

STEPS OF PAUL GREECE & GREEK ISLANDS



June 20 - July 01, 2025

Package Price! \$4990.00 From New York, NY (JFK)

Package Price Includes

** Roundtrip Airfare * Accommodations in double occupancy luxury hotels * Breakfast and dinner daily * 9 days sightseeing in modern air-conditioned private bus * English speaking tour guide on duty * 3 night cruise * 2 Shore excursions (Kusadasi & Patmos)*



Pr. Julie DeWerth



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



Register Online

Greece & Greek islands Pilgrimage Itinerary June 20 - July 01, 2025

Day 1 – DEPARTURE TO GREECE

Depart for your overnight flight to Greece from JFK, meals served on board.

Day 2 – ARRIVAL THESSALONIKI

Arrive Thessaloniki where you will be met outside baggage claim and escorted to your vehicle for a transfer to the hotel. Later this afternoon, meet your guide for a short Orientation Tour. Enjoy a welcome dinner with fellow travelers this evening. Overnight at hotel Capsis (or similar)

Day 3 – THESSALONIKI

Thessaloniki, Greece's second largest city with population of some 1 million and a vital cultural, industrial and commercial city, lies amphitheatrically on the Thermaikos Gulf, on the slopes of Mount Chortiatis. Founded by the Greek Macedonian King Kassander, he named the city Thessaloniki after his wife who was also the half-sister of Alexander the Great. During the Roman period, it was the capital of Macedonia Secunda and during the Middle Ages, it was the second city of the Byzantine Empire. For 400 years it was occupied by the Ottoman Empire, until it was finally freed in 1912. Paul visited and preached the Gospel in Thessaloniki on his second (Acts 17:1-9) and likely on his third missionary journeys and sent two letters to the early Christians there. We start our excursion of the city viewing the White Tower, an historical landmark before continuing on to visit the Archaeological Museum which houses interesting finds from the Archaic, Classical and Roman periods, with findings of the Sindos area and a stunning exhibition of golden jewels. Stop for a typical Greek lunch. From here, drive by the International Trade Fair grounds and the Aristotelion University, which was established in 1926 and today is the largest of all universities in Greece. Next, make your way up to the once upon a time, Acropolis, located in the upper part of the city. It is here, where you will have a superb panoramic view of the entire city with the Thermaic Gulf and Mount Olympus in the background. Further visit of St. Demetrios Basilica which was erected in the 5th century AD. The five aisled basilica suffered a tragic fire in the year 1917 but was later restored in 1948. Marvel at the beautiful mosaics, dating back from the 5th to 9th Centuries. From here, follow your guide to the area located under the basilica, where you will see the famous crypt, which according to tradition, was once the confinement for an officer by the name of Demetrius who was later executed by the emperor Galerius. Today, St. Demetrius is the patron Saint of the city. Return to your motor coach and drive along the modern street, Egnatia, named after the famous Roman road, Via Egnatia. While driving, view the Arch of Galerius and St. George's Rotonda. The tour will end passing by the well-preserved Byzantine Basilica of St. Sophia, an 8th Century structure, rich in mosaics and frescoes. Overnight hotel Capsis or similar.

Day 4 – THESSALONIKI – KAVALA – PHILIPPI – THESSALONIKI

Kavala, the ancient site of Neapolis, founded in the 7th Century BC, is the very same place where St. Paul set foot on the European Continent during his second missionary journey (Acts 16:11), establishing a thriving Christian church in the nearby city of Philippi. The famous Egnatian road, which once ran from the Adriatic Sea to Constantinople, passed by this city. On the way to Philippi you will have the opportunity to view the St. Syllas Monastery named after one of St. Paul's companions. Arrive at the famous city of Philippi, one of the most interesting biblical and historical ancient cities. The city once known as Krinides, was renamed "Philippi" after King Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. It is this place where Brutus and Cassius were defeated by Mark Antony and Junavian Augustus, granting the City of Philippi a great many privileges. From here, drive a short distance to the Baptistry and the River, where Lydia, the first European convert was baptized by St. Paul (Acts 16:12-18). Return to the archaeological site for a guided tour through the excavations, marveling at the upper and lower parts as well as the Forum, the Walls, the two Basilicas and the Theatre. Your guide will also point out the traditional prison, which once held St. Paul and St. Silas (Acts 16:16-40). After lunch in Philippi Site, we will do a short orientation tour of Kavala (Ancient Neapolis) and then drive back to Thessaloniki. Overnight hotel Capsis or similar.

Day 5 – THESSALONIKI – VERIA – VERGINA-METEORA-KALAMBAKA

Today you follow the path of Paul when he fled Thessaloniki for the safety of Veria (Berea), where Jews and some honorable Greeks accepted the new faith (Act 17: 10-12). Here we view the synagogue where Paul preached. We stop at the Bema surrounded by mosaics of Paul and the plaque of scripture regarding the "more noble" church. Continue to visit the Royal Tombs of Vergina (Land of Alexander the Great). The tour includes visit of the newly completed exhibition bearing the finds of all 3 Tombs, one of them famous as the Tomb of King Philip the II, Father of Alexander the Great. Make your way inside the subterranean structure, accompanied by your guide and feast your eyes on some of the most important objects, which once belonged to Philip II – the King's shield adorned with ivory and gold the King's gold-trimmed iron breast plate, Gold Diadems of unparalleled craftsmanship, the Golden Wreath of oak leaves, the gold plated collar and the Silver Burial Urns. Listen carefully, as your guide explains how inside the tomb of King Philip, a Golden Chest was discovered, containing the King's bones, washed with wine and wrapped in purple cloth. Then we visit monasteries of Meteora. One of the most remarkable sites in Greece: a group of monasteries perched atop pinnacles of rock up to 600 meters high. A rare geological phenomenon, a quirk of nature as it were, created these looming rocks which trust skywards from the plain of Thessaly, as if striving to come closer to God. These peculiarly impressive natural sculptures are known as Meteora because they do indeed seem to hang or hover (meteoro in Greek) above the plain. Their summits, totally isolated from the rest of the world, were a refuge for many hermits from as early as the 11th century. Three hundred years later the first monasteries were founded. Access to the monasteries and settlements was made by ladder and rope. Once we arrive to the monasteries you will admire the brickwork of the Byzantine workmanship. The Churches house the spectacular frescoes, ivory carving, manuscripts and the fine work of art previously supported by the Emperors at the time. Included in the tour is the visit inside the Monastery of Agios Stefanos (Nuns). ****You are kindly requested to observe the strict clothing restrictions of the monasteries i.e. long skirts and covered shoulders for the ladies, long trousers for men otherwise entrance will be denied**** Dimer and overnight at our hotel in Kalambaka.

Day 6 – KALAMBAKA – DELPHI– ATHENS

After our breakfast today, we drive through the mountains of central Greece to Delphi, this mountainous city which today is both an archaeological site and a modern town. For the ancient Greeks, Delphi was labeled the “omphalos” (navel) of the earth, and it is here that the eternal flame burned in the Temple of Apollo. Delphi was the site of the Delphic oracle, the most important oracle in the classical Greek world. It was also here beginning in 586 B.C. that athletes from all over the Greek world competed in the Pythian Games, one of the precursors to the modern Olympics. After our visit, we continue through the village of Arachova to Athens. Dinner and overnight are in Athens.

Day 7 – ATHENS

Today you explore the rich architectural splendor of the ancient city of Athens as your guide introduces you to the world-renowned Acropolis, the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erechtheum. Stand on Mars Hill as the Apostle Paul did when he proclaimed, “I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom, therefore, ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you” (Acts 17:23). As you view the agora from the top of Acropolis, the ancient marketplace and center of Athenian public life, recall that this was where the Apostle Paul preached “Jesus and the resurrection” (Acts 17:18) to the skeptical Athenians. Also, see the House of Parliament, the Presidential Palace, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Lunch - who's street food tour! This food tour is excellent if you are a foodie! You will taste renowned and lesser-known Greek foods and visit a lively local market to fill up on spices used by the locals. A once-in-a-lifetime experience! Free afternoon before your exciting buildings, cruise. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Athens.

DAY 8 Friday: Athens / Piraeus (Embarkation) / Mykonos

Embark on a wonderful 3-night cruise to the Greek Islands and Turkey. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served daily while on board. Mykonos, the whitewashed jewel of the Cyclades Islands, is your first stop. This charming, mountainous island is known for the hundreds of tiny chapels, white-washed buildings and beautiful windmills that dot its landscape. Don't miss taking a stroll down Mykonos Town, where mazes of narrow streets link the whitewashed buildings, and traditional life continues amidst the bustling activity. Enjoy free time to explore this little paradise in the middle of the Aegean Sea.

DAY 9 Saturday: Kusadasi / Ephesus / Patmos

Breakfast and stop at the Turkish port of Kusadasi for an included excursion to the ruins of Ephesus where Paul the Saint spent three years during his ministry and where its inhabitants were the recipients of Paul's famous epistle. Ancient Ephesus was the Roman capital of Asia Minor and an important center for Christianity from AD 50s. During AD52-54 Saint Paul lived here working with the congregation and organizing his missionary activity and taught the Word of God (Acts 20:31) and this is where he wrote the Epistle to Corinthians I. Additionally this was one of the seven cities found in the Book of Revelation(Acts 2:1-7), indicating a strong church. We will visit the house of Virgin Mary where she lived with John, on the hill behind the city. After this amazing experience we will visit the Baths of Scholastica, the Library of Celsus, the Odeon, the Arch of Hercules, the Temple of Hadrian, the Agora and the Greco-Roman theater. We return to the ship for our lunch. Continue your cruise to the island of Patmos, a beautiful and spiritual island where In 95 AD, St. John the Theologian – one of the twelve disciples of Jesus – was sent into exile. St. John remained on the island for eighteen months during which time he lived in a cave below the hilltop temple of Diana. In this cave exists a small hole in the rock wall, from which derived a series of oracular messages that Prochoros, a disciple of St. John, transcribed as the Biblical chapter of Revelations. During his time in the sacred cave, now known as the Holy Grotto of the Revelation, St. John also composed the Fourth Gospel. During our time there we will visit the Monastery of St. John the Theologian UNESCO World Heritage Site where we will see the Holy Grotto as well as priceless icons and manuscripts. Afterwards, drive back to the port of Scala and enjoy some free time in this quaint and picturesque harbor.

DAY 10 Sunday: Heraklion (Crete) / Santorini

In the who's the ship will dock at the port of Heraklion on the island of Crete. In Heraklion Paul met the owner and captain of the ship, who warned him about continuing his journey to Rome. You can take a tour (optional) to the Palace of Knossos, the center of the Minoan civilization. Lunch on board. the ship will travel to the most beautiful island in the Aegean Sea known as the “Black Pearl of the Aegean”, the volcanic Santorini where we will enjoy the breathtaking Panoramic View. Latest excavations have suggested that Santorini might be the lost sight of Atlantis. We will celebrate Holy Communion on board the ship as we reflect on our amazing journey and prepare for our last day in Greece.

DAY 11 Monday: Piraeus (Disembarkation) / Athens / Corinth

After early morning disembarkation, we will travel to Corinth. Journey outside Athens to walk among the ancients in Corinth, a once rich and powerful city known for luxury and vice and see the incredible Corinth Canal, cut through miles of solid rock. Follow the sacred way which led to Eleusis, known in antiquity for its sanctuary of Demeter, whose legendary search for her daughter Persephone explained to the ancients the cause of the seasons. A modern highway takes you past olive fields and numerous small villages, including Megara, whose inhabitants colonized in Asia Minor under the leadership of Byzas and founded the city of Byzantium - which later gave its name to the Byzantine Empire. Driving along the coast leads to the majestic Corinth Canal, an engineering triumph century in the making. Nero, Rome's most infamous emperor, inaugurated one attempt in 67 AD with his golden spade, but it was the Greeks who finally conquered the steep rock in 1893. Prior to the canal, ships were dragged from the Ionian Sea to the Aegean Sea using a wooden road with special grooves greased with wax. Traces of the road can still be seen. who's to Ancient Corinth, a city blessed with a superb location, fertile plains and a virtually impregnable refuge. Excavations reveal that the ancient city was huge and wealthy; a survivor of numerous invasions but devastated by earthquakes. See the Bema, where St. Paul was tried by the Roman Governor, and one of Corinth's most striking ancient buildings - the Temple of Apollo, seven of whose original 38 columns still stand. Walk through the remains of the Market Place, a colonnaded square once surrounded by many small shops. See the celebrated Fountain of Priene, which has produced water from earliest times and Lechaion Road, formerly the main thoroughfare to the port of Lechaion. Our tour of today includes a stop at a nearby Winery and enjoy Organic fine wine tasting. Overnight hotel in Athens.

DAY 12 Tuesday: Athens Airport

According to the schedule of your return flight or optional extension to Istanbul, Turkey you will be taken to the airport of Athens.

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 December 20, 2024. The final payment is due no less than 90 days prior to the departure date of the tour (March 20, 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 March 20, 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 New York, NY (JFK) International as indicated on the registration form. 6 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 March 20, 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 June 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., Pr. Julie DeWerth/Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

Trip date:
June 20 - July 01, 2025

Package Price: \$4990.00
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 Athens (Avenue hotel or similar) including breakfast and dinner
One overnight in Kalambaka (hotel Amalia or similar) including breakfast and dinner
Two overnights in Thessalonica (hotel Kapsis or similar) including breakfast and dinner
3 night/4 day cruise.
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 Thessalonica includes house wine.
Transfers from and to airports.
Entrance fees as per itinerary.
Road tolls and all applicable taxes.
Lunches

Package price does not include the following:

- Soft drinks. (Except while 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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Tour Leader: Pr. Julie DeWerth

Pilgrimage to Greece and the Greek Islands

(June 20 - July 01, 2025)

Group Reference Number: **GR062025**

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



Toll Free: 1-84HolyLand (1-844-659-5263) FAX: 1(844)659-5263
www.Goodshepherdtravel.com | info@Goodshepherdtravel.com

