

Travel to
Turkey
broadens
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Jim Gold International Folk Tours

Eastern Turkey!

Folk Dancing, Folk Music, Culture, Art, History, Adventure !

October 7-20, 2012

with

Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt

Istanbul extension: Oct. 20-24



- ★ **Kurdish, Pontic/Black Sea, Georgian, Armenian cultural regions!**
- ★ **Explore Istanbul, Urfa, Mardin, Van, Dogubeyazit, Kars, Ani, Erzurum, Trabzon**
- ★ **Folk dance with local Turkish teachers !**
- ★ **International dancing with Lee Otterholt !**
- ★ **Price includes round-trip air, transfers, hotels, private bus, guide, sightseeing, all breakfasts and dinners !**

ITINERARY

Day 1: Sunday, October 7: Departure on Turkish airlines from JFK in New York City.

Day 2: Monday, October 8: Arrive in Istanbul. Fly to the **KURDISH** cultural region of **SANLIURFA**. Dinner and overnight in Dedeman Urfa Hotel.

Day 3: Tuesday, October 9: Visit Harran, one of the oldest cities of the Mesopotamia with its famous “Beehive” houses, and explore Golbasi and its castle. Then see the archaeological dig at Gobekli Tepe, one of the oldest religious construction yet discovered. Dinner and overnight in Dedeman Urfa Hotel.

Day 4: Wednesday, October 10: After breakfast drive to Mardin Visit of the aramean orthodox monastery Deyrulzafaran monastery See the market and Ulu Cami. **Kurdish dancing! Folk dance with Lee and local teachers.** Dinner and overnight in Mardin’s Yay Grand Hotel.





Day 5: Thursday, October 11: Visit Mardin city. Drive to the **ARMENIAN cultural region of VAN.** The city of Van is situated on the shores of Lake Van, at 5,500 feet, one of the highest lakes in the world. Visit the St. Croix church, a beautiful example of Armenian architecture. This church is located on the Akdamar Island. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.** Dinner and overnight in Merit Sahmaran Van Hotel.

Day 6-8: Friday-Sunday: October 12:- Sunday, October 12-14: VAN: City sight seeing tour. Then visit Hosap Castle. After the visit continue to Cavustepe, the Ourartéens site. Lunch and stop at a local handicraft, KILIMS, and Castle of Van at the sunset, to have a beautiful view over the biggest lake of Turkey, the lake of Van. **Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.** Dinners and overnights in Van.

Day 9: Monday, October 15: VAN - DOGUBEYAZIT – GEORGIAN cultural region of KARS. Drive to Dogubeyazit, the closest town to Mt. Ararat. Visit the famous 17th century Ishak Pasha Palace, built on a high valley overlooking the caravan route. In the afternoon continue to Kars, small city which is a beautiful example of Russian urbanism of the 19th century. Dinner and overnight in Kars' Toprak Hotel..



Day 10: Tuesday, October 16: KARS - ANI – ERZURUM Morning visit Ani, the capital city of an Urartian State, and later of the Armenian Bagratid Kingdom from 953 to 1045 AD. Among the ruins of this ancient city there are eight churches, a convent and a citadel along with the main cathedral which has alternately been a church or a mosque. After lunch, drive to Erzurum the largest city in the eastern Anatolia. At arrival visit the Islamic monuments from Seljuk, Mongol and Ottoman eras, Ulu Mosque and Cifte Minare. Dinner and overnight in Ersurum Palan Hotel.



Day 11-13: Wednesday-Friday, October 17-19: ERZURUM – PONTIC/BLACK cultural region of TRABZON. City tour of Trabzon. Visit Hagia Sophia and Sumela Monastery which was well known and respected as a monastic center from the 4th century until 1923. **Learn Pontic dancing! Folk dancing with Lee and local teachers.** Dinners and overnights at Novotel Trabzon.



Day 14: Saturday, October 20: TRABZON-ISTANBUL Fly to Istanbul, then home to USA. or: **5-day/4 night Istanbul extension! Eresin Taksim Hotel. Sat.-Wed.: Oct. 20-24.**

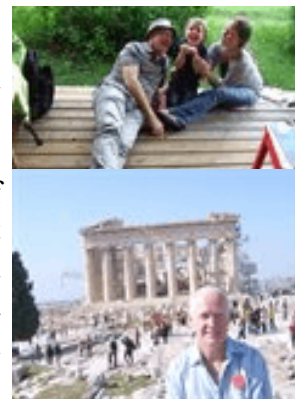
About Jim Gold

Jim brings a love of music, people, languages, history, humor, and new discoveries to his tours, and dance classes, making them a joy for all ages. For over 25 years, he has led Folk Tours to countries such as Bulgaria, Greece, Norway, Poland, Hungary, Turkey, Israel, Croatia, Egypt, and Spain in order to experience their history and culture from the perspective of the folk dancer. Jim is a classical and folk guitarist, a folk dance teacher who makes dancing easy. He is the author of nine books, his latest being “50 Folk Dances choreographed by Jim Gold.” As a professional guitarist and singer, his concert program has been performed at schools, universities, on TV and national radio. This is his 24th year leading **Jim Gold International Tours.**



About Lee Otterholt

Lee Otterholt, born in USA of Norwegian-American parents, has lived and worked in Norway as a professional dancer, teacher, and choreographer. He founded the Center for International Folk Dance in Oslo, and was professor of dance folklore at the Norwegian National College of Ballet, and University College of Oslo. Lee established folk dance and performing groups in Norway, taught at festivals and workshops throughout Europe, United States, and East Asia, and authored folk dance and instructional manuals for Norwegian schools. He was a choreographer for the Opening Ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer.



Visit www.jimgold.com to see YOUTUBE tour videos !

Land Only: \$3995 Land and Air: \$4695
Istanbul extension: \$695



REGISTRATION: I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person, refundable until June 20th. Single Supplement: \$795. Istanbul ext single supp. \$395. Additional charges: \$85 hotel taxes and service, air tax/fuel surcharge: \$395. **Gratuities are not included in the price.** Prices and program subject to change without notice. Turkey sells a visa for \$20 upon arrival at the Istanbul airport. Cancellations 45 days prior to departure: Refund 50% of total price. Less than 30 days: No refund. Travel insurance recommended.

Total balance due June 20, 2012.

Istanbul extension: Yes ____ No ____

Name _____

Address _____

No. of people _____ Phone(____) _____ Email _____

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