

STEPS OF SAINT PAUL

ISTANBUL, GREECE & GREEK ISLANDS



Pastor Jay Rudi

Sep. 25 - Oct. 07, 2025

Package Price! \$5490.00 From Minneapolis, MN (MSP)
Other Cities Available

Package Price Includes:

- * **Roundtrip Airfare**
- * **All nights accommodations in double occupancy luxury hotels**
- * **Breakfast and dinner daily**
- * **9 days sightseeing in modern air conditioned private bus**
- * **English speaking government licensed tour guide on duty**
- * **4 day cruise**
- * **2 Shore excursions (Kusadasi & Patmos)**

Oak Knoll Lutheran Church
600 Hopkins Crossroad, Minnetonka, MN
Phone: 952-546-5433

Good Shepherd Travel
www.goodshepherdtravel.com
Toll Free: 1-844-659-5263



Register Online

Istanbul, Greece & Greek islands

Pilgrimage Itinerary September 25 - October 07, 2025

Day 1: Thursday, September 25, 2025, Departure to Turkey

Depart for your overnight flight to Istanbul, meals served on board.

Day 2: Friday, September 26, 2025, Arrival Istanbul

Upon arrival to Istanbul International Airport, we will meet our guide in the arrival's hall and head to our hotel. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Day 3: Saturday, September 27, 2025, Istanbul

We will begin our day with a morning of shopping at Eminönü's Spice Bazaar. Also, known as the Egyptian Bazaar, this large covered market has remained the city's center for spice trade since its creation in the 17th century. Then, we will embark on a cruise of the Bosphorus, the winding straight that separates Europe and Asia and connects the Black Sea with the inland Sea of Marmara. This is our time to relish the views of the old wooden mansions, Ottoman palaces, and ancient fortresses that dot the river's coast. Then, we will drive to Golden Horn, and we will visit Balat, the historic Jewish Quarter that, during the Byzantine and Ottoman times, epitomized the climate of inter-religious coexistence that has always characterized this city. However, with increasing Jewish flight from the neighborhood, was largely neglected until it recently became the focus of a redevelopment project sponsored by UNESCO. Fener (Phanar) where its labyrinthine streets are lined with old wooden mansions, churches, and synagogues that date back to the Byzantine and Ottoman periods. Here, we will also visit the Patriarchal Cathedral of St George, which is for the Orthodox believers the equivalent of St. Peter in Rome for the Catholics and finally Bulgarian steel church. Then, we will end our day with an evening of shopping at the Grand Bazaar, the massive covered market that houses a labyrinth of streets lined with shops selling jewelry, leather products and many other handcrafted souvenirs. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 4: Sunday, September 28, 2025, Bosphorus Cruise & Two Continents

Today we will visit the Egyptian Bazaar (Spice Bazaar), located in the old historic district of Istanbul and built in the 17th century. We continue our tour on a cruise, sailing on Bosphorus (regular boat), across Istanbul's European and Asian sides along the Sea of Marmara. During a Bosphorus Cruise, you can enjoy stunning views of Istanbul's skyline, including the historic district, palaces, mosques, and other landmarks such as: the Dolmabahçe, Çırağan, and Feriye Palaces; the Rumeli Hisarı fortress, Bosphorus Bridge etc... We continue with a visit to the Beylerbeyi Palace built in white marble by Sultan Abdulaziz in the 19th century with a mix of architectural styles, including traditional Ottoman elements and European neoclassical features. The palace was a summer residence for sultans and a guest house for foreign dignitaries. Climb Çamlica Hill, a scenic hill located on the Asian side of Istanbul, Turkey. It is one of the highest points in Istanbul, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the city, the Bosphorus Strait, and the Sea of Marmara. It is known as Lovers' Hill, with a beautiful panoramic view. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight in Istanbul

Day 5: Monday, September 29, 2025, Istanbul -afternoon flight to Thessaloniki

After enjoying our Turkish breakfast, we depart from our hotel and begin our tour of the historical highlights of Istanbul. First, we will stroll through Hippodrome Square, the former sporting and social center of Constantinople that hosted chariot races during the Roman period. Afterwards, we visit the domed masterpiece of the Hagia Sophia before we head to Topkapi Palace. Located on the very cape of the peninsula where Constantinople was founded, Topkapi Palace is the former abode of Ottoman Sultans that still houses their legion of treasures, including an extensive collection of royal jewels. At the end of the tour, you will be transferred to the airport for a short flight to Thessaloniki. This city, named after Alexander the Great's sister, and which figures prominently in the New Testament at which time this provincial capital was considered a world cultural center. This community was the center of Paul's activities in Northern Greece. It is where he preached and founded a church and to whom he wrote two epistles (Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians and 2 Thessalonians). This evening, you will enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel with your traveling companions.

Day 6: Tuesday, September 30, 2025, Thessaloniki- Philippi -Kavala.

Full-day tour along the ancient route of Apostle Paul to Amphipolis (Acts 17:1). Journey to ancient Philippi, which was named after the father of Alexander the Great. This busy Roman colony boasted a great library and theater. In Philippi, Paul preached, established the first church in Europe, and was to whom he wrote one of his epistles while imprisoned in Rome (Acts 16:11-40; Philippians). It was in this area that Paul met Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She and her household accepted Christ and were baptized in the nearby river (Acts 16:11-15). Next, continue to Kavala, ancient port of Neapolis (Acts 16:9-11). Dinner and overnight

Day 7: Wednesday, October 01, 2025, Thessaloniki-Veria-Kalambaka

This morning, stop in Veria (Beroea of the New Testament), where Paul and Silas were sent by friends after being accused of treason in Thessalonika (Acts 17:5-15). Visit the Bema, where Paul is said to have stood and preached the Gospel to the local community. Continue to Athens where will have an orientation tour before checking in. Dinner and overnight.

Day 8: Thursday, October 02, 2025,

Kalambaka -Athens

We will visit Veria (Berea) "As soon as night came, the believers sent Paul to Berea "(Act 17:10). We will see the Bema where Paul found people who eagerly received his message, "examining the Scriptures daily to see if what Paul said was true" (Acts 17:11). Continue To Kalambaka where we will visit the unique hanging Byzantine monasteries from the Medieval centuries where we will visit one of them. Monks wanted to be as far as possible from human daily lives and as near as possible to GOD. Dinner and overnight

Day 9: Friday, October 03, 2025,

Athens-(Embarkation)-Mykonos

We transfer to the port of Piraeus to begin our 3-night Greece and Turkey cruise with a visit to the mountainous island of Mykonos. Free time to explore the island before returning to the ship for evening entertainment.

Day 10: Saturday, October 04, 2025,

Kusadasi, Ephesus-Patmos, Greece.

Visit the Turkish port of Kusadasi, and enjoy an included excursion to Ancient Ephesus, whose inhabitants were the recipients of Apostle Paul's famous epistle (Acts 18:19-26; Ephesians) and which was once the capital of the Roman province of Asia, and to the House of Mary, where the Virgin Mary is said to have spent her last days. Continue your cruise to Patmos, with free time to discover the "Jerusalem of the Aegean". We visit the Monastery of St. John and to the Cave of the Apocalypse, where John the Evangelist wrote the Book of the Revelation during his exile (Rev. 1:9-11).

Day 11: Sunday, October 05, 2025,

Crete- Santorini.

This morning, we will arrive in Heraklion. The capital of Crete is a former Venetian harbor with representative architecture and art. Our included tour of the city takes us on a short drive to visit the church of St Titus, a disciple of the Apostle Paul and the first Bishop of Crete. And we will visit the Venetian Loggia, Basilica of St Mark, medieval monastery of St Catherine and the Cathedral of St. Minas. This afternoon our cruise will reach Santorini, one of the most unique places of the world to admire its geography, a result of an earthquake that took place many centuries ago. Our included shore excursion to Oia Village will take us to the worldwide famous sunset and to enjoy the amazing view of the Aegean and the Caldera view.

Day 12: Monday, October 06, 2025,

Corinth -Athens

Today we will drive to Corinth to visit the archaeological site where Apostle Paul worked for 18 months with tent makers Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:1-18). We will see also the handmade Corinth Canal connecting the Aegean with the Ionian Seas. Return to Athens to visit the Acropolis, Parthenon, Areopagus, and Mars Hill where the Apostle Paul delivered his well-known sermon. (Acts 17:15-34). You will also have a panoramic tour to see the Parliament House, the Academy, Omonia Square and Panathenaic Stadium. You will have free time in Plaka area, the ancient city of Athens. Dinner and overnight at our hotel

Day 13: Tuesday, October 07, 2025,

Departure

Today we will say goodbye to Athens, drive to the airport for our flight back home with our great memories.



Note: While we do our very best at making sure all items listed in your itinerary are included, there are times when conditions beyond our control affect your program/itinerary, including but not limited to air carrier changes, delays, weather, political climate, time constraints, or changes by your tour leader and tour guide.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS: A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required to make a reservation. An additional payment of \$1000.00 per person is due by March 25, 2025. The final payment is due no less than 90 days prior to the departure date of the tour (June 25, 2025). Payment can be made by personal check or money order. Credit card payments will be accepted but will incur a 4% Surcharge at the time of booking. Reservations received after June 25, 2025 may incur additional charges due to supplier contract terms.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: If a passenger cancels his/her tour membership there will be a cancellation fee of \$100.00 per person to cover administrative and communication costs up until 121 days before departure. For cancellations 120-91 days before departure the cancellation fee will be \$250.00 per person. 90-61 days before departure the cancellation fee will be 50% of the Cost per person. There will be no refund for cancellations within 60 days of departure, no-shows, or partially completed tours. All cancellation requests must be addressed to Goodshepherd Travel in writing. Trip cancellation insurance is recommended.

FARE INCLUSIVE: Roundtrip air transportation from Minneapolis, MN (MSP) International as indicated on the registration form. 7 nights hotel accommodations, based on two people sharing a double or twin-bedded room in four star hotels by (local standards). 3 nights Cabin accommodation in Standard Inside Cabin IB Category. All meals as outlined in the brochure consisting of full Local breakfasts (B) at the hotel and Lunch. Sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary by private motor coaches, utilizing the services of a Government licensed, local English speaking tour guide. Entrance fees for attractions if applicable. All transfers between airports and hotels by private motor coach. Service charges and taxes normally levied by hotels and restaurants. All U.S. & Foreign Country departure taxes are included in the price of the tour. Tips to guides, motor coach drivers, hotel porters, and restaurant staff (i.e., maitre d', table waiter, etc.) are Not included. The brochure price is per person in US dollars.

TOUR ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE: Goodshepherd Travel constantly strives to adhere to the specifics shown in the itinerary; however, circumstances may necessitate changes. Such circumstances may require changes without advance notice during the tour. Goodshepherd Travel reserves the right to change the Itinerary if unforeseen circumstances beyond our control force a change. Goodshepherd Travel is not responsible for any changes caused by unforeseen circumstances.

TOUR CANCELLATION: Goodshepherd Travel reserves the right to cancel or withdraw the tour at any time. In the event of a cancellation deemed necessary by Goodshepherd Travel, the sole and exclusive responsibility of Goodshepherd Travel is to refund all monies recovered.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport costs, visa fees (if any), and health documentation costs (when required); food and beverages (including coffee and tea) not usually included with the table d'hote meals; optional sightseeing tours and excursions; accident and baggage insurance; transporting and handling excess luggage; tips to persons rendering special personal services; items of a purely personal nature such as laundry, telephone, and cable expenses, room service orders, etc.; transportation between the home city and the international departure city.

AIR ROUTINGS: The brochure price includes IATA jet economy class transportation from the international departure city applicable on all IATA and ARC carriers, based on the 6/45 day Apex fare to the Europe. Goodshepherd Travel. Reserves the right to choose the air carrier, routing, and departure time for each passenger. Airfares used are based on contracted group fares and are highly restrictive. Payments for and restrictions on airline tickets are governed by the applicable fare. Cancellation fees levied by the airlines are applicable if you cancel or change your air ticket for any reason after purchase of air ticket. Ticketing must be completed 45 days prior to departure. Group fares do not permit deviations; passengers who wish to deviate may arrange their own airfare. An airline credit of \$1050.00 will be given to those passengers who arrange their own airfare. Passengers planning to arrange their own air transportation must notify Goodshepherd Travel, in writing on or before June 25, 2025. Seat numbers will be assigned by the airline at check-in; specific seat requests cannot be guaranteed. Passengers are responsible for providing frequent flyer information upon check-in.

HOTELS: Tour prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room in Deluxe hotels. Single rooms are subject to availability and at an additional cost of \$1090.00 (tour participants without a roommate will have to pay single room surcharge).

BAGGAGE: You may check no more than one (1) piece of luggage whose overall dimensions does not exceed 62 inches (length + width + height) and whose weight does not exceed fifty (50) pounds in total. Checking a second bag will cost up to

\$100.00. Each passenger may also bring one (1) piece of carry-on luggage. Tips to hotel porters are included for one normal sized piece of luggage, excluding carry-on bags which must remain in your possession at all times. These regulations may change without notice so please read the monthly correspondence you will receive from Goodshepherd Travel for the most current information. Garment bags cannot be carried. Under no circumstances may dangerous articles such as firearms, explosives, oxygen, or combustible substances be contained in any baggage. Medications, valuables, passports, and a change of clothing should be packed in your carry-on bag.

DISABILITIES: Due to the difficult terrain at sites we visit, persons requiring oxygen or oxygen therapy will not be permitted on the tour. For reasons of passenger safety and well-being, persons with impaired mobility, vision, or mental capacity will not be permitted on the tour. Goodshepherd Travel reserves the right to refuse passage to someone who is in such physical or mental condition as to be unfit for travel or who may require care and attention beyond that which the tour guide and tour host can provide. The tour requires a substantial amount of walking and the sites are not accessible by wheelchair.

INSURANCE: Acting only as agents for suppliers, Goodshepherd Travel is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of luggage and/or personal belongings, or for personal injury, accident, illness and/or death as a result of any occurrences or conditions beyond its control, including, but not limited to, defects in vehicles, breakdown in equipment, strikes, terrorist attacks, hostage situations, kidnappings, hijackings, protests, riots, public demonstrations, or theft. For your protection, it is important that you have adequate travel insurance to cover these possibilities. Additional information and application forms for all types of coverage will be supplied to you prior to departure.

PASSPORT: A valid passport is required and must be obtained in person by each tour member. Complete instructions and application forms for passports can be obtained by contacting your local courthouse or post office.

PRICE CHANGES: Tour conditions and air fares are subject to Governmental, IATA, ARC, and airline regulation requirements in effect at the date of and during the tour. All rates are quoted in US dollars and are based on tariffs and costs in effect in August 2024, and are subject to change without notice. Taxes and fuel surcharges of \$687.00 are included in your tour cost and are subject to change without notice. Goodshepherd Travel reserves the right to pass along additional fuel surcharges or additional taxes imposed by the airline.

DISCLAIMER: Goodshepherd Travel acts as a tour operator and only a tour operator. The suppliers providing transportation, sightseeing arrangements and hotel accommodations for the tour program are independent contractors and are not agents or employees of Goodshepherd Travel. All coupons, receipts and tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the suppliers. By utilizing the services of the suppliers, you agree that Goodshepherd Travel shall not be liable for any accident, loss, injury, death, or damage of any kind to you or to those traveling with you. This includes, but is not limited to, conditions beyond its control, defects in vehicles, breakdown in equipment, strikes, terrorist attacks, hostage situations, kidnappings, hijackings, protests, riots, public demonstrations, theft, delay or cancellation of or changes in itinerary or schedules. At the time of printing a TRAVEL WARNING as issued by the United States Department of State was in effect for parts of Europe. Remember also that all travel documents as well as compliance with customs regulations are your responsibility. The terms under which you agree to take these tours cannot be changed or amended except in writing, signed by an authorized officer of Goodshepherd Travel. Airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time you are not on board the aircraft. The passenger contract in use by the airline, when issued, constitutes the sole agreement between it and you. By virtue of my signature on the registration form below I acknowledge and assume all risks associated with this trip and I agree that Goodshepherd Travel assumes no liability of any kind and I hereby expressly waive any and all possible claims against Goodshepherd Travel., or Rev. Pastor Jay Rudi / Oak Knoll Lutheran Church

ACCEPTANCE: Registration for trip and payment of deposit constitutes your acceptance of the "Fine Print."

Trip date:
September 25 - October
07, 2025

Package Price: \$5490
Single supplement is \$1090.00 (Private Room)

Package price includes the following:

- Round trip airline tickets
- Meet & Assist at Airports upon arrivals and departures.
- Three overnights in Istanbul (Ramada hotel or similar) including breakfast and dinner
- Three overnights in Athens (Avenue hotel or similar) including breakfast and dinner
- One overnight in Kalambaka (hotel Amalia or similar) including breakfast and dinner
- Three overnights in Thessaloniki (hotel Kapsis or similar) including breakfast and dinner
- 3 night/4 day cruise (All inclusive)
- Air-conditioned motor coach throughout for all tours and transfers
- Services of English-speaking professional, licensed guide for all sites and museums as per itinerary
- Dinners during tours includes one soft drink or glass of wine per person
- Welcome dinner in Thessaloniki includes house wine
- Transfers from and to airports
- Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Road tolls and all applicable taxes

Package price does not include the following:

- Lunches and soft drinks. (Except wine on the Cruise)
- Tips for tour escort, Guides & Drivers
- All Personal Expenses.
- Travel Insurance.
- Anything that's not mentioned in included.

NOTES:

- Rates are per person in US dollar in twin/double and include port and service charges (\$ 136.00 per person) and are All-Inclusive
- Single Supplement + 50% except categories XF,SJ,SB, SG which are + 100% from given rates.
- Shore Excursions Package Deal (includes tour to Ephesus, Patmos and Rhodes) \$ 168.00 per person and is compulsory (Included) All

RESERVATION APPLICATION

Oak Knoll Lutheran Church

Tour Leader: Pastor Jay Rudi

Pilgrimage to Istanbul, Greece & Greek islands

(September 25 - October 07, 2025)

Group Reference Number: **IG092525**

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please complete one application per person)

Full Name (as printed on your passport):				
First Name:		Middle Name:		Last Name:
Name (as you wish it to appear on your name badge):			Date of birth:	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Mailing Address:	Street:		Mobile phone:	Home phone:
City:	State:	Zip code:	Work phone:	
Email address:				

PASSPORT INFORMATION

Country of citizenship:	Passport number:
Passport date of issue:	Passport date of expiration:
Frequent flyer number:	Known traveler number:

ROOM ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Please check one: Double/Triple occupancy <input type="checkbox"/> Single occupancy (Private Room) \$1090.00 additional <input type="checkbox"/> <i>*All prices are in US Dollars based on per person in a double/Triple room, Passengers rooming alone is subject to single supplement*</i>
If choosing double occupancy, please indicate the name of your roommate if known at the time of booking:
If choosing single occupancy, would you be willing to share a room with another person? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Please list the name, relationship, and phone number for a family member/close friend who is <u>NOT</u> traveling with you:
--

I agree to the terms and conditions as stated in this tour contract: Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please enclose a copy of current passport and a deposit of **\$500.00 per person** made payable to

Goodshepherd Travel

9021 Washington Lane
Lantana, Texas 76226



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