



JOURNEY IN THE STEPS OF ST PAUL TO GREECE & TURKEY

PLUS OPTIONAL CAPPADOCIA EXTENSION

20TH SEP –
07TH/09TH OCT 2025

LED BY
FR NHAN LE

18

OR

20

DAYS

PACKAGE PRICE:
per person (twin share)

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT:

OPTIONAL CAPPADOCIA
PACKAGE PRICE:

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT:

AUD\$ 9,590*

AUD\$ 2,250

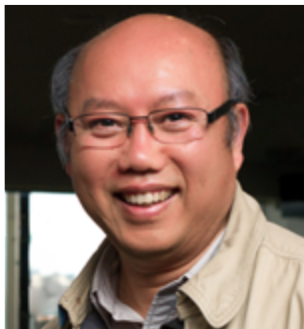
\$ 1,390*

AUD\$ 295

FULLY
ESCORTED

*Subject to change. Conditions apply. Main package price based on minimum group size of 20 pilgrims. Extension based on a minimum of 10 pilgrims.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



A Greek and Turkey Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St Paul is not only a spiritual journey where St Paul formed the first Christian communities and established the Seven Churches of Asia as addressed in the Book of Revelation, but also a journey into what is often called 'The Cradle of Civilisation' i.e. the meeting point of Eastern and Western cultures and civilisations. On this trip we will capture a life-changing experience of fascinating biblical history in perspective, as well as appreciating the stunning natural beauty and wonderful ancient architecture of churches and temples.

Fr Nhan

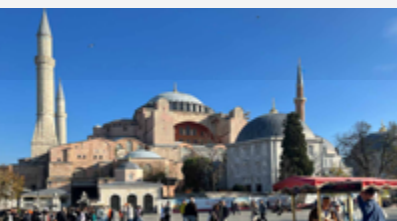
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

ATTEND AN INFORMATION SESSION at 7pm on MONDAY, 31st MARCH 2025
At St Martin de Porres, 158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights, Vic

Enjoy a full travel briefing * Meet your fellow Pilgrims * Have your questions answered

CONTACT FR NHAN OR OLIVE TREE TRAVEL TO REGISTER

Date for an information gathering is 31/3/2025, at 7:00pm
At St Martin de Porres, 158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights, Vic.3034.



NEXT STEPS

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Nhan or the team at Olive Tree Travel OR By [CLICKING HERE](#)
2. To secure your place on the pilgrimage a deposit of AUD\$500 per person is due by 28th April (unless sold out prior)
3. The final balance will be due in mid July.

OLIVE TREE
Travel

Ph. 1300 550 830 or 03 8488 9696
info@olivetretravel.com.au www.olivetretravel.com.au
103A Gardenvale Road, Gardenvale Victoria 3185



DAY 1 SAT 20 SEP | DEPART AUSTRALIA

Depart Australia this evening on your Emirates flight to Dubai. Upon arrival in Dubai, transfer to your Emirates flight bound for Athens.

DAY 2 SUN 21 SEP | ARRIVE ATHENS

Upon arrival in Athens, meet your local guide. When ready, load the bus and depart for the hotel. Check-in and enjoy some free time. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (D)

DAY 3 MON 22 SEP | ATHENS

Enjoy the day exploring Athens! We will visit the Acropolis. Athens, the capital of Greece, is 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 Civilization. We will walk through the architectural wonders of the Golden Age of Pericles; the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erechtheion. We will walk to Areopagus or Mars Hill, the site where trials were heard before the Council of Elders and where St Paul delivered his speech to the Athenians. Commence a Panoramic Tour on our coach with guide onboard, who will guide us through the highlights of Athens; House of Parliament, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Presidential Palace, Panathenaic Stadium, Temple of Olympian Zeus, Hadrian's Arch, to lead us to the world-renowned Acropolis. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (BD)

DAY 4 TUE 23 SEP | CORINTH

Enjoy a mesmerizing daytrip to Ancient Corinth and the Bema of St Paul. We will drive through the coastal road to the Corinth Canal, which separates Peloponnese from the Greek mainland and connects the two Seas, the Ionian and the Aegean. We will continue to Ancient Corinth, one of the most important trading cities of ancient Greece dating back to the 6th century B.C. While visiting the archaeological site we will come across the Temple of Apollo, the agora, the sacred spring and the Peirene Fountain. The apostle Paul resided in Corinth for 18 months in A.D. 51-52. We will visit the site of the Bema of St. Paul, where he preached. Return back to Athens in time for dinner and overnight at our hotel (B,D)

DAY 5 WED 24 SEP | ATHENS - DELPHI

This morning, depart Athens to drive to Delphi. In antiquity Delphi was known as the centre of the earth for it was believed that when Zeus released two eagles from opposite sides of the world they would meet in Delphi. The city reached its height in power in the 4th century BC as the sanctuary to the god Apollo, and pilgrims would gather here to seek advice from the great oracle, Pythia, on various matters which included waging wars. We explore the sanctuary by walking up the Sacred Way to see the treasures, the theatre, the stadium, and the Temple of Apollo. Next, we will visit the Museum of Delphi and marvel at the unique collection of artefacts from the excavation, including the famous Gallio inscription, and the bronze "Charioteer", one of the best-preserved ancient works of metallurgy. We check in to the hotel in Delphi for dinner and overnight. (BD)

DAY 6 THU 25 SEP | DELPHI, METEORA

This morning, we depart Delphi and drive to Meteora. We will visit two of the Meteora Monasteries, dating back to the 14th century, which stand amongst striking scenery, perched on sheer-sided rock pinnacles of varied and spectacular shapes making them appear to be suspended in mid-air. Here we will get the opportunity to see exquisite specimens of Byzantine art and gain insights into the life of the monks still residing there. This site is now inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Check in to our hotel in the nearby town of Kalambaka for dinner and overnight. (BD)

DAY 7 FRI 26 SEP | VERGINA & BEREIA, OVERNIGHT THESSALONIKI

Depart this morning to Vergina, 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. A few minutes away is Veria, located on the ruins of Ancient Beroea, is one of Apostle Paul's stops. Here we see the Byzantine mosaic in the monument commemorating his preaching. Continue our drive to Thessaloniki. Dinner & overnight in Thessaloniki. (BD)

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DAY 8 SAT 27 SEP | THESSALONIKI

Travel around Thessaloniki today. Starting with the upper city, ramparts, Byzantine churches of St. Dimitrios and Rotunda. Continue with the Roman Agora. Overnight and dinner in Thessaloniki (B,D)

DAY 9 SUN 28 SEP | PHILIPPI DAY TRIP

This morning, we make the short daytrip to Philippi where Paul preached his first sermon and baptized the first Christians on European soil. We visit the Roman crypt where St Paul was imprisoned. See the famous Acropolis, the Marketplace, the Basilica, and the Theatre. Visit the Octagonal church, an early Christian monument thought to be built on the site where St. Paul had established a house of prayer. Later we visit the baptismal site where Lydia surrendered her life to Christ. Continue to Kavala (Ancient Neapolis), Greece spectacular mainland port with a most elegant harbor. Paul landed here with his disciples, 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. We will see the Aqueduct and the Acropolis in this beautifully located city, known since the 5th century as Kavala. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki. (BD)

DAY 10 MON 29 SEP | THESSALONIKI – IZMIR

After breakfast, transfer to Thessaloniki airport for your flight (via Istanbul) to Izmir in Turkey. On arrival, we'll be met by our local Turkish guide and driver. See the ruins of ancient Smyrna, one of the 7 Churches of Revelation. Proceed to our hotel on the Aegean coast in the port city of Kusadasi. Check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

DAY 11 TUE 30 SEP | EPHESUS

Today is a very special day, where we commence our pilgrimage at the House of the Virgin Mary for Mass. It is a very tranquil holy place, where Mary spent the last year of her life. Proceed to the nearby city of Ephesus. Ephesus, as we will see, is in a very good state of preservation and the overall existing view of this ancient city will make it evident that she was a wealthy, cultural, and commercial centre in the 1st century. 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. Finally we 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 our hotel in Kusadasi for dinner and overnight (BD)

DAY 12 WED 01 OCT | KUSADASI – COLOSSAE – LAODICEA - PAMUKKALE

Begin the day with a drive to Colossae, one of the 7 Churches of Revelation. It was once well known for its diverse religious ideologies, but now nothing more than a mound of rubble, waiting to be archaeologically excavated. Proceed to Laodicea, the site of an early Christian church and community and the 6th Church of Revelation. Proceed to the ancient city of Hierapolis, where a church was established during Apostle Paul's visit and the place where Apostle Philip resided in his final years. His tomb was only recently discovered. Visit the natural travertine pools of Pamukkale. Enjoy dinner and a fun evening at the hotel's thermal hot springs this evening. (B,D)

DAY 13 THU 02 OCT | PAMUKKALE / PHILADELPHIA / SARDIS / SOMA

Today, we drive to another of the 7 Churches at Philadelphia, city of brotherly love. Continue to Sardis to tour the impressive Synagogue and Gymnasium. Continue to Soma and check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

DAY 14 FRI 03 OCT | SOMA / PERGAMUM / TROY / CANAKKALE

Our first stop today is a 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. If time permits, we can 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. Proceed to Troy, referred to in Homer's "Iliad" and "Odyssey". Troy has nine cities built on top of each other. Troy VI is the city of the famous Trojan War of Homer where the legendary heroes included Agamemnon, Achilles, Ulysses, and Nestor on the Greek side, and Priam, Hector, and Paris on the Trojan side. We will then proceed to our hotel in Canakkale for dinner and overnight in our hotel. (BD)

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DAY 15 SAT 04 OCT | GALLIPOLI / ISTANBUL

After breakfast we'll begin with a guided visit to Gallipoli, historically famous for being the site of many battles during World War One. 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. We commence the long drive to Istanbul. If time permits, Proceed on a scenic cruise on the Bosphorus in our privately chartered boat, the natural waterway that divides Asia from Europe. We will view imperial palaces, castles, palatial homes, and the two magnificent suspension bridges. Finally, we will check into our Istanbul Hotel for dinner and overnight. (BD) Note: Those who'd like to stay in town after the cruise can visit the Spice Bazaar, where we'll experience the smells of cinnamon, cloves and thyme rising from every store, the same smells that filled the air over 400 years ago.

DAY 16 SUN 05 OCT | 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 six 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 four 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. Dinner and overnight is at our hotel in Istanbul. (BD)

DAY 17 MON 06 OCT | DEPART ISTANBUL

After a leisurely breakfast and late check-out, we will drive to the beautiful Chora Church. It's frescoes and mosaics depicting the bible stories make it famous. Continue to the magnificent Grand Bazaar to enjoy the sights and sounds of this world-famous market. After doing all of our last minute shopping, we will be transferred to Istanbul Airport in time to check in for our return Emirates flight this evening to Dubai. Transfer to our connecting flight home to Australia.

DAY 18 TUE 07 OCT | ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

Arrive back to Melbourne this evening with wonderful memories of our journey!

OPTIONAL CAPPADOCIA ADD-ON

DAY 17 MON 06 OCT | FLY TO CAPPADOCIA

Breakfast at the hotel. Farewell those not proceeding. Check-out and drive to Istanbul Airport to catch a flight for Kayseri. Arriving to Kayseri Airport you will meet with your driver and drive to Cappadocia. Check-in to your hotel and the rest of the day will be leisure day. Overnight in Cappadocia.

DAY 18 TUE 07 OCT | CAPPADOCIA

After breakfast, depart from the hotel for a full day area tour. Our first real encounter with Cappadocia's almost Martian landscape is in the Derwent valley, where the rock formations are amazing. A walk through the Zelve Valley is a journey into the past, with its troglodyte houses. This is one of the earliest inhabited and latest abandoned monastic settlements in Cappadocia. After Zelve, we visit Pasabag's "fairy chimneys", where the voice of the wind harmonises with the songs of the fairies. From here we pause at Avanos, a centre of terracotta art since 3,000 BC, for a demonstration in a traditional pottery workshop. After in Avanos, we shall visit the famous Goreme Open Air Museum to see the best examples of Byzantine art in Cappadocia. These are found in rock-cut churches with frescoes and paintings dating from as early as the 10th century. After the Museum visit we will visit one of the oldest Ozkonak Underground Museum. We complete the tour with a view point at the Uchisar Rock-Castle, giving you a panoramic view of the valleys of Cappadocia.

DAY 19 WED 08 OCT | DEPART CAPPADOCIA

After breakfast at the hotel. We will check-out and drive to Kayseri Airport to catch our domestic flight back to Istanbul in time for our connecting Emirates flight back to Australia.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



DAY 20 THU 09 OCT | ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

Arrive Melbourne this evening with wonderful memories from our meaningful pilgrimage!

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

PRICE INCLUSIONS:

- Return economy class airfares to/from Melbourne with Emirates Airlines into Athens and out of Istanbul
- All airport & departure taxes
- Porterage, tips & gratuities throughout
- 15 overnights in total (8 nights hotel accommodation in Greece, 7 nights hotel accommodation in Turkey) in shared twin rooms.
- Breakfasts and Dinners 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
- Overnight hotel taxes
- Flight from Thessaloniki – Istanbul – Izmir on Turkish Airlines (one way economy class ticket)

CAPPADOCIA EXTENSION INCLUSIONS:

- Return economy class airfares Istanbul to Kayseri
- Porterage, tips & gratuities throughout
- 2 nights hotel accommodation in shared twin room
- 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

ALL PRICES EXCLUDE:

- Drinks with meals
- Personal payments
- The services that are not mentioned in "Inclusions"
- Travel insurance
- Lunches
- Turkey Visa – Currently \$66USD per person applied for online by each individual

PROPOSED HOTELS (OR SIMILAR):

- | | | |
|------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| • 3 nights | Hotel Stanley | Athens |
| • 1night | Hotel Anemolia | Delphi |
| • 1 night | Grand Meteora | Kalambaka |
| • 3 nights | Hotel Imperial Plus | Thessaloniki |
| • 2 nights | Korumar Hotel | Kusadasi |
| • 1 night | Pamukkale | Doga Thermal Hotel |
| • 1 night | Soma | Ramada by Wyndham Soma |
| • 1 night | Cannakale | Double Tree Hilton |
| • 2 night | Istanbul | Millenium Golden Horn |

Cappadocia Extension:

- | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| • 2 nights | Zemi Hotel | Cappadocia |
|------------|------------|------------|

NEXT STEPS

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2. To secure your place on the pilgrimage a deposit of AUD\$500 per person is due by 28th April (unless sold out prior)
3. The final balance will be due in mid July.

WHO TO CONTACT:

My preferred name is: Fr Nhan Le.
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Travel

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