

COME AND JOIN
OUR 11-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO
GREECE & TURKEY
(FOLLOWING FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL)



FR. CHRIS PANLILIO
(SPIRITUAL CHAPLAIN)
OCT 10 - 20, 2024
\$3,999 from EWR

INCLUDED:

Daily Mass
Roundtrip airfare
2 nights in Athens (hotel)
7-Day Cruise on Celestyal Journey (inside cabin)
Included during cruise:
Wine/beer/soft drinks with lunches & dinners
All six shore excursions
Athens and Corinth land tours

NOT INCLUDED:

Port Taxes & Cruise gratuities (\$396)
Travel Insurance (maybe directly purchase on our website)
Single Supplement is \$1190
Outside cabin supplement (picture window - \$450/pp)
Balcony Junior suite supplement - \$800/pp

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For More Information please contact:

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ITINERARY

Day 1-OCT 10: Depart USA to Athens

Today we embark on our journey to the lands of ancient treasures and Christian history with an overnight flight to Greece.

Day 2-OCT 11: Arrival Athens

We arrive in Athens and check into our hotel. You will have the remainder of the day free to relax or take a stroll along the streets of Athens to enjoy the flavor of the city. Dinner and overnight in Athens hotel.

Day 3-OCT 12: Tour of Athens & Cruise Embarkation

This morning you will begin your day with a tour of Athens. Visit among other masterpieces of the "Golden Age" the Acropolis, the Agora, and the Mars Hill where Paul taught. See Constitution Square (Syntagma), the House of Parliament, the memorial to the Unknown Soldier and the University, the Academie, and the National Library. Drive down Herodes Atticus Street and see the Evzones in their picturesque uniforms and the Presidential Palace. On your way to the Acropolis, you will see the Panathenaic Stadium (where the first Olympic Games of the modern era were held in 1896), the Temple of Olympia Zeus, and Hadrian's Arch. On the Acropolis mount, you will visit the architectural masterpieces of the Golden Age of Athens: The Propylee, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion, and finally the Parthenon. Upon completing the city tour, head to the port of Piraeus for Embarkation on board the Celestyal Journey.



Day 4-OCT 13: Docked in Thessaloniki, tour Veria & Thessaloniki

This morning you drive to Berea, as described in Acts 17:10-15 Paul and Silas went to Berea and preached at the Synagogue. Many of the Jews became believers, but Paul's ministry was cut short. While in Berea, you will see the Bema of the Apostle Paul, where he preached to the local Jews. Afterward, you will drive back to Thessaloniki. When Paul came to Thessaloniki, he went straight to the Synagogue; as described in the Bible in Acts 17:1-9, Paul preached in the Synagogue for three consecutive Sabbaths, and he gained followers. Some of the Jews who were not persuaded created an uproar and attacked Jason's House, where Paul stayed with during his visit. During your tour, you will view the agora in Thessaloniki, where Paul preached to the local Jews, as well as Jason's House. You will also have the opportunity to visit St. Demetrius Basilica, dedicated to a distinguished member of the Roman army and a martyr of Christianity.



Day 5-OCT 14: Docked in Kavala, Tour Philippi

This morning you are docked in Kavala. Upon disembarkation, you will dive to **Philippi** to begin your touring for the day. Apostle Paul visited Philippi together with Silas during his Second Missionary Journey. Our first Biblical encounter with Philippi is through Act 16:11-40. At the time, Philippi had no synagogue and very few Jews, so Paul decides to wait for the Sabbath and go to the riverbanks outside the city. He began to talk to the women that gathered there, amongst them, Lydia-the first person to be Baptized on European soil-she and her household became believers. During your tour in Philippi, you will have the opportunity to visit and study the Bible where the Baptismal service took place called "Lydia's Baptistry." You will also see the prison where Paul & Silas were taken, and where the incident of the violent earthquake took place. You will continue to Kavala, known as Ancient Neapolis, where Paul, Timothy, and Silas landed on Paul's Second Missionary Journey.

Day 6-OCT 15: Istanbul

Welcome to Istanbul. An exciting day lies ahead of you. After breakfast, you will disembark and meet your expert guide to tour the most amazing landmarks of Istanbul, including the **Basilica of Hagia Sophia**, a beautiful architectural example of the Byzantine era and Christian Faith. Then you continue to the Hippodrome, a venue of events in the Roman Period such as horse races, gladiator fights, and

parades. Last but not least, **Blue Mosque** famous for its blue tiles which cover the walls of the Mosque and the marvelous architecture.

Day 7-OCT 16: Docked in Docile: Tour Ancient Pegamum

Upon arrival in the port of Dikili, your guide and driver will be waiting for you to take you on a tour of **Pergamum**, actually called Bergama. It is one of the sites of the Seven Churches of Asia Rev. 1:11; 2:12. Here we explore the impressive Acropolis, the steepest theatre in the world, the Asklepieion, a famous medical center of classical times, see the Altar of Zeus which is mentioned as the «Throne of Satan» in the Book of Revelation, the marble columns of the Temple of Trajan and the Library which was foremost in the world and was long a rival of the equally famous Library of Alexandria in Egypt. Lastly, we visit the Red Basilica of St. John.

Day 8-OCT 17: Docked in Kusadasi: Tour Ancient Ephesus & Miletus

Upon disembarkation, you will meet your guide and drive and head to Miletus. Miletus is an Ancient Greek city dating back to 1400 BCE. Thanks to its position right on the mouth of the Maeander River it became one of the wealthiest Greek Cities. During your tour, you will have the opportunity to see The Roman baths, the temple of Apollo, the theater that could fit 15000 spectators, and the stadium. Paul visited Miletus during his 3rd Missionary journey. **Acts 20:17-36**, Paul sent a letter to the leader of the church in Ephesus to join him for a farewell gathering. After Miletus, you drive back to Kusadasi. Here you will visit the ancient city of Ephesus including the Basilica of St. John. Apostle Paul preached to the Ephesians and lived here for three years. Walk through history along marble streets lined with wonderful public buildings, among them the Baths of Scholastica, the Library of Celsus, the Temple of Hadrian, and the Theatre. The Temple of Diana of the Ephesians, another of the seven wonders of the ancient world, was built in this city. We also visit the House of Virgin Mary.



Day 9-OCT 18: Patmos & John of Revelation

Today you are in **Patmos**. During your tour, you will have the opportunity to visit the **Grotto of the Apocalypse**. John was on exile on the island of Patmos where in the Grotto he wrote the Book of Revelation. **Rev 1:11** "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea." Your tour will continue with a visit to **St. John's Monastery** before you go back to your cruise ship.

Day 10-OCT 19: Disembarkation in Athens and Tour Corinth

Upon disembarkation in Piraeus the port of Athens, you will meet your guide and drive and begin your journey towards **Ancient Corinth**. Visit Corinth (**Acts 18: 1-18**), a city that inspired one of St. Paul's most famous letter. You will visit the **Archeological Museum, the Market Place, and Temples**. Walk among the ruins and stand on the Bema where Paul stood. Read Paul's letter to the Corinthians, addressing his message to the Gentiles as he began the task of establishing his church in Corinth. **Acts 18:9-11** Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. Stop at the **Corinth Canal** and return back to Athens. In Athens, your bus will drop you off in the **Plaka area** for some last-minute souvenir shopping, before you head back to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 11-OCT 20: Homeward Bound

We transfer to the Athens airport for our flight home.

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