

# Cappadocia road trip gems



Tripadvisor

# Bery

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Ready for a road trip? Come along with me, Bery, a Turkey expert and travel pro based in Istanbul, on an unforgettable adventure. I've partnered with Tripadvisor and Enterprise to uncover the hidden gems of Cappadocia, a region known for its natural wonders and rugged beauty. We'll stop to see Love Valley's famous rock spires, the carvings at the Zelve Open Air Museum, and the secluded Selime Monastery. Also on the itinerary are lesser-known adventures like visiting a local horse ranch, discovering the mysterious Mazi Underground City, and Sultansazlığı National Park—home to vibrant flamingos and stunning wetland landscapes.



# Bery's Turkey Road Trip



## Stop 1 Love Valley

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We were in awe as we drove through Love Valley in Göreme Historical National Park, where huge fairy chimney rock formations reach into the sky. The views were out of this world—and an unforgettable start to our Cappadocia adventure.



## Stop 2 Zelve Open Air Museum

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We stopped to explore the Zelve Open Air Museum and were amazed by the old cave homes and churches carved into rock. As you wander, it feels like you're walking through the past, with traces of early monastic life all around you.



## Stop 3 Cappadocia Horse Ranch

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We found a great way to get another perspective of Cappadocia's stunning rock formations – on horseback! Riding through this unique landscape with our horses and guides felt like stepping into another world. Highly recommend!



## Stop 4 Selime Monastery

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We drove to Selime Monastery and explored the incredible rock-cut complex. The ancient monastery feels like a lost city. The intricate architecture and peaceful surroundings made it a highlight of the trip.

# Bery's Turkey Road Trip



## Stop 5 Mazi Yeralti Sehri

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Our visit to Mazi Yeralti Sehri was a fascinating journey underground. This lesser-known subterranean city reveals a network of tunnels that once served as a refuge. Exploring the labyrinth of passages and rooms felt like stepping back in time.



## Stop 6 Soganli Valley

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Soganli Valley is often overshadowed by more famous sites. We discovered ancient rock-cut churches and charming hiking trails. The combination of lush scenery and historical sites made it a special stop on our journey.



## Stop 7 Gomeda

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Known as the 'Hidden Valley,' Gomeda's remote charm and untouched beauty make it a unique hiking destination. With ancient rock-cut homes in tranquil surroundings, it felt like we had discovered a secret haven.



## Stop 8 Sultansazlığı Milli Parki

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The national park was a refreshing change of scenery with its expansive wetlands and rich birdlife, like an oasis in this arid region. This natural haven is home to vibrant ecosystems, including flocks of flamingos!



# What to know before you go to **Turkey**

## **What to Expect**

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Turkey is a blend of Eastern and Western influences, with a rich cultural heritage encompassing ancient history, Ottoman traditions, and modern Turkish life. Hospitality is highly valued, and you'll often find locals welcoming guests with tea or coffee. Turkish cuisine is diverse, with staples like kebabs, mezes, baklava, and fresh seafood. Each region has its specialties, from the spicy dishes of the southeast to the olive oil-rich recipes of the Aegean.

## **Language**

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The official language is Turkish. In tourist areas, many people speak English, especially younger generations and those working in the tourism industry. However, learning a few basic Turkish phrases can be very helpful and appreciated by locals.

## **Currency**

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The official currency of Turkey is the Turkish Lira (TRY). While credit and debit cards are widely accepted in major cities and tourist areas, it's advisable to carry some cash, particularly in rural areas and local markets.

## **Time Zone**

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Turkey operates on Turkey Time (TRT), which is UTC+3 year-round. Unlike many European countries, Turkey does not observe Daylight Saving Time, so the time remains the same throughout the year.



## Plug Adaptor

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Turkey uses Type C and F electrical outlets, with a standard voltage of 230V and a frequency of 50Hz. If your devices use a different plug type, you'll need a plug adaptor.

## Airport Locations

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**Istanbul Airport (IST):**

The main international gateway, located on the European side of Istanbul, about 40 km from the city center.

**Sabiha Gökçen Airport (SAW):**

Located on the Asian side of Istanbul, serving as an alternative international and domestic hub.

**Ankara Esenboğa Airport (ESB):**

Situated 28 km from Ankara, serving the capital city.

**Antalya Airport (AYT):**

Located 13 km northeast of Antalya, catering to the Mediterranean region.

**Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport (ADB):**

About 18 km southwest of Izmir, serving the Aegean coast.



## Turkey

# Driving Rules

The following information will make for safe and enjoyable driving throughout Turkey.

- Many roads in Turkey are not lit, so be cautious if you have to drive at night.
- You will frequently see police traffic stops to check that drivers are licensed and not under the influence.
- Be sure to keep your passport and license with you at all times while driving.
- When you are the first car in line at a stoplight, you are almost directly below the stoplight, making it very hard to see the light change colour. Most people will honk to let you know that the light has changed and you can proceed.

## What do I need to hire a car with Enterprise

A valid drivers licence (digital licenses are not accepted)

- Valid ID
- Be the legal age to hire in the country you are in
- Credit or debit card

## Top cars to choose from in Turkey



### Compact

Hyundai i30  
Peugeot 308



### Intermediate

Skoda Kamiq  
Renault Captur  
Peugeot 2008



### Premium

BMW X1  
BMW 3 Series  
Mercedes Benz  
C Class

*\*Subject to availability.*



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