

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL PILGRIMAGE TO

## GREECE & TURKEY

WITH FR. VINCENT D' AGOSTINO, OUR LADY OF MERCY, PARK RIDGE, NJ



**SEPTEMBER 18 - 28, 2024** 

DEPARTURE FROM NEWARK, NJ (OTHER DEPARTURE CITIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

amazing grace

Tour Coordinator: Lori Janak ₹ ૧૮૦ 210-660-1607 | Iori@amazinggracepilgrimages.com

Tour Operator: Nativity Pilgrimage 832-406-7050 | info@nativitypilgrimage.com









## DAILY ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18 | DEPART USA TO GREECE

Your pilgrimage begins today as you depart on your overnight flight to Greece. Meals and drinks are served in-flight.

#### DAY 2: THURSDAY, SEPT. 19 | ARRIVE IN THESSALONIKI

Upon arrival, we are greeted by our professional guide and bus driver. In Thessaloniki, the birthplace of Aristotle, we will see the Rotonda, the Triumphal Arch of Galerius, the seafront, and the White Tower. Mass will be celebrated. Dinner and overnight will be at your hotel in Thessaloniki.

## DAY 3: FRIDAY, SEPT. 20 | DAY TRIP TO KAVALA | PHILIPPI | RETURN TO THESSALONIKI

After breakfast, we visit Kavala, once the ancient port of Neapolis (Acts 16: 9-11). This is where St. Paul, Silas, Luke, and Timothy landed when they reached Europe. This afternoon, we will drive to Philippi, where St. Paul preached his first sermon and established the first church in Europe. While imprisoned in Rome, St. Paul wrote one of his epistles to the Philippians (Acts 16: 11-40). Here, St. Paul baptized a woman named Lydia, the first convert to Christianity in Europe, in a nearby river (Acts 16:11-15). Mass will be celebrated. We will return to Thessaloniki for dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight will be at our hotel in Thessaloniki.

#### DAY 4: SATURDAY, SEPT. 21 | THESSALONIKI | METEORA

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will drive to Meteora, a unique World Heritage Site. The Meteora monasteries are built upon immense boulders that dominate the area. We will view stunning Byzantine art and breathtaking landscapes. We will also learn about icons and shop at a local artisan workshop. Mass will be celebrated. Dinner and overnight will be at your hotel in Meteora.

#### DAY 5: SUNDAY, SEPT. 22 | METEORA | ATHENS

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will drive to Athens, one of the world's oldest and most glorious cities. We will celebrate Mass at the beautiful Cathedral in Athens. Then, we will ascend Mars Hill, where St. Paul spoke to the Athenians about the one true God (Acts 17:22). We will also visit the Acropolis (rock), where we will see the ruins of the Parthenon. Dinner and overnight will be at your hotel in Athens.

## DAY 6: MONDAY, SEPT. 23 | 3-DAY GREEK ISLE CRUISE | MYKONOS

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will travel to the port of Lavrio and embark on a cruise through the Greek Isles. Enjoy the gorgeous scenery of pristine beaches and blue ocean waters. Mass will be celebrated on the ship. We will arrive at Mykonos, a charming town filled with restaurants, boutiques, and old-world appeal. Enjoy dinner on your own in Mykonos or aboard the ship. Return to the cruise ship for overnight.

## DAY 7: TUESDAY, SEPT. 24 | KUSADASI, TURKEY | PATMOS, GREECE

Today, we will arrive at the Turkish port of Kusadasi. Our excursion will consist of driving through the scenic hills of Turkey to Mt. Koressos, a small village where a small stone chapel is situated where the Virgin Mary spent her last days. Mass will be celebrated in a nearby chapel. Next, we will drive to the ancient city of Ephesus. We will see the Great Theatre, where St. Paul preached, which held a crowd of 24,000 people! We will follow the Arcadian Way, which runs from the Great Theatre to the main city's harbor. Then, we will board the ship for lunch and head to Patmos. We will arrive at Skala Harbor, home to the cave where St. John lived and wrote the book of Revelation. We will view the three-fold crack made by the voice of God, who emphasized the importance of honoring the Holy Trinity. We will return to the ship for dinner and overnight.

#### **DAY 8: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25 | RHODES**

Today, we arrive on the island of Rhodes, where beautiful beaches, castles, and ancient civilizations effortlessly mix with traditional cuisine and countless shops. Enjoy wandering through the medieval city and lunch on your own. Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of Victory in Rhodes. We will return to the ship for dinner and overnight.

## DAY 9: THURSDAY, SEPT. 26 | HERAKLION, CRETE | SANTORINI

This morning, you will visit Heraklion, where the ship's owner and captain warned St. Paul about continuing his journey to spread Christianity in Rome. We will see the church of St. Titus, a disciple of St. Paul and the first bishop in Crete. Mass will be celebrated at a local Catholic church. Next, we will embark on the ship, taking us to the stunning isle of Santorini, highlighted by the volcanic crater barely submerged in the sea. The island of Santorini is home to many shops and open-air cafes scattered among scenic white houses. Enjoy dinner on your own in Santorini or aboard the ship. We will return to the cruise ship for overnight.

#### DAY 10: FRIDAY, SEPT. 27 | ATHENS | CORINTH

After disembarkation at the port of Lavrio, we will drive to the ancient city of Corinth, where St. Paul spent almost two years evangelizing and working with tent makers Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:1-18). Disheartened by the state of the Gentile Church in Corinth, St. Paul was prompted to write four letters while here. Mass will be celebrated. Return to Athens for our Farewell Dinner. Overnight will be at our hotel in Athens.

#### DAY 11: SATURDAY, SEPT. 28 | ATHENS | USA

We will depart Athens for our return flight home.



Standard outside cabins XA: \$185 per person in dbl and \$255 in sgl Outside cabins XB: \$280 per person in dbl and \$395 in sgl

# TRIP information

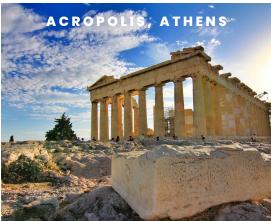
#### YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round Trip Airfare from Newark, NJ (other departure cities available upon request)
- All airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- All hotel and city taxes
- First Class hotels (2 nts. Thessaloniki; 1 nt. Meteora; 1 nt. Athens; 4 nts. cruise ship; 1 nt. Athens)
- Private, luxury motor coach with A/C for airport transfers and travel throughout Greece and Turkey
- Buffet breakfast daily
- Lunch (cruise portion)
- Unlimited wine included at ALL dinners
- 3 Hotel dinners (buffet style)
- 1 Restaurant Dinner in Thessaloniki
- 1 Farewell Dinner at a restaurant in Athens
- 4 Dinners onboard cruise ship (or on your own at a port city, as per itinerary)
- 2 planned shore excursions (Kusadasi, Turkey and Patmos, Greece)
- Full board on cruise ship includes standard inside cabin IA rooms (room upgrades based on availability for an additional charge)
- · Custom, intentionally planned detailed itinerary
- All sightseeing and entrance fees to sites, as per itinerary
- Confirmed Daily Mass (locations are tentative and subject to confirmation)
- Professional, Experienced Guides
- On-site Group Leader
- Whisper listening sets
- Luggage handling at all hotels (one suitcase per person in/out)
- All Tips included for the guide, bus driver, porterage (luggage handling) and wait staff (for
  included meals)
- Travel Portfolio including name tags, luggage tags, etc.
- Medical Insurance included for all travelers (during pilgrimage)

#### YOUR TRIP DOESN'T INCLUDE:

- Personal Expenses
- Airport transfers for 'land only' travelers
- Lunch (land portion)
- Trip Cancellation Insurance
- Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- · Church donations









#### **HOW TO REGISTER:**

- Fill out registration form completely (names must match passport exactly)
- Provide a clean copy of your passport picture page with your registration. Passports must be current six months after your return date.
- A non-refundable, nontransferable deposit of \$300 is due at registration
- Mail registration form, passport copy & deposit to: Nativity Pilgrimage 15710 JFK Blvd., Suite 225, Houston, TX 77032
- Full payment is due 06/10/24 (100 days before departure)
- For registration information & payments contact: Deisi at (832) 406-7050 ext. 109 or deisi@ nativitypilgrimage.com



#### **Your Package Includes**

Air Transportation: Economy class and round-trip airfares are based on the time of the reservation. Rates and times are subject to change without notice. Airfares, once issued, are non-refundable, non-transferable, and cannot be used towards future travel.

**Land Transportation:** All land transportation as described in the itinerary will be by Deluxe Motor Coach. Some may be equipped with Wi-Fi service.

**Hotels:** Your hotels will be first-class with double occupancy (2 people per room with a private bath). Neither Nativity Pilgrimage nor the trip coordinator are responsible for providing a roommate.

**Single Room:** There is an additional cost per person as specified on the registration form. Single rooms are limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Meal Plan:** The meal plan offers two (2) meals per day: Breakfast & Dinner. **Baggage:** Nativity Pilgrimage limits all passengers to one (1) piece of checked luggage and one (1) carry-on. All passengers should check with the airlines carriers for up to date baggage weight and dimensions.

Airport Fees: Airport Taxes, Porterage, Fuel Surcharges and Security Fees Medical Protection Plan During the Trip

**Tips:** All Tips included for the guide, bus driver, porterage (luggage handling) and wait staff (for included meals)

#### **Your Package Does Not Include**

**Cancellation Protection Plan:** We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance upon registration.

**Passport Expenses:** Passports or any additional documents that may be required Passports must be valid after 6 months of return date.

**Personal Items:** Laundry, other beverages (wines, liquors, mineral water, tea, coffee, etc.) and food that are not on the menus of your included meal package, and any additional luggage.

**Non-itinerary fees:** Any sightseeing, other services, or personal items that are not specifically mentioned as being included in the itinerary.

**Lunch:** Your meal plan offers two (2) meals per day: Breakfast & dinner. You are responsible for lunch or any other meals specified in your itinerary.

#### **General Travel Information**

**Group Air:** Group Air differs from individually purchased airline tickets in that it is subject to the terms and conditions of the airlines. For this reason, we need to receive your registration and full payment by the payment deadline. After that date, registrations may be subject to a different air rate, ticketing method, or on a different airline. Additional fees and charges may apply. Group air flights are confirmed 60 - 90 days prior to departure.

**Departure Cities:** If your departure city is not listed on the brochure, indicate which airport you would like to depart from on the registration form. We will provide you with the best possible price and flight schedule in order to connect with the group. Additional fees and charges may apply.

Land-Only Option: If you would like to book your own air travel, indicate on your registration form that you want the 'Land Only" option. By booking your own air, you may select your seat, airline, and travel schedule, use airline miles/points, provide airline reward program information, and make any special requests directly with the airline. No changes can be made after the final payment deadline. Land-only services begin and end at the hotels unless you are able to meet the group at the airport. Land-only travelers are responsible for their own airport transfers.

#### **Important Nativity Pilgrimage Policies**

The airline selects seat assignments for group air, not the tour operator. Seat upgrades are available for registered travelers, by request. Quoted rates for an upgrade are subject to change until payment is received. Some upgrades are not available until the group tickets are issued.

**Seat Upgrades:** Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives an upgrade request, we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee the acceptance of this request as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily)

Seat Location Requests: Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives a seat location request, we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee acceptance of this request as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily).

Other Special Requests: Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives a special request,

such as a wheelchair, food, etc., we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee acceptance of this request as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily)

#### **Booking Conditions**

**Deposit:** A non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 per person is required at the time of booking. No reservation will be processed without a deposit.

Payment Deadline: Full payment is due 06/10/24 (100 Days before departure). Late registrations received after the deadline require an additional \$100 (subject to availability). If payment is not made in full 50 days prior to departure, your payments are non-refundable.

You may use any major credit card to pay your deposit online. There is an additional 3% late fee for each credit card transaction. We also accept checks, money orders, Zelle payments, and ACH transactions.

#### **Late Payment Policy**

Customers will receive Late Fees if they are not paid in full:

100 days - 61 days prior to departure.....\$150

60 days - 30 days prior to departure......\$300

30 days - day before departure.....Subject to cancellation

Customers are also responsible for any difference in fare due to late payment (subject to availability). Refusal to pay will be considered a cancellation.

#### Cancellation/Refund Policy

We hope that nothing will prevent you from taking your pilgrimage with Nativity Pilgrimage, however, should you need to cancel your cancellation must be in writing via email or letter. It will be effective on the date of receipt. The following cancellation fees will apply:

**Days Prior to Departure** 

100 + Days 99-50 Days 49 Days Charge

Lose Deposit 50% of trip cost 100% of trip cost

Insurance premiums are non-refundable. We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance to avoid these cancellation fees.

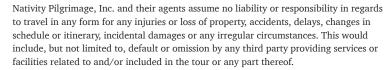
#### **Protect Your Trip**



Follow the link or scan the QR code to view our Travel Protection Plan details.

https://nativity.trawickinternational.com

#### Responsibility



The IATA carriers, steamship firms and other transportation companies, whose services are featured in these tours, are not to be held responsible or accountable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their respective conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the companies and the purchaser of these tours and/or passengers and Nativity Pilgrimage, Inc. does not assume any liability or responsibility in connection therewith. They are not responsible for any losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, guarantees, or other causes. All such losses or expenses shall be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality to those specified in the itinerary. Nativity Pilgrimage reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. Refund details vary upon each trip. No refund will be made for any used portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure from the United States. Prices and itineraries are subject to change without notice if booking conditions are not complied with.

