

Affinity Study Tour Schedule & Information Kit



6th Annual Intercultural Study Tour

7– 19 October 2011



**An Initiative of the
Affinity Intercultural Foundation**



**In cooperation with Feza Foundation
in NSW & PASIAD (Asia-Pacific Countries
Social and Economic Solidarity Forum) in
Turkey**

Travel Arrangements

1. Date and Venue

The "Affinity Intercultural Foundation's Intercultural Study Tour to Turkey" will take place **from 7th to 19th of October, 2011.**

Draft PROGRAM (Subject to Change)

7 Oct Sydney / Kayseri

Departure from Sydney en route to Kayseri, Turkey via Istanbul

8 Oct Kayseri

Hotel Check-in

Breakfast

Rest until lunch

Çifte Medrese, the first Seljuk school of anatomy, now known as *Gevher Nesibe* Medical History Museum

Visit to the 13th century *Huant Hatun* Mosque which comprises the first Seljuk complex

Dinner

Overnight in Kayseri

9 Oct Kayseri / Cappadocia (Nevsehir)

Hotel breakfast

Bus travel to Nevsehir

Hotel check-in

Lunch

Bus tour of Nevsehir and surrounds

Dinner at Lara College

Overnight in Nevsehir

10 Oct Cappadocia / Niğde

Breakfast

Avanos

Göreme Open Air Museum

Uçhisar

Underground cities

Dinner in Niğde

Overnight in Niğde

11 Oct Niğde / Antep (Edessa)

Hotel breakfast

Bus travel to Antep

Lunch in Antep

Antep City Tour

Dinner

Overnight in Antep

12 Oct Antep / Urfa

Hotel Breakfast

Bus Travel to Urfa, birthplace of Prophet Abraham

Arrival in Urfa and hotel check-in

Rest

Lunch

Visit to Atatürk Dam

Visit Harran, the location of the first university

Witness the 'Sira Gecesi' of Urfa, a traditional night program including dinner, music, singing, conversation, poetry and friendship.

Overnight in Urfa



13 Oct Urfa / Mardin

Breakfast

Visit the Pool of Sacred Fish (*Balıkligöi*)

Visit the Urfa's old city and houses

Visit the station of Prophet Job

King Nimrod's Catapult

Visit Abraham's Cave (birthplace of Abraham)

Lunch

Travel to Mardin

Check in to Hotel

Sightseeing in Mardin

Dinner

Overnight in Mardin

14 Oct Mardin / Diyarbakir

Breakfast

Visit Ulu (Grand) Mosque

Visit Deyrulzafaran Monestry

Visit Mor Mikhail Church

Visit Mardin Kale

Lunch

Travel to Diyarbakir

Dinner

Overnight in Diyarbakir

15 Oct Diyarbakir / Istanbul

Hotel breakfast

Sightseeing in Diyarbakir

Lunch

Travel to Istanbul by flight

Dinner

Overnight in Istanbul

16 Oct Istanbul

Hotel Breakfast

Sultan Ahmet, the heart of the 'old city' – centre of Byzantine and Ottoman Empires

Blue Mosque, Haghia Sophia

Hippodrome, Obelisk of Theodosius, Serpentine Column, German Fountain of Wilhelm II

Sixth-century Byzantine cistern

Dinner at PASIAD – Asia-Pacific Social & Economic Solidarity Foundation

Overnight in Istanbul

17 Oct Istanbul

Breakfast in villa at Scenic Camlica Hill

Samanyolu Television station (STV)

Topkapi Palace

Dinner at Coskun College

Overnight in Istanbul

18 Oct Istanbul

Hotel breakfast

Grand Covered Bazaar

Lunch

Spice Bazaar

Dinner

Overnight in Istanbul

19 Oct Istanbul

Hotel breakfast

Yacht tour of the Bosphorus and lunch on the yacht

Uskudar Kizkulesi

Visit Zaman Newspaper

Dinner at Private Fatih College

Departure from Istanbul en route to Sydney, Australia

The Affinity Intercultural Foundation wishes you an enjoyable and enriching Intercultural Study Tour of Turkey.

Kayseri 68 km	Cappadocia	Cappadocia 73 km	Nigde	Nigde 411 km	Antep
Antep 137 km	Sanliurfa	Sanliurfa 188 km	Mardin	Mardin 95 km	Diyarbakir
Diyarbakir 850 km	Istanbul				



Key

Plane: 

Bus: 



Travel Arrangements and Payments

A. The purpose of the study tour

The study tour has been designed and planned to strengthen existing relations with tour participants and build bridges between communities, organisation, and cultures. We may clearly state that this trip is not designed for a tourism purpose and that our organisation is not a travel agent striving for financial gain. We have assumed many risks and responsibilities to make this study tour a success with you as tour delegates and also Turkey's participating cities, community and business people and NGO's.

Therefore, we kindly ask you to participate to the scheduled program to meet and interact with different sections of the visiting and/or hosting individuals, business people, cultural-religious representatives, charitable school works and some officials in the designated cities.

2. Booking and Payments

The PASIAD-Asia-Pacific Social & Economic Solidarity Foundation- will subsidise part of the travel, accommodation, and hospitality expenses during this trip including the return Airfare between Australia and Turkey. This will be organised as a group booking for practical and economic reasons through Travel Agent **TBA**. It is expected that this journey will cost around \$3,990 per person, traveling economy class and accommodation in three and/or four stars hotels with twin share rooms.

Please when you fill the registration form and confirm your participation to the trip you will need to make your full payment and we must receive full booking payments of AUS\$3,990 no later than 31st of March 2011. If you need to cancel your booking after you made payment, 10% will be deducted from your full payment to cover the costs.

Proposed flight to Turkey may be arranged with Turkish Airlines or any other international airlines on economy class (Qantas has no direct flight to Turkey and they fly in conjunction with Turkish Airlines via Singapore) However, our Delegates/Guests who would like to upgrade their flight ticket to Business class he/she would have to pay extra AUS\$4,100 per person.

Travel Agent:

TBA

3. Accommodation

Accommodation arrangements for our Guests/Delegates will be pre-booked at the destination/schedule of the entire trip. **The Guests will accommodate per person with twin share rooms in three and/or four star hotels. (If you have alternative accommodation need, please let us know and it may introduce additional charge)**



4. Registration and payment

For smooth arrangement and for your own convenience, all Delegates/ Guests are advised to register early by completing the attached "Registration Form". On completion, please forward to:

2011 Intercultural Study Tour to Turkey
Affinity Intercultural Foundation
PO Box 496
Auburn NSW 1835
or alternatively;
Email: info@affinity.org.au
Phone: 02-9702 0789

Please note, your booking payment will be payable to:

Affinity Intercultural Foundation you will receive an invoice/statement and an acknowledgement letter from Affinity.

5. Bio-data - Curriculum Vitae

Please include a paragraph of Bio-data or your Curriculum Vitae with your Registration Form.

6. Extended stay, extra visiting places and attend other events

This study tour trip is a group study program and we strongly advise that prior permission or arrangement made alternative visit, meeting, attending other gathering, function will not be accepted. When the scheduled program is over then our Delegates/Guests would be able to extend their stay, visit, and other arrangement with extra costs. In the registration form you could tick your extra place to visit, meeting or sightseeing will be able to be arranged. During the travel program, organizers reserve the right to refuse or delay the additional program, visit or meeting requests.

7. VISAS to Turkey

The travelers will require a valid entry visa to Türkiye. Co-diplomats and Official Passport holders need to contact the local Turkish Consulate in Sydney and obtain an entry visa at least three weeks prior to travel to allow processing of your Visa application.

Turkish Consulate General of Sydney telephone No: 02 9328 1155.

All passports must be valid for at least 6 months in order for a Visa to be issued.

8. Language

Türkiye's language is Turkish. Some people may be able to speak English however, during the trip delegate assistances and guides are available for translating and interpreting in Türkiye.

9. Traveling Guest ID card

Shortly upon registration form with full payment received, delegates/guests will be issued a Guest ID card. Trip participants are requested to display their ID pass at all times. Lost or damaged ID card should be reported immediately to the head of delegate and will be replaced it.

10. Dress Code

Attire for most traveling time will be informal and only official meetings, gatherings and visits will be neat, semi-formal unless otherwise specified.

11. Medical Assistance

Delegates/Guests should inform the trip organizers of any specific medical requirements or health conditions. In case of medical attention or emergency, we strongly advise that our Guests have a traveler's insurance policy. Türkiye's medical system is semi-commercial.

12. General Information

13.1 Health Regulations

No specific health certificates or immunizations are required. However, you may check and get some advice about your trip from your family doctor.

13.2 Climate

The weather in Türkiye in September is end of the summer and variable, averaging between 17° -27° Celsius. Some part of the country may wet season.

13.3 Electricity

The power supply in Türkiye is 220/240 Volt, 50/60 hertz. Two-hole round sockets are in use –Europe style.

13.4 Currency

Most internationally recognized currencies and travelers' checks can be exchanged easily at commercial banks and hotels. **Recommended currencies are EUR and USD- major credit cards are accepted in hotels, restaurants, and major shops.**

The Turkish currency is YTL and exchange rate is approximately:

1.00 EUR = **1.97651 TRY**
Euro Turkish Lira

1.00 AUD = **1.40622 TRY**
Australia Dollars Turkish New Lira

1.00 USD = **1.45414 TRY**
United States Dollars Turkish New Lira

13.5 Shopping

Shops in Türkiye are generally open from 9:00am to 6:00pm Monday to Thursday, 9:00am to 9:00pm on Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday, and closed on Sunday. Some stores operate with extended trading hours. Shopping information can be obtained form the hotel concierge.

13 Standard Time

Standard time in Türkiye in October is **GMT - 8 hours.**

13.7 For further Information about Türkiye

If you need further information about Türkiye, please visit:

http://www.kulturturizm.gov.tr/portal/turkiye_tr.asp?belgeno=45847

http://www.adiyamanli.org/Türkiye_arke.html