



Ephesus & Şirince,
Turkey

Ephesus is well-known as one of the Seven Wonders of the World, and includes many impressive ancient ruins. The Aegean pastoral village of Şirince lies nearby – and it's a great base from which to explore Ephesus whilst enjoying simple Turkish life as it is today.



Exclusive Escapes



Ephesus

Ephesus tells a wonderful story of life in ancient times, with its monumental state buildings, temples, marble streets, Roman toilets and decorated private houses.

With a population of 250,000, Ephesus was once one of the most cosmopolitan cities of the ancient world. Perhaps this was the reason why John is believed to have brought Mother Mary to Ephesus after the death of Jesus, in keeping with Jesus' admonition to John to care for his mother.

Equidistant from Hellespont and Lycia, Ephesus was the last stop of the Persian Royal road, an important trade route between the East and the West and the Artemission – one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World – attracted pilgrims from all over the Greco-Roman world.

The wonders of Ephesus are many and varied.

Şirince

Şirince (pronounced she-RIN-jay) is a wonderful little Aegean village of 600 inhabitants. It is located in the hills at about 350 meters (1000 ft) above sea level, which means pleasant nights in the heat of the summer, and in winter some frost and the occasional snowfall.

Most of the houses in the village date from the 19th century or earlier. They were built at a time when Şirince was predominantly a Greek village.

The village lies in a lovely bowl of hills surrounded by peach orchards, vineyards and olive groves. The higher hills are covered with pine forest. Nearly all houses command a pastoral panorama extending over many miles, undisturbed by any modern development. The surroundings are full of idyllic country walks.

Farming remains the principal activity. Villagers make wine and olive oil, and grow some of the best peaches in the country. They greet strangers with a smile and very often invite them in for a cup of tea.

The archeological site of Ephesus is located in the plain 11 km away. A public minibus serves Selçuk – the modern town of Ephesus – every half hour throughout the day. The nearest beach is 15 km (10 miles) distant.

Complimentary Private Guiding

This enchanting region is there to be explored freely by all. However, as Ephesus has so much to offer, we would strongly recommend that you take a guide for at least some of your visit and one day is included in all our itineraries.

Your guide will give you the opportunity to discover areas rarely visited and experience Ephesus in a way that would be impossible to do on your own. Our guides are extremely knowledgeable and they will discuss an itinerary that is most suited to your interests – be they trekking, cultural, religious, artistic, flora and fauna, relaxation or any combination thereof!

This service includes a personal guide, transport and all entrance fees. Should you prefer to not have guiding please deduct £50 from the overall booking cost (not per person).

ADDITIONAL PRIVATE GUIDING

£110 per day including guide, transport and all entrance fees.

Please do feel welcome to contact us should you wish to discuss a personalised itinerary.