



“BRINGING THE NEW TESTAMENT TO LIFE”

TOUR TO GREECE & TURKEY

24TH SEP –
10TH OCT 2026

LED BY
REV DEAN
& DENISE
REREKURA

17
DAYS

PACKAGE PRICE:
per person (twin share)

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM
SUPPLEMENT:

AUD\$ 9,090*

AUD\$ 1,950

FULLY
ESCORTED

*Price is based on an estimate that can be confirmed once flights in booking range (in late October). Conditions apply. Subject to change. Based on group of 25 participants.

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“You are welcome to join us as we step into the world of ancient and modern Greece and Turkey as we explore the regions that Paul loved, worked in, and shared the gospel - no matter the cost.

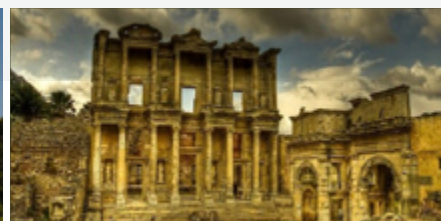
This adventure will bring the New Testament to life in a way you could never imagine, bringing blessings for a lifetime as you grow in your faith and walk with Jesus.”

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Register for an Information Session at 2pm on Sunday 19th October in Oran Park

* Enjoy full travel briefing * Meet your fellow travellers * Have your questions answered

CONTACT DEAN OR DENISE REREKURA OR OLIVE TREE TRAVEL TO REGISTER AND RECEIVE DETAILS



NEXT STEPS

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Denise Rerekura, Olive Tree Travel or by [CLICKING HERE](#)
2. To secure your place on the trip, a deposit of \$750 per person is required by 31st October, 2025 (unless sold out prior)
3. The final balance payment will be due in late July, 2026.

OLIVE TREE
Travel

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103A Gardenvale Road, Gardenvale Victoria 3185



DAY 1 THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER **DEPART SYDNEY / AUSTRALIA**

Depart Sydney this evening on your Emirates flight to Dubai. Upon arrival, transfer to your connecting flight to Athens.

DAY 2 FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER **ARRIVE ATHENS**

Arrive in **Athens** today. Athens is the thriving capital of Greece but more importantly, we have entered into the world of the New Testament where Paul and his companions established the first Christian communities throughout his missionary journeys. On arrival in Athens, we will be met by our local guide and coach driver and will enjoy a **panoramic bus tour** guiding us through the highlights of Athens. Check in, dinner and overnight at our hotel. Overnight – Athens (D)

DAY 3 SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER **CORINTH, ATHENS**

Today we journey to **Ancient Corinth**. Paul spent considerable time in Corinth on his 2nd and 3rd Missionary Journeys teaching the people the Word of God and converting many. The vigorous and mostly Gentile Church he founded here caused him much grief and prompted him to write his letters to the Corinthians whilst he was in Ephesus and Philippi. Afterwards we will enjoy a visit to **Nafplio** town, and **Cenchreae**, the ancient port from where Paul said farewell to the believers and departed for Ephesus (Acts 18:18). Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight – Athens (BD)

DAY 4 SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER **ATHENS**

Today we explore **Athens** – one of the oldest cities in the world spanning a history of 3,400 years. Home of the great minds, philosophers, and teachers of ancient times such as Plato, Socrates and Aristotle - Athens is the birthplace of democracy and the cradle of Western Civilisation. We will come across the architectural wonders of the Golden Age of Pericles, the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erechtheion. We will make our way to the **Areopagus** or Mars Hill – the site where trials were heard before the Council of Elders and where Paul delivered his speech to the Athenians. Finally we visit the **Acropolis**. Afterwards we will visit the New Acropolis Museum and enjoy some free time in the afternoon before returning to the hotel for dinner and overnight. Overnight – Athens (BD)

DAY 5 MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER **DELPHI, METEORA EXPLORATION, KALAMBAKA**

Depart Athens this morning and travel north to **Delphi**, known in antiquity as the centre of the earth for it was believed when Zeus released 2 eagles from opposite sides of the world they would meet in Delphi. Leaving Delphi, we continue towards **Kalambaka**, the small town built at the foot of the majestic grey rocks of **Meteora**. Overnight – Kalambaka (BD)

DAY 6 TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER **VERGINA, VERIA (BEROEIA), THESSALONIKI**

We will start today by visiting one of the Meteora Monasteries before continuing to Veria, located on the ruins of **Ancient Beroea**, where Paul and Silas came after their time in Thessaloniki. Here we see the Byzantine mosaic in the monument commemorating his preaching. Continuing we will visit **Vergina** (Ancient Aegae), the first capital of the Macedonian Kingdom. Here we visit the "Vergina findings", treasures of Ancient Macedonia and the tomb of King Philip II of Macedonia, Father of Alexander the Great. Continue our drive to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight. Overnight – Thessaloniki (BD)

DAY 7 WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER **THESSALONIKI**

Today we enjoy an exploration of **Thessaloniki**. Paul arrived in Thessaloniki in AD 49 after his traumatic experience in Philippi. He later wrote 2 letters to the Thessalonian Christians encouraging them that Jesus will return soon (1 Thess), but don't give up your day job!! (2 Thess). See the ramparts of the city, the triumphal Arch of Galerius and the Roman Agora where Paul once preached. We shall visit St Demetrios' Church with its valuable mosaics and frescoes and will drive to the upper town, which offers a marvellous view of the city. Overnight – Thessaloniki (BD)

DAY 8 THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER **PHILIPPI, KAVALA (NEAPOLIS)**

Departing Thessaloniki, we make the short journey along the ancient route of the Apostle Paul to nearby **Philippi**, named after Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. Philippi is the foremost city of Macedonia where Paul preached his first sermon and baptised the first Christians on European soil. This is where Lydia surrendered her life to Christ and was baptised. Paul and Silas were beaten and imprisoned here after opposition rose against them.

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Continue on to **Kavala (Ancient Neapolis)**. Paul landed here prior to arriving in Philippi with Timothy and Silas. Luke, the evangelist also came here from Troas. This ancient city of Neapolis was later renamed Christoupolis as it was the first European city to accept Christianity. Overnight – Kavala (Neapolis) (BD)

DAY 9 FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

IPSALA, GALLIPOLI, CANAKKALE (TURKEY)

This morning, we depart Kavala (Neapolis) and cross the nearby border into Türkiye at **Ipsala** where we will be met and greeted by our waiting Turkish guide and driver. We drive south along the Aegean coastline to **Gallipoli**, historically famous for being the site of many battles during World War 1. We will visit Anzac Cove, the memorial site for the Dawn service, Lone Pine, the Nek, the New Zealand and Turkish Memorials, and Kirkpatrick's grave. Finally, we cross the Dardanelles by ferry and check into our hotel in **Canakkale** for dinner and overnight. Overnight – Canakkale (BD)

DAY 10 SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER

CANAKKALE, TROY, TROAS, ASSOS, SOMA

Canakkale is close in proximity to the 7 Churches in Revelation. First stop is **Troy** which has 9 cities built on top of each other. Troy VI is the city of the famous Trojan War of Homer. From Troy we travel to Troas, a busy port south of Troy. While in **Troas**, Paul had a dream in which he saw a vision of a man asking him to "come over to Macedonia and help us" after which he decided to go to Europe (Philippi and Neapolis.) We continue to **Assos**, perched high on a cliff offering breathtaking views overlooking the Aegean Sea and the Island of Lesbos. Arriving in Assos on foot from Troas, Paul preached here and went down to the little port on the shore to board for his journey to Jerusalem at the end of his 3rd Missionary journey sailing on to Miletus and Rhodes. At the end of the day, we will proceed to **Soma** for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (BD) Overnight – Soma (BD)

DAY 11 SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER

PERGAMUM, KUSADASI (EPHESUS)

The highlight of the day will be an extended visit to the hauntingly beautiful town of **Pergamum**, founded in 399 BC. We will ride the cable car to the upper city and there see the Temple of Trajan (Trajaneum), the Altar of Zeus, the Temple of Dionysus, the ancient theatre, and the 200,000-volume library which was surpassed only by that found in Alexandria at the time. Later we descend to the lower city and visit the Asclepium, which was a famous health centre where methods of treatment included blood transfusions, music therapy and meditation. We will finish the day by travelling to the port city of **Kusadasi (Ephesus)** for dinner and overnight. (BD) Overnight – Kusadasi (Ephesus) (BD)

DAY 12 MONDAY 5 OCTOBER

EPHESUS

Today we explore the famous city of **Ephesus** to visit the well preserved ancient ruins where the Apostle Paul founded the church of Ephesus and spent 3 years preaching the gospel. Ephesus was a wealthy, cultural, and commercial centre. Paul's preaching in the area resulted with the uproar of the Guild of Silversmiths and the evangelisation of the whole province of Asia. Highlights include the ancient temple to the Roman Emperor, the 'slope' houses, the Library of Celsus, the Temple of Hadrian, the Fountain of Trajan, the brothel, and the large theatre in which the riot of Acts 19 took place. Not far from the theatre, we visit the Church of St Mary, where it is said that Mary spent the later years of her life. Finally, you will visit the restored remains of the 6th century **Basilica of St John at Celcuk** where a small church was originally built over the tomb of St John the Evangelist. Return to your hotel in Kusadasi for dinner and overnight (BD) Overnight – Kusadasi (Ephesus) (BD)

DAY 13 TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER

MILETUS, DIDYMA, IZMIR (SMYRNA), ISTANBUL

Journey to **Miletus**, where Paul gave his farewell speech in the theatre to the Ephesians before his last trip to Rome. We will also visit **Didyma** and its famous Temple. We will drive through the port city of **Izmir (Ancient Smyrna)** on our way to Izmir Airport to fly to **Istanbul**. (Light meal served onboard). On arrival, we'll be met and transferred by our waiting coach to check into our Istanbul hotel for overnight. Overnight – Istanbul (B)

DAY 14 WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER

ISTANBUL (CONSTANTINOPLE)

Commence the day with a special morning cruise along the **Bosphorus** in our privately chartered boat. The Bosphorus is the natural waterway that divides Asia from Europe. We will view the imperial palaces, castles, palatial homes, and the two magnificent suspension bridges. Enjoy a brief visit to the **Spice Bazaar** where we will experience the smells of cinnamon, cloves and thyme rising from every store – the same smells that filled the air over 400 years ago. Drive to the **Bosphorus Bridge** for a visit to the Asian side of Istanbul and The **Beylerbeyi Palace** - one of the mansions built by the Bosphorus in the 19th Century under the influence of Western architecture. After the visit to the Palace, we will drive up to **Camlica Hill**, the highest point of Istanbul. It welcomes its visitors with its unique panoramic view of Istanbul with a coffee break! Overnight – Istanbul (BD)

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DAY 15 THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER

ISTANBUL

Today we explore the wonderful cosmopolitan city of **Istanbul**. After breakfast we will visit the **Hippodrome**, the sportive and political centre of the Old City, and the Underground Cistern built by Justinian in AD 535. We will also see **Hagia Sophia**, one of the great architectural marvels of the early church, and the **Blue Mosque**, famous for its blue Iznik tiles and unique for its 6 minarets. Then we visit the **Istanbul Archaeological Museum** which has significant biblical artefacts including ancient Hittite treaties, artwork from the sacred way in ancient Babylon, the inscription from Hezekiah's Tunnel in Jerusalem, the Alexander sarcophagus, and much more. We continue onto **Topkapi Palace**, seat of the Ottoman Empire for 4 centuries, and view the treasury section. Whilst there we visit the Church of St Irene where the Council of Constantinople (AD 381) finalised the famous Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed. **Enjoy** a final evening together before our departure tomorrow. Overnight – Istanbul (BD)

DAY 16 FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER

ISTANBUL, DEPARTURE

After breakfast and checkout, we depart to visit the **Chora Church**, then enjoy a cultural experience and last minute shopping at the **Grand Bazaar** before transferring to the airport for our departure flight back to Australia.

DAY 17 SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER

ARRIVE SYDNEY

Arrive back to Sydney tonight with wonderful memories of our trip!

**** Itinerary subject to change ****

PRICE INCLUSIONS:

- Return economy class estimated airfares Sydney to Athens and Istanbul to Sydney with Emirates Airlines.
- All current airport & departure taxes
- Portage, tips & gratuities throughout
- 7 nights hotel accommodation in Turkey in twin share rooms and 7 nights hotel accommodation in Greece in twin share rooms
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily, all meals at hotels unless otherwise specified
- Transport by deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- All guiding and entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Headsets
- Hotel City Taxes for Greece Hotels
- One way domestic flight from Izmir to Istanbul

NOT INCLUDED:

- Drinks with meals
- Personal payments
- The services that are not mentioned in "Inclusions"
- Travel insurance
- Lunches
- Turkey Visa (organised individually online, cost is currently USD\$67)

HOTELS (OR SIMILAR):

• Hotel Stanley	Athens	3 nights
• Hotel Amalia	Kalambaka	1 night
• Hotel Capsis	Thessalonika	2 nights
• Hotel Lucy	Kavala	1 night
• Yurdukul Hotel	Cannakale	1 night
• Ramada by Wyndham	Soma	1 night
• Korumar Hotel	Kusadasi	2 nights
• Millenium Golden Horn	Istanbul	3 nights

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