



ITINERARY

[This is a working itinerary subject to change. Current as of March 25, 2010]

Day 1: Friday, July 16, 2010 - New York to Istanbul

Ambassadors for Yale come from so many different locations that it is not practical to book a group flight however we suggest you plan on arriving at the Istanbul airport no later than the morning of July 17, 2010. This will allow you time to check in to the hotel, have a little lunch and join the group on a tour of the Blue Mosque.

For your information, there are two non-stop flights from New York City (leaving July 16th):

Turkish Air flight 2 (code share with United) leaving JFK at 4:45 p.m. and arriving in Istanbul at 9:25 a.m. on the 17th

Delta flight 72 leaving JFK at 4:30 p.m. and arriving in Istanbul at 9:55 a.m. on the 17th.

Day 2: Saturday, July 17 - Istanbul

Morning: “Hoş Geldiniz”¹ We arrive in Istanbul and are greeted by AYAIstanbul volunteers who will assist with transit into the city there will be a group meeting place at the Istanbul airport (to be announced) and a bus waiting for the group at the terminal to take everyone to the Conrad Hotel. There will be a representative from YGALE and our travel company at the airport from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The bus will be scheduled to depart for the hotel at 11:30. There will be two buses: one will go directly to the hotel and the other will stop for lunch and some sightseeing -

Lunch: The bus will stop for a casual lunch on the way or at the hotel

☐ Afternoon: On the way to the hotel we will stop and look around the ancient city of Istanbul (or wander around the bazaar as you recover from jetlag and prepare for our program that starts in the evening. There will be a visit to the Blue Mosque, officially the Sultan Ahmed Mosque, built between 1609 and 1616 for those who are interested. This is not a strenuous activity so it might be perfect if you feel a bit worn out from the flight.

4:00 p.m. Check in at the hotel, freshen up and relax.



The Blue Mosque

¹ “Welcome” in Turkish

6:00 pm. Buses leave for dinner

6:45 – 8:45 p.m.: Welcome Dinner at the home of Leon and Clara Amram. Leon was Yale '86, Calhoun College.

Booths for the Exhibition will be set-up for inspection and installation when we return from dinner

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel at Barbaros Boulevard Yıldız Cad.

Day 3: Sunday, July 18 - Istanbul

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Conrad Istanbul Hotel

8:30 – 5:30 p.m.: World Alumni Relations Conference

YaleGALE and AYA will host an open conference on alumni relations for Turkish universities and for alumni of the IARU universities. The program will feature opening and closing plenary sessions, workshop sessions and a major exhibition of alumni programs led by Yale alumni. Probable venue: Conrad Istanbul Hotel. See attachment for details.



The Conrad Istanbul Hotel

Exhibition Hall sample exhibits: Association of Yale Alumni Governance Model, Five Year Class Reunions or “Homecomings”, Class Activities: Dinners, Regional Events and Travel Programs, Regional Club Activities and Organization, Online Courses and Educational Programming, Yale Global Day of Service: Local Community Service Initiatives, Yale Alumni Service Corps: Alumni “Peace Corps”, Yale Alumni Fund: Annual Fundraising Programs, Shared Identity Groups (e.g. Latino, Black, Asian American associations), Affinity Groups (e.g. Yale Alumni Chorus, Yale Football Alumni), Bulldogs: Student Internship Programs, Student Community Service Fellowships, Career Mentoring, Career Networks, Educational Travel

Workshop sample topics:

“Steps in Creating an Alumni Association” - What are the planning steps necessary to create an effective alumni association? What are appropriate governance models? What is the relationship to the university?

“Engaging Young Alumni” - Why would young alumni (under 30 years of age) be interested in attending alumni events? How do they differ from older alumni? What are their needs and expectations? How do you effectively market to young alumni?


“Event Management: Planning a Successful Reunion or Homecoming” - What are the steps in creating an event that alumni will want to attend? What are appropriate venues and price points? Who should organize such events – professional staff or volunteers?

“Motivating Volunteers to be Effect Leaders” - How do you recruit and motivate alumni to volunteer their time to create and run successful alumni organizations? How do you keep alumni involved for the long term?

“Integrating Alumni Relations and Fundraising” - How can an effective alumni relations program lead to successful fundraising? What are the steps in creating a successful annual fund? How do you motivate volunteers to be effective fundraisers?

“Organizing Alumni Activities Around Shared Interests or Identity” - How do you create alumni networks based on common interests such as athletics, theater, or music, or shared vocational interests such as law, journalism, finance, or entertainment? How do you find alumni with common interests and get them together?

For children, spouses and friends during the alumni relations session:

 **9:00 – 12:30 p.m.: Istanbul Memory Making Photo Hunt:** Capture the energy and most famous sites of Istanbul on a specially prepared photo hunt of the city. Divided into teams, each with its own escort, you’ll get instructions, a map and a camera. It sounds easy but not so fast! You won’t just be pointing and shooting, you’ll have to get pictures of specific situations – which means you’ll be meeting local residents and working as a team to get just the right shot. It’s the perfect way to get a snapshot of the people, places and spirit of the city. Have lunch in the old city on your own and then



meet the group for the Behind the Blue Mosque tour or have lunch and do an activity on your own. (\$65 per person/minimum of 12 people)

2:30 – 5:30 p.m.: Less Frequented Sites of Istanbul: Behind the Blue Mosque: Stay in the old city after the photo hunt for lunch or join the group from the Photo Hunt for a walking tour that will take you first to the Mosaic Museum where magnificent mosaics from the Byzantine Palace can be observed. We then continue down the hill and view the support walls of the ancient hippodrome which now support modern structures. Around the corner is the exquisite Sokollu Mehmet Paşa Mosque, which in the opinion of many art historians is the masterpiece of the great architect Sinan. We then continue to visit the sixth century church of Sergius and Bacchus, the plan of which has been the inspiration for San Vitale in Ravenna, Italy. We return to the palace along the waterfront remains of the Byzantine Palace. (\$55 per person/minimum of 10 people)



Floor mosaic of a child and a donkey
(c. 5th century)

9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.: Sun and surf at Burç Beach Enjoy the sandy golden beach with gigantic waves on the Black Sea in Kilyos. This beach, actually a club owned by the alumni of Boğaziçi University, is one of the most popular destinations for Istanbul teens to meet. You can enjoy sports such as kite-boarding (lessons available), catamaran sailing, beach volleyball and windsurfing or just sit back and enjoy the beautiful setting. The bus trip is about 1 hour 20 minutes from the hotel. Enjoy lunch at one of the cafes or bars along the beach. (\$55 per person including VAT, transfers and entrance fee of the beach, minimum 10 people)



9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.: On your mark, get set, Go-Karting

You'll get behind the wheel of your own go-kart and test your skills as a driver at Autodrom, Turkey's first automobile and motor sports training complex. Take out a go-kart, do a time trial, drag race with your friends and grab a bite in the cafeteria or at a nearby restaurant. It's all good! (The location is on the Asian side of Istanbul and takes about 1 hour 15 min to get to.) (\$70 per person/minimum 12 people)

If you rather wander around on your own, here are some interesting sights to see:

Take a ferry to the scenic Princes' Islands

Byzantine emperors once sent bothersome princes to these nine islands to rot, so foreigners now call them the Princes' Islands. In the 19th century, the islands became a summer resort for Istanbul's richest families. No cars are allowed, so everyone walks, rides bicycles or takes horse-drawn carriages. Enjoy a leisurely lunch at Milto on Buyukada (Big Island) or Kalpazankaya on Burgazada. (We will provide a ferry schedule for you.)



Dolmabahçe Palace and Ortakoy



The Dolmabahçe Palace is just what a sultan's palace should be: huge and sumptuous, with 285 rooms, 43 large salons, a 4000 kg (4-1/2-ton) Bohemian glass chandelier, and a Bosphorus-shore façade nearly a quarter mile long. It was built between the years 1843 and 1856, ordered by the Empire's 31st Sultan, Abdülmecid I, at a cost of five million Ottoman gold pounds. Fourteen ton of gold in the form of gold leaf were used to gild the ceilings of the 45,000 square meter palace. Note that Dolmabahçe Palace has special meaning for the Turkish people since Mustafa Kemal Atatürk used the palace as a residence, spent the most serious period of his illness here and passed away in this palace on 10th of November 1938 at 9:05 a.m. All the clocks in the palace are stopped at this time. (Closed Monday &

Thursday; expect to stay 2-3 hrs; guided tour required on-site)



After you visit the Palace, wander around the lovely Ortakoy area and stop for some refreshment.

Stroll through Pera – down the hill to Galata (also offered as an escorted option on the morning of July 30).

Experience a taste of nineteenth century Levantine life style and entertainment in modern Istanbul. Once the area where westerners lived, Pera is now a pedestrian arcade - the center of modern entertainment and shopping in Istanbul. Start your stroll at Taksim Square then continue your walk to see the independence monument, the Armenian Catholic Church and Uc Horon Armenian Churches, Aya Triada Orthodox Church, Eseyan Armenian High School, nineteenth century apartments Naum Pasa, Koçoğlu Misirli, and Doğan, Ottoman Meteorology Headquarters, British, Dutch, and Swedish Consulates, the trendy fashion store Vakko, and the colorful Çiçek fish and vegetable market. A great place to stop for refreshment is the Çiçek Arcade lined with pubs.

6:00 p.m.: Dinner on your own and an evening to relax and enjoy Istanbul. Here are a few restaurant options – reservations suggested. (And you may need to translate some of the websites...)

360

Located on top of an old building, this restaurant has a 360 degrees view of the city. It is very modern and they have a very modern menu as well combining international specialities. <http://www.360istanbul.com>

FERIYE

Traditional ottoman cuisine, along the Bosphorus. www.feriye.com

TOPAZ

A new restaurant with a superb view of the Bosphorus.

<http://www.topazistanbul.com/en/index.html>

SUNSET

Located on a hill below Ulus Park, Sunset offers a spectacular view of the Bosphorus. <http://www.sunsetgrillbar.com/>

REINA

The place to be for the jet set (which certainly includes you), along the Bosphorus. <http://www.reina.com.tr/2008/>

ULUS 29

The restaurant is situated on top of a hill. Overlooking to the Bosphorus it has one of the best views in the city. The restaurant is decorated in an elegant, modern yet authentic style. Many locals enjoy the Turkish and International cuisine though it might be better for the bar scene after dinner.

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel

Day 4: Monday, July 19 - Istanbul

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.: Breakfast with Koc University for those who are interested

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:30 a.m.: Buses leave the hotel

Enjoy a day of sightseeing (included in tour costs for everyone) and relaxation after the intense events of the World Alumni Relations Conference on Sunday.

🇹🇷 9:30 - 12:00 p.m.: Ottoman Splendor: Topkapi Palace, home of Ottoman Sultans, center of government of the Ottoman Empire and the nucleus of the system which generated Ottoman elites, now host to one of the richest museum collections, including a magnificent treasury and the world's second richest collection of Chinese Porcelain (richest is in Erdebil, Iran).

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.: We will take a break from sightseeing at a convenient place for you to enjoy lunch on your own

For more information: www.yalegate.org/yaleturkey.htm



Istanbul at night



Tekfur Saray at Blachernae Palace



1:30 – 5:00 p.m.: Along the City Walls: Visit the church of Chora, decorated with fascinating thirteenth century mosaics. We then walk along the city walls of Constantinople to visit the Byzantine Palaces of Constantine Porphyrogenitus and of Blachernae. Several noblemen and emperors were jailed at the jails of Anemas, the dungeons of Blachernae Palace, which we hope to visit (currently it is under restoration but it is scheduled to be completed by 2010.) The Sinan's mosque of Ivaz Efendi located near the jail. Our walk will take us by the gate where the last of the Byzantine Emperors was seen for the last time during the siege. The walk will end at the holy spring of Blachernae, where there was once a great church.

5:30 – 6:45 p.m.: Freshen up at the Hotel

6:45 p.m.: Buses leave for dinner with Boğaziçi University

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.: Official alumni leadership exchange dinner to open the program with Boğaziçi University. Dinner hosted by Boğaziçi University and the Boğaziçi Alumni Association (BUMED) at a lovely restaurant by the sea with host President Prof. Kadri Ozcaldiran. Participation by BU Administration, Faculty, Alumni, Public Officials, AYA Istanbul Members.

After dinner: Option to continue to night clubs or other entertainment such as belly dancing on your own

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel

Day 5: Tuesday, July 20 - Istanbul

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:00 a.m.: Buses leave for Boğaziçi University

9:30 - 12:00: Meetings with Boğaziçi University (www.boun.edu.tr) and the Boğaziçi University Alumni Association on their beautiful campus overlooking the Bosphorus. Boğaziçi has a well-respected and independent alumni relations program that they would like to connect more closely to the University. We will have an opening plenary session followed by workshops discussing how to integrate (or not) alumni relations and fundraising as well as how to inspire alumni to volunteer.



For children, spouses and friends during the alumni relations session:

9:30 – 1:00 p.m.: Architecture Tour: Sinan and Perfect Beauty: Renaissance architect Alberti defined beauty "as the harmony and concord of all the parts achieved in such a manner that nothing can be added or taken away or altered." This tour studies the manifestation of such beauty in two of the masterpieces of the great sixteenth century Turkish architect Sinan: The Mosque of the Prince and the Great Suleymaniye, both commissioned by Suleyman the Magnificent, one for his deceased son and one for himself. Suleymaniye with two half domes solves the structural problems of Hagia Sophia. Şehzade has four half domes, the classical form of Ottoman Mosque architecture and an expression of perfect beauty and harmony. (\$40 per person/minimum of 10 people)



Miniaturk

9:30 – 1:30 p.m.: Miniaturk See all of Turkey in one day!

This park contains 105 models of iconic Turkish buildings done in 1/25th scale. 45 of the structures are from Istanbul, 45 are from Anatolia, and 15 are from the Ottoman territories that today lie outside of Turkey representing many cultures and civilizations. Models range from the Hagia Sophia to Selimiye, from Rumeli Fortress to Galata Tower, from Safranbolu Houses to the Sumela Monastery, from Qubbat As-Sakrah to the ruins of Mount Nemrut. In addition, some works that have not survived into the present, such as the Temple of Artemis, the Halicarnassus Mausoleum and Ajyad Castle, were recreated. Additional space was reserved for potential future models so that Miniaturk can continue to



grow, modeling, in a sense, planned urbanization. In addition to the models on exhibition in the open-air museum, Miniaturk also has a 400-seat amphitheater, a gift shop that sells souvenirs of Miniaturk, a playground to attract the interest of younger visitors, a life size chess board and a labyrinth. (\$35 per person/minimum 10 people)

For suggestions of sights to visit on your own during the alumni relations program, see Sunday, July 18.

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.: Friendship lunch hosted by Boğaziçi at Kennedy Lodge, formerly the home of the President of Boğaziçi and now an alumni retreat.

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Byzantine Heritage Tour including the monuments on the Byzantine Hippodrome where chariot races once took place, fifteen hundred years old cathedral of Hagia Sophia, one of the architectural wonders of the world with several wonderful mosaic panels and the Basilica Cistern where eighty thousand tons of water could be stored and a scene in “From Russia with Love” (yes, the first James Bond movie) was shot. Alumni group will go on tour directly from the lunch with Boğaziçi. Guests, spouses and children will join the group for the tour from their morning activities and lunch.

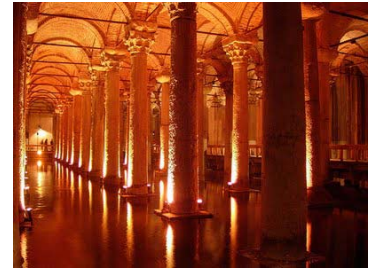
5:00 – 5:30 p.m.: Freshen up at the Hotel

5:30 p.m.: Bus leaves for Istanbul University

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.: Official alumni leadership exchange dinner with Istanbul University at their Baltalimani Premises with host Prof. Mehmet Tekbaş, President International Relations to open the leadership exchange program.

Option to continue to night clubs or other entertainment on your own.

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel



Basilica Cistern

Day 6: Wednesday, July 21 - Istanbul

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:00 a.m.: Buses leave hotel for Istanbul University



9:30 - 12:00: Meetings with Istanbul University (www.istanbul.edu.tr). Building on the discussions at the conference on July 18, our delegation of Yale alumni will prepare programs for the Istanbul alumni that may include lectures, seminars, and/or workshops with multiple leaders for smaller group discussions. Workshop topics to be considered in consultation with the alumni leaders may include: reunions, class dinners, mini-reunions, club activities, alumni schools interviewing, AYA assemblies, AYA Board meetings, Alumni Fund programs, shared interest group activities, the Bulldogs program, or the AYA Summer Community Fellowship. Presentation topics may include: alumni working with the University, supporting the students and maintaining the relationship with alumni, fund raising organization and management.

For children, spouses and friends during the alumni relations session:

9:30 – 12:30 p.m.: **Royal Hideout of a Recluse - Yildiz:** Nineteenth century Sultan Abdulhamit chose to seclude himself for thirty years in the gardens of Yildiz Palace (*right next to the Conrad!*) where he built about 60 mansions and other buildings which housed his household and their attendants. Our tour will include the private quarters of this reclusive sultan and the Chalet which he had built to house Kaiser Wilhelm during his visits to Istanbul. The dining room at the Chalet and the exterior façade of the building are decorated with some rare original pieces from the Çırağan Palace (now Kempinski Hotel), which were moved (borrowed!) as the



Yildiz Palace As of 3/25/2010



building was prepared in haste for Wilhelm's visit. Some of the mother of pearl is rare green and red. The main reception room has the largest carpet in the world: 400 square meters. (\$40 per person/minimum of 10 people)

☐ 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Archaeological dig of a major Byzantine Palace

Archaeologist Alessandra Ricci (of Princeton and Koç University) has invited spouses, guests and children to visit this active dig site on the Asian side of Istanbul where she is working. (Cost to be announced.)



Archaeological Dig in
Istanbul

For suggestions of sights to visit on your own during the alumni relations program, see Sunday, July 18.

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.: Friendship lunch hosted by Istanbul University to continue our program.

☐ 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.: We have a special permit to visit the excavation site of the Bosphorus tunnel train station at Yenikapi where fourteen Middle Ages shipwrecks and remains going back to the Neolithic are unearthed – or we will visit the Museum of Archaeology where some of the finds from this site plus numerous others, such as the oldest peace treaty extant, oldest Hebrew inscription and the sarcophagus attributed to Alexander when it was found, are on display.

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.: Freshen up at the Hotel

6:30 p.m.: Bus leaves for Bahçeşehir University

7:00 – 9:30 p.m.: Hear more about the new Foundation university structure in Turkey at our dinner hosted by Bahçeşehir University with President Deniz Ülke Arıboğan

9:30 p.m. – Party with the Yale Club of Turkey at the spectacular Roof Top Bar at the Conrad Istanbul Hotel overlooking the Bosphorous

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel



Day 7: Thursday, July 22 - Istanbul/Konya

5:00 - 5:30 a.m. (!): Breakfast in the Hotel

5:30 a.m.: Bus to airport

7:10 – 8:20 a.m.: Turkish Airlines Flight 2032 to Konya for the first stop on our retreat to see the ancient view of Turkey

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.: Second breakfast in the buses and ride to Mevlana Museum parts of which date to 1274 where you will learn all about the Whirling Dervishes

11:00 a.m.: Check in at Dedeman Konya Hotel

☐ 11:30 a.m.: Bus to Sille Village, a Greek-Turkish village with traditional village houses, cave dwellings and a desert church, St. Helen's.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.: Lunch at Sille Konak Restaurant

1:30 p.m.: First bus back to Hotel for those who want to spend time enjoying the hotel facilities (pool, gym)

1:30 – 4:00 p.m.: Free time to wander around in Sille and see the old Turkish Bath, the Church or visit the look out

4:00 p.m.: Bus to hotel



Excavation under the North Shelter at
Çatalhöyük



Sille Konak Restaurant

☐ 5:00 p.m.: Bus to Çatalhöyük, archaeological dig at the site of the oldest known civilization which dates back at least 8,000 years! Visit

Çatalhöyük led by the Project Director Prof Ian Hodder of Stanford and Cambridge or Field Director Shahina Farid. Çatalhöyük, which is the oldest city size settlement so far discovered, has been called “the dig of the millennium” by the distinguished Cambridge archaeologist Collin Renfrew.

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.: Bar-B-Cue Dinner at Çatalhöyük with bonfire and Turkish folk music with ensemble Fasil Grup

Overnight: Dedeman Konya Hotel

Day 8: Friday, July 23 – Konya/Cappadocia

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:00 – 12:30 p.m.: Drive to Cappadocia (3 1/2 hours)

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.: A La Turca Restaurant in Göreme

☐ 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.: Cappadocia is a unique landscape where erosion of volcanic ashes has created amazing looking cones and other formations. Volcanic rocks are permeated with churches decorated with beautiful frescoes. After a relaxing lunch, we will visit the Göreme Open Air Museum including the Dark Church. The Museum resembles a vast monastic complex composed of scores of refectory monasteries placed side by side, each with its own fantastic churches. It contains the finest of the rock-cut churches, with beautiful frescoes whose colors still retain their original freshness. It also presents unique examples of rock hewn architecture and fresco technique. Göreme Open Air Museum is a member of UNESCO World Heritage List since 1984.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.: Enjoy dinner at the Argos Hotel surrounded by this other-worldly landscape.

Overnight: Argos Cave Hotel in the center of Uchisar

Day 9: Saturday, July 24 - Cappadocia

☐ 5:00 a.m.: Optional Balloon Ride over the spectacular scenery (\$240 pp)

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting

9:30 a.m.: Buses leave hotel

☐ 9:30 - 12:30 p.m.: We will all visit an underground city and the wonders of Cappadocia. There are more than a hundred underground settlements which are guessed to be used since the Bronze Age, mostly in the Byzantine period when increasing invasions forced local residents to build underground cities for protection and religious purposes.

12:30 – 1:45 p.m.: Join the group for lunch at a local restaurant

☐ 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.: Independent sightseeing and activities around Cappadocia (extra charges may apply for certain activities) and lunch on your own. Buses will shuttle between the hotel and the two towns at various times during the day. Wander around the charming towns of Göreme or Ürgüp. Take a tour to see some of the landscape and churches with frescoes. Hike, bike or go horseback riding (rental costs and other fees may apply.) You can take a taxi to any activity that interests you.



Balloon ride over the fairy chimneys of Cappadocia



Cappadocian landscape of cave houses

2:00 – 4:30 p.m.: Optional excursion to a carpet exposition to learn more about Turkish rugs and to buy if you wish.

7:00 p.m.: Bus to Dinner

7:30 – 10:00 p.m.: Gala Dinner at Elai Restaurant with a beautiful terrace overlooking Pigeon Valley, Red Valley and Göreme

Overnight: Argos Cave Hotel

Day 10: Sunday, July 25 - Cappadocia/ Ankara

5:00 a.m.: Optional Balloon Ride if the ride did not happen on Saturday (\$240 pp)

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:00 – 8:15 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

8:30 a.m.: Buses leave for Ankara

Morning: Drive to Ankara – yes, this is a bit of a long drive around 4 hours but it is the best way to get there. If there is time, we will stop at Hacı Bektaş, a sufi shrine. Watch for Lake Tuz, the second largest lake in Turkey and the primary source for the local salt market.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.: Washington Restaurant in Ankara Castle with a nice garden, good food and, most important of all, excellent chocolate soufflé!

1:45 – 4:00 p.m.: Anatolian Civilizations Museum, Mausoleum of Ataturk, founder of Turkish Republic

6:00 p.m.: Buses leave for Bilkent University

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.: Official alumni leadership exchange dinner to open the program with Bilkent University hosted by Prof. Ali Dođramaci, President of Bilkent University

Overnight: Bilkent Hotel (www.bilkentotel.com.tr)

Day 11: Monday, July 26 – Ankara/Izmir

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:00 a.m.: Buses leave for Bilkent University



9:30 - 12:00 p.m.: Meetings with Bilkent University (www.bilkent.edu.tr) Our delegation of Yale alumni will prepare programs for the Bilkent alumni that may include lectures, seminars, and/or workshops -roundtable lunch with multiple leaders for smaller group discussions. Workshop topics to be considered in consultation with the alumni leaders may include: reunions, class dinners, mini-reunions, club activities, alumni schools interviewing, AYA assemblies, AYA Board meetings, Alumni Fund programs, shared interest group activities, the Bulldogs program, or the AYA Summer Community Fellowship. Presentation topics may include: alumni working with the University, supporting the students and maintaining the relationship with alumni, fund raising organization and management

For children, spouses and friends during the alumni relations session:

Rest and relaxation: Enjoy this opportunity to sleep in and then take advantage of the amenities of the hotel – the spa or the outdoor pool or both. The spa includes an indoor pool. Turkish bath, sauna, steam room and adventure showers (whatever that means!)



9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: Take a half day tour to the Roman Baths and the Temple of Augustus and visit the market area near the castle (at Pazari and Saman pazari). There may be time to visit the new Koc Industrial Museum nearby.

9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.: Possible excursion to the historic town of Beypazari. With its rich history, architectural heritage and attractive rocky countryside Beypazari is becoming increasingly attractive to visitors, especially day-trippers from Ankara. The cobbled streets of white Ottoman period buildings are particularly attractive; many of the old houses have been restored as hotels and restaurants (and are also popular with Turkish film directors looking for *authentic* locations.) (Cost to be announced.)

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.: Friendship lunch hosted by Bilkent University

1:15 – 4:30 p.m.: Free time in Ankara with optional excursions to be suggested or enjoy the hotel amenities (pool party anyone?) or visit the Roman Baths and the Temple of Augustus or visit the market area near the castle (at Pazari and Saman pazari). There may be time to visit the new Koç Industrial Museum nearby on your own.

4:30 p.m.: Buses to airport

6:15 – 7:30 p.m.: Flight to Izmir

8:15 p.m.: Relaxing dinner at the Hilton Hotel in Izmir

Overnight: Izmir Hilton

Day 12: Tuesday, July 27 - Izmir

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel



9:30 - 12:00 p.m.: Meetings with Yaşar University (www.yasar.edu.tr) and participation in alumni relations conference. Our delegation of Yale alumni will prepare programs for the Yaşar alumni that may include lectures, seminars, and/or workshops -roundtable lunch with multiple leaders for smaller group discussions. Workshop topics to be considered in consultation with the alumni leaders may include: reunions, class dinners, mini-reunions, club activities, alumni schools interviewing, AYA assemblies, AYA Board meetings, Alumni Fund programs, shared interest group activities, the Bulldogs program, or the AYA Summer Community Fellowship. Presentation topics may include:

alumni working with the University, supporting the students and maintaining the relationship with alumni, fund raising organization and management

For children, spouses and friends during the alumni relations session:

Full day: Tour to Çeşme, a coastal town and the center of the district of the same name in Turkey's western-most end, and enjoy some relaxation on the beach. Çeşme is on a promontory on the tip of the peninsula which also carries the same name and which extends inland to form a whole with the wider Karaburun Peninsula. (\$55 for transportation and guide, lunch on your own and there may be an entrance fee for the beach)

Full day: Visit Pergamom to see the magnificent Roman theatre and Trajan Temple, healing complex Asclepion and Allioanai – a Roman spa which is soon be covered under a modern dam. It is about 1 1/2-2 hours drive. Lunch can be at Pergamom at Saglam Restaurant or Berksoy – which has a pool where you can have a dip in between sightseeing. (Cost to be determined.)



The beach at Çeşme on the Aegean coast



On-your-own suggestion: Enjoy the shopping at the bazaar at the historical market of Kemeralti which was established in the 17th century and then wander around Konak Pier designed by Gustave Eiffel in 1890 for an upscale shopping experience.

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.: Friendship lunch hosted by Yaşar University



Columns at Izmir's Agora

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Spend some time wandering around Izmir on your own or join one of the following tours:

Visit St. Polycarp Church, the oldest church in Izmir which represents ancient Smyrna's role as one of the Seven Churches of Revelation, go to the ancient Izmir Agora and then visit the Archaeology Museum.

or

Visit the old Jewish neighborhood where you can see the three remaining synagogues, houses and bazaar that have been there for over 100 years.

or

Drive a little over an hour to Sardis, the capital of the ancient kingdom of Lydia and home of King Croesus (560-546 BC) to see a 4th century synagogue and the Temple of Artemis, originally built around 300 BC by the ancient Greeks but "renovated" by the Romans in the 2nd century AD. (\$40 per person/minimum of 10 people)

6:00 p.m.: Buses leave for dinner with Yasar

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.: Official alumni leadership exchange dinner hosted by Yaşar University at the Lamia Boat, to cruise in the Izmir Bay. Host: YU President Prof Murat Barkan; Presidents of 7 Izmir Universities and the Mayor have been invited (www.lamia.com.tr)



Lamia Boat

Overnight: Izmir Hilton Hotel

Day 13: Wednesday, July 28 - Izmir

7:00 – 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:00 a.m.: Drive about one hour to Ephesus, one of the most magnificent Roman remains in the world. Ephesus contains the largest collection of Roman ruins in the eastern Mediterranean. Only an estimated 15% has been excavated. The ruins that are visible give some idea of the city's original splendor, and the names associated with the ruins are evocative of its former life. The theater dominates the view down Harbour Street, which leads to the long-silted-up harbor.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.: Enjoy lunch (included) at Sirince Village, a beautiful Aegean Turkish village on the top of a mountain amidst vineyards and peach orchards near Ephesus.

1:15 – 4:00 p.m.: Afternoon visit to the House of the Virgin Mary where, according to tradition, she spent the last years of her life and the Selçuk Museum which houses many objects discovered at Ephesus including the statues of Artemis on display.

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.: Dinner is included at the hotel or stroll to the water to enjoy dinner on-your-own at a local restaurant

Overnight: Izmir Hilton Hotel



Herodium Corinth at Ephesus

Day 14: Thursday, July 29 - Izmir/Istanbul

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:30 a.m.: Bus to airport

11:00 - 12:00 p.m.: Flight to Istanbul

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.: Have lunch on your own at a restaurant in the Spice Bazaar (or the Grand Bazaar)

Afternoon: Join in a great team scavenger hunt through the Grand Bazaar called **Bazaar Fun** (requires at least 30 people) or you are free to shop or do some extra sight seeing.

Bazaar Fun: The Grand Bazaar is almost a city: founded on 50 streets with 4,400 shops, 40 inns, mosques, mescits (small mosques), Turkish Baths and fountains, coffee houses and pudding shops. There are four gates of the market built in Ottoman architecture style.

The group will be divided into teams and each team has a guide. Each team will have a game book, a map of the bazaar and the same amount of pocket money. The teams will search for specific products (plus one funny-silly-absurd item) and for answers to questions in the Grand Bazaar. Participants will have to bargain and communicate with locals while enjoying the busy and crowded streets.

At the end, there will be three winning teams:

1 - The team who found the addresses the fastest and answered the questions correctly.

2 - The team who bought the specified items at the lowest total cost.

3 - The team who found the silliest, funniest item.

(additional cost per person for the game to be determined)

5:00 - 5:30 p.m.: Freshen up at the Hotel

5:30 p.m.: Bus leaves for Sabanci University



6:00 - 7:00 p.m.: Exhibition Tour of Sakip Sabanci Museum

7:00 - 7:30 p.m.: Cocktails

7:30 p.m.: Official alumni leadership exchange dinner hosted by Sabanci University with host President Nihat Berker.

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel

Day 15: Friday, July 30 - Istanbul

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast in the Hotel

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: Morning meeting in the Hotel

9:00 a.m.: Buses leave for Karakoy Communication Center

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.: **Reception** with Foundation universities hosted by Sabanci University at their historic Karakoy Communication Center (www.sabanciuniv.edu.tr)

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Panel discussion - Alumni Relations and Fundraising for the University - Working together to engage alumni and promoting the giving of time, talent and treasure. Taking into consideration that these universities are no more than 25 years old, our sessions this morning will concentrate on the motivation for alumni to give and how to create a strong culture of giving back.

For children, spouses and friends during the alumni relations session:



The Grand Bazaar



☐ 9:30 – 12:30 p.m.: Strolling through Pera: This tour gives a taste of nineteenth century Levantine life style and of entertainment in modern Istanbul. Once the area where westerners lived, Pera is now a pedestrian arcade - the center of modern entertainment and shopping in Istanbul. We start strolling at Taksim Square. Our walk will take us along the independence monument, Armenian Catholic Church and Uc Horon Armenian Churches, Aya Triada Orthodox Church, Eseyan Armenian High School, nineteenth century apartments Naum Pasa, Koçoğlu Misirli, and Doğan, Ottoman Meteorology Headquarters, British, Dutch, and Swedish Consulates, the trendy fashion store Vakko, the colorful Çiçek fish and vegetable market. Group can stop for drinks at the Çiçek Arcade lined with pubs. (\$40 per person/minimum of 10 people)

☐ 9:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Atlantis Entertainment Centre and Cevahir Shopping Mall - Who knew that Europe's largest shopping mall and a huge entertainment park would be built in the middle of Istanbul? Atlantis, Istanbul's only enclosed entertainment centre is huge. Atlantis has amusement park rides (everything from free-fall to bumper cars), a flight simulator, a puppet theater, video games and more right in the mall. The mall is ten stories high with over 300 stores – this is the ultimate shoppportunity. Timing is flexible – go on your own or with a group. There are plenty of great places to eat in the mall.



Atlantis in Cevahir Mall

For suggestions of sights to visit on your own during the alumni relations program, see Sunday, July 18.

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.: Lunch with the Foundation universities

Afternoon: Enjoy a Turkish Bath, wander around the Grand Bazaar (do some last minute shopping), Atlantis Entertainment Centre at Cevahir Shopping Mall, or squeeze in a last bit of sightseeing.

☐ An afternoon at a Turkish bath One possibility is Suleymaniye Hamam: This sixteenth century bath was inaugurated by Suleyman the Magnificent who was also the first customer. Suleyman's architect the great genius Sinan used the bath throughout his life. The bath was the first building of the Suleymaniye Complex to be completed, in order to meet the needs of those employed in construction. Later, the bath was used by the faculty of the university located within the Suleymaniye complex. Water supply is still from a spring, as it was at the beginning. Recently restored, the bath is kept meticulously clean and will be reserved for our group. You can bathe in the lodge used by the architect Sinan himself. And, yes, this can be a co-ed experience. (\$68 per person including transportation, entrance, massage and scrub/\$50 without the massage and scrub)



Suleymaniye Hamam

6:30 p.m.: Buses leave for our cocktail cruise

☐ 7:00 - ?????: Final Gala Dinner with cocktails during a cruise on the Bosphorus and 8:00 p.m. dinner in the beautiful Sait Halim Paşa Mansion

Option to continue to night clubs or other entertainment such as belly dancing

Overnight: Conrad Istanbul Hotel

Day 16: Saturday, July 31 - Istanbul – Home

"Güle Güle"²

² "Good-bye" in Turkish



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Morning: Transfers for Departure for USA

If you want to coordinate your flight home, there will be a bus leaving from the Conrad Hilton to the airport around 7:30 a.m. on July 31. There are two non-stop flights from Istanbul to JFK:

Turkish Air flight #1 leaving Istanbul at 10:50 a.m. and landing at JFK at 2:45 p.m.

Delta flight #73 leaving Istanbul at 12:15 p.m. and landing at JFK at 5:05 p.m.