

STEPS OF PAUL

GREECE & GREEK ISLANDS



Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras, Ph.D.



October 10 - 21, 2025

Package Price! \$4890.00 From Chicago, IL (ORD)

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)*

Optional Turkey Extension

**October 10 - 13, 2025 Package
price \$890.00 per person**



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

Register Online

Greece & Greek islands Pilgrimage Itinerary October 10 - 21, 2025

Day 1 – DEPARTUR TO GREECE

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

Day 2 – ARIVAL 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. 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. 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. 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 Gallerius 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. We will share worship and Holy Communion together as we begin our pilgrimage. Overnight hotel Capsis or similar.

Day 4 – THESSALONIKI – KAVAL – 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. 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 site of the 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 (Acts 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). 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. 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. (*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. *) Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Kalambaka (hotel Amalia or similar).

Day 6 – KALAMBAKA – DELPHI– ATHENS

After our breakfast today, we drive through the mountains of central Greece to explore Delphi. Visit the archaeological site and museum. The museum houses an impressive collection associated with ancient. Close to the exit is the inscription that mentions the Roman proconsul Gallio. The reference to proconsul Gallio in the inscription provides an important marker for developing a chronology of the life of Apostle Paul by relating it to the trial of Paul in Achaia mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (18:12-17). 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 (Athens Avenue Hotel or similar).

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." (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 - Athens street food tour! Free afternoon before your exciting 3 night cruise. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Athens (Athens Avenue Hotel or similar).

DAY 8 – ATHENS / PIRAEUS (Embarkation for 3-night cruise) / 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. 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 – KUSADASI / EPHEBUS / 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 First Epistle to the Corinthians. Additionally this was one of the seven cities found in the Book of Revelation (Revelation 2:1-7), indicating a strong church. 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 (Revelation 1:9-11). 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 one of the seven deacons chosen to care for the poor in Jerusalem (Acts 6:5), and later a disciple of St. John is thought to have transcribed the Biblical book of Revelations. During his time in the sacred cave, now known as the Holy Grotto of the Revelation, St. John may have 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 – HERAKLION (Crete) / SANTORINI

In the morning 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.

DAY 11 – PIRAEUS (Disembarkation) / ATHENS / CORINTH / ATHENS

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. 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. Continue to Ancient Corinth, a city blessed with a superb location, fertile plains, and a virtually impregnable refuge It is likely that Paul visited Corinth at least twice on his missionary journeys. 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 (Acts 18:1-17) , and one of Corinth's most striking ancient buildings - the Temple of Apollo, seven of who's original 38 columns still stand. Walk through the remains of the Marketplace, 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 Lecaion. Our tour of today includes a stop at a nearby Winery and enjoy Organic fine wine tasting. Overnight hotel in Athens (Athens Avenue Hotel or similar).

DAY 12 – DEPARTURE 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.

Optional Turkey Extension
October 10 - 13, 2025 Package Price \$890.00 per person

DAY 12 // ISTANBUL - ARRIVAL (B/D)

Arrival at Istanbul airport meet assist transfer to hotel for check-in.
Balance of the day at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul

DAY 13 // ISTANBUL – SIGHTSEING TOUR

Breakfast at the hotel. Full-day tour of Istanbul, visit numerous monuments from the **Ottoman and Byzantine Empires** that reflect the rich history and cultural heritage of the city.

Hagia Sophia, a great architectural achievement of the Byzantine Empire, was completed in 537 AD, adorned with beautiful mosaics and frescoes.

Blue Mosque known also as Sultan Ahmet Mosque famous for its six minarets and its blue interior tiles. **Roman Hippodrome**, a stadium built in the 3rd century AD for chariot racing and other events.

Basilica Cistern is a remarkable site, built in the 6th century with a capacity of 80.000 cubic meters supported by 336 marble columns each 9m high. One of the most striking features of the Basilica Cistern is the two Medusa heads that are used as column bases.

Grand Bazar, is one of the oldest and largest covered markets in the world, with over 60 streets and 4.000 shops.

Topkapi Palace, was the primary residence of the Ottoman Sultans for almost 400 years, from the 15th century until the 19th century. Is known for its beautiful architecture, intricate tile work, and stunning views of the Bosphorus and the Sea of Marmara. The palace contains numerous buildings and rooms, including the Imperial Treasury, which houses an impressive collection of Ottoman jewels, precious stones, and gold objects.

The tour ends with a visit to the **Tomb of the Sultan**

Return to hotel for dinner and overnight in Istanbul

DAY 14 // BOSPHORUS CRUISE & TWO CONTINENTS (8-9 hrs)

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, Çiragan, and Feriye Palaces**; the **Rumeli Hisari 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 **Çamlıca 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 15 // DEPRATURE (B)

After breakfast transfer to airport for flight back home



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 April 10, 2025. The final payment is due no less than 90 days prior to the departure date of the tour (July 10, 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 July 10, 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 Chicago, IL (ORD) 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 \$1260.00 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 July 10, 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 2025, 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. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras, Ph.D.

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

Trip date:
October 10 - 21, 2025

Package Price: \$4890.00
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 daily
- One overnight in Kalambaka (hotel Amalia or similar) including breakfast and dinner daily
- Three overnights in Thessaloniki (hotel Kapsis or similar) including breakfast and dinner daily
- 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 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

Pilgrimage to Greece and the Greek Islands

Led By: Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras, Ph.D.

(October 10 - 21, 2025)

Group Reference Number: **G092625**

Optional Turkey Extension
October 10 - 13, 2025
Package Price \$890.00
per person
YES NO
Please select one!

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:
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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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