

EXPECTED BEHAVIOUR OF TOURISTS

- **Please carry your passport and a printed copy of your visa (if applicable) or residence permit at all times.**
- Do not smoke in-doors & all public transportations, it is prohibited.
- Ask permission before taking a person's / house photograph.
- Credit cards are acceptable in most places. Please make exchanges at official Exchange offices or bank ATM.
- Do not engage in communication with harsh words, impolite behavior, making noise, and acting aggressively towards state officials, government, local communities, and fellow tourists.
- Tourists are expected to respect religious sites, customs and traditions, dress codes and obey all local rules. **While visiting a mosque, tomb etc.;** women wear long clothes to cover their hair, arms and legs. Men are not required to cover their hair, but men cannot wear shorts and sleeveless shirts either. Shoes are required to be removed.
- Tourists must not engage in illegal activities such as trading flora and fauna, cultural artifacts, or sacred objects or trading in illegal goods, including illegal drugs.
- Turks regularly offer invitations for others to join them (e.g. at their table) or have something of theirs. These gestures can come across as overly insistent or demanding to foreigners.
- **You can contact the emergency services by calling: 112 for all emergency services.**

If you are invited to a house;

- Remove your shoes at the entrance.
- It is considered a nice gesture to bring sweets, flowers or presents when visiting someone at their home.
- For a foreigner it's appropriate to use a handshake, usually with the right hand. You can decide how you should greet by observing those around you. Bowing your head will also be acceptable. Cheek kissing is a ritual or social kissing gesture to indicate friendship, family relationship. Mostly women greet each other in this way. For Turkish people hand-kissing is a sign of respect and love. People kiss the hand of those who are older than them.
- Some Turkish people may drink alcohol but they do not eat pork, snails and frogs etc.
- Evening meals may be accompanied with alcohol depending on the person you are dining with.
- Do not blow your nose or pick your teeth during a meal.
- Tea or Turkish coffee may be served at the conclusion of a meal.
- It is polite to stand when someone elderly enters the room.