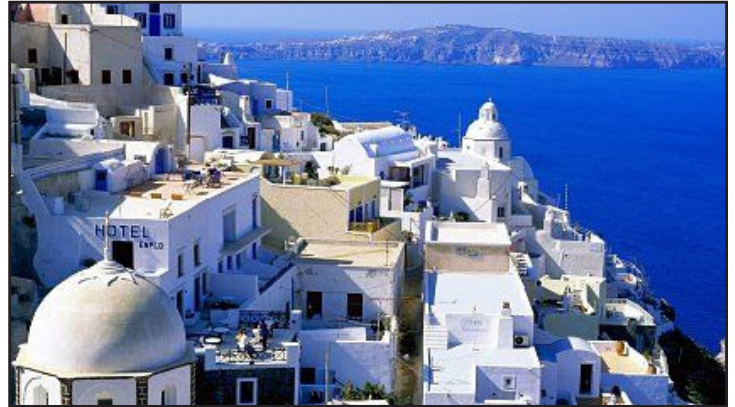


The Footsteps of Paul & Glories of Greece Tour with Optional Aegean Islands Cruise 8 Day



YOUR DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1: NEWYORK/THESSALONIKI - We depart on an international overnight flight to Thessaloniki, Greece. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

DAY 2: THESSALONIKI - Upon arrival in Thessaloniki, we are greeted by our tour guide, and next board our deluxe motorcoach for the tour of the city. Thessaloniki was built in 316 BC by Kassandros, the Macedonian King, and was named after his wife, Thessaloniki, the sister of Alexander the Great. It was here that Paul wrote his letter to the Thessalonians. Later the city flourished under the Byzantine Empire. Our sightseeing tour includes the Roman Market, the Arch of Galerius, the City Walls, the Chain Tower and Citadel, the White Tower, the Church of Saint Paul the Apostle, the House of Jason, the Monastery of Vlatadon, the Aristotle's Square, and the statue of Alexander the Great. We also visit the Archaeological Museum of Vergina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki. (D)

DAY 3: THESSALONIKI - Today we visit the beautiful town of Kavala called Neapolis in the days of Paul (Acts 16:11). From here we continue to the site of ancient Philippi where Paul wrote the letter to the Philippians, started to preach the word of God to the nations, and baptized the first Christian on European soil. We see the Baptistery of Lydia, the ancient theater and visit the place where Paul was flogged and imprisoned. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki. (B/D)

DAY 4: THESSALONIKI/KALAMBAKA - We drive to Veria (ancient Berea), where the Christian congregations were devoted to Paul's works. We stop for a visit at the monument dedicated to the Apostle. Then, we continue to Kalambaka to visit the famous monasteries. Perched atop soaring cliffs, gigantic rocks have been etched by time into a variety of shapes rooted deeply in the ground yet completely isolated from the world around them. The Monasteries with their wooden galleries and corniced rooftops hang precariously over the breathtaking abysses with the Pindus range at their back. Dinner and overnight in Kalambaka. (B/D)

DAY 5: KALAMBAKA/ATHENS - After breakfast we travel through the mountainous Greek countryside to Delphi, home to the legendary Oracle of Apollo and the Pythian Games. On the slopes of Mount Parnassus, a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty, lay the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Olympian god of light, knowledge, and harmony. We visit the Temple of Apollo, the Archeological Site of Delphi and the Archeological Museum containing such masterpieces of ancient Greek sculptures as the bronze Charioteer and the famous athlete Aghias of Pharsala. After the tour we continue to Athens. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B/D)

DAY 6: ATHENS - Morning sightseeing tour includes a visit to the world-renowned Acropolis with the ruins of the Parthenon, Erechtheion and Propylaea, the Mars Hill where St. Paul preached (Acts 17:16, 22). Also, we

view the Agora, the ancient marketplace and former center of Athenian public life, the House of Parliament, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Presidential Palace. We then depart for Corinth with a brief stop at the Corinth Canal which separates Peloponnese from the Greek mainland and connects the Ionian Sea with the Aegean Sea. Corinth was St. Paul's home for eighteen months. We visit the Archaeological Museum, the Bema, the Marketplace and the temples of Aphrodite, Apollo, and Poseidon. From the Bema at Corinth, Paul spoke to the Corinthians about our Lord and Savior Christ. Return to Athens in the late afternoon. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B/D)

DAY 7: ATHENS - Today we have a full day at leisure to pursue personal interests. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B/D)

DAY 8: ATHENS/NEWYORK

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your flight back home arriving the same day. (B)

And those taking the cruise transfer to Lavrio port to embark on Greek Islands cruise.

OPTIONAL CRUISE EXTENSION

DAY 8: ATHENS/MYKONOS - Transfer to the port of Lavrio for embarkation on our cruise ship. Enjoy the many onboard activities or just relax while sailing to the Island of Mykonos with its jet-set atmosphere, whitewashed buildings, sidewalk cafes, 360 churches and chic boutiques. Mykonos is the home to the 16th century windmills, the most iconic landmarks on the island. Overnight on board. (L/D)

DAY 9: KUSADASI/PATMOS - This morning we arrive in Kusadasi, the site of one of the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World," Ephesus. This city is where St. Paul worked on spreading the word of God, the Egyptian Queen Cleopatra and Roman Emperor Marcus Antonius visited, and the Virgin Mary and St. John spent their final days. We visit the Ephesus Archeological Site and the House of the Virgin Mary. Then we continue to the island of Patmos where John the Apostle wrote the Book of Revelations. We join the excursion to the "Cave of the Apocalypse" and the Monastery of St. John the Divine. Overnight on board. (B/L/D)

DAY 10: CRETE/SANTORINI - We arrive in Heraklion in the morning. You can spend your time at leisure exploring the beautiful waterfront, visiting the Cretan countryside, or enjoying the excursion to visit the Minoan Palace of Knossos (at additional cost). Our next stop is the charming island of Santorini. Here, you can take an optional excursion to visit the villages of Fira and Oia (at additional cost) or just relax and explore the island at your own pace. Overnight on board. (B/L/D)

DAY 11: ATHENS/NEWYORK - This morning we disembark in Lavrio port and transfer to the airport for our flight back home arriving the same day.

(B)* (B,L,D) = Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner