

THE
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COLLECTION

Private Car & Guide Options:

Kusadasi Local Highlights Option: Provided by Sea Song Tours

Guests will enjoy a pre-arranged sightseeing itinerary with a Private Car and Guide to explore the following destination highlights.

You will meet your professional guide, holding a name sign, outside of the terminal building at the port for a full day's private sightseeing.

First, you will visit the House of Virgin Mary, where the Virgin is said to have lived the last years of her life. The building was rediscovered in the late 19th Century by Lazartis from Smyrna based on the vision of a German nun. The site is officially declared a shrine of the Roman Catholic Church and visited by Pope Paul VI in 1967, Pope John Paul II in 1979, and Pope Benedict XVI in 2007.

Next, you will visit Ephesus, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, famous throughout the ancient world for its Temple of Artemis. You will first visit the Odeon Theatre where state affairs used to be held. Then, view the Hadrian Temple, it was dedicated in 118 AD to Hadrian, Artemis, and the people of Ephesus but greatly reconstructed in the 4th Century. This impressive Corinthian style temple has beautiful reliefs on the porch. According to the belief of the Ephesians, the Medusa head on the porch would protect the city from its enemies.

The Terrace Houses (Villas) on Curetes street belonged to the rich people of Ephesus. Many of them were three-storied and had peristyles surrounded by rooms without windows but included frescoes and mosaics of mythological scenes. Some of the frescoes were scenes from the comedies of Menander and the tragedies of Euripides. They were luxuriously furnished private houses with fountains and central heating. Between the street and houses was a portico with a mosaic floor behind which were shops.

The Celsus Library is a Roman mausoleum and library built in the early 2nd Century AD. The Library of Celsus was commissioned by the Julius as a mausoleum for his father, Roman governor of the Asian Provinces. It is one of the most beautifully reconstructed buildings in Ephesus, it has become an icon of the ancient city.

The Great Theatre dates to the Hellenistic period. It is one of the most impressive buildings in Ephesus, which has a capacity of 25,000 seats. The theatre was used for concerts, plays and religious, political, and philosophical discussions and for gladiator and animal fights. Marble Road runs between the Library of Celsus and the theater and is a part of the sacred walkway.

Lunch suggested at a local restaurant.

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After your lunch, you will visit the Ephesus Museum. Many of the artifacts displayed here were found in Ephesus and other ancient sites in the region. Highlights include the fresco of Socrates, statues and heads of Eros, crosses, coins, and the works of the 1st Century AD. Such as glass trays and theatrical masks, and much more.

Then, your tour will continue to the ruins of the Basilica of St John. The Basilica had a cruciform plan with four domes along its longitudinal axis and a pair flanking the central dome to form the arm of the cross. Under the central dome was the grave of St John.

At the end of your tour, you can return to Kusadasi for some shopping in town or visit one of the carpet villages along the way before embarking on the ship. If you are not interested in shopping, please advise your guide that you would like to return directly to the ship.

Included:

- Private Luxury Van (Mercedes Vito) with English-Speaking guide and driver for 8 hours
- Entrance fees for listed sights
- Gratuities to guide and driver*
- Bottled water in the vehicle

Excluded:

- Cost of meals and refreshments other than bottled water
- Items of personal nature

*Gratuities have been prepaid. Additional gratuities are at the guest's discretion.

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Private Car & Guide Options:

Kusadasi Customize Your Day Option: Provided by Sea Song Tours

Guests have the flexibility to customize their day to explore as they wish. Guests may advise their Private Guide on the day of the tour where they would like to go. Please plan ahead to secure any necessary reservations or entrance tickets for your guests' planned stops. *

Included:

- Private Luxury Van (Mercedes Vito) with English-Speaking guide and driver for 8 hours
- Bottled water in the vehicle
- Gratuities to guide and driver**

Excluded:

- Cost of meals and refreshments other than bottled water
- Entrance fees
- Items of personal nature

*Mileage restrictions may apply.

**Gratuities have been prepaid. Additional gratuities are at the guest's discretion.