

BIBLICAL Turkey

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STEPS OF ST. PAUL GREECE & TURKEY

Duration: 15 days - 14 nights

Standards: Private & Groups

Highlights: Athens, Meteora, Kalambaka, Veria, Thessaloniki, Kavala, Philippi, Alexandroupolis, Canakkale, Alexandria Troas, Bergama, Izmir, Sardis, Philadelphia, Hierapolis, Laodicea, Pamukkale, St. Polycarp, Ephesus, Kusadasi, Patmos, Corinth,

Departure: Depends on Availability

ITINERARY

Day 1: ARRIVE ATHENS (Dinner)

Upon arrival into Athens you will be met by our local representative and transferred to your accommodation where you will spend the night. After checking in to the hotel then rest of the afternoon is free to relax or explore and dinner at hotel. Overnight in Athens.

Day 2: ATHENS – KALAMBAKA (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at hotel and check out. We are going to depart for the Northern Greece tour. We will board the coach and drive to Kalambaka. In late afternoon, check-in at the hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight in Kalambaka.

Day 3: KALAMBAKA – METEORA – VERIA – THESSALONIKI (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at the hotel and checkout. This morning we enjoy a spectacular drive up to Meteora Monasteries. After visiting a workshop where icons are made, we have a short lunch break on your own; we drive to Thessaloniki passing through Veria (Berea).

Continue on to Thessaloniki where we arrive in late afternoon. Check-in at hotel is followed by dinner and overnight. Overnight in Thessaloniki.

Day 4: THESSALONIKI – KAVALA (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at the hotel and checkout to depart for a visit to a Greek Orthodox Church and tour of Thessaloniki. We will depart the hotel at 2.30pm and travel by coach from Thessaloniki to Kavala. Dinner and overnight at hotel. Overnight in Kavala.

Day 5: KAVALA – PHILIPPI – ALEXANDROUPOLIS (Breakfast, Dinner)

We drive to Philippi to visit the site and baptistry of Lydia. We spend 15 minutes for devotional segment on site by the river at Lydia. Following lunch back in Kavala, we will continue on to Alexandroupolis where will check-in at hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight in Alexandroupolis.

Day 6: ALEXANDROUPOLIS – CANAKKALE (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at the hotel and checkout. We leave Greece for a short journey as we head towards the border to make our way into Turkey. We will farewell our guide here and after border formalities (Customs & Visa Procedures) and will transfer to our Turkish coach & meet our new local guide. Once in Turkey we will make a brief stop for lunch (on your own expenses).

Then coach on our way to Gallipoli National Park at Eceabat and visit several sites from the Gallipoli campaign. We will spend 15 minutes for devotions at ANZAC Memorial. We will continue on to Eceabat where we will board our ferry across the Dardanelles to Canakkale where we will spend the night and dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Canakkale.

Day 7: CANAKKALE – ALEXANDRIA TROAS – BERGAMA – IZMIR (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. We will travel to see the ancient ruins of Alexandrian Troas and the port of Assos, both of which were included in St Paul's itinerary. We will then continue our journey towards Bergama (Pergamum) for a lunch break. We will see the Red Basilica and visit the Acropolis (15 minutes required for

Web : www.biblicalturkey.site E-mail : info@biblicalturkey.site

Address: Hülya Kocyigit Bulv. G. Paradise Sit. A blok. D:4 Kusadasi / Aydın – TURKEY

Phone: +90 256 618 33 75 / Fax: +90 256 618 31 20 / Mobile: +90 549 640 11 03

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devotional segment at Pergamum). We will also visit the ancient healing centre of Asklepiion. Before we make our way to Izmir where we arrive in late evening. Dinner and overnight at hotel. Overnight in Izmir.

Day 8: SARDIS – PHILADELPHIA – HIERAPOLIS (Breakfast, Dinner)

After breakfast at hotel, checkout and depart our way to Sardis where we will visit the site. Free time for lunch. Afterwards make our way to Alasehir (Philadelphia) for another short stop. Finally we will travel to Pamukkale (Hierapolis) for a photo stop before checking into our hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight in Pamukkale.

Day 9: LAODICEA – PAMUKKALE - IZMIR (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at hotel and checkout. This morning we will tour Ancient Hierapolis & the Calcium Terraces. Afterwards, it will be a short drive to Laodicea for a tour of the site. Free time for lunch in Pamukkale. Depart for Izmir. We will have a panoramic city tour upon arrival in late afternoon. Check-in at hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight in Izmir.

Day 10: IZMIR – ST. POLYCARP – EPHESUS – KUSADASI (Breakfast, Dinner)

After breakfast we will enjoy a morning visit to St. Polycarp Church and then drive to Kusadasi to visit St. John Basilic. We will stop for lunch at Bizim Ev restaurant (on your own expense). After lunch we visit Ephesus to see Baths of Scholastica, Temple of Hadrian, the library and the theatre. We continue our tour with a short stop in a rug making store to watch the demonstration. We will arrive at hotel in Kusadasi. Overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 11: KUSADASI – PATMOS (Breakfast, Dinner)

Early breakfast at the hotel in time to depart for port to embark on ferry at 7.00am. Bid farewell to our Turkish guide this morning as we depart Turkey. After customs formalities we will board our ferry for our relaxing journey to the Greek island of Patmos. We will share devotions during this trip. Upon arrival at the port (Skala), our luggage will be transferred to the hotel by mini-van while the group will take the short walk to the hotel (as the streets are too narrow for a large coach). The remainder of the day is at leisure for lunch and to enjoy this typical Greek Island. **Dinner** at local restaurant in Patmos. Overnight in Patmos.

Day 12: PATMOS – ATHENS (Breakfast, Dinner)

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out (leave packed suitcases with reception). We will depart at 8.40am and walk to the waterfront to meet our guide and where our coach will be waiting for us. At 9.00am we will commence a morning tour of the Monastery of St John and the cave of the Apocalypse. We will return to Skala for free time for lunch. We will have free afternoon to explore or do some last minute shopping. Make your own way back to the hotel to retrieve our luggage.

Dinner will be at local restaurant before embarkation on the night ferry departing at 23.55 for our journey back to the Port of Piraeus (Athens). Overnight in twin-berth inside cabins on board.

Day 13: ATHENS ARRIVAL – ATHENS CITY TOUR (Breakfast, Dinner)

Upon arrival (estimated - 8a.m) at Piraeus port we will meet the local guide and board the bus to travel to the Hotel to enjoy an American buffet breakfast. After breakfast we will continue on to Athens to enjoy our city tour. We will climb up to the marble capped Acropolis Hill and see the Parthenon and Erechtheion Temples. We will then walk to nearby Mars Hill where Paul delivered his well-known sermon about “the Unknown God” and we will share in devotions. The remainder of the day will be free time to explore. Some may use this time to visit The Salvation Army centre (a short walk from Victoria Metro Station), Dinner will be at the hotel. Overnight in Athens.

Day 14: ATHENS – CORINTH (Breakfast, Dinner)

Early breakfast before we board our coach at 8.00am to start our excursion out of Athens. Drive along the coastal highway of the Saronic Gulf and reach the historic Corinth Canal for a brief stop for photos and refreshments. We will then visit the ancient site of Corinth and the nearby small archaeological museum. On our way back to Athens we will visit a pottery and marble shop and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant (own expense). The remainder of the afternoon will be free to explore. Dinner will be at the hotel. Overnight in Athens.

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Day 15: ATHENS DEPARTURE (Breakfast)

After breakfast, departure from hotel and transfer to airport for your international flight back to home.

INCLUDES & EXCLUDES

 14 nights accommodation at 4 star hotels including breakfast.	YES
 All transportation in Turkey & Greece by private A/C vehicles	YES
 14 breakfast and 14 dinner	YES
 Entrance fees to the sites and museums written on itinerary	YES
 English Speaking - Bible Oriented Tour Guide	YES
 Tips to the hotels and restaurants	YES
 Ferry from Kusadasi - Patmos & Patmos - Athens	YES
 Tips to Guide & Driver	NOT
 Local Taxes	NOT
 Meals not mentioned in the itinerary.	NOT

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