

Gallipoli & Istanbul Turkey

Military History of the Dardanelles Campaign

WWI—1915

18 – 27 Apr 2016

The Fun
Way to
see Turkey!



Clockwise from top left: Lone Pine Ceremony; stands at Lone Pine; Istanbul Cruise; lunch at Chunuk Bair; the New Zealand Memorial; and toast for those who gave all at a cemetery. At center: diggers in a trench; Aussie artillery pounds the Turks.



MILITARY™
HISTORICAL TOURS, INC.



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MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS is proud to offer another in our series of historic tours of the world. We are happy to join the outstanding **Mat McLachlan** **BATTLEFIELD TOURS** of Australia in Istanbul and have a chance to see all the sites in the city known historically as the Roman Empire & Ottoman capital of Constantinople. After exploring this fascinating but safe & cosmopolitan city we proceed to the historic sites of the Dardanelles Campaign, including the epic Battle of Gallipoli. During World War I, a joint British and French operation was mounted to capture Constantinople and secure a sea route to Russia. We will see why the attempt failed, with heavy casualties.



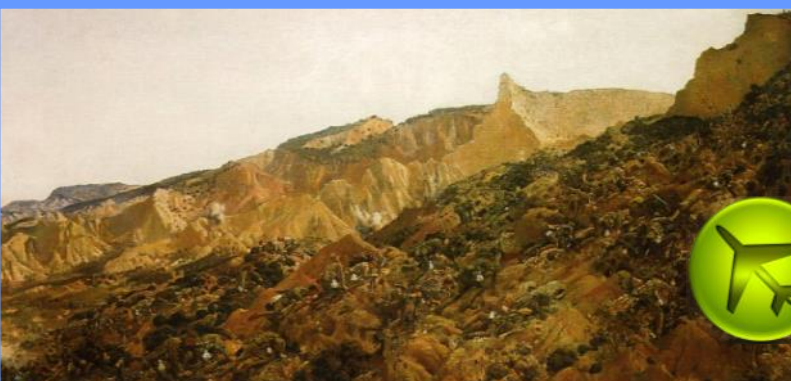
The Gallipoli campaign resonated profoundly among all nations involved. In Turkey, the battle is perceived as a defining moment in the history of the Turkish people—a final surge in the defense of the motherland as the centuries-old Ottoman Empire was crumbling. The struggle laid the grounds for the Turkish War of Independence and the foundation of the Republic of Turkey eight years later under Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, himself the a commander at Gallipoli whose heroic leadership and astute military actions were decisive.

The campaign was the first major battle undertaken by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC), and is often considered to mark the birth of national consciousness in both of these countries. Anzac Day, 25 April remains the most significant commemoration of military casualties and veterans in Australia and New Zealand, surpassing Armistice/Remembrance Day.

All of these things, along with the fun loving Aussies and Kiwis who make this tour so special plus the most experienced staff of Tour Leaders and Historians combine to make your trip the most enjoyable, relaxing, entertaining and educational experience possible. We welcome your phone calls, letters or e-mails to discuss your tour with one of our Battlefield Tour Leaders. Call us toll free at 800-722-9501 M-F



Top: The Sphinx landmark today overlooks the landing beaches and dawn ceremony site. Below: The Australian 3rd Infantry Brigade climbs under fire towards Plugge's Plateau with the Sphinx in the distance in the famous Lambert painting.



Ground Tour Price **\$ 2,495^{^*}**

[^] - Based on double Occupancy

Single Room Supplement \$ 725*

Tour Price Includes:

- Three Nights 4-Star/Five Nights 3-Star Hotel Accommodations
- Air-conditioned motorcoach and boat trips
- Airport transfers (Ataturk) & hotel portage
- Meals (8 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 7 Dinners & Snack Box on ANZAC Day)
- Emergency Medical, Evacuation, Repatriation, and baggage insurance included in each tour
- Trip Kit containing tour ball cap, bag tags, name badge and travel info
- "History on Tour" information packet, containing maps and other information
- Admission fees to all sites, museums and special attractions listed plus bottled water each day
- Services of experienced Mac McLachlan WWI Historians & MHT Tour Leaders (all tips included)

DISCOUNT AIRFARE AVAILABLE: MHT can book you from your home city to Istanbul, Turkey via our Airline Partners from anywhere in the U.S. and is available upon request

* Conversion from Australian Dollars



Tour Itinerary

18 APRIL—DAY 1 (TRAVEL) Departure from USA airports for overnight flight to Istanbul, Turkey.

19 APRIL—DAY 2 (ISTANBUL) Welcome to Istanbul on arrival at Istanbul Airport we will be met by a representative from Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours and transferred to our 4-star hotel in the heart of Istanbul's Old Town. This is the ideal place to stay in Istanbul, only two short blocks from the Grand Bazaar and the city's famous attractions and in the midst of the best shopping and dining. This evening we will come together to enjoy a complimentary welcome drink followed by dinner, an excellent opportunity to get to know our historian, tour leader and fellow travelers. (D)

20 APRIL—DAY 3 (ISTANBUL) Today we will explore Istanbul, one of the world's great historic cities. Formerly known as Constantinople, it was this city that was the ultimate objective of the entire Gallipoli campaign, and today we will delve into its cultural treasures. We will begin with a visit to the grandiose 15th century Topkapi Palace, former home of the Sultans of the Ottoman Empire and the site of the original Harem. Its displays include an incredible collection of jewels and ornaments. Next we will visit the famous Blue Mosque, one of the most spectacular mosques in the world, and the Hippodrome, an Ancient Roman racetrack constructed in the 3rd century AD. We will also visit the amazingly vast Basilica Cistern, this football field sized water storage structure was built beneath Constantinople in the 6th century to supply the city with water during sieges. Today visitors can walk on platforms over the fish-filled water, as classical music and artistic lighting illuminate the chamber. Be sure to see the mysterious sculpture of Medusa's head, positioned upside-down as a support base for one of the cistern's columns. We will end a memorable day with a visit to the magnificent Aya Sofia, originally a Byzantine church and now a museum, featuring spectacular mosaics and ceiling. We will also have time to wander the maze of shops in the Grand Bazaar, and barter for deals in one of the world's largest and oldest markets. (B)

21 APRIL—DAY 4 (ISTANBUL TO GALLIPOLI) Our journey in the footsteps of the Anzacs begins today, as we depart Istanbul for the Gallipoli peninsula. As we drive along the shores of the Sea of Marmara and the



straits of the Dardanelles, we will be viewing the waterway that the British, French and ANZAC troops were intended to secure during the Gallipoli campaign. This inconspicuous stretch of sea was the cause of the carnage at Gallipoli. After lunch in the port town of Eceabat we cross the Dardanelles by ferry to tour Cimenlik Fort in the town of Canakkale. This fort was heavily engaged by Allied warships during the naval battles of February and March 1915 — a huge unexploded British naval shell is still embedded in one of the fort's walls! We will spend time in the shops and restaurants of Canakkale before proceeding to our Gallipoli hotel, located in a peaceful woodland environment which overlooks the waters of the Dardanelles. The hotel offers a delightful restaurant and will be our home for the next



five nights. We will enjoy dinner on arrival. (B, D)

22 APRIL—DAY 5 (ANZAC SECTOR) Today we will visit the battlefields that were the birthplace of the ANZAC legend.

We will explore ANZAC Cove, North Beach, Shrapnel Gully, Lone Pine, The Nek, Quinn's Post, Chunuk Bair and many more famous sites, escorted by our expert historians, who will bring the stories of courage and sacrifice that define the Gallipoli campaign to



life. The most moving part of this experience will be visiting the cemeteries and seeing the graves of legendary ANZAC heroes including Maj Hugh Quinn and stretcher bearer John Simpson, the 'man with the donkey'. A buffet lunch is included today, as is dinner in our hotel. (B, L, D)

23 APRIL—DAY 6 (CAPE HELLES) Our next day will be spent exploring a lesser-known, but no less important, chapter of the Gallipoli story, the battlefield at Cape Helles on the southern toe of the peninsula. Here British and French troops landed on the beaches at Helles at the same time the Australians and New Zealanders came ashore at ANZAC Cove. More than 30,000 of them were killed in nine months of fighting, as they desperately tried to advance northwards and link up with the ANZACs. Today we will visit the cemeteries where many of them still lie, as well as the beaches where they were mown down as they came ashore. We will also pay our respects to the soldiers on the other side of the line, the Turks, at the impressive Martyr's Memorial overlooking Morto Bay. We will enjoy a picnic lunch in the pretty village of Seddülbahir, before discovering the story of the ANZAC's forgotten battle at Gallipoli with a visit to the battlefield at



Krithia. Hundreds of Australians and New Zealanders were killed here during a murderous advance in May 1915, yet today the battle is virtually unknown. This afternoon we will drive north to visit the battlefields at Suvla Bay, scene of missed opportunities and bitter disappointment during August 1915. We will return to our hotel this evening for dinner. (B, L, D)

24 APRIL—DAY 7 (TROY—CANAKKALE)

The pace will be relaxed today to prepare for our busy day tomorrow. In the morning we will travel south to tour the ancient city of Troy, immortalized in the tales of the Trojan War and the story of the famous Trojan Horse. After dinner, there will be time for a rest before the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. (B, D)

25 APRIL—DAY 8 (ANZAC DAY) ANZAC Day a day you will never forget! We will depart from our hotel at midnight and drive the short distance to Canakkale. Then, while other groups are fighting with each other for space on the peninsula's congested roads, we will board our chartered ferry, and cruise around the southern toe of the peninsula, approaching Gallipoli in exactly the same way as the original ANZACs did in 1915. This enables us to leave our hotel later than other groups, and avoid road closures and traffic hold-ups. Our boat will dock only a short drive from the Commemorative Site. Then, as the dawn breaks over



**Left:
ANZAC
Cove -
Today.
Right:
The
ANZAC
Memorial
Below:
During
the 1915
Landings.**



the Gallipoli peninsula, we will join thousands in experiencing a once-in-a-lifetime event, the Dawn Service at ANZAC Cove. As the sun rises behind us, the strains of the Last Post will echo across the valleys and ridges of Gallipoli, silent now but once the scene of so much sacrifice and tragedy. Following the service we will walk up to Second Ridge, where you can choose to attend either the Australian service at Lone Pine and follow that with the New Zealand service at Chunuk Bair. Mid-afternoon we will leave the peninsula and return to our hotel in time for dinner and a relaxing evening. Breakfast/Lunch carry packs will be included today. (Snack Box, D)

26 APRIL—DAY 9 (GALLIPOLI TO ISTANBUL)
We say farewell to Gallipoli this morning and return to Istanbul. On arrival we have lunch in a waterside restaurant and then enjoy a scenic cruise along the Bosphorus, the straight that cuts through the



heart of Istanbul and separates Europe from Asia. The incredible Istanbul skyline, with its hundreds of domes and minarets, can only truly be appreciated from the water. We will enjoy a farewell dinner aboard with local entertainment for a final celebration during this special voyage with all the new friends we have made during our stay in Turkey. (B, L, D)

27 APRIL—DAY 10 (ISTANBUL) Sadly our tour ends today. After enjoying breakfast and checking out of our hotel, we will be transferred to the airport for our outbound flights arriving back in the US on the same day. The journey may be over but the memories will last a lifetime. (B)



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