

DAY 1: Sunday, May 18 – TORONTO / ATHENS, GREECE

DAY 2: Monday, May 19 - ATHENS ARRIVAL

Upon arrival at Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos", meet our local representative who will assist with your group transfer to the hotel. Dinner and overnight at our Athens hotel.

DAY 3: Tuesday, May 20- ATHENS CITY TOUR- ACROPOLIS- MARS' HILL-ANCIENT AGORA

This morning we will climb up to visit the marble-capped Acropolis Hill and visit the famous Parthenon and Erechtheion Temples. Then walk to nearby Mars' Hill (Areopagus) (Acts 17:22) where Paul delivered his soul-stirring sermon to the giants of philosophy, logic and learning and spoke about the inscription: "to an unknown god". We continue walking down to visit the Ancient Agora formerly the commercial hub of ancient Athens and birthplace of politics and philosophy. Here the Apostle Paul reasoned with the most skeptical audience he met in the course of his travels. We see the well preserved Doric Temple of Hephaestus (or Thesaeion) and the Stoa of Attalos, an arcade built by Attalos II, king of Pergamum, used as a retail market. Today it is used as a museum, displaying statues, pottery and many coins. We enjoy a panoramic sightseeing drive on our way back to the hotel. Enjoy the evening free exploring the Plaka area of Athens. Breakfast, Dinner and overnight in Athens.

Day 4: Wednesday, May 21- ANCIENT CORINTH

Our morning begins with a drive out of Athens, along the Saronic Gulf, with a quick photo stop at the historic Corinth Canal along the way. Continue to the archaeological site of Corinth (Acts 18:1-18) where the Apostle Paul lived and worked, establishing a thriving church, subsequently sending two of his epistles, now part of the New Testament. Here, we see all of the sites associated with his ministry: the Agora, the Temple of Apollo, the Roman Odeon, the Bema and Gallio's Seat. The small local archaeological museum is an absolute must! We also visit the ancient port of Cenchrea before returning to Athens in the afternoon. Breakfast, Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Athens.

Day 5: Thursday, May 22 - FULL DAY DELPHI

Our first visit will be to Delphi, considered the center of the ancient world or the 'omphalos' of the earth. The oracle here had great prestige that extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. Visit the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Treasury of the Athenians and the archaeological museum, containing masterpieces of ancient Greek sculpture, such as the bronze Charioteer and the famous athlete Aghias. At Delphi archaeologists found a stone which was probably once attached to the outer wall of the Temple of Apollo. Inscribed in it, is a copy of a letter from the Roman emperor Claudius to the city of Delphi. Historians date the inscription to 52 AD, which corresponds almost precisely to the time of St. Paul's stay in 51. Breakfast, lunch and Dinner included.

Day 6: Friday May 23– ATHENS-LAVRIO- EMBARKATION ON CRUISE –MYKONOS (Greece)

In the morning, following breakfast at the hotel, we transfer to the port of Lavrio for embarkation on the Greek Islands cruise boat We sail at 1:00 pm . Lunch is served on board. At 6:00 pm we arrive in Mykonos Island and enjoy this evening walking and exploring the quaint streets of cosmopolitan Chora. See the "Little Venice" area of the town with its windmills and then enjoy a fantastic sunset. We will enjoy dinner on board the ship. At 11:00 pm we set sail for Kusadasi, Turkey. your evening walking and exploring the quaint streets of cosmopolitan Chora, see the "Little Venice" area of the town with its windmills and enjoy a fantastic sunset. Dinner on board the ship. then at 11:00 pm we set sail for Kusadasi, Turkey. Dinner and overnight aboard the ship.

Day 7: Saturday May 24- KUSADASI (Turkey) – PATMOS (Greece)

Arrival scheduled for 7:00 am in Kusadasi , Turkey. This is the starting point for our included tour to Ephesus.. St. Paul preached to the Ephesians, lived and worked here for a number of years. We tour the spectacular ruins in the city which was founded in the 10th century B.C. Following the visit we return to the port for re-embarkation at lunch time and sail to Patmos.. We arrive at this beautiful, mysterious, rocky island where the exiled Apostle John wrote the Book of Revelation. Our included excursion takes us up to visit the Monastery of St. John the Evangelist, where we have a wonderful view of the island. We also visit the Grotto of the Revelation where the heavenly voice of God revealed to St. John the future of humanity (Revelation 1:12-21). After some free time for browsing, return to the ship for an evening sailing to Heraklion, Crete at 9:00 pm Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and overnight on the ship.

Day 8: Sunday May 25- HERAKLION (Crete, Greece) – SANTORINI (Greece)

Early this morning we will dock at the port of Heraklion, Crete. Enjoy the morning at leisure and walk up to the town (about a 25-minute walk) or join an “optional excursion” to visit the Palace of Knossos and familiarize ourselves with the Minoan civilization in ancient times. Return to the ship for an 11:30 am sailing for Santorini,, the volcanic and picturesque island, attracting thousands of tourists every summer. Lunch will be served on board. Around 4:30 pm, our ship will arrive in the moon shaped caldera below the white washed houses of Fira along the rim of Santorini. Join an “optional excursion” to visit Oia Village, famous for the blue domed churches or take the “optional “ cable car ride up to Fira town, situated on the tip of a cliff called Caldera. Return to the pier for re-embarkation to the ship by tender boats. At 9:00 pm we set sail to return to the Port of Piraeus, Athens. (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner overnight on the ship).

Day 9: Monday May 26 - LAVRIO- METEORA- KALAMBAKA

Breakfast on board followed by disembarkation. We start our journey to Northern Greece. Our first visit will be to the spectacular UNESCO site of the Meteora monasteries, built on the top of huge gray boulders towering over the valley. These are veritable Byzantine monasteries boulders towering over the valley, exhibiting superb icons and manuscripts from the 14th century. We will visit one monastery before continuing to Kalambaka, one of the most beautiful towns in Greece. (Breakfast, Dinner and overnight in Kalambaka)

Day 10: Tuesday, May 27 - KALAMBAKA-VERGINA -BEREA - THESSALONICA

Our day begins with continuing our journey to Thessalonica (Acts 17: 1-13). On our way, we will stop at Vergina, the first capital of Macedonia, where we will visit the tomb of Philip II, the father of Alexander the Great. Our next stop is Berea (Acts 17:10-14) where Paul arrived and, according to his custom, he went to the synagogue and discovered ‘to his pleasant surprise’ that they were "searching the scriptures". Here, we see the Byzantine mosaic commemorating his preaching in the synagogue (Acts 17:10-11). We continue our journey to Thessalonica in the late afternoon for an overnight stay. (Breakfast, Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Thessalonica).

Day 11: Wednesday, May 28 - THESSALONICA-PHILIPPI-KAVALA-THESSALONICA

On our way to Philippi, we drive by the Lion statue of Amphipolis (short photo stop). We visit Philippi, the site where St. Paul established a strong church and wrote his epistle (Acts 16: 9-33) We see the river where Lydia is said to have been baptized, the ruins of a prison where the Apostle Paul and Silas had been kept, the Agora, 5th and 6th century Basilica and the Theater. After the visit, we continue to Kavala, the ancient port of Neapolis (Acts 16:11) where we enjoy a panoramic tour before returning to Thessalonica for an overnight stay. (Breakfast, Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Thessalonica)

Day 12: Thursday, May 29- THESSALONICA / ATHENS

This morning we enjoy a city tour of Thessalonica (Acts 17:1) where Paul went immediately to the synagogue and, for three Saturdays, explained the prophecies of the Old Testament to the Jews and Greeks. According to the Book of the Acts, many Greeks and even many «Greek chief women» believed (Acts 17:1-4). We view the upper Old City Walls and then drive along the Egnatian Way to see the Triumphal Arch of Galerius and the Rotunda. We will also see the Agora. Check-in at our Athens hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 13: Friday, May 30 - Athens

Breakfast at the hotel, then the remainder of the day will be free to visit a favourite site. A Farewell Dinner will be served at a local restaurant this evening.

Day 14: Saturday, May 31 Athens / Canada

Check out and group transfer to Athens International Airport for our departure flight home. After witnessing a unique visual and historical experience of the Old and New Testament sites in Greece, this Biblical journey in Greece has come to an end. We hope the memories of Greece will bring you back

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