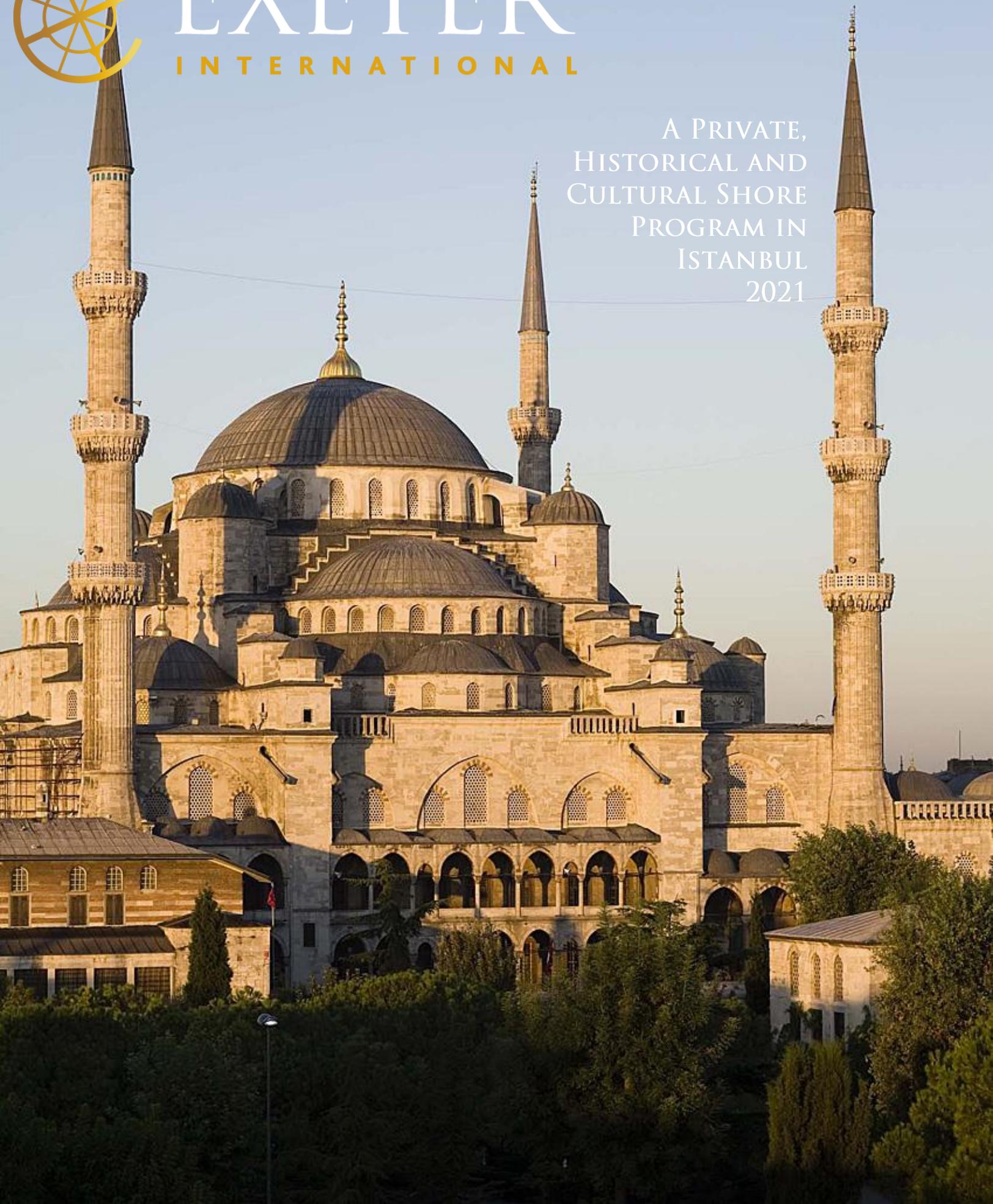




EXETER

INTERNATIONAL

A PRIVATE,
HISTORICAL AND
CULTURAL SHORE
PROGRAM IN
ISTANBUL
2021





WHY EXETER INTERNATIONAL?

Our Experience

At Exeter International we have been creating memories and crafting custom-designed journeys for 27 years. We are a team of specialists committed to providing the best travel experiences in our destinations. Each of our experts has either travelled extensively on reconnaissance trips, or has lived in their area of expertise, giving us unparalleled first-hand knowledge. Because we focus on specific parts of the globe, we return to the same destinations many times, honing our experience over the years.

Knowledgeable Up-to-the-Minute Local Information

We are best placed to give you advice about traveling to Europe and beyond; from logistics and new protocols in museums, hotels and restaurants in each country. We are here to expertly guide you through the new normal in travel.

Original Custom Programs, Meticulously Planned

Our experts speak your language both literally and culturally. Our advice and recommendations are impartial, honest, and always have the individual in mind. We save valuable time in pre-trip research and focus on developing experiences that enrich and enhance your experience. Once on your journey you will have complete peace of mind with our local 24-hour contact person who is on hand to coordinate any changes in your program or help you in the case of any emergency.

Hand-Selected Guides

We know that guides are one of the most important components of any travel experience. That is why we only use local experts who have a history of working with our guests and whom we know personally. We are extremely particular in selecting our guides and are confident that they will be one of the most memorable aspects of any of our trips.

Flexible Deposit

We prepay deposits for services so we can access the top guides, the best drivers and maintain preferred partnerships with our partner hotels. Our deposit to confirm services is **25%** of the total trip cost. We want you to feel confident to book but also know that we are sensitive to current circumstances. Therefore, **15%** of this deposit is refundable up to **31 days** prior to departure if you are unable to travel for any reason. **10%** of the deposit will be retained as a future travel credit for up to 3 years. Future travel will be priced at prevailing rates. If it is determined that you are unable to travel within 31 days of the start of services, all deposits paid will be converted to a future travel credit, less nonrefundable funds committed on your behalf and tickets such as train or theater tickets. This credit may also be applied to our sister travel companies: [Almaz Journeys](#) and [Exeter Safari Company](#).

Financial Stability

We are proud to be recognized by Allianz Insurance on their list of covered [travel suppliers](#) to give you additional peace of mind.



DAY 1

ISTANBUL

After disembarkation in the morning, you will be met at the port by your private guide and driver. Drive to the Sultanahmet neighborhood. Visit the Roman Hippodrome, which was the scene of chariot races and the great public occasions throughout the immensely long history of Byzantine Empire.

You will next step into the extraordinary Hagia Sophia Church. Built in the 6th Century by the Emperor Justinian, this church stands as a testament to the sophistication of the former Byzantine capital and influenced architecture in the medieval world for centuries. Its original design was supposedly created as a mirror image of the heavens. Converted into a mosque by the Ottomans in the 15th Century under the Sultan Mehmet II, this vast edifice now includes minarets and Turkish Rococo fountains.

You will continue your exploration of Istanbul with a visit to the Blue Mosque, one of the most important temples of worship in the world. It is named for the blue Iznik tile work that decorates its interior and its dome can be seen from all over the Sultanahmet district.

You will be given the opportunity to experience the best examples of the Ottoman cuisine, during lunch.

Lunch will be followed by a visit to the extraordinary Imperial residence of 25 Ottoman Sultans - the Topkapi Palace, lavish home to the Ottoman Sultans. For centuries this was the place from which the Sultans ruled over an empire that stretched from Eastern Europe to Atlantic Ocean. It contains a priceless collection of jewelry, porcelain and costumes. Legend claims that the ancient rod on display in the Treasury, is the one used by Moses to part the Red Sea. Other artifacts of similar fame include John the Baptist's gilded arm and Mohammad's beard, fingernails and foot imprint.

Lastly, visit the Grand Bazaar. The Bazaar's first phase of construction began in 1455 under Mehmet the Conqueror, but it was added to many times over the centuries. The end result is an enormous labyrinth of covered streets lined with thousands of shops selling, for example, hand-woven carpets and kilims, gold and silver jewelry, hand-painted ceramics, leather goods, fine antiques and illuminated manuscripts

Afterwards, you will be transferred to back to your awaiting ship.

EXETER SERVICES

Vehicle, Driver & Guide (8 Hours)



WHAT IS INCLUDED

Cost of the Program:

Number of Travelers	Per Person Price
2	\$400
4	\$250
6	\$225
8	\$200
10	\$175

- All prices are per person.
- Prices for larger groups available upon request.
- Spanish or Portuguese-speaking guides are possible at a slightly higher rate.
- Prices are subject to change based on customization for each traveler and on port dates.

Meals

No meals included.

Services

Private vehicle, driver and guide at your service as described. The timing for each day is noted in your program.

Exeter International's local offices are available for your assistance 24 hours per day while you are traveling. Our local staff may also assist you with restaurant reservations and purchasing of additional theater and museum tickets at your request.

Transportation

Transportation is included as noted. Unless otherwise noted, all transfer service is with a driver only, not a guide. In general, drivers have limited English-speaking skills. Timing for each day is noted in your program.

Guides

Hand chosen for their knowledge on local history, art & architecture. Guides are at your disposal as noted in your itinerary.

Tickets

All entrance tickets as described in the program.

Exeter International Travel Information

Shore Tour Documents

Shore tour documents are electronic and are emailed approximately two weeks prior to travel. These include all the emergency contact details you will need. You have your choice of receiving these via PDF or via the AXUS app.

SIGHTSEEING

Sightseeing arrangements have been made with your special interests in mind. Your drivers and guides are at your disposal as indicated in the itinerary. Within those time and mileage guidelines, you are free to modify your program as you please. Should you require additional time or mileage, the costs will be quoted on request and may be paid for locally in the local currency or U.S. Dollars.

Every effort has been made to confirm that scheduled sightseeing venues will be open at the time you plan to visit them. However, individual estates, museums, gardens and other points of interest can change their hours of operation at short notice. In the event that a particular attraction is closed on the day or time of your visit, your guide will offer alternative arrangements or rearrange your sightseeing to accommodate these unexpected events.

OPTIONAL EXPENSES

Charges for extra meals, transport, sightseeing services or other optional additions to your established itinerary are your responsibility and must be paid locally in the local currency.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities are not included in your tour price and are at your own discretion. Please see your final documents for tipping suggestions.

DINING WITH YOUR GUIDE

On days when dinner and lunch costs have not been included in your itinerary (or in your tour cost), you may, at your discretion, choose to invite your guide to dine with your party. You are under no obligation to do so but, if you do extend such an invitation, the guide is your guest and you will be responsible for the cost of his/her meal.

REFUNDS

We regret that refunds cannot be issued for arrangements confirmed on your itinerary but unused once your tour has begun.

INSURANCE

Exeter International strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance to protect your investment. You will find insurance costs noted on your invoice and insurance coverage information in your original booking packet.

PRICES AND ARRANGEMENTS

The tour price includes planning, handling and operational charges. Rates are quoted in US Dollars on the current rate of exchange and tariff as of 2020. Exeter International reserves the right to increase tour prices to cover

increased costs, tariffs and taxes, and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Devaluation of a foreign currency will be weighed against any tariff increases imposed. Exeter International does not breakdown costs involved in any Small Group or Individual Travel Program.

*All arrangements are subject to availability and modification if necessary.
Prices are subject to change if necessary until paid in full.*

Exeter International

www.Exeterinternational.com

111 South Dakota Avenue | Tampa, Florida 33606
Phone: (813) 251-5355 | (800) 633-1008 | Fax: (813) 251-6685