

PRE-09 Legends of the Black Sea: Following in the Footsteps of Jason and the Argonauts 9 – 12 NOVEMBER

The Black Sea region of Türkiye is a lush and vibrant area, rich in history and natural beauty. In Trabzon, you can marvel at the Hagia Sophia Mosque, a stunning example of Byzantine architecture, now serving as a mosque. Not far away, the Atatürk Pavilion stands as a tribute to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, offering insights into his life with its beautifully preserved rooms and gardens. Nestled in the mountains, the Sümela Monastery is an awe-inspiring cliffside structure, known for its ancient frescoes and serene ambiance. Further along the coast, the town of Sürmene is famed for its knife-making craft. The Sürmene Knife Factory showcases the intricate skills behind this renowned local tradition. In the tea-growing district of Çayeli, you'll experience the authentic flavors of Turkish tea culture. Nearby, the village of Çeçeva captivates visitors with its verdant tea plantations and panoramic views, offering a tranquil escape into nature. This region, with its blend of cultural landmarks and natural wonders, promises an enriching and unforgettable experience.



DAY 1 / 9 NOV SAT/ ARRIVAL

Arrive at Istanbul Airport by 14:30 for your flight to Trabzon. Upon arrival, meet at the airport with SATW Conference logo sign and transfer to your hotel, check-in, and refresh. Transfer to a local restaurant for dinner at Tirvana between 19:00 -20:30. Overnight Ramada Plaza.(D)

DAY 2 / 10 NOV SUN / TRABZON

After breakfast, meet with your guide at 09:00 and transfer to the iconic Hagia Sophia Mosque, a magnificent structure with a rich history that spans both Byzantine and Ottoman periods. Later drive to the Atatürk Pavilion, a charming early 20th-century mansion that offers insights into the life of Türkiye's founding father, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, and provides spectacular views of the city from its hilltop position. After immersing yourself in history, you'll head to a local restaurant for a delightful lunch featuring authentic Turkish cuisine. Next, a 45 minutes drive will take us to the Sümela Monastery awaits a stunning Greek Orthodox monastery built into the cliffs of the Altındere National Park. This remarkable site offers not only spiritual enrichment but also breathtaking natural views. Following the monastery visit, drive back to the hotel at 17:30 for refreshments then drive to dinner at Müzeyyen restaurant between 19:00 – 20:30. Overnight Ramada Plaza. (B/L/D)

- All ancient cities are flat and easy to walk, tennis shoes will be perfect.
- There is a steep path leading to Sümela Monastery.





DAY 3 / 11 NOV MON/ RİZE

After breakfast and check-out from your hotel at 09:00, you'll be transferred to the renowned Sürmene Knife Factory for about 45 minutes along the coastal road. Here, you'll witness the traditional craftsmanship of Sürmene knives, famed for their exceptional quality and intricate designs. This visit will give you a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage of Turkish artisans. Next, you'll head to Çayeli for a delightful lunch at a local restaurant, where you can savor regional specialties that highlight the flavors of this part of Türkiye. After lunch, your journey continues to Çeçeva, a picturesque village famous for its lush tea plantations and scenic landscapes. Here, you'll get an insight into the tea cultivation process and perhaps enjoy a refreshing cup of Turkish tea.

Finally, you'll be transferred to your hotel in Rize for check-in dinner at the hotel. Dinner at Oz Balık between 19:00 – 20:30 and overnight Ramada Plaza Rize Hotel. (B/L/D)

DAY 4 /12 NOV TUE/ DEPARTURE

Transfer to Rize Airport for departure. Estimated arrival at İstanbul Airport is at 12:00. From there, transfer directly to your convention hotel for check-in.(B)

What's Included:

- All hotel accommodations as indicated in the itinerary, all taxes and breakfast included.
- All meals, as indicated: B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner. (B/L/D)
- Water, soft drinks and limited alcoholic beverage with meals included.
- Professional English-speaking guide and all expenses.
- Air-conditioned tour bus with professional driver, minibus with 14 seats for 4-12 pax, Midibus with 31 seats for 13 - 15 pax.
- All tours and all group transfers as mentioned in itinerary.
- All parking fees and toll roads.
- Only hotel and restaurant tips, where meal is included.
- All entrance fees and admissions.
- Baggage handling.
- Domestic Flights.

Not Included:

- International flights
- Turkish bath, massage, etc.
- Visa to Türkiye.