



# ANZAC SPECIAL TOUR

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS - 20 APRIL TO 27 APRIL 2007 - ESCORTED GROUP TOUR

*Tried and tested, this tour is a perfect balance of free time, comprehensive sightseeing and extra inclusions. You'll take in all the great sites of Istanbul as well as spending a total of 4 nights – perfectly located in Canakkale - the heart of the Gallipoli region. Add to that our expert guides plus our War Historians – it's certainly a 'Special' tour!*

## DAY 1 - 20 APRIL ISTANBUL

Welcome to Istanbul, an exotic city brimming with fine monuments and artefacts of the Byzantine and Ottoman era. Those arriving into Istanbul airport today will be met and transferred to your hotel. Spend the morning exploring the many strange and beautiful attractions of one of the truly magnificent cities of the world, the only city on earth that embraces two continents - both Europe and Asia. You may wish to visit the Egyptian Bazaar, a historical world-famous shopping centre from the 17th century selling different kind of spices and healing herbs. Early this afternoon we have included a cruise on the Bosphorus, the winding strait that separates Europe and Asia. Its shores offer a delightful mixture of past and present, grand splendour and simple beauty. Modern hotels stand next to shore front wooden villas, marble palaces about rustic stone fortresses, and elegant compounds neighbour small fishing villages. This evening get acquainted with your tour companions and tour guide over a welcome drink. *Your Istanbul Hotel: Akgun Hotel.*

## DAY 2 - 21 APRIL ISTANBUL

Like a lost and forgotten kingdom, Istanbul is waiting to be discovered again. A day of sightseeing is planned today including a visit to the Blue Mosque, one of the world's great religious sites, and one of the most splendid and greatest mosques in Istanbul; the Byzantine Hippodrome, known as the Sultanahmet Square and the nearby Yerabatan Cisterns, built in the fourth century, these underground cisterns riddle the foundations of the city. They have been extensively excavated and renovated and are worth exploring. The piped classical music heightens this unique experience. Your tour of Istanbul would not be complete without a visit to Topkapi Palace, (formerly the Sultan's Palace) home to



the treasures of the Ottoman empire and one of the most important historical sites in Istanbul. This evening join your fellow travellers for an information night and introduction by your Australian War Historian. (B)

## DAY 3 - 22 APRIL GALLIPOLI

We depart Istanbul (around 8.00am) for the 5 hour drive to the Gallipoli Peninsula, where our Gallipoli Campaign begins. Today you will spend time at The Anzac Commemorative site, Anzac Cove, Shrapnel Valley and Beach Cemetery - home to one of Australia's most legendary soldiers, Private John Simpson. Our last stop on the Gallipoli Peninsula will be the Kapatebe War Museum with its collection of war relics, before catching the ferry across the Dardanelles to Canakkale. We stay here for the next 4 nights so we can have a full, uninterrupted day on the Gallipoli Peninsula tomorrow. This will allow us to properly immerse ourselves into the conflict and tragedy that evolved over 90 years ago before the masses and crowds that later descend on the peninsula. Canakkale town, guarding the entrance to the Narrows of the Dardanelles, is the perfect base for our stay and is a bustling port that comes alive in these days before the ANZAC Commemorations. (B, D)

## DAY 4 - 23 APRIL GALLIPOLI

A full day is planned. The peninsula today is filled with cemeteries, a war museum and many memorials to the tragic events of 1915. As you enter this almost barren land, you can still sense the war and heartache that



ANZAC Commemorative site, Gallipoli

once dominated the landscape, breaking the silent air. You will visit the Anzac Memorials at Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair, Walker's Ridge, the Nek and the surrounding trenches. The presence of our War Historians will make this a very special day! (B, L, D)

**DAY 5 - 24 APRIL GALLIPOLI**

Today the choice is yours! You can either spend the morning relaxing in Canakkale charging your batteries ready for the early Commemorations tomorrow or return with us to the Gallipoli Battlefields. Perhaps visit Cimenlik Castle where, in 1452 Sultan Memhet II built Cimenlik Castle and in March 1915 this fort contained heavy artillery, which engaged allied warships in the strait. Beside the fort today is the Turkish navy's minelayer, Nusrat, whose undetected mine laying activities led to the sinking of Allied warships on 18 March 1915. This afternoon we have also included an excursion to the ancient city of Troy, site of the mythological battle Homer immortalized in The Illiad, which dates back to 3,000 BC. (B, D)

**DAY 6 - 25 APRIL GALLIPOLI - ANZAC DAY**

Departure from your hotel is scheduled before midnight to ensure we arrive at the ANZAC Commemorative site in ample time for the Dawn Service at 5.30am (and to allow for road closures and traffic hold-ups caused by the huge numbers making their way to North Beach to be a part of the Anniversary Commemorations). As the dawn breaks, witness the truly international gathering of people who have travelled across the globe to help commemorate the tragic events of the 25th April 1915. Following the Dawn Service you will have a choice of attending either the Australian or New Zealand National Services at Lone Pine or Chunuk Bair. Later we re-cross the Dardanelles and return to your hotel for dinner

and a welcome rest. Breakfast and lunch packs have been included today. (B, L, D)

**DAY 7 - 26 APRIL ISTANBUL**

Reflect on your Anzac experience as we make our journey back to Istanbul this morning. On arrival we will visit the famous Grand Bazaar, a maze of 65 winding, covered streets and arguably the most famous 'covered market' in the world. Its multitude of shops offer Turkish carpets, glazed tiles and pottery, copper and brassware, apparel made of leather, cotton, wool and many other treasures. Tonight we dine out in a local restaurant and enjoy a farewell dinner of authentic Turkish food. (B, D) *Your Istanbul Hotel: Akgun Hotel.*

**DAY 8 - 27 APRIL ISTANBUL**

Sadly your tour ends this morning after breakfast. We have included transfers to the airport this day. (B)



*Why not join us after this tour on one of our 2 'add on' tours? They have been specially designed to 'bolt on' when this trip is completed.*

WESTERN FRONT TOUR  
THE SANDAKAN TRAGEDY

*Guaranteed Departures  
No currency surcharges  
guaranteed.*

*Features and Inclusions*

- Arrival and departure airport transfers on 20 and 27 April
- 3 nights 4 star accommodation in Istanbul
- 4 nights Superior Tourist or 4 star hotel in Canakkale region
- Breakfast daily, 5 dinners
- Lunch packs on 23 and 25 April
- 1/2 day Bosphorus Cruise
- Full day sightseeing tour of Istanbul
- Extensive touring of the Gallipoli Battlefields

- Visit to Troy
- Services of War Historians throughout Gallipoli region
- Services of experienced Tour Guide
- Assistance by our friendly and experienced staff
- Anzac Day Dawn Service
- Australian or New Zealand National Services at Lone Pine or Chunuk Bair
- Welcome Drink and Information evening in Istanbul

- Travel by First Class air-conditioned coaches
- End of tour tips to guides and drivers
- Entrance fees as per itinerary, services, hotel portorage, tips, local taxes.

*Special Group Flight departures available.*

AUD\$ **1,599** NZ\$ **1,899**  
PP TWIN SHARE PP TWIN SHARE

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT AUD\$399 / NZ\$479  
(land only prices)