## welcome to istanbul



## GALA DINNER DURING BOSPHORUS CRUISE TOUR 24 SEPTEMBER 2019 – 7:30 PM



An enchanted evening cruise starts while you sip your welcome drink and enjoy the marvelous scenery as the sun sets on the Bosphorus. Chance to view and photograph the precious relics of three world dominating Empires: Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman.

The royal Dolmabahçe Palace, the late residence of the Ottoman Sultans; Bosphorus and Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridges connecting the two continents Asia and Europe;

Rumeli Fortress, the historical armament built by the Conqueror Sultan, marble palaces, ancient wooden villas of Ottoman style besides modern residentials.

## HISTORICAL PENINSULA CULTURAL TOUR

## 26 SEPTEMBER 2019 - 1:30 PM



Tour of "Sultan Ahmet Center", the heart of the "Old City" from where the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires were ruled.

<u>Hippodrome</u>, center of sportive events (chariot races, athletics) and political activities of the old city. Serpentine Column, Obelisk of Theodosius and German Fountain of Wilhelm II are the monuments decorating the Hippodrome.

Topkapi Palace, residence of Ottoman Sultans exhibiting imperial treasury, sacred Islamic relics of Prophet Mohammed, kitchen, Chinese porcelain,

weapons, calligraphy section etc. Live guide commentary is not allowed in special sections. (Harem is not included in the program)

<u>Sultan Tombs</u>, there are five tombs of Ottoman Sultans within the graveyard at Hagia Sophia. The ceramic panels are the most beautiful examples of the 16th century with purple, red, green and blue flower motives. Prince robes and a small piece from the Kaaba covers are displayed on the sarcophaguses.

Hagia Sophia, Fifteen hundred years old Hagia Sophia Museum is a must see in Istanbul and here is a one time tour for you so that you don't have to wait in the line for 1500 years more! First a Greek Orthodox Patriarchal Basilica, later an imperial mosque and now a museum; Hagia Sophia has always been a source of inspiration. With its dome, minarets, lustration urns, narthex and portals, upper gallery, marble door, wishing column and the Lodge of Empress.



<u>Blue Mosque.</u> facing Hagia Sophia, famous with its blue İznik tiles and unique with 6 minarets, built in the name of Sultan Ahmet..

<u>Süleymaniye Mosque</u> is the second largest imperial mosque complex in the city, built during the reign of Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent. It is considered to be one of the masterpieces of Ottoman architect Sinan.

During the Ottoman era, the imperial mosques were built as "külliye", mosque complex, and functioned as a foundation for the district, to serve both religious and cultural needs. During the visit, shoes will be taken off. It is recommended to have a pair of socks for hygienic concerns.

Historical peninsula tour will be unforgettable for you...