Journey of Hope: Walking in the Footsteps of the Apostle Paul in Greece



Suggested Tour #2 (8 nights/10 days)

Day 1 Tuesday

Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Athens, Greece

Wednesday Athens (D) Day 2

Arrive in Athens

Meet your Faith Journeys Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for transfer to the hotel for check-in

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping, or other activities Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

Day 3 **Thursday** Athens / Corinth (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning we will explore the city of Athens. Highlights include a visit to the Acropolis to see the ruins of the Parthenon and ascend Mars Hill where Paul spoke to the ancient Athenians about the one and only God. From here we have an excellent view of the ancient agora

Lunch, on own

Continue across the Corinthian Canal to Corinth where Paul came after he left Athens. We will see the Temple of Apollo and Corinth Museum

As we return to Athens, we will stop at what used to be the ancient port of Cenchreae. It was from here that Paul sailed to Ephesus

Evening dinner and overnight

Greek Island Cruise - Mykonos Day 4 Friday (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning we will leave for Piraeus and set sail into the Aegean Sea Lunch on the ship

In the evening we will arrive at Mykonos. The mountainous island of Mykonos has about 400 churches and consists of picturesque white houses and its trademark windmills. Must "sees" in Mykonos include the Church of the Virgin Paraportiani, the Cathedral on the main square, and many boutiques and taverns to along the tiny paved streets

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 5 Saturday Greek Island Cruise – Ephesus & Patmos (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

We will arrive at the Turkish port city of Kusadasi. From here we will explore Ephesus, where Mary lived with John in a small house on the hill behind the city. We will walk the marbled roads rutted by wheels of countless chariots and pass the ruins which are architectural masterpieces. It is here that Paul preached to the Ephesians and was arrested and cast out of the city

Lunch on the ship

Visit the island of Patmos, where John wrote the apocalyptic Book of Revelations. We will visit the cave where he lived, now the site of a monastery













housing priceless icons and manuscripts Evening dinner and overnight

Day 6 Sunday Greek Island Cruise - Santorini (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Wake up at Crete, the largest island in Greece, and home of St. Titus. Visit the ancient Minoan civilization, the Knossos Palace and the city of Heraklion. Continue to the volcanic island of Santorini. You can take a cable car (not included in the cost) up to the exquisite whitewashed villages of Fira or Thira. Lunch on the ship

Enjoy the afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping, or other activities Evening dinner and overnight

Day 7 Monday Athens / Thessaloniki (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Disembark the cruise ship and reunite with your Faith Journeys Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for transfer to Thessaloniki

Lunch, on own

Visit the places where Paul lived and preached, possibly including the Agora, the Jewish Quarter, White Tower, Palace of Galerius, Church of Agia Sofia, Aristotelous Square, Town Hall, Dioikitirio, Old City, Byzantine Walls, Rotonda, Arch of Galerius, etc.

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 8 Tuesday Thessaloniki / Kavala (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning, we will enjoy an excursion to the port city of Kavala, ancient Neapolos, where Paul accompanied by Silas, Luke, and Timothy, first set foot in Europe. It was in Philippi where Paul delivered his first sermon in Europe, sowing the seeds of Christianity

Lunch, on own

Visit the Roman forum from Paul's time, which is now completely excavated. Among the ruins is the site where Paul and Silas were thrown into prison. It was in Phillipi that Paul baptized Lydia, the first Christian convert in Europe. Return to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight

Day 9 Wednesday Thessaloniki / Veria (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Bera (Veria) to see where both Paul and Silas preached to a Jewish settlement after leaving the Thessalonians.

Lunch, on own

En route we will also see the legendary battle site of Thermopyles where 300 brave Leonidas fought the overwhelming Persians.

Return to Athens for dinner and overnight

Day 10 Thursday Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Athens International Airport for return flight home

<u>This is a very flexible itinerary</u>. Except for confirmed appointments, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable

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