

Turkey Essentials Quick Tour

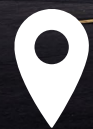
Embarking on our ten-days Turkey Essentials Quick Tour promises an enriching journey through a land steeped in history and culture. This carefully curated itinerary is designed to uncover the country's most iconic attractions, from the bustling streets of Istanbul to the tranquil shores of the Mediterranean. Each destination serves as a testament to Turkey's diverse cultural heritage, showcasing ancient ruins, stunning architecture, and vibrant local traditions that have thrived for centuries.

HOW TO GET TO TURKIYE?

To embark on an aerial journey to Turkey, a myriad of airlines offer convenient connections from cities across the globe. The primary gateway for international flights is **Istanbul Airport (IST)**, located on the outskirts of Istanbul, Turkey's bustling metropolis. This colossal aviation hub boasts state-of-the-art facilities, including multiple terminals, a vast duty-free shopping area, and an array of dining options.

Istanbul Airport serves as a central hub for Turkish Airlines, the national carrier of Turkey, which offers a comprehensive network of flights to and from destinations worldwide. Other prominent airlines with direct flights to Istanbul include Lufthansa, British Airways, Air France, and Emirates.

other airports you may consider to fly



Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen
airport

For those seeking to explore other Turkish cities, direct flights are available to major airports such as

- Sabiha Gökçen International Airport (SAW)** in Istanbul
- Adnan Menderes Airport (ADB)** in Izmir
- Antalya Airport (AYT)** on the Mediterranean coast
- Ankara Esenboğa Airport** in the middle Anatolia

These airports cater to both domestic and international flights, providing travelers with convenient access to Turkey's diverse regions and attractions. There are other airports where you can fly directly depending on the period of year.

**Feel free to contact us for further information
and assistance with booking your flight**

+90 505 586 59 22 - tours@anatolianpathways.com



Our promise to you...

Turkey is a country known for its warm hospitality and welcoming nature. As a guest in Turkey, you can expect to be treated with great care and respect. From the moment you arrive, you will be greeted with open arms and a genuine smile. Our culture places a strong emphasis on taking care of our guests and making them feel at home. Whether you are visiting for business or pleasure, we understand the importance of making you feel comfortable and ensuring that your stay is enjoyable.

As you settle into your accommodations, you will notice that every detail has been carefully taken care of. From the cleanliness of your room to the amenities provided, we want to make sure that you have everything you need. Our staff is trained to be attentive and helpful, always ready to assist you with any request or inquiry. We understand that traveling can be tiring, so we want to make sure that you have a comfortable and relaxing stay.

During your stay, we will also introduce you to the delicious and diverse cuisine of Turkey. Our meals are prepared with fresh and locally sourced ingredients, and we take pride in our traditional dishes. As our guest, you will have the opportunity to try a variety of dishes and experience the rich flavors of Turkish cuisine. We also take dietary restrictions and preferences into consideration, so you can enjoy your meals without any worries.

Aside from the accommodations and food, we also want to make sure that you experience the best of Turkey. Our country is filled with a rich history and culture, and we are eager to share it with you. Our staff will be happy to recommend places to visit, local activities to try, and events to attend. We want you to leave with a deeper understanding and appreciation for our country.

Throughout your stay, we will do our best to make you feel like a part of our community. You will be welcomed with open arms and invited to join in on local customs and traditions. Whether it's celebrating a holiday or attending a cultural event, we want you to feel like you are a part of our family.

on behalf of Anatolian Pathways family

Co-Founder

Hamza Uysal

Co-Founder

Kazım B. Aydemir

THE DOORS ARE WIDE OPEN WITH US

One of the most frustrating aspects of visiting museums is the long queues that often form at the entrance. Not only does waiting in line waste precious time, but it can also be physically draining and can take away from the overall experience of exploring a museum. Fortunately, in Turkey, there is a solution to this problem: museum passes. These passes allow visitors to skip the ticket queues and gain direct entrance to some of the most popular museums in the country.

One of the main benefits of having a museum pass in Turkey is the convenience it offers. With a pass, visitors can bypass the long lines and head straight to the entrance, saving valuable time and energy. This is especially beneficial during peak tourist seasons when the queues can be particularly long. With a museum pass, visitors can make the most of their time in Turkey by avoiding wasted hours waiting in line and instead focus on immersing themselves in the rich history and culture of the country.

When you book a tour with us, rest assured that you won't have to worry about purchasing museum passes. We take care of everything and provide our guests with museum passes prior to their arrival, all included in the tour price. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the full experience without any added stress!

Moreover, having a museum pass also offers a sense of freedom and flexibility in planning one's itinerary. With a pass in hand, visitors can choose which museums they want to visit and when, without having to worry about buying individual tickets or waiting in line. This allows for a more personalized and stress-free experience, as visitors can explore the museums at their own pace and spend time in areas that interest them the most.

Another major advantage of having a museum pass in Turkey is the cost-effectiveness. These passes often offer discounted or even free entry to multiple museums, making them a great value for money. This is especially beneficial for those who plan on visiting several museums during their trip, as the cost of individual tickets can add up quickly. With a museum pass, visitors can save money while still being able to fully immerse themselves in Turkey's rich cultural heritage.



more information is available at
muze.gen.tr/MuseumPasses

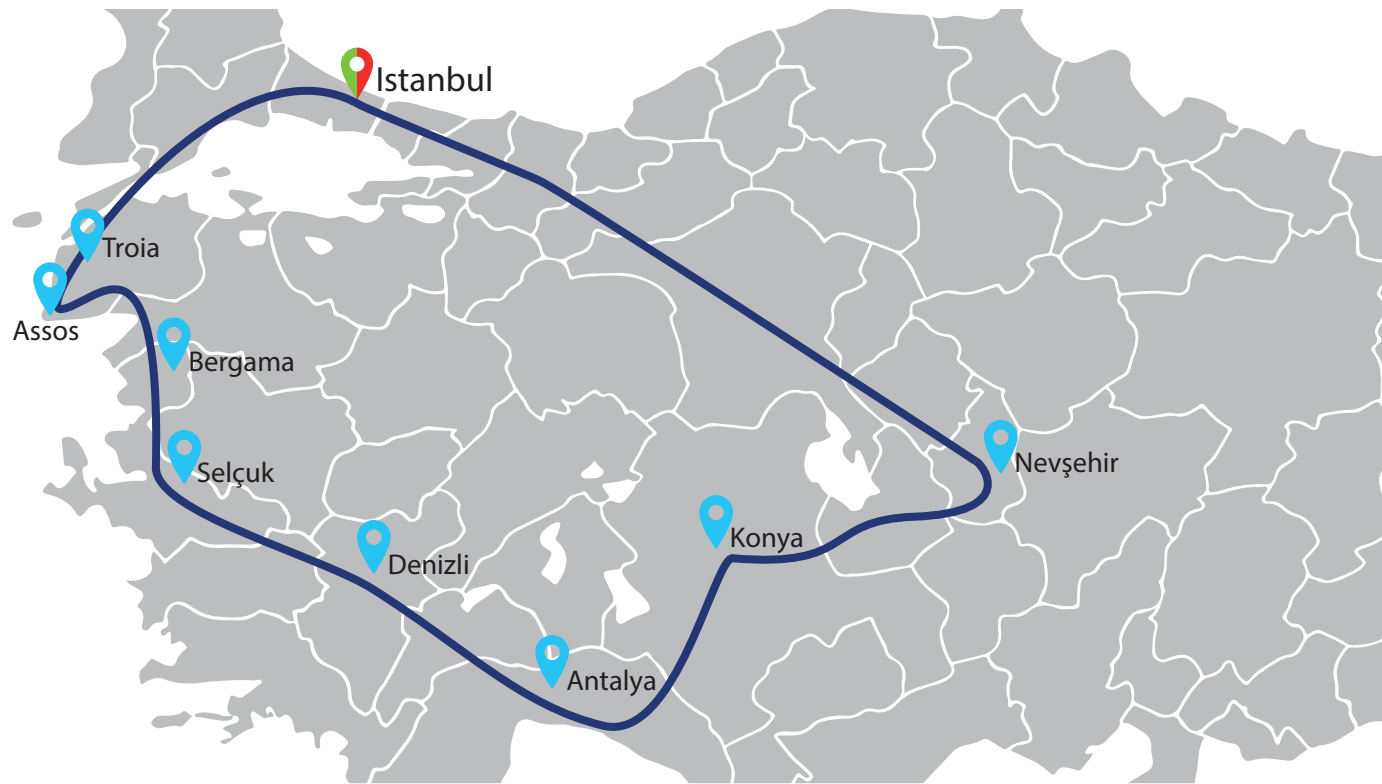


the Best in class...



At our esteemed tour company, we take pride in providing our valued guests with an exceptional travel experience. Understanding the importance of comfort, safety, and reliability, we have meticulously curated a fleet of best-in-class buses that surpass industry standards. Each vehicle undergoes rigorous inspections and maintenance to ensure its pristine condition and optimal performance. Our buses are equipped with state-of-the-art amenities, including plush reclining seats, ample legroom, onboard Wi-Fi, and entertainment systems, transforming every journey into a delightful and memorable one. Our experienced and courteous drivers undergo comprehensive training programs to guarantee your safety and well-being throughout your tour. By choosing our services, you can rest assured that you are traveling in the most comfortable, reliable, and luxurious buses available, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the wonders of your destination without any worries or distractions.





Essential Turkey Quick Tour

10 Days - 9 Nights

Istanbul - Troia - Assos - Pergamon - Ephesus - Sirince - Denizli - Antalya - Konya - Cappadocia

Turkey is a country that has been shaped by the ebb and flow of civilizations for millennia. The stories reflected in Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace, and Cappadocia intertwine to form a rich narrative that transcends borders and time. Each site invites travelers to delve deeper into Turkey's past, offering a unique perspective on the cultural and historical forces that have shaped this modern nation.

As you embark on this journey through Turkey, you'll discover not just the landmarks themselves, but also the enduring legacies of the peoples who built, inhabited, and adored them. Immerse yourself in the stories they tell, savor the flavors of the cuisine, and engage with the warmth of its people. A trip to Turkey is not merely a vacation; it's an invitation to explore the heart and soul of a nation that continues to captivate the world.

In depth cultural - Moderate physical activity - Suitable for ages between 6 - 99

NOT suitable for wheelchair

What's included?

- Health Insurance covering your stay in Turkey
- Airport - Hotel transfer on the first day
- 9 nights accommodation at our guest house in single room
- 9 breakfast and 9 dinner meals
- Guidance in English throughout the programme
- Transportation with air conditioned luxury vehicles
- All beverage and drink services in the vehicle
- Drinking water throughout the programme
- Hotel-Airport transfer on the last day

What's NOT included?

- Visa costs (if necessary)
- Arrival and return tickets to/from Istanbul
- Lunch meals
- All personal expenses
- Entrance and ticket fees at museums



Day 1 : Arrive in Istanbul

As your plane descends through the layers of clouds and the stunning silhouette of Istanbul comes into view, you can't help but feel a flutter of excitement in your stomach. The city, steeped in history and vibrant culture, beckons with promises of adventure. Upon landing at Istanbul Airport, you'll be warmly greeted by our friendly team, ready to assist you with your transfer to your hotel. As you make your way through the bustling streets, you'll catch glimpses of the charming architecture and lively atmosphere that characterizes this extraordinary city.

Depending on your arrival time, there may be an opportunity to embark on optional extra tours, allowing you to dive straight into the rich tapestry of Istanbul's sights and sounds. Your knowledgeable guide will accompany you every step of the way, sharing captivating stories and insights that highlight the fascinating blend of civilizations that have influenced the city over the centuries. After settling into your hotel, we will come together for an opening meeting in the evening, where you'll meet your fellow travelers and get a taste of the thrilling itinerary that awaits you.

As the day winds down, you'll have some free time to reflect on the experiences of the day, relax, and prepare for the adventures that lie ahead. Whether it's enjoying a traditional Turkish tea or taking a leisurely stroll through the hotel's surroundings, this moment of tranquility will set the stage for the remarkable journey you are about to embark on in the heart of Istanbul, where every corner is filled with history and every moment holds the promise of discovery.



Day 2 : Ancient Anatolian and Greek Heritage



After enjoying a hearty breakfast, we will be fully charged and ready to embrace the exciting adventures that await us throughout the day. Our journey kicks off with a scenic road trip to Çanakkale, where we will have the remarkable opportunity to cross the world's longest mid-span bridge, seamlessly connecting the continents of Europe and Asia in just a matter of minutes. This impressive feat of engineering will inspire awe as we traverse the strait that has long been a historical crossroads of cultures and civilizations.

Upon arriving in Çanakkale, our first stop will be the iconic Trojan Horse, famously featured in the movie "TROY." This massive replica serves as a tangible reminder of the legendary tales of ancient Greece, and we will delve into the fascinating story of Troia, learning about its rich history and the lives of those who walked its lands. From there, we will transfer to the ruins of the ancient city of Troia and the Troia Museum, where the stage for these timeless stories unfolds. As we explore the remnants of this once-great civilization, we will uncover the romantic tale of Paris and Helen, a narrative that has captivated hearts for centuries.

Our exploration doesn't stop there; next, we will continue our journey to the ancient city of Assos. Here, we will have the chance to enjoy a delightful lunch at the ancient harbor, savoring delicious local cuisine while soaking in the stunning views of the surrounding coastline. As the sun begins to set, we will ascend to the majestic Athena Temple, where we'll witness a breathtaking sunset that casts a golden hue over the landscape. The serene atmosphere and panoramic vistas will be the perfect conclusion to an eventful day. Finally, we will transfer to our hotel in the Adramissos Gulf, where you will have some free time to relax and enjoy the hotel's amenities, reflecting on the incredible experiences shared throughout the day.

Day 3 : Pergamon - Şirince - Virgin Mary House - Ephesus

After a delightful breakfast, we began our journey to the ancient city of Pergamon, renowned for its rich history and impressive archaeological sites. As we explored the remnants of grand temples and theaters, the remnants of a once-thriving civilization unfolded before us, immersing us in the stories of ancient scholars and rulers. Following the captivating visit to Pergamon, we transferred to the charming village of Şirince, famous for its unique architecture and scenic landscapes.

In Şirince, we indulged in a delightful vine tasting experience, savoring the region's exquisite wines that reflect the rich terroir and winemaking traditions. As the sun bathed the village in a warm glow, we enjoyed a leisurely lunch break at a local eatery, sampling traditional dishes that showcased the flavors of the region.



Our next stop was the revered House of the Virgin Mary, an important pilgrimage site nestled in the tranquil hills. Stepping into the serene atmosphere, we took a moment to reflect and pay homage to this historical site before continuing our journey. The ancient city of Ephesus awaited us, where the well-preserved ruins whispered tales of its glorious past. Walking through the marble streets, we marveled at the library, the theater, and the temples that once stood as a testament to the ingenuity of ancient architecture.

As the day drew to a close, we made our way to Denizli, where we would spend the night. This scenic town served as the perfect resting spot, nestled amidst the natural beauty of the region, allowing us to reflect on the rich tapestry of history we had woven through our explorations.

The sunset is different here...

Day 4: An Ancient Thermal Therapy Center



As the sun rises over the picturesque landscape of Denizli, it's time to open your eyes to the breathtaking cotton castle of Pamukkale. Renowned for its cascading travertine terraces formed over millennia by mineral-rich thermal waters, Pamukkale is a natural wonder that captivates every visitor. After a delightful breakfast at the hotel, we will embark on a journey to explore the surreal beauty of the Pamukkale travertines, where you can walk barefoot along the aquamarine pools and immerse yourself in the serene ambiance of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Following our time at the travertines, we will venture into history as we visit the ancient city of Hierapolis. This remarkable archaeological site boasts well-preserved ruins, including an impressive amphitheater, grand columns, and ancient thermal baths that once drew visitors seeking healing in its warm waters. As we stroll through the remnants of this once-thriving city, you'll be transported back in time, imagining the lives of those who walked these paths centuries ago.

After a day filled with exploration and wonder, we will return to our hotel to unwind and enjoy the luxurious amenities offered. Whether you choose to relax by the pool, indulge in a spa treatment, or simply soak in the stunning views of the surrounding landscape, our hotel provides the perfect setting to recharge. As evening descends, we will savor the flavors of Denizli with a delectable dinner featuring the famous Denizli kebab, a local specialty that tantalizes the taste buds. After a fulfilling day of adventure and delight, we will retire for an overnight stay in Denizli, cherishing the memories made and dreaming of the new discoveries that await.

Day 5 : Mediterranean Breeze

After a hearty breakfast, the adventure to Antalya begins with excitement and anticipation. Our first stop will be the historic Antalya Castle, a site steeped in history where ancient stone buildings whisper tales of centuries past. As we wander through this timeless fortress, we'll be drawn to the Antalya Archaeological Museum, a treasure trove showcasing artifacts that paint a vivid picture of the region's rich heritage.

Next, we'll stroll through the enchanting narrow streets of old Antalya, where each corner offers a glimpse of the past. The Yivli Minare, with its distinctive fluted minaret, stands proudly against the sky, while Hadrian's Gate, an impressive Roman piece, invites us to step back in time. After a morning brimming with exploration, we'll pause for lunch, recharging our spirits and preparing for an exhilarating afternoon.

With renewed energy, we'll head to the chilling waters of Köprülü Canyon for an unforgettable rafting adventure. The rush of the ice-cold river will invigorate us, providing a refreshing escape and a dose of adrenaline as we navigate through stunning landscapes. Following our aquatic escapade, we will make our way to the iconic Aspendos Theatre, renowned for its remarkable acoustics and well-preserved structure that still hosts stellar performances.







As the sun sets, we'll check into our hotel in Side, where comfort and hospitality await. After a delicious dinner, the adventure continues with an enchanting night tour through the ancient city of Side, adorned with illuminated ruins and vibrant bazaars. The open-air market is a sensory delight, offering local crafts and tantalizing aromas that captivate our senses. As the day comes to a close, we'll find rest in our cozy accommodations, ready to embrace the wonders that tomorrow will bring.

Day 6: Capital of Anatolian Seljuk State - Konya

As we savor a delicious breakfast at our hotel, the serene ambiance of this lovely holiday resort in Side wraps around us one last time. It's time to wave goodbye to the sun-kissed shores and vibrant streets that have made our stay unforgettable. With hearts full of cherished memories, we set off for Konya, a city rich in history and spirituality. Once the proud capital of Anatolian Seljuk State, Konya is not just a relic of the past; it is a living testament to a profound cultural heritage.

Our journey will take us to the revered Hz. Mevlana, whose teachings continue to inspire spiritual seekers from around the globe. As we explore the intricate artistry of the Karatay Madrasah and the İnce Minaret Madrasah, we are transported back in time, marveling at the opulent architecture that reflects the height of Seljuk civilization. A visit to the Sahip Ata Mosque will further enrich our understanding of Konya's spiritual landscape, allowing us to connect with the city's deep-rooted traditions.

Lunchtime beckons, and we indulge in Konya's famous traditional meat bread, a culinary delight that encapsulates the flavors of this region. After replenishing our energy, the second half of our visit will take us to the quaint Sille village, where history and nature harmoniously intertwine. Here, we will visit the Aya Eleni Church, an outstanding example of Byzantine architecture that tells tales of centuries past. As evening approaches, we will gather for dinner at a local restaurant in Sille, sharing stories and laughter as we reflect on our day. Finally, we will retire for the night in Konya, ready to dream about the vibrant experiences that await us in the morning.

DAY 7 : The First Settlements and Ancient Trade Routes

After enjoying a delightful breakfast at our hotel in Konya, we will embark on a fascinating journey back in time to explore the rich history of Anatolia. Our first stop will be the renowned site of Çatalhöyük, one of the world's oldest known communities, where early humans began to form the first permanent settlements. As we walk through the remnants of this ancient city, we will gain insight into the lives of the people who inhabited this area thousands of years ago, their societal structures, and their unique art. However, the story doesn't end there; the volcanic eruptions of Mount Hasan forced these early settlers to relocate to Aşıklıhöyük, and we will have the opportunity to visit this remarkable archaeological site as well.

Before our exploration of Aşıklıhöyük, we will move on to the majestic Sultanhanı, an impressive caravanserai that served as a resting point for travelers on the Silk Road. Its stunning architecture and historical significance will immerse us in the vibrant stories of trade and travel from centuries past. Finally, our journey will lead us to the breathtaking Ihlara Valley, where lush landscapes and towering cliffs provide a serene backdrop for reflection and exploration. Here, we will take in the beauty of nature and the cultural heritage woven into this ancient region. Following our insightful day, we will transfer to our hotel in the enchanting Cappadocia area, where we'll relax and rejuvenate in preparation for tomorrow's adventures. A restful night awaits us in our comfortable hotel, surrounded by the unique landscape that Cappadocia is famous for.





 Konya
Ince Minaret Madrasah



Day 8 : Beautiful Horses's Land - Cappadocia

Today marks an extraordinary adventure as we rise before the sun, filled with anticipation and excitement for our hot air balloon flight. The early morning light promises a magical experience, whether we choose to soar above the stunning landscape or simply watch the colorful balloons illuminate the sky as they ascend. It's a delightful dilemma—each option offers its own unique beauty, making it hard to determine which is the better choice. After our breathtaking flight over the enchanting valleys and fairy chimneys of Cappadocia, we'll return to our hotel for a hearty breakfast before checking out, ready to embrace the day's adventures.

Our first stop is the remarkable Göreme Open Air Museum, where ancient rock-cut churches and stunning frescoes narrate the rich history of the region. From there, we'll continue our exploration to iconic spots like Üç Güzeller and the serene Derwent Valley, where nature's artistry seems to come alive. As we make our way to Avanos, we look forward to an authentic culinary experience with the traditional testi kebab for lunch—a local specialty that promises to delight our taste buds. Post-lunch, we'll visit a charming pottery shop, where we'll witness the intricate art of craftsmanship that has been passed down through generations, gaining insight into the creation of Cappadocia's famous pottery.

As the day unfolds, we will find ourselves at stunning locations such as Paşabağları and the picturesque Pigeon Valley, each stop revealing breathtaking views and unique geological formations. The highlight of our journey will undoubtedly be the visit to Uçhisar Castle, where we'll be treated to an unforgettable sunset panorama—one that captures the essence of Cappadocia in all its glory. After soaking in the vibrant hues of dusk, we will embark on a long drive back to Istanbul, reflecting on the day's memories and the beauty of this extraordinary region, eager to share the stories of our adventures.

DAY 9: Capital of All Times - Istanbul

Wake up to a very exciting day entering the city of Istanbul in our coach! We will have a very rich Turkish breakfast at a cozy restaurant. Freshly brewed tea, crisp simit, juicy olives, and a variety of cheeses fill your plate, preparing you for a day of exploration. Once your appetite is satisfied, you'll set out to explore the historical peninsula, where the past and present dance in harmony. From the moment you step foot in this magical area, landmarks like the magnificent Hagia Sophia, the serene Basilica Cistern, and the grand Blue Mosque will take your breath away, each telling its own tale of a rich and vibrant history.

After immersing yourself in the splendor of these architectural marvels, you will be taken to Eminönü, where the bustling atmosphere is perfect for a unique culinary experience—a fish bread feast! As you dine with the iconic Galata Tower in view, the flavors of the sea combined with the lively ambiance will be an unforgettable highlight of your day. Post-lunch, your senses will be treated to the vibrant colors and enticing scents of the Spice Bazaar, where you can indulge in some spirited bargaining and hunt for the perfect souvenirs. Your journey continues to the Sultan's Kasr, where the beauty of traditional Turkish and Islamic art will leave you in awe.

Strolling across the Galata Bridge, you'll have the chance to pause and watch the local fishermen casting their lines, each hoping for a catch that symbolizes luck and prosperity. As you ascend the Galata Tower, prepare for breathtaking panoramic views of the historical peninsula that will leave you feeling on top of the world. A ride on the historical tram will whisk you away to Taksim Square, where you'll have a chance to explore the area at your leisure, indulging in some shopping and soaking in the vibrant atmosphere.

As the sun begins to set, you'll make your way back to your hotel, full of unforgettable memories and experiences. After a day's adventures, a delicious dinner will be waiting for you, allowing you to reflect on the wonders of Istanbul. With hearts full and spirits high, you'll retire for the night, and get ready for your departure back home.

Day 10: Departure Day

As our unforgettable tour comes to an end, we find ourselves reflecting on the incredible memories we've created together. Each day has been filled with the beauty of Turkey, from its stunning landscapes to the rich tapestry of culture and history that enveloped us. However, as the sun sets on this remarkable journey, a bittersweet moment creeps in—it's time to wave you goodbye. Yet, let us assure you that your farewell will be smooth and hassle-free. We've organized seamless transfers to your departure airport, allowing you to focus on cherishing the last moments of your adventure.

