

STEPS OF PAUL

GREECE & GREEK ISLANDS



Fr. James Spahn



Fr. Ernest Bayer

April 17 - 28, 2026

Package Price! \$5890.00 From Denver, CO (DEN)

Package Price Includes

** Roundtrip Airfare * Accommodations in double occupancy luxury hotels * Breakfast, lunch, 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

**April 28 - May 01, 2026 Package
price \$990.00 per person**



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



Register Online

Greece & Greek islands Pilgrimage Itinerary April 17 - 28, 2026

Day 1: –DEPARTURE TO GREECE

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

Day 2: –ARRIVAL THESSALONIKI

Arrive in 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 in Thessaloniki.

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. 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. We start our excursion of the city viewing the White Tower, an historical landmark. 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. Then you will visit Vlatadon Monastery which was believed it was the House of Jason. Further visit of St. Demetrios Basilica which was erected in the 5th century AD. Then we will visit Forum where ruins from 1st Century are excavated. Forum (Agora) is mentioned in Acts as the Jews of the city started from here and went to Jason's House to attack Saint Paul. 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 in Thessaloniki

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, 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. Sulas 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 Baptistery and the River, where Lydia, the first European convert was baptised by St. Paul. Here at Lydia's Springs you will have Mass. 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. After lunch in Philippi Site, we will do a short orientation tour of Kavala (Ancient Neapolis) and then drive back to Thessaloniki. Overnight in Thessaloniki.

Day 5: –THESSALONIKI–VERIA–VERGINA–KALAMBAKA

Your tour starts with a visit to Veria. We visit the Bema of Saint Paul and also we will visit the Synagogue where Saint Paul preached. 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. Then, we will drive towards the town of Kalambaka. Overnight in Kalambaka.

Day 6: –KALAMBAKA–METEORA–ATHENS

Today we will visit the 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 of one monastery, 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* After lunch we will start our drive towards Athens by stopping at Thermopylae where King Leonidas and his 300 Spartans fought against King Xerxes and his giant army. Overnight in Athens

Day 7: –ATHENS

On a tour to Athens you will view many significant historical and archaeological monuments that date back to the Golden Age of Pericles, in the 5th century BC. Visit the Parthenon, dedicated to the Goddess Athena, a unique masterpiece of Greek Architecture. This monument is recognized as the culmination of Greek architecture and sculpture. Examine the Propylea, which blends Doric and Ionic building principles. Continue to the Temple of the Athena Nike (Wingless Victory) and the Erechtheum Temple. Next, you will visit Mars

Hill, where St. Paul preached Christianity. You will also visit the Ancient Agora where Saint Paul preached to Athenians. Then you will see the Tower of the Winds, Herodes Atticus Theater, Theater of Dionysos, Temple of Zeus, see the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the former Royal Palace which is now the House of Parliament. Continue to the University of Athens, the Academy of Athens, the National Library and then to the "Panathenian" Olympic Stadium where the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896. Overnight in Athens. **Day 8: –Athens- Mykonos–free afternoon**

Transfer to the port to take your 3 night cruise ship. Late afternoon, arrive at the beautiful island of Mykonos. Overnight sail to Santorini.

Day 9: –Santorini free day

Arrive at the island of Santorini with the breathtaking view of the Aegean sea and the volcano. Optional shore excursion to Oia where are the Blue Domes. Afternoon sailing to Kusadasi-Turkey.

Day 10: –Kusadasi (excursion to Ephesus)/Patmos (excursion to Cave of St. John where he wrote the Apocalypse)

Arrive at Kusadasi, continue by coach to Ephesus and explore ruins of the ancient city. Celebrate Mass at Panaya Kapula (the House of the Virgin Mary) in Ephesus. Afternoon visit to the island of Patmos where you visit the Grotto and Monastery of Saint John. Overnight sail to Heraklion-Crete.

Day 11: –CORINTH, CENCHRAEAE, ATHENS

Today after your disembarkation, your tour is 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. Continue on 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 Lecaion. You will have Mass under the trees at the Ancient Corinth. Before returning to Athens, you will pass by Cenchræae, the ancient port region of Corinth. Acts 18:18 states saint Paul stopped at Cenchræae during his second missionary journey, where he had his hair cut to fulfill a vow. Overnight in Athens

Day 12: -DEPARTURE

You fly back home, full of memories of a lifetime experience journey.

Optional Istanbul Extension 3 Nights/4 Days

April 28 May 01, 2026

\$990.00 per person

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

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

Dinner at hotel **Overnight Istanbul** Mass celebration to be scheduled daily

Day 13 Sunday ISTANBUL – SIGHTSEEING TOUR (B/L/D)

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. It 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.

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

Return to hotel for dinner and overnight **Overnight Istanbul** Mass celebration to be scheduled daily

Day 14 Monday BOSPHORUS CRUISE & TWO CONTINENTS (8-9 hrs)

Breakfast at the hotel.

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 **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

Overnight Istanbul

Day 15 Tuesday DEPARTURE (B)

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for a 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 October 17, 2025. The final payment is due no less than 90 days prior to the departure date of the tour (January 17, 2026). 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 January 17, 2026 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 Denver, CO (DEN) 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 \$1390.00 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 January 17, 2026. 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 March 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 Fr. James Spahn & Fr. Ernest Bayer/Immaculate Heart of Mary and St John Paul II Catholic Parish

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

Trip date:
April 17 - 28, 2026

Package Price: \$5890.00
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
- Lunches

Package price does not include the following:

- Tips for tour escort, Guides & Drivers
- Soft drinks. (Except wine on the Cruise)
- 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

Immaculate Heart of Mary and St John Paul II Catholic Parish

Led By: Fr. James Spahn & Fr. Ernest Bayer

(April 17 - 28, 2026)

Group Reference Number: **GR041726**

Optional Turkey Extension
April 28 - May 01, 2026
Package Price \$990.00
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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