

St. Paul's Turkey, Greece & Greek Islands

Day 1: Istanbul – Arrival

Meet at arrival in Istanbul. Welcome dinner with your tour escort. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2: Istanbul Full Day

Visit Topkapi Palace, Saint Sophia Basilica, Blue Mosque, Byzantine Hippodrome, and Grand Bazaar. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul

Day 3: Troas – Assos

Drive to Troas visited by St. Paul on his third Journey (Acts 16:8-11, 20:5-12). Continue to Assos (Acts 20:13-14) where St. Paul was joined by St. Luke. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale.

Day 3: Pergamum & Asclepion

Visit Pergamum's acropolis (Rev. 2:12-17), home to the Altar of Zeus, and Roman medical center of Aesculapius. Continue to Thyatira (Acts 16:14), a city of artisans' guilds in St. Paul's time. Short stop in Izmir (Smyrna, Rev. 2:8-11). Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 4: Ephesus – Pamukkale

Visit Ephesus, home of St. Paul between 54 and 57 AD. Visit the Virgin Mary's House and St. John's Basilica where, according to legend, he was buried. Continue to Pamukkale known for its lime cascades. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale.

Day 5: Hierapolis – Sardis – Kusadasi

Visit the Hierapolis, Philip the Evangelist's home. Stop at nearby Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22). Then, continue to Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13), a favorite city of St. Paul and John. Visit Sardis (Rev. 3:16) with its beautiful gymnasium and marble-paved synagogue. Overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 7: Cruise – Patmos

Noon embarkation for our Greek Islands Cruise. Our first stop is Patmos (4PM-9PM). OPTIONAL shore excursion to visit St. John's monastery and/or the Grotto of the Apocalypse.

Day 8: Cruise – Rhodes

A full day to enjoy Rhodes (7AM-6PM). OPTIONAL shore excursion to visit the Old town of Rhodes and/or Lindos.

Day 9: Cruise – Heraklion (Crete) & Santorini

Heraklion, Crete (7AM-11:30AM), OPTIONAL shore excursion to visit the Knossos Palace and the Archeological Museum. Santorini (4:30PM-9PM), OPTIONAL shore excursion to visit Thira and Oia Villages.

Day 10: Athens – Corinth

Arrival in Piraeus/Athens. Visit of Acropolis and the Museum of Acropolis and panoramic motor coach sightseeing tour of Athens city. In the afternoon, we follow the road to Ancient Corinth where Apostle Paul lived and preached for two years. Visit the Archeological Museum, the marketplace, the Bema and the temples. Return to Athens for dinner and overnight.

Day 11: Kavala – Philippi – Thessaloniki

Morning transfer to Athens airport for a short flight to Thessaloniki. Visit to Kavala. Paul arrived here with his disciples, Timothy and Silas. Luke the Evangelist came here from Troas. Continue to Philippi, the leading city of the district Macedonia. This is where Paul preached his first Evangelical messages and baptized the first Christians on European soil. Also, visit the Acropolis, the Marketplace, Basilica and the Theatre. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.

Day 12: Thessaloniki – Return

Your representative escorts you to the airport for your flight home.



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Biblical Turkey

St. Paul, Seven Churches with extensions to Greece



TRAVEL OPTIONS
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Biblical Turkey

Day 1: Adana – Arrival

Meet at arrival in Adana. Welcome dinner with your tour escort. Dinner and overnight in Adana.

Day 2: Antioch

Drive to Antakya, Antioch, the headquarters of St. Paul's missionary journeys. Visit Seleucia, from where St. Paul sailed to Cyprus and the Grotto of St. Peter in Antioch and impressive Mosaic Museum. Dinner and overnight in Adana.

Day 3: Tarsus – Cappadocia

Departure for Tarsus, St. Paul's birthplace. Visit the town, Cleopatra Gate, and St. Paul's Well. Passing through the Cilician Gates, we arrive in Cappadocia for dinner and overnight.



Day 4: Cappadocia

A full day excursion of Cappadocia's rocky hills & valleys. Home to Romans, early Christians, Byzantines and Seljuks. Visit Goreme Church Valley, Zelve, Avanos, Ortahisar, and Uchisar, and see some of the many churches carved into the rocks. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia.

Day 5: Cappadocia - Iconium

Visit Karaman, Derbe where St. Paul preached. Drive on though Lystra where St. Paul healed a man. Dinner and overnight in Iconium.

Day 6: Iconium - Hierapolis

Morning sightseeing of Konya includes a visit to the Mevlana Museum, founder of the whirling dervishes. Proceed to Yalvac, Pisidian Antioch where St. Paul said, "We now turn to the gentiles" and opened Christianity to the world. Dinner and overnight in Hierapolis.

Day 7: Hierapolis – Laodicea-Philadelphia- Sardis

Visit the Hierapolis, Philip the Evangelist's home. Visit necropolis, churches and baths then stop at nearby Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22). Then, continue to Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13), a favorite city of St. Paul and John. We visit Sardis (Rev. 3:16) with its beautiful gymnasium and marble-paved synagogue. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 8: Ephesus

Explore Ephesus, the home of St. Paul between 54 and 57 AD. Visit the Virgin Mary's House and St. John's Basilica where, according to legend, he was buried. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 9: Smyrna – Thyatira-Pergamum – Canakkale

Visit Izmir (Smyrna, Rev. 2:8-11). Continue to Thyatira (Acts 16:14), a city of artisans' guilds in St. Paul's time. Then, we visit Pergamum's acropolis (Rev. 2:12-17), home to the Altar of Zeus as well as the Roman medical center of Aesculapiums. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale.

Day 10: Assos – Troas – Istanbul

Visit to Assos (Acts 20:13-14), where St. Paul was joined by St. Luke. Continue to Troas, visited by St. Paul on his third Journey (Acts 16:8-11, 20:5-12; II Cor. 2:12-13; II Tim. 4:13). Drive to Istanbul. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 11: Istanbul

A guided tour exploring this ancient city includes the Topkapi Palace, the Saint Sophia Basilica, The Blue Mosque, the Byzantine Hippodrome, the Grand Bazaar with its 3,000 exotic shops. Farewell dinner after a short cruise on the Bosphorus where Europe meets Asia. Overnight in Istanbul.

Day 12: Istanbul - Return

Your representative escorts you to the airport for your flight home.

Seven Churches@Patmos

Day 1: Istanbul – Arrival

Meet at arrival in Istanbul. Welcome dinner with your tour escort. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2: Troas – Assos

In the morning, we drive along the Sea of Marmara and ferry across the Dardanelle waterway to Troas visited by St. Paul on his third Journey (Acts 16:8-11, 20:5-12). Then, we continue to Assos (Acts 20:13-14), where St. Paul was joined by St. Luke. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale.



Day 3: Pergamum & Asclepion

After breakfast, we visit Pergamum's acropolis (Rev. 2:12-17), home to the Altar of Zeus, and the Roman medical center of Aesculapiums. Then we continue to Thyatira (Acts 16:14), a city of artisans' guilds in St. Paul's time. This evening, we continue to Izmir (Smyrna, Rev. 2:8-11), Homer's birthplace on the Aegean coast. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 4: Patmos

A morning private ferry takes us to the Island of Patmos. Old traditions of the Island, as well as historical texts, demonstrate this as the location the "Revelation" by John the Evangelist was written. The Grotto of the Revelation is considered the most important sanctuary on the Island. The Sacred Grotto of the Revelation is surrounded today by the large monastic block of the Monastery of the Revelation, which stands out with its local whiteness. After we visit the sites, return to Kusadasi by ferry. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 5: Ephesus – Pamukkale

This morning, we explore Ephesus with its expansive synthesis of Greco-Roman and Christian remains (Acts 18:19-28, 19:1-4). It was the home of St. Paul between 54 and 57 AD. Visit the Virgin Mary's House St. John's Basilica where, according to legend, he was buried. For the evening, we continue to Pamukkale famous for its lime cascades of the Roman spa Hierapolis. Enjoy a bath in the warm mineral waters of your hotel's pool. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale.

Day 6: Hierapolis –Sardis – Istanbul

After breakfast, we visit the Hierapolis. This was Philip the Evangelist's home. Then, we tour the extensive necropolis, churches, and baths and stop at nearby Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22). From there, we continue to Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13), a favorite city of St. Paul and John. Visit Sardis (Rev. 3:16) with its beautiful gymnasium and marble-paved synagogue. Transfer to Izmir airport for a short flight to Istanbul. Transfer to hotel upon arrival. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 7: Istanbul full day

A guided tour exploring the ancient city includes the Chora Museum, known for its mosaics depicting the life of the Virgin Mary and the life and miracles of Christ, as well as the St. Sophia Basilica (ancient seat of Byzantine Church; closed on Monday), and finally the Grand Bazaar with its 3,000 exotic shops along covered alleyways. Farewell dinner after a short cruise on the Bosphorus where Europe meets Asia. Overnight in Istanbul.



Day 8: Istanbul – Return

Your representative escorts you to the airport for your flight home.

St. Paul's Turkey@Greece

Day 1: Istanbul – Arrival

Meet at arrival in Istanbul. Welcome dinner with your tour escort. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2: Troas – Assos

Drive to Troas visited by St. Paul on his third Journey (Acts 16:8-11, 20:5-12). From there, we continue to Assos (Acts 20:13-14), where St. Paul was joined by St. Luke. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale.

Day 3: Pergamum & Asclepion

Visit Pergamum's acropolis (Rev. 2:12-17), home to the Altar of Zeus as well as the Roman medical center of Aesculapiums. Then, we continue to Thyatira (Acts 16:14), a city of artisans' guilds in St. Paul's time. Continue to Izmir (Smyrna, Rev. 2:8-11) for a short stop. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.



Day 4: Patmos

Private ferry to the Island of Patmos. Old traditions of the island, as well as historical texts, demonstrate this as the location the "Revelation" by John the Evangelist was written. The Grotto of the Revelation is considered the most important sanctuary on the Island. After we visit the sites, return to Kusadasi for dinner and overnight.

Day 5: Ephesus-Pamukkale

Explore Ephesus with its expansive synthesis of Greco-Roman and Christian remains (Acts 18:19-28; 19:1-4). It was the home of St. Paul between 54 and 57 AD. Visit the Virgin Mary's House, and St. John's Basilica where, according to legend, he was buried. Continue to Pamukkale, known for its lime cascades of the Roman spa Hierapolis. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale.

Day 6: Hierapolis – Sardis – Istanbul

Visit the Hierapolis. This was Philip the Evangelist's home. Stop at nearby Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22). Then, we continue to Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13), a favorite city of St. Paul and John. Visit Sardis (Rev. 3:16) with its beautiful gymnasium and marble-paved synagogue. Transfer to Izmir airport. Flight to Istanbul. Transfer to your hotel. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 7: Istanbul full day

A guided tour exploring the ancient city includes Topkapi Palace, the Saint Sophia Basilica, The Blue Mosque, the Byzantine Hippodrome, and the Grand Bazaar. Transfer to airport for a short flight to Thessaloniki (for budget travelers an overnight train or bus transfer can be arranged). Meet at arrival and transfer to hotel. Overnight in Thessaloniki.

Day 8: Kavala – Philippi – Salonica

Sightseeing begins with a visit to Kavala. St. Paul arrived here with his disciples, Timothy and Silas. Luke the Evangelist came here from Troas. Continue to Philippi, where Paul preached his first Evangelical messages and baptized the first Christians on European soil. Also visit the Acropolis, the Marketplace, Basilica and the Theatre. Short flight to Athens. Transfer to hotel upon arrival. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

Day 9: Athens & Corinth

Visit of Acropolis and the Museum of Acropolis; panoramic motor coach sightseeing tour of Athens. Afternoon tour to follow the road to Ancient Corinth, where Apostle Paul lived and preached for two years. Visit the Archeological Museum, the marketplace, the Bema, and the temples. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

Day 10: Athens-Return

Transfer to airport.