

# THE JOURNEYS OF PAUL

WITH 2 NIGHTS IN ISTANBUL



## ACROPOLIS, ATHENS, GREECE



DR. GARY & SANDY SMITH

APRIL 22 - MAY 3, 2025

*We hope you'll join us as we explore the ancient paths of Saint Paul's missionary journeys through Greece and Turkey. Walk in the footsteps of this influential figure as you visit iconic sites such as Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, and Thessaloniki. Experience the rich history and cultural significance of these destinations, where Paul spread the teachings of Christianity. From the modern museums to the ruins of ancient temples, this tour offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the legacy of Paul's travels along the Aegean Sea, and enjoy luxury hotel accommodations and three nights aboard a cruise ship. Inspired teachings, Christian fellowship, fabulous cuisine, breathtaking sights, and a lifetime of memories await you! As an added draw, you'll explore the wonders of Istanbul, delighting in its natural beauty, unique architecture, and the splendid bazaar wares of its famed covered market.*



# 12-DAY ITINERARY

## DAYS 1 & 2

### TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY: FLIGHT INTO & OVERNIGHT STAY IN THESSALONIKI

We depart the U.S. today for our flight to Thessaloniki. Upon arrival in Thessaloniki, we will be met by DCT's local representative, and escorted to our hotel in Thessaloniki. Remainder of the day free. You will enjoy your first dinner as a group. Overnight Thessaloniki.

## DAY 3

### THURSDAY: PHILIPPI & THESSALONIKI TOUR - OVERNIGHT STAY IN THESSALONIKI

Paul visited Philippi together with Silas during his Second Missionary Journey. Our first Biblical encounter with Philippi is through Act 16:11-40. At the time, Philippi had no synagogues and very few Jews, so Paul decided to wait for the Sabbath and go to the riverbanks outside the city. There, he began to talk to the women that gathered there; amongst them, Lydia-the first person to be Baptized in European soil-she and her whole household became believers. During your tour in Philippi, you will have the opportunity to visit and study your Bible in the actual place where the Baptism took place, called "Lydia's Baptistry." You will also see the place where Paul and Silas were imprisoned and freed by a violent earthquake. From there, you will continue to Kavala; the site used to be Ancient Neapolis where Paul, Timothy, and Silas landed. Return to Thessaloniki. Paul came to Thessaloniki and went straight to the Synagogue. As described in your Bible in Acts 17:1-9, Paul preached in the Synagogue for three consecutive Sabbaths, and he gained many followers who believed. A couple of the Jews who were not persuaded created an uproar and attacked the House of Jason, one of the believers Paul was staying with during his visit. During your tour, you will have the Biblical Experience of those verses as you will see the agora in Thessaloniki, where Paul preached to the local Jews, and the House of Jason, where he lived! You will also have the opportunity to visit St. Demetrius Basilica, dedicated to a distinguished member of the Roman army and a martyred Christian convert, and see the Galerius Arch rising over the famous via Egnatia. Overnight Thessaloniki.

## DAY 4

### FRIDAY: FLY TO ATHENS - BOARD CRUISE SHIP (3-NIGHT CRUISE) - ISLAND OF MYKONOS

Early morning flight to Athens. Upon arrival at the international airport in Athens, transfer to the port of Lavrion for your cruise embarkation. We sail this morning from Athens to the quaint isle of Mykonos, called the Island of the Windmills, where the waterfront is lined with shops and cafes. You'll stroll the charming walkways through a maze of quaint whitewashed buildings before returning to the ship for dinner and entertainment.

## DAY 5

### SATURDAY: ANCIENT EPHEBUS - ISLAND OF PATMOS

Docking in Turkey, enjoy an included tour of Ephesus, the city of the Bible and one of the largest restorations still in progress with miles of ancient treasures. Ephesus was once a thriving port town of 250,000 people. Today you can still see the spectacular excavations of the major streets in this ancient city including the Agora, the Odeon, the Library, the marble-paved main Street, the Baths, Trajan's Fountain, the Residences of the Patricians, the Prytaneum, and Temple of Hadrian. The Great Theatre, built in the 4th century B.C., could accommodate 24,000 spectators and it is famous even nowadays for its acoustics. This afternoon we visit the Isle of Patmos, under statutory protection as a historic monument. Here we have an included tour to see the fortified monastery of St. John and the cave claimed to be where John received the Revelation. Back on the ship.

## DAY 6

### SUNDAY: ISLANDS OF CRETE - ISLAND OF SANTORINI

Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. Paul landed on Crete at "Kaloi Limenes", Fair Heavens, on his way to Rome on his last missionary journey. He stayed briefly in Crete and then continued to Rome. He left Titus on the island to establish the churches and appoint the elders. Titus 1:5 says, "The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you." (You may also take an OPTIONAL tour of the Knossos Minoan Palace). You'll board boats and visit the Island of Santorini, Greece, perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. The town of Fira, the capital, features white-washed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes, and boutiques clinging to steep cliffs that are accessible by foot, cable-car or mule. Again, we return to the ship for dinner and evening entertainment.

## DAY 7

### MONDAY: DISEMBARK IN ATHENS - ANCIENT CORINTH

You'll disembark in the port of Athens and continue on to Corinth. Corinth (Acts 18: 1-18), a city that inspired of Paul's most familiar letter. You will visit the Archeological Museum, the Market Place, and Temples. Walk among the ruins and stand on the Bema where Paul stood. Read Paul's letter to the Corinthians and visualize his address to the Gentiles as he began the task of building Corinth's church. Imagine where Aquila and Priscilla lived and where they had their tent making business. Acts 18:9-11 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. Return to Athens for dinner and overnight.

## DAY 8

### TUESDAY: ATHENS OF APOSTLE PAUL TOUR

In 51 AD, Paul traveled from Berea to Athens by boat. His boat anchored at Faliron that used to be the main port serving Athens. Paul traveled from port to Athens. While waiting for Silas & Timothy to come from Macedonia, he spent most of his time talking with citizens at the Synagogues and the Agora. The Athenians took an interest in his teachings and invited him to present it more analytical at the Aeropagus, the hill west of Acropolis. Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and gave his famous Aeropagus Sermon, emphasizing the need to know God rather than worship the unknown as described in Acts 17:16-34. Follow your guide on a journey to the ancient Acropolis where you will see the Propylaea, the Parthenon and the Erectheum. View Mars Hill where Paul preached the gospel to the intellectual Athenian community of his day (Acts 17: 15-34). View the ruins of the Agora, ancient marketplace and center of Athenian public life, where Paul preached to the skeptical Athenians. You will view the Olympic Stadium, where the modern Olympics began and where the games returned in 2004. Dinner and overnight in Athens!

## DAY 9

### WEDNESDAY: DAY AT LEISURE IN ATHENS

Dinner & overnight in Athens.

## DAY 10

### THURSDAY: FLY TO ISTANBUL AND TOUR

Welcome to Istanbul, a city with a mysterious past, where East meets West and myriad of cultures and blended all into an unmatched splendor. Start your touring by visiting St. Sophia, the original structure was built by Constantine in 326 A.D. With its 184' dome, mosaics and frescoes, it is considered an architectural wonder. Of it, Justinian stated, "Solomon, I have surpassed you." Across the street we enter the Yerebatan Sarayi (Underground Cisterns) built during the time of Justinian I and probably by Christians when one considers the manner in which many of the temple columns and capitals are placed. From here we take a short walk along the Hippodrome built in the times of Byzantium for horse and chariot races. Today, on the site of the imperial box seats, is the William II Fountain, and monuments line the field where once as many as 100,000 sat or stood and cheered at athletic competitions. As we continue our walk, we reach Sultanahmet Mosque better known as the Blue Mosque, a name derived from its exquisite, blue-colored tiles decorating the interior of the building, which is further distinguished by its six minarets. Return to your hotel for dinner & overnight.

## DAY 11

### FRIDAY: ISTANBUL

This morning, take a Bosphorus cruise to see Istanbul from the water, enjoying views of both the European and Asian sides of the city. Continue your touring of Istanbul with a visit to Topkapi Palace, the last residence of the Ottoman Turks. Poised on the hilltop of the Golden Horn, it beckoned home the sultans of old and today it has that same magnetic appeal. Then we head to the Grand Covered Bazaar, a maze of streets and shops under an intricately painted, vaulted roof. It is a world unto itself abounding in the sights, aroma and sounds of old Turkey. Free time on your own for exploration and last-minute shopping before we return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

## DAY 12

### FRIDAY: DEPART FROM ISTANBUL - FLIGHT TO THE U.S.A.

We depart from the Turkish airport, where we fly back to the U.S. A. We will return with new friends and memories to last a lifetime!

# CABIN OPTIONS & PRICING

*All cabins for this tour are exterior Ocean View Staterooms with portholes.  
Upgraded accommodations are optional, and are subject to availability upon request.*

## Exterior Stateroom - Ocean View - PORTHOLE



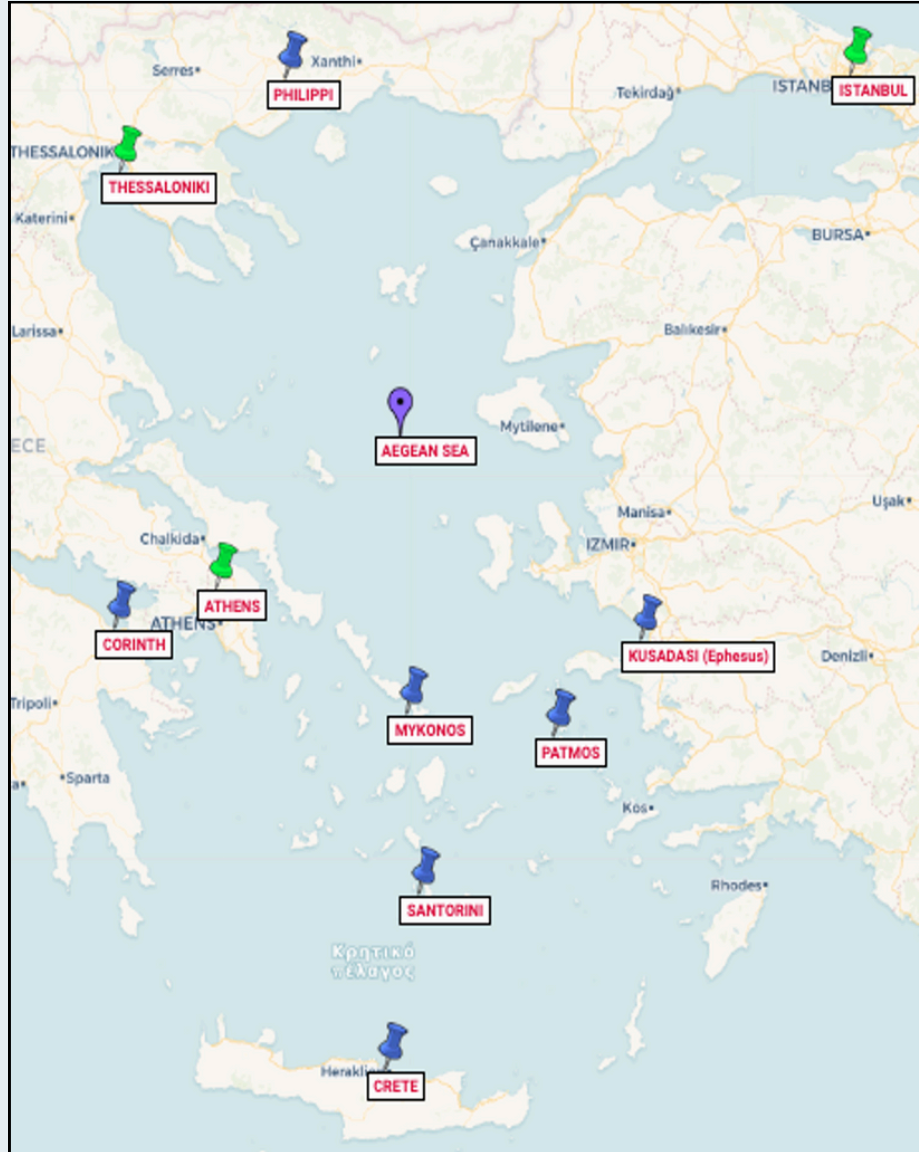
## Exterior Stateroom- Ocean View - WINDOW



## Exterior Stateroom- Ocean View - BALCONY



## Dream Suite - Ocean View - BALCONY



**Cruise the Aegean Sea on the luxurious *Discovery!***



**Cabin prices are based on dual occupancy rates. Single occupancy is optional for an added cost.  
All cabin photos are representative, and actual cabins may vary slightly.**



# TERMS & CONDITIONS

**PRICING:** Our pricing is in U.S. dollars, and is based upon the current rate of international exchange between the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies at the time prices are posted. Whenever possible, **Discovery** obtains price guarantees from its suppliers, but in rare circumstances, a price increase may be unavoidable due to an increase in fees, including fuel surcharges, carrier surcharges, taxes, fluctuations in foreign exchange markets or any combination thereof. In that instance, the increase will be charged to the traveler up to the time of departure. Up-to-date pricing can be found at [dcttravel.com](http://dcttravel.com).

**NOT INCLUDED IN PRICING:** Passport costs, optional pre/post hotel nights due to traveler's arrival and departure preferences, hotel or other costs incurred to accommodate travel connections, items of a personal nature, including, but not limited to, laundry, non-included meals, room service at hotel(s), phone calls, Internet, etc.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION INSURANCE:** **Discovery** recommends purchasing a travel protection plan that helps offset costs and expenses should something unexpected occur. There are various plans available which cover Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and Emergency Evacuation, Emergency Repatriation, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay, and more. **Discovery** does not offer travel insurance, but many plans are available for purchase elsewhere.

**PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS:** Passports are required for all travelers, including children. **Passports must remain valid for 6 months beyond the completion of your travel dates; and are required for air travel outside the U.S.** For U.S. citizens and residents, more information is available online at [www.travel.state.gov/passport](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport), or by calling the National Passport Information Center at 877-487- 2778. When necessary, a group visa for U.S. citizens will be obtained by **Discovery** for those confirmed by the final payment date. Non-U.S. citizens and U.S. citizens originating from outside the U.S. should consult their country's embassy regarding specific requirements for entry into each and every country of destination. **Your passport name must match the name on your registration, cruise boarding pass, and airline ticket, or you may be denied travel.** It is the personal responsibility of each passenger to fully comply with all immigration and documentation requirements.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:** Travel suppliers (cruise line, air carrier, shore excursion agents, etc.) may have restrictions regarding certain physical requirement accommodations. If you have a medical condition (mobility limitations, pregnancy, etc.), or use medical equipment which could affect your travel, consult your physician and notify **Discovery**, so we can provide you with information regarding possible restrictions. If you are unable to get on and off the bus and walk without the assistance of another individual, you must bring someone with you to provide assistance, or you may stay on the bus as needed.

**PAYMENT INFORMATION:** Final payments **MUST** be received ninety (90) days prior to departure. Payments received inside ninety (90) days will be assessed an \$80 late payment fee. **NOTE: All reservations not fully paid by the ninety-day deadline are subject to cancellation, and Discovery will not be held responsible.** Cancellation of airline seats or changes to passport registrations within one hundred (100) days of departure each carry a penalty of \$100 per person. Registration deposits must be made online by credit card, and subsequent payments may be made online by credit card or by mailed payment methods, including personal checks, cashier's checks, money orders, and credit card checks drawn against your card. Subsequent payments made online by credit card incur a 2.25% processing fee, but NO processing fee is charged for the deposit at time of registration.

**REGISTRATION & DEPOSIT:** **A deposit of \$500 per person is required at the time of registration.** The deposit may be charged to your **Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover** card. Registrations received within ninety (90) days of departure must be paid in full. A late registration may result in an additional fee for airfare, depending on the airline and seating availability.

**FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON TOURS AND RELEVANT POLICIES, PLEASE VISIT [OUR WEBSITE](#), AND CLICK ON THE "IMPORTANT INFORMATION" TAB OF THE TOUR SELECTED. BE SURE TO SCROLL DOWN TO THE SUBSECTION "TOUR OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITY".**

**FOR MORE GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TOURS, INCLUDING TRAVEL TIPS AND MANDATES, VISIT OUR [FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS PAGE](#).**

## PAYMENTS (Must be made in U.S. funds and are per person)

Registration Amount \$500

January 22, 2025 Final payment due

On or after January 22, 2025 Full payment due

## RESERVATION CHANGE FEES (per person)

Day of Registration – January 21, 2025 \$100

On or after January 22, 2025 No changes allowed

*Additional fees may be assessed, such as single occupancy rates due to roommate cancellation, and will be paid by the traveler. Additionally, any deviation from group accommodations which incur additional costs will be paid by the traveler. Change fees will NOT be assessed for upgrades or for the addition of services, unless air reservations are altered and/or travel documents must be reissued.*

## CANCELLATION FEES (per person)

Day of Registration - January 21, 2025 \$200

Jan 22 - Feb 6, 2025 \$500

Feb 7 - Feb 22, 2025 25% of tour cost

Feb 23 - March 23, 2025 50% of tour cost

On or after March 24, 2025 NO REFUND

*Cancellation fees apply for any reason, including medical and family emergencies. Cancellations must be submitted to **Discovery** in writing at [contact@dcttravel.com](mailto:contact@dcttravel.com), and confirmed by reply from **Discovery**.*



**[DCTTRAVEL.COM](http://DCTTRAVEL.COM)**

**235 NE Loop 820, Suite 101**

**Hurst, TX 76053**

**817-595-2700**

**[contact@dcttravel.com](mailto:contact@dcttravel.com)**