# THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF THE REVELATION PLUS GREECE & ITALY!



journey through Turkey! Your journey begins with three nights in the cosmopolitan city of Istanbul, including a guided tour of its magnificent architecture and famed indoor Grand Bazaar. You'll depart Istanbul and spend the remainder of your tour visiting the beautiful sites of the seven churches mentioned in the book of Revelation, where the history, spirituality and breathtaking landscapes of that region converge. You'll hear the special messages given to John regarding each church's unique ministry and mission, and gain a profound understanding of the challenges faced by the early believers. Then we island-hop on a cruise in the Aegean Sea, and stop in Athens for a full day of adventure. We conclude with a trip to Rome, where we will take in the sights of the Vatican. Inspired teaching, Christian fellowship, fabulous cuisine, breathtaking sights, and a lifetime of memories await you!

GARY LEBECK & WIFE, CHRISTIAN AUTHOR T.J. MARTINI SEPTEMBER 10 - 25, 2025

# **16-DAY ITINERARY**

# Thursday, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

**RENO, NEVADA** 

Depart: 11:00 a.m.

Reno-Tahoe International Airport \* check in is three (3) hours before flight departs

# DAYS 1 & 2 (Thursday & Friday)

#### **DEPARTURE & ARRIVE ISTANBUL - FLIGHT TO IZMIR**

We depart the U.S. today for our flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival into Istanbul, we will meet our Tour Director at Istanbul Airport and connect all together for our flight to Izmir. Upon arrival at Izmir Airport, we will meet our driver and continue to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (D)

#### DAY 3 (Saturday)

#### **TOUR IZMIR - PERGAMUM**

We will start our day with a journey to the ancient city of Smyrna, known today as Izmir. Mentioned in the Bible as "The Persecuted Church" (Revelation 2:8-11), Smyrna is one of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor. This city, which has been continuously inhabited for over 3,000 years, is rich in history. As you explore its ancient ruins, you'll trace the footsteps of past civilizations, including the Greeks, Romans, and Byzantines. Smyrna's biblical significance as a church enduring persecution highlights its resilience and historical importance as a center of trade, culture, and learning in the ancient world. In the afternoon, you proceed to Pergamos, now known as Bergama. Referred to in the Bible as "The Compromising Church" (Revelation 2:12-17), Pergamos is another of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor. This ancient city was renowned for its vast library and magnificent temples. As you wander through its archaeological sites, you'll learn about the early Christian community's challenges, particularly the struggle against compromising with pagan practices. This visit provides a deep dive into the complex interplay of faith and compromise during the early Christian era. Return back to Izmir for Dinner and Overnight. (B, D)

# DAY 4 (Sunday) THYATIRA - SARDES - PHILADELPHIA - PAMUKKALE

This morning we leave Izmir and make our way towards Pamukkale. First a visit to Thyatira, now called Akhisar, another one of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 2:18-24; Acts 16:14]. It was a city famous for purple dyes. You visit the remains of a basilica and some architectural fragments from the Roman period. Lydia, the seller of purple in Philippi, was from Thyatira. Drive to Sardis capital of the ancient Lydia where first coin of the world is invented. See the ruins of the 1st century; Temple of Artemis, Synagogues and the Gymnasium (Rev. 1:11; 3:1-4). Continue to Alasehir to visit the ruins of the Philadelphia Church. Dinner and overnight at Pamukkale. (B, D)

# DAY 5 (Monday)

#### HIEROPOLIS - LAODICEA - ANCIENT EPHESUS - KUSADASI

This morning we start our touring in Hierapolis (Pamukkale). The dazzling white hillside is a major tourist site today and probably even in ancient times. The first reference to it in the New Testament associates the city and the church there with the work of Epaphras, who in prison later became acquainted with Paul.

Laodicea was at the crossroads of north-south traffic between Sardis and Perge and east-west traffic from the Euphrates to Ephesus. From this advantageous location, the city became wealthy. John cited very harsh warnings of the "lukewarm" attitude of the church here (Revelation 3:15-17). We continue to Ancient Ephessus.

Ephesus was one of the most beautiful cities of the ancient world and its former glory can still be appreciated today from its well- preserved streets, temples, fountains, public baths, terraced houses, and theatres. Paul went to Ephesus on his third Missionary journey, staying and preaching for a period of about two to three years, and where several certain incidents took place (Acts 19:120, 20:20). It was to this community that Paul may have written his epistle to the Ephesians. You will visit the ancient Agora and go back in time where Demetrius, the silversmith, sold his silver shrines to the Ancient Greek goddess, Artemis. See the Library of Celsius and view the Great Theatre mentioned in the Book of Acts. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi. (B, D)

#### DAY 6 (Tuesday)

#### **CRUISE EMBARKATION - PATMOS**

Morning embarkation onboard our cruise ship. Enjoy lunch while we sail towards the island 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 7 (Wednesday)

#### **RHODES**

Morning arrival in Rhodes. We enjoy a walking tour of a Medieval town and then have time of leisure to explore on our own. Dinner and overnight onboard. (All meals included while on board.)

#### DAY 8 (Thursday)

#### **CRETE - SANTORINI**

Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. Our Included shore excursion will take us to the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. Discovered in 1899 and partially reconstructed, the elaborate Palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. Late afternoon call at the island of Santorini which is perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. Take the cable car up to the town of Oia for a walking tour and free time to explore on your own. Again we return to the ship for dinner and evening entertainment. (All meals while on board.)

# 16-DAY ITINERARY (continued)

#### DAY 9 (Friday)

**DISEMBARKATION - ATHENS OF APOSTLE PAUL** 

Upon disembarkation we will meet our guide and driver. Continue to Corinth. Visit Corinth (Acts 18: 1-18), a city that inspired one of Paul's most familiar letters. We 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. Return to Athens for Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

# DAY 10 (Saturday)

ATHENS OF APOSTLE PAUL

In 51 AD, Apostle Paul traveled from Berea to Athens by boat. While waiting for Silas & Timothy to come from Macedonia, he spent most of his time talking with citizens at the Synagogues and the Agora. Follow our guide on a journey to the ancient Acropolis where we 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 market place and center of Athenian public life, where Paul preached to the skeptical Athenians. We will view the Olympic Stadium, where the modern Olympics began and where the games returned in 2004. (B, D)

#### DAY 11 (Sunday)

**ATHENS - FREE DAY OF LEISURE** 

# DAY 12 (Monday)

**FLY TO ROME** 

Today we fly to Rome. Upon arrival in Rome we will meet our Tour Director for an orientation walk of Rome. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

# DAY 13 (Tuesday)

**VATICAN / CATACOMBS** 

This morning we visit The Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, and St Peter's Basilica. Almost all Christians martyred in the Circus of Gaius/Nero-the site where St. Peter's Square now stands. The Egyptian obelisk in the center of the square is original to the circus, though it stood in a different spot. Here Peter was crucified, according to tradition, upside down (John 21:18-19). He is most likely buried deep beneath the Basilica in the original burial cave.

# DAY 13 (Tuesday) - continued

**VATICAN / CATACOMBS** 

In the afternoon, you will enjoy a walk through the Spanish Steps before visiting one of the Roman Catacombs. Most famous for the early Christians buried here, the catacombs offer an essential contribution to early Christian art. Early frescoes and sculptures still exist in the catacombs. Most touching are the smaller burial spots carved out for children who had died. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

# DAY 14 (Wednesday)

**ROME OF APOSTLE PAUL** 

This morning we start our day at the most inspiring place, Tre Fontane (Abbey of Three Fountains). Tradition tells us Paul was martyred outside the walls of Rome at a place most people have never heard of—one of the Christian sites not on the tourist maps. Next, we see the Church of St Paul outside the walls; many believe Paul is buried here. Our tour continues with a guided visit of the Colosseum. We continue with a walking tour through Roman Forum and towards the Arch of Titus; the Arch's inside relief portrays Roman soldiers carrying off treasures from Jerusalem Temple, destroyed by Titus in 70 AD. Jesus predicted this destruction (Matt 24:1-2). Enter the Mamertine prison. End with a tour of Pantheon ( outside view), Piazza Navona & Trevi Fountain. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

# DAY 15 (Thursday)

**ROME - FREE DAY OF LEISURE** 

# DAY 16 (Friday)

**ROME - FLIGHT HOME** 

After breakfast, we depart the hotel for the Rome airport and return home with unforgettable memories and new friendships that will last a lifetime and beyond!



**RENO, NEVADA** Arrives: 5:27 p.m.

**Reno-Tahoe International Airport** 







#### **HILTON GARDEN INN (IZMIR)**



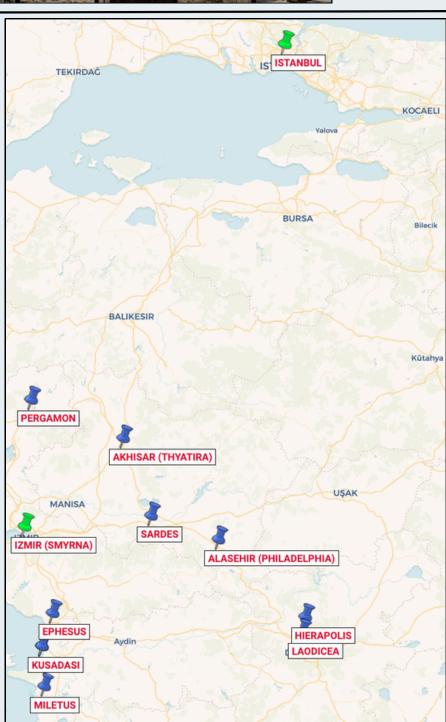
#### PAM THERMAL HOTEL (PAMUKKALE)



**DOUBLETREE by HILTON (KUSADASI)** 







Come see where the <u>Seven Churches of Revelation</u> contended for the faith!





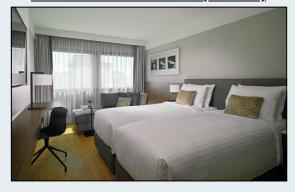
# **ACCOMMODATIONS & UPGRADES**



All rooms for this tour are standard base deluxe rooms.

Upgraded accommodations are optional, and are subject to availability upon request.

#### **ATHENS MARRIOT HOTEL (ATHENS)**



#### MERCURE ROMA CENTRO COLOSSEO(ROME)





Your journey begins in Turkey, where the historical seven churches were seated, and then continues with a cruise to Greece (including free time in Athens!), concluding with a tour of Rome, including the sites of the Vatican.



Enjoy a luxurious <u>cruise</u> while island-hopping Greece in the Aegean Sea!



#### **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.

**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, 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
June 12, 2026	Final payment due
Registration after final due date	Full payment due
RESERVATION CHANGE FEES	(per person)
Day of Registration – June 11, 2026	\$100

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 - June 11, 2026	\$200
June 12 - June 27, 2026	\$500
June 28 - July 13, 2026	25% of tour cost
July 14 - August 11, 2026	50% of tour cost
On or after August 12, 2026	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**, and confirmed by reply from **Discovery**.

