

Two Great RFE Adventures Are Coming in 2027!

We're excited to announce not one, but **two Rotary Friendship Exchange opportunities for District 7570 in 2027**—and we'd love for **YOU** to be part of one of them!

Next year, D7570 Rotarians will have the opportunity to experience **San Diego** or travel internationally to **western Türkiye**. Two very different destinations, but both offer what makes Rotary Friendship Exchange so special: experiencing another part of the world through the eyes of local Rotarians and building friendships along the way.

31 When's This Happening?

San Diego - District 5340



- Outbound: Mid- to late February 2027
- Approximately 8 days
- Team of 8 people

Western Türkiye - District 2440



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- Outbound: Middle two weeks of April 2027
- Approximately 12 days
- Team of 10 to 12 people

Exact dates and itineraries are still being finalized with our partner districts. District 7570 will return the hospitality by welcoming teams from both districts later in 2027.

Where Are We Going?

San Diego — Our friends in District 5340 are putting together a visit that will introduce us to San Diego and Southern California from a local perspective. Possible stops could include **Balboa Park, the USS Midway, La Jolla Cove, Coronado and the historic Hotel del Coronado and Cabrillo National Monument**, along with other cultural and coastal experiences throughout this region of Southern California.

Western Türkiye — Our hosts in District 2440 will introduce us to the remarkable history, culture and coastal beauty of western Türkiye. While the host cities are still being determined, possible experiences could include **ancient sites such as Ephesus, historic Ottoman landmarks, colorful markets, Aegean coastal communities, and visits to Rotary projects and local clubs.**

What's RFE All About?

On both exchanges, participants will stay in the homes of local Rotarians—sharing meals, conversation and everyday life while experiencing their communities in a way most visitors never do. That's what makes RFE different from traditional tourism: the places are wonderful, but the friendships are always what we remember most.

The best RFE travelers bring a flexible, “go with the flow” spirit and understand that adaptability is part of the RFE experience. Things won't always go exactly as planned,

but being open to different people, places and experiences is a big part of what makes a Friendship Exchange so much fun.

Who Can Join?

Rotarians from throughout District 7570 are encouraged to apply for either exchange or both. A Rotarian may apply individually or with a spouse, partner or family member, for a maximum of two travelers per application.

Applicants may express interest in both exchanges and indicate a preference, but initially will be selected for only one outbound team. Two people applying to travel together will be considered as a single application.

Applications will generally be considered in the order received, with **priority given to first-time RFE participants**. We'll also consider willingness to host or otherwise assist with the reciprocal inbound exchange, previous Rotary hosting experience, overall Rotary involvement, and our goal of assembling well-rounded teams that reflect the diversity of clubs, communities, backgrounds and Rotary experiences across District 7570.

Because RFE involves home hosting and active group itineraries, **mobility and other accommodation needs may also be considered in determining whether the requirements of a particular exchange can reasonably be accommodated.**

Who's Leading the Teams?

San Diego: Burt & Donna Duren will lead the D7570 team. Burt is the RFE Committee Chair for D7570 and current President of the Rotary Club of Lynchburg-Morning. Both he and Donna are experienced Friendship Exchange travelers and led the D7570 exchange to Brazil earlier this year.

Western Türkiye: Charles Daniels & Erika de Azagra will lead the D7570 team. Charles is a member of the District 7570 RFE Committee, and both Charles and Erika are members of the Rotary Club of Frederick County, experienced international travelers and alumni of our 2026 RFE to Brazil.

What Will It Cost?

One of the advantages of Rotary Friendship Exchange is that home hosting helps keep costs down while providing an experience you simply can't get from a hotel or traditional tour.

San Diego: Round-trip economy airfare is currently estimated at approximately **\$350-\$600 per person** from airports in or near District 7570.

Western Türkiye: Round-trip economy airfare is currently estimated at approximately **\$900-\$1,400 per person**, depending on departure airport and final itinerary.

These airfare estimates are for planning purposes only. Participants should also expect additional costs for transportation, admission fees, some meals and other group expenses. More detailed estimates will be provided as itineraries and travel dates are finalized.

Participants will make their own travel arrangements to and from the exchange destination, providing the flexibility to add personal travel before or after the RFE if they choose.

Participants are responsible for all costs associated with their travel and participation in the exchange. Neither District 7570 nor Rotary International provides financial assistance for RFE travel.

How Do I Apply?

- Complete the attached **District 7570 Rotary Friendship Exchange Application**
- Indicate whether you are applying for **San Diego, western Türkiye or both** and, if both, your preferred destination.
- The application will also give you an opportunity to tell us about **experiences, connections or other background you have that could be beneficial to the team.**
- Email your completed application to **Burt Duren** at durencburt@gmail.com.

Applications will remain open until we have received enough qualified applicants to fill both outbound teams and establish appropriate waiting lists—so if you're interested, **don't wait to apply!**

Selected participants will be asked to make a team deposit to confirm their place, with details provided at the time of selection.

Some details—particularly exact dates, itineraries and costs—are still being finalized with our friends in San Diego and western Türkiye, and we'll share updates as they become available. In the meantime, please reach out to me with any questions.

Two very different destinations—and two great opportunities to experience Rotary Friendship Exchange in 2027. We hope you'll join us!

Burt Duren

Chair, District 7570 Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee

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