## UNV/09 – Bosphorus and Asia

Operates both privately and regularly. Duration: 08:00 – 18:00 Notes: - Year around guaranteed departure with no minimum number of guests requested. - Departs: Daily - Guests will be picked up and dropped off from/to their hotels. - Beylerbeyi Palace is closed on Monday and Thursday - Basic lunch is included.

Drive to pier in Eminonu for a short visit to historical *Spice Market (Egyptian Bazaar)*. This bazaar was built in 1664 as a part of Yeni Mosque complex situated nearby and named Egyptian Bazaar because spices and herbs brought from or via Egypt were sold in it.

Then, board a *private boat for the cruise along the Bosphorus*, a narrow strait between the continents of Europe and Asia connecting Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara. In the Byzantine and early Ottoman days, there was little settlement on either sides of the Bosphorus but as of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, it became a favorite place for the sultans and their entourage where they built their kiosks and waterside residence.



Drive to the Asian Side of Istanbul via transcontinental **Bosphorus Bridge**, unique in the world connecting Asia and Europe continents. The bridge was built in 1973, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Republic of Turkey. It's length is 1.560 m (1,074 m over the sea) and height from the sea is 64 m. It is the fourth longest suspension bridge in the world.

Visit **Beylerbeyi Palace**, situated on the shore at the Asian end of the Bosphorus Bridge and built between 1861 and 1864 by Sultan Abdulaziz. The palace is a three-story structure set on terraced grounds planted with trees brought from all over world. The interior was decorated in a style typical of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Europe and the original furniture is still in display. The building itself, constructed in the French Baroque style, is made of stone and marble. It was used by the Ottoman sultans as a summer residence. Then, drive to **Camlica Hill**, highest one in Istanbul, to enjoy the panoramic view of the city.

