

retreat | recreate  
Türkiye Handcrafts tour: 31 August - 15 September 2026

**To do list** (as at 27 MAR 2026)

**1. NOW** - Carefully read all documentation, particularly the Bookings Conditions, Trip Notes and Itinerary. By booking with us and paying your deposit or full payment, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the Booking Conditions and agree to be bound by the Booking Conditions.

**2. NOW** - Secure your booking with a non-refundable deposit of AU\$1500 per person. Please pay your deposit within 48 hours and **email a copy of the transfer receipt to [retreatrecreate@gmail.com](mailto:retreatrecreate@gmail.com).**

Australian travellers

Please transfer payment by direct deposit to:

Bank: Westpac Banking Corporation

Account Name: Susan Keeble

BSB: 733 037

Account: 649522

Reference: your surname and Türkiye

Travellers outside Australia will also need the following information.

Note: all fees and/or currency exchange charges incurred are to be borne by the traveller.

- The SWIFT code for those making international bank transfers is WPACAU2S. For banks requiring an 11-character SWIFT code, please use WPACAU2SXXX.

- Note, Australian banks do not use IBAN codes. If your bank requests an IBAN code, please use the SWIFT code instead.

- Bank address: 70 Ferguson St, Williamstown, VIC 3016, Australia

- Payee address: 11 Bayview Rd, Seddon, VIC, 3011, Australia

- We recommend international payments be made via an online transfer company such as [Wise](#) (WISE tag @susanmarettak is linked to the above account details) or [XE](#). These are fee-free or low-fee and usually offer better currency conversion rates than banks

- We prefer not to accept PayPal payments due to the burdensome fees. If you wish to pay via PayPal you will need to cover all fees.

All travellers are strongly encouraged to take out **travel insurance at the time of booking and paying your deposit** so that you're covered in the event of cancellation. Please also refer to point 5 on this page and the **Insurance section of the Trip Notes**.

**3. NOW** - If you are in the process of applying for a new passport, please advise us of your new passport details as soon as possible. Passports need to be valid for at least 6 months beyond the duration of your trip.

**4. ONLY once you've received confirmation that the tour will proceed** - book your flights. Refer also to the **Trip Notes**.

- We encourage you to consider arriving a day or so before the tour to rest and recover from your flight and/or stay on after the tour to explore further.

- Our tour begins in Istanbul at **1pm on 31 August 2026**.

Your arrival flight should arrive into either of Istanbul's two international airports (IST or SAW). Please ensure you allow plenty of time (allowing for possible flight and traffic delays) to reach our joining point hotel before our briefing meeting at 1pm.

- Our tour ends at Istanbul (IST) airport on 15 September 2026, following our group flight from Cappadocia. Depending on flight times and schedules, expect to arrive back into Istanbul at around 14:30 (TBC). Should you decide to book your home-bound or onward flight on the same day, your flight should not depart before 20.00 pm on 15 September to ensure you will have enough time to make your connection.

- If you decide to stay for an extra night or two in Istanbul after the tour, your departure flight may depart from either IST or SAW airport.

- Please provide your arrival and departure flight details on the Travel Details Form.

- If you are not comfortable booking your own flights or buying travel insurance online, you may wish to consult a travel agent for assistance.

Arrival and departure transfers

- Istanbul New Airport (IST) is situated 52kms from our joining point hotel. Sabiha Gokcen Airport (SAW) is located at Pendik / Kurtköy on the Asian side of Istanbul, 50km from our starting point hotel.

- Your pre-tour arrival transfer is included in the tour price and will be arranged to meet your scheduled flight.

- Your post-tour departure transfers are not included in the tour cost and can be requested through us at an additional cost. Refer also to the Trip Notes for transfer options. Please indicate your requests on the Travel Details Form and return ASAP or by 16 June at the latest.

Pre and post-tour accommodation at our Istanbul hotel can be booked through us at an additional cost (subject to availability). Please email us with your request and indicate your request on the Travel Details Form. If you are booking yourself into alternative pre-tour accommodation (eg. Airbnb, other hotels) in Istanbul or elsewhere, please include your pre-tour accommodation details on your Travel Details Form in case we need to reach you in the days immediately preceding the tour.

**5. Purchase travel insurance** (if you haven't already done so)

This is compulsory for all participants and should cover you for a minimum of medical expenses including emergency repatriation. It is strongly recommended that your insurance also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment, loss of luggage and personal affects. As per the Trip Notes we strongly recommend that you purchase travel insurance at the time of booking (paying your deposit). At the very latest you should purchase travel insurance as soon as you've booked your flights.

**6. BY 16 JUNE 2026 - Complete and return the Travel Details Form**

**7. BY 26 JUNE 2026 – Pay your tour balance.** Refer to point 2 for bank details. Invoices will be issued prior to the due date.

**8. JUNE/JULY-** Consult your medical professional or local Travel Doctor for up to date advice regarding recommended travel vaccinations. Allow at least 4-6 weeks in case any vaccinations require two doses.

**9. JULY/AUGUST** – Apply for your eVisa at <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/> Visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. Entry requirements can change at any time, so it's important that you check and re-check for the latest information, specific to your nationality with your nearest consulate. Please consult the Trip Notes for details.

**10. AUGUST**

- Arrange for either a global roaming cell/mobile phone package from your provider or purchase an eSIM. Refer to the Trip Notes for more information. If you purchase an Airalo e-SIM, you're welcome to use the code SUSAN1062 to receive a small discount. A discount link for Holafly is [HERE](#)

- Upload your travel documents, eVisa and vaccination certificates to your phone. Carry them at all times during your travels.

- Ensure you **upload WhatsApp** on your phone at least 2 weeks prior to departure. We'll create a WhatsApp chat group for this tour and will use it to provide last minute pre-tour updates and daily on-tour updates and reminders.

**11. PACK** - A packing list for this trip will be provided closer to departure. In the meantime refer to the [general packing list](#) on the website (in the dropdown menu under the Resources tab).

**12. GET EXCITED!** We look forward to having you travel with us!

Any queries? Please email Susan K at [retreatrecreate@gmail.com](mailto:retreatrecreate@gmail.com)