

The Senior Newspaper and Travelrite International invites you to join us on the 2026

THE BEST OF TURKEY

AND QUEEN VICTORIA CRUISE
ISTANBUL VIA THE GREEK ISLANDS TO ROME

16 September to 7 October 2026



Istanbul, Gallipoli, Ephesus,
Pamukkale, Konya, Cappadocia, Ankara,
7-night Queen Victoria cruise:
Istanbul, Dardanelles, Athens,
Santorini, Olympia, Messina, Rome



INCLUDES



Flights, accommodation, 7-night cruise, sightseeing tours, most meals, private transport, a Travelrite tour leader and a local guide

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Eight-day Queen Victoria cruise from Istanbul to Rome via the Mediterranean
- The ancient cities of Ephesus, Athens, Olympia and Hierapolis
- The honeycombed hills and the fantastical topography of Cappadocia
- Istanbul's Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque, Grand Bazaar and Aya Sofya
- Tour Gallipoli's battlefields to learn about bloody battles fought here in 1915
- Tour the Eternal City of Rome to see the Colosseum and Vatican City

DAY 1 Wednesday 16 September 2026

Departure

Today we depart Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth on our overnight flight to Istanbul.

DAY 2 Thursday 17 September 2026

Istanbul

Arrive in Istanbul and settle into your hotel. Enjoy some rest and free time before a welcome dinner. Istanbul 'not' Constantinople is a magical meeting place straddling two continents – a metropolis of 16 million people that the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans have all called home. It has more wonderful attractions than it has minarets (and that's a lot!). *Overnight: Hotel Amira, Istanbul (D)*

DAY 3 Friday 18 September 2026

Istanbul

This morning, you'll explore the Old City of Istanbul around Sultanahmet with a visit to the colourful and chaotic Grand Bazaar - one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world. Your local guide will introduce you to some of the city's historic treasures, including the Hippodrome, the dazzling Blue Mosque, and Aya Sofya, one of the Byzantine Empire's surviving architectural marvels. Enjoy a free evening in the old town where you can try some of the delicious Turkish dishes such as Şiş Kebap, Köfte, Pide, Lahmacun or Dolma. *Overnight: Hotel Amira, Istanbul (B,L)*



DAY 4 Saturday 19 September 2026

Çanakkale

This morning, you'll cross The Dardanelles, also known as the Strait of Gallipoli and travel to Çanakkale, a place of enormous importance to Australians. Enjoy lunch together, and tour the Gallipoli World War I site to learn about the significant events and history embedded in this area. With your local guide, you will visit the beach and cemeteries of ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair memorials, the Atatürk Memorial and the ANZAC Commemorative Site. You'll also see the remnants of trenches used by the Turkish soldiers before returning to your hotel. *Overnight: Set Ozer Hotel, Çanakkale (B,L)*

DAY 5 Sunday 20 September 2026

Troy, Ayvalık, Selçuk

After breakfast, you'll stop at the archaeological site of Troy to wander the ancient city walls and see the famous replica Trojan Horse. Pause at Ayvalık for a memorable seafood lunch by the Mediterranean Sea and explore the village to see colourful blue and white Greek buildings, restored stone houses, and historic cafes in hidden squares. Travel south to the town of Selçuk, your base for exploring the ruins of Ephesus. The town itself is culturally rich and retains many Turkish traditions, and after check in, you'll head to the town square for dinner together. *Overnight: Akanthus Hotel Ephesus, Selçuk (B,L,D)*

DAY 6 Monday 21 September 2026

Selçuk, Ephesus

This morning, you'll visit the beautifully preserved classical city of Ephesus to see grand monuments, temples, theatres, and streets of the Roman

Imperial period. See the Library of Celsus, the Great Theatre, and the famous Temple of Artemis and stop for lunch at a family-run restaurant to try the savoury filled Turkish pancake called Gözleme. Afterwards, travel via fruit orchards to the charming village of Şirince to visit a wine house to sample locally produced peach, quince, kiwi and pear fruit wines and return to Selçuk. *Overnight: Akanthus Hotel Ephesus, Selçuk (B,L)*

DAY 7 Tuesday 22 September 2026

Pamukkale

After breakfast, you'll drive east to the village of Pamukkale, enjoy lunch and check into your hotel. The area is famous for gleaming white calcite terraces overrunning with warm, mineral-rich waters on the mountain above the village. Known as the 'Cotton Castle', you'll get to wade through the pools, take photos of the glimmering water, which are said to have many healing properties. Afterwards, you'll tour the ruins of Hierapolis to see its temples and religious structures. *Overnight: Venus Suite Hotel, Pamukkale (B,L)*



DAY 8 Wednesday 23 September 2026

Konya

This morning, travel to the city of Konya, where the mystic Sufi practice of 'whirling' originates. The city of 2.5 million people is an economic powerhouse that is religiously inspired and is as conservative as they come. Enjoy lunch, check into your hotel and take part in orientation walk to see Aladdin Hill and Alaattin Mosque. Afterwards, tour the Mevlana Museum, where you'll get an insight into the history of the Whirling Dervishes and that their leaders believed that music and dance could induce a state of love and divine union. Enjoy dinner together. *Overnight: Hilton Garden Inn, Konya (B,L,D)*





DAY 9 Thursday 24 September 2026 **Göreme in Cappadocia**

This morning, you'll drive to Cappadocia, a dramatic honeycombed terrain landscape, shaped by millions of years of erosion which have formed fairy chimneys, castles, valleys, towers, and caves. Rock-cut Christian churches, dwellings and underground tunnel complexes from the Islamic and Byzantine eras dot the region, and after lunch you'll head out to explore this unique part of the world. Visit the Göreme Open Air Museum, a monastic cluster of carved houses, churches and monasteries and enjoy fine Turkish cuisine in an underground cave restaurant. *Overnight: Sultan Cave Suites, Göreme (B,L,D)*

DAY 10 Friday 25 September 2026 **Göreme in Cappadocia**

At sunrise this morning, you may wish, as an optional activity to see Cappadocia's volcanic moon-like landscapes from above – on a hot air balloon ride! Later, you'll continue your tour visiting Love Valley, Uçhisar Castle's historic cave home, Pigeon Valley and the Pasabag mushroom-shaped fairy chimneys. Enjoy a free afternoon to continue your exploration of the region, or simply unwind in a local café – or even shop for Turkish carpets and rugs, ceramics, jewellery and gemstones in the inviting town centre. *Overnight: Sultan Cave Suites, Göreme (B,L)*

DAY 11 Saturday 26 September 2026 **Göreme in Cappadocia**

This morning, you'll tour the Derinkuyu Underground City – one of the largest underground cities in the world to learn about that in times of war or persecution, locals took to living underground. The city was built more than 2,100 years ago and contained fresh water storage rooms, livestock, stables, chapels, wineries and oil presses. Later, wander Avanos to learn about the local pottery industry, explore the old Greek Orthodox village of Mustafapaşa and finish by trying fine food and wine in the trendy Ürgüp. *Overnight: Sultan Cave Suites, Göreme (B,L,D)*

DAY 12 Sunday 27 September 2026 **Fly to Istanbul**

This morning, you'll drive to Kayseri airport for your short flight back to Istanbul. Upon arrival, check into your hotel and enjoy free time at lunch. Travel to Taksim Square and ride on the iconic Taksim Tram through the bustling centre and walk along the main shopping precinct – İstiklal Street. Later, discover Istanbul during an evening dinner cruise on the Bosphorus and enjoy a fairytale night of Turkish culture, fun and laughter. *Overnight: Hotel Amira, Istanbul (B,D)*

DAY 13 Monday 28 September 2026 **Embarkation – Istanbul**

After breakfast, you'll tour Topkapi Palace with its opulent pavilions, jewel-filled Treasury and sprawling Harem and enjoy a seafood lunch on the waterfront. Later, enjoy free time to explore the colourful suburb of Sultanahmet with its high concentration of historic sights, shops, eateries and heritage buildings. You can even take a Turkish bath at a local hammam if you wish! In the late afternoon, travel to Galataport to board the Queen Victoria. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,D)*

DAY 14 Tuesday 29 September 2026 **Dardanelles**

Today, you will sail along the Dardanelles Strait past banks adorned with grand castles, watching the passing scenery from the comfortable and spacious decks of the Queen Victoria. Strategically positioned, the Dardanelles Strait has a long maritime and war history and is widely considered one of the world's most important waterways, certainly making for an iconic voyage. As you admire the pretty landscape from the decks of your ship, be reminded of this region's remarkable, yet tragic past. Enjoy all meals on board the ship today. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,L,D)*

DAY 15 Wednesday 30 September 2026 **Piraeus – Athens**

We arrive into Piraeus, the port of Athens this morning. The historic capital city of Greece is considered to be the birthplace of Western civilization and many of Classical civilization's intellectual and artistic ideas originated from there. You'll soon learn that the Greeks believe the world has a lot to thank Greece for! On arrival, tour the Acropolis, the Parthenon and Syntagma Square. During your free time, why not try some moussaka or sip on a frappé in the colourful Plaka Old Town. Return to the ship by the late afternoon. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,D)*



DAY 16 Thursday 1 October 2026 **Santorini**

Arrive in Santorini in the early morning to explore one of the most famous islands in the world. As you sail into port, see the whitewashed houses that cling to the cliffs above, pristine blue roofs, and multicoloured pebble streets that make up Santorini's idyllic landscape. Enjoy free time to explore this spectacular island. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,D)*

DAY 17 Friday 2 October 2026 **Olympia**

Awake to striking sunshine and arrive at the port of Katakolon and hop aboard a coach with your local guide to discover the ancient city of Olympia. With its extensive and well-preserved ruins that include a stadium and temples dedicated to the gods Hera and Zeus, this site is where the Olympic Games



took place every four years for over 1100 years and is one of Greece's most evocative ancient ruins. Return to the ship by the late afternoon. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,D)*

DAY 18 Saturday 3 October 2026 **Messina**

Enjoy free time on board the ship before cruising through the Strait of Messina in the early afternoon. Greek legends, migrating wildlife, and the occasional mirage make a journey through the Strait of Messina a uniquely fascinating voyage. You'll see spectacular coastal scenery, including the mountain ranges of Monte Dinnammare and Peloritani from the deck of your ship. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,L,D)*

DAY 19 Sunday 4 October 2026 **At Sea**

A free day at sea. You can devote an indulgent hour to a Queen Victoria Cruise tradition, their signature Afternoon Tea, and when evening falls, dress in your finest outfit for a spectacular evening of fine food and wine, fabulous live music and celebration. *Overnight: Queen Victoria (B,L,D)*

DAY 20 Monday 5 October 2026 **Queen Victoria Cruise – Rome**

We arrive in Civitavecchia port this morning and transfer the 1 hour to the Eternal City of Rome and check into our hotel. Enjoy a pasta and pizza lunch together and take in some of the best-known sights of Roma like the Spanish Steps, the Colosseum, the Roman Forum and the Trevi Fountain. Moving on, visit Vatican City and enjoy a farewell dinner together. *Overnight: Leon's Place Hotel, Rome (B,L,D)*

DAY 21 Tuesday 6 October 2026 **Rome – Departure**

Our tour concludes after breakfast this morning. Transfer to the airport for your flight home to Australia. (B)

DAY 22 Wednesday 7 October 2026 **Arrive in Australia**

Land in Australia.

QUEEN VICTORIA

The Queen Victoria is sleek and contemporary with the most advanced technological features and luxurious appointments. The Queen Victoria continues the heritage of cruising of the 1930s and the great Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth 2 and Queen Mary 2. The great traditions of fine service, food and entertainment continue better than ever. Enjoy the facilities of the gourmet restaurants, swimming pools, the casino, theatres, the cinema, computer and internet access, the Health and Spa Club, seven bars, or simply relax! Take part in the multitude of daily activities that include numerous lectures on an array of topics, the regular musical performances, ship sports and much more. A voyage on Queen Victoria is an experience to be savoured and remembered!



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INCLUSIONS:

Luxury Cruise

- 8 nights' accommodation on Queen Victoria in the selected cabin category
- Taxes and service charges included
- Cruise Gratuities

Accommodation

- 12 nights' accommodation in well-located first-class hotels with private facilities, on a twin-share basis
- Hotel taxes and service charges included

Sightseeing Tours and Group Activities

- Entry to all sightseeing attractions mentioned in the itinerary, except for those marked 'optional' plus locally guided tours
- 19 breakfasts, 13 lunches, and 14 dinners
- Arrival and departure transfers in Istanbul and Rome
- A local tour guide throughout
- Tour management by Travelrite

Flights

- Economy class flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth to Istanbul and return from Rome
- Air taxes as of 1 May 2025

Prices per person in Australian Dollars

Cabin / Description	Deck	Twin-share	Single
IE Inside	4,5,6,7	\$ 13,490	\$ 16,690
ID Inside	5,6,7	\$ 13,690	\$ 16,890
EC Outside	1	\$ 13,890	\$ 17,290
EB Outside	1	\$ 13,990	\$ 17,390
BE Balcony	4,5,6,7,8	\$ 14,290	\$ 17,890
BD Balcony	5,6,7	\$ 14,390	\$ 17,990
BB Balcony	5,6,7,8	\$ 14,590	\$ 18,390
P1 Princess Grill Suite	7,8	\$ 16,490	\$ 22,790
Q4 Queens Grill Suite	7	\$ 17,490	\$ 24,690
Included port & handling charges		\$ 245	\$ 429
Included air taxes		\$ 290	\$ 290
Included cruise gratuities		\$ 165	\$ 165

Not included in the cruise price:

- Insurance. Travel insurance is strongly recommended
- All items of personal nature, such as drinks, room service, laundry and phone calls
- Meals and drinks, unless specified in itinerary. Breakfasts, lunches, dinners, that are 'included' are marked B, L, D in the itinerary

General information and booking conditions

It is important that all tour participants have a basic level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.

TOUR OPERATOR: Travelrite International Pty Ltd. A.C.N. 005 817 0781 (Travelrite International) is the tour operator.

TOUR COSTS: The tours costs are based on transport, accommodation costs and entrance costs at 25 June 2025. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to costings will be made within 90 days of departure.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS: A non-refundable deposit of \$1,200 per passenger is required at the time of booking. Full payment will be required 90 days before departure. A 1.5% administration charge will be added to payment by Visa, Mastercard and America Express.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations within 90 days prior to departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Cancellations outside of 90 days prior to departure will result in the loss of the deposit paid per person. Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

CHANGES TO THE TOUR ITINERARY: Travelrite International reserves the right to make changes to the tour itinerary to fit in with operational requirements. Any changes to the itinerary will be replaced with similar arrangements with an equal or greater value.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS: The tour has been costed on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 90 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost if the minimum number is not achieved.

REFUNDS: The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

BAGGAGE: All passengers qualify for 1 piece free baggage allowance.

RESPONSIBILITY: Travelrite International Pty Ltd. is the tour organiser. Travelrite International acts only as agents in making of arrangements with carriers, hoteliers and others for the tour. As a result, we cannot accept liability for any act or omission whatsoever, whether negligent or otherwise of those carriers, hoteliers or other persons providing services in connection with the tour over whom we have no direct or exclusive control. We do not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or any other events which are beyond our direct control, such as, but not limited to, war, flood, fire, civil disturbance, acts of God, acts of government, or any other authorities, terrorism, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment, or industrial action. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours and the passengers. Baggage is at own risk throughout the tour. The contract shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria and any legal action must be undertaken in the State of Victoria.

DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS: You engage Travelrite International to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite International acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite International may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite International reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly



or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite International your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite International any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite International in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite International advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

HOW TO BOOK: Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a non-refundable deposit of \$1,200 per person to:

Travelrite International Pty Ltd
423 Whitehorse Road
Balwyn, Victoria 3103

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

Toll free: 1800 630 343

Phone: (03) 8803 6868

Email: sales@travelrite.com.au

www.travelrite.com.au

ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL: Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 40 years. It has a fully ATAS accredited (No. A10538) office at Balwyn. As such it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Travel Industry Association – ATIA.