

Tour Code: FSP



Footsteps of Paul

Greece & Turkey

SCHEDULED DEPARTURES

Sept. 4 - 19, 2017

*Includes 3
night cruise!*



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Day 1: Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 • Departure

Our tour begins today with our departure for Istanbul, Turkey.

Day 2: Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017 • Istanbul

Upon our arrival in Istanbul, we meet with our professional guide and begin a half day of sightseeing. We start with a visit to the Hippodrome, one of the largest chariot race grounds of the Byzantine Empire. We take a short walk to the Blue Mosque; completed in 1616, it is a triumph of harmony, proportion and elegance. The mosque was a part of a complex including tombs, fountains, kitchens, and a bath. Its 260 colorful windows allow the sunlight to reach inside making the interior unusually light. The blue Iznik Tiles covering the walls have given the mosque its popular name. Then, we visit the magnificent Topkapı Palace, residence of the sultans for almost three centuries. It is located on the promontory jutting out between the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn. This setting provides a magnificent view. We end our day at our hotel where we will enjoy our first dinner in Turkey. **D**

Day 3: Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017 • Cappadocia

After breakfast we meet our guide at the hotel lobby for your full day of sightseeing. First, we visit St. Sophia, the church of the Divine Wisdom, known as the architectural marvel of all time. It was built during Emperor Justinian reign (AD537) and it remained the greatest church in Christendom until the conquest of Constantinople in 1453 by Sultan Mehmet II who converted Hagia Sophia into a Mosque. In 1934, Atatürk proclaimed it a museum. The walls of this beautiful piece of architecture are decorated with gorgeous mosaics. We visit the Basilica Cistern, constructed in 532 AD by Justinian to hold the water supply for the Great Palace. We visit the Grand Bazaar, the largest and oldest covered Bazaar in Turkey with more than 4,000 shops. After our visit, we transfer to the airport for our flight to Kayseri. Upon our arrival in Kayseri, we transfer to our hotel in Cappadocia. **B/D**

Day 4: Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017 • Cappadocia

We start our day descending below the earth's surface into the Kaymakli Underground City, where its five levels extend below ground and include living quarters, kitchens, wine presses, storage rooms, stables and ventilation shafts. Early Christians carved out these subterranean complexes to avoid invaders who swept across the plains of Anatolia from the 6th to the 9th Century. Then, we visit the Göreme Open-Air Museum where icons and other figurative representations were prohibited. We then visit the Goreme Valley, which has been occupied since the dawn of history. In this valley of the churches, we find wonderful and primitive 11th and 12th century frescoes. This afternoon, we visit the pretty town of Avanos, which has long been a center for pottery artisans. It lies on the banks of the Red River where clay supplies are abundant. We enjoy a visit to a pottery workshop to meet the artisans and see their collections displayed in a vast underground cave complex. Finally today we continue to Pasabag Valley where the formation of "fairy chimneys" can be best observed. Then, drive down into the village of Urgup, where we see the blending of landscape and buildings. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia. **B/D**

Day 5: Friday, Sept. 8, 2017 • Cappadocia/Konya/Pamukkale

This morning we drive to Konya. On the way, we visit the 13th century Sultanhan Caravanserai, a building that ranks as one of the Seljuk



masterpieces. Known in ancient times as Iconium, Paul preached in Konya on his first missionary journey. In Konya we will visit the Mevlana Museum. After lunch, we drive to Laodicea which was the most famous and important city in the 1st century B.C. During the time of St. John, the church of Laodicea was one of the seven most important churches of Christianity. This evening we transfer to Pamukkale and check-in to our hotel. **B/D**

Day 6: Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017 • Pamukkale/Izmir

We start off today with a visit to Hierapolis. We drive to Selcuk and visit the House of the Virgin Mary, where she is said to have lived the last years of her life. At Ephesus, famous throughout the ancient world for its Temple of Artemis, we visit the Odeon Theatre where state affairs used to be held and view the Hadrian Temple. Later, we proceed to Celsus Library, the best preserved structure of its kind. Last, we visit the Basilica of St. John, where John and the Virgin Mary lived between 42 and 48 AD. Three hundred years after the death of Saint Paul, a small chapel on the Ayasuluk Hill was constructed over his grave in the 4th century AD. This church was replaced in the 6th century AD by a huge basilica built by the Emperor Justinian, the impressive ruins of which are still visible. Dinner and overnight in Izmir. **B/D**

Day 7: Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017 • Izmir/Canakkale

Today we visit the Acropolis, the Library of Pergamum, built by Eumenes II. At the Temple of Trajan we find marble, probably on the site of a previous Hellenistic building. Zeus's Altar. This is the finest altar ever built of about 180 BC, standing in its own precinct but, most unusually without a temple. Much of the structure and almost all of the friezes are now in Berlin. Then we proceed to the Medical Center of the ancient world, Asklepon where the first psychological treatment had been used and was dedicated to the god of health, Asklepios. After lunch, we drive to Canakkale where we visit the church of Thyatira. We continue on to Alexandria Troas, visited twice by Paul on his second journey. It is here that he received and acted upon God's call to extend his ministry into Greece. **B/D**

Day 8: Monday, Sept. 11, 2017 •

Canakkale/Greek Border/Alexandroupoulos

Today we visit the ancient city of Troy. At the end of our visit, we drive to the Greek border and continue on to Alexandroupoulos, a beautiful resort town on the Aegean Sea. Dinner and overnight in Alexandroupoulos. **B/D**

Day 9: Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017 • Thessaloniki

This morning we visit the ancient theatre at Philippi, the first city in Macedonia to hear the Gospel. We continue to Kavala (ancient Neapolis), where Paul landed in Europe. Here we visit Lydia's Baptistery, where the first woman was baptized on European soil. Our final destination today is Thessaloniki, the Roman provincial capital during Paul's time. Today it is a major cultural and religious center as well as a bustling port city. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki. **B/D**

Day 10: Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017 • Athens

Our exploration of Thessaloniki begins with a drive along the waterfront to the massive White Tower and nearby Triumphal Arch of Galerius, built in 303 AD. We also see St. Demetrios Church with its valuable mosaics and

frescoes. From upper town we have a marvelous view of the city. The site where the monastery of Vlatadon was built is believed to be the location where Jason's house once stood and where Paul was accommodated during his visit to Thessalonica. We also visit Paul's Bema, the monument dedicated to Paul by the people of Veria. Finally we drive to Athens for dinner and overnight. **B/D**

Day 11: Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017 • Athens

Today we explore Athens, one of the most glorious cities in the world and the cradle of western civilization as we know it today. For 25 centuries, the panorama of this city has been dominated by the rock of the Acropolis. Here we see the ruins of the Parthenon, the Erechtheum and the Propylae. Following our visit there we ascend Mars Hill where Paul spoke to the ancient Athenians about the one true God (Acts 17:22-34). From here we have an excellent view of the ancient agora, the former center of Athenian public life. On a drive through the city we see the House of Parliament on Syntagma Square, the evzones in their distinctive uniforms guarding the Presidential Palace, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We also see the Library, the University, the Temple of the Olympian Zeus, and Adrian's Arch. We are able to compare the Panathenaic Stadium where the first Olympics of the modern era were held with the site of the most recent Olympics. Dinner is on your own in Athens tonight. **B**

Day 12: Friday, Sept. 15, 2017 • Cruise/Mykonos

We transfer to the port of Lavrion and embark on our cruise. Our first port of call is Mykonos, the island of the international "jet set", famous for its beautiful sandy beaches and incredible night life. It is also known for its windmills, countless tiny chapels, and narrow cobblestone streets. This maze of narrow lanes was purposely designed to defy both the wind and pirate raids. The lively port is a photographer's favorite. **B / On board meals**

Day 13: Saturday, Sept. 16, 2017 • Cruise/Patmos & Ephesus

This morning, we arrive at the port of Kusadasi on the Turkish coast where you are able to join a tour to ancient Ephesus and the House of Virgin Mary (optional) or visit the various stores of the Kusadasi port. After lunch, we set sail at for the Island of Patmos, where Saint John the Divine wrote the book of Revelations. On the Island of Patmos you may join your tour of the Monastery of Saint John and the Grotto of the Apocalypse (optional) or enjoy your free time at the picturesque town of Scala port. **On board meals**

Day 14: Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017 • Cruise/Heraklion Crete

Today's first port of call is the Island of Crete and its capital Heraklion where you will have the opportunity to discover the Minoan Palace of Knossos (optional) or discover on your own the "old town". Past the Venetian fortress at the harbour gate, and near the Archaeological Museum is a Church dedicated to St. Titus. He was a convert and companion to the Apostle Paul, who was first shipwrecked on Crete for several weeks during a storm. The pedestrian 25th August Str., a shopping street, is directly opposite the Old Harbour and extends to Lion Square and Morosini Fountain, in the city hub. We depart at 11:30 am for the volcanic island of the Cyclades, Santorini, your the last port of call. Upon arrival in Santorini, we admire the spectacular caldera, created by the eruption of the island's volcano in ancient times and the white washed houses perched on the edge. Discover with your tour (optional) the breathtaking panorama of Oia, the most photographed spot in Greece, known worldwide for its fascinating sunsets. **On board meals**

Day 15: Monday, Sept. 18, 2017 • Athens

Our cruise ends in the port of Lavrion today. After disembarking from our cruise ship, we travel to nearby Corinth. The city's location between two gulfs placed it on the shortest route between the Adriatic Sea and Italy. This Roman city was both a center for trade and for loose living. For Paul it was the site of an extensive ministry to a fledgling and beloved Christian community. We then return to Athens for a farewell dinner at a restaurant. **On board meals /D**

Day 16: Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017 • Return

Our journey ends today as we transfer to the Athens airport and board our flight bound for the U.S. **B**

Tour Price: \$3,299

Prices are *per person, land only, double occupancy* with a minimum of 20 participants

Single supplement: \$730

Your Tour Includes:

- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in moderate first-class hotels
- **Meals** per the itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of **professional tour manager** (not on cruise)
- **Local step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services on land tour (except coach driver and tour manager)

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Roundtrip **Airfare** plus related taxes, fees and fuel charges
- Meals other than indicated • **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager.
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (This insurance is available and recommended.)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure date. Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 99 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 99-14 days, a \$300 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 14 days prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Abbreviations for Meals
B=Breakfast D=Dinner

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.



Footsteps of Paul: Greece & Turkey

Please register me for:

- FSP17: September 4 - 19, 2017 • \$3,299
- Single Supplement • \$730

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary Needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Legal Name: _____

(Name for name badge): _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Exp. Date: _____

Passport Authority: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Dietary Needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Work phone/cell: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed Twin Beds

Roommate name: _____ OR **Single supplement:** ____ Yes ____ No

Travel Insurance (please check one)

- I wish to purchase Travel Guard insurance and have included the premium with my deposit.
- I wish to decline the travel insurance offered through Travel Guard.

Deposit Payment Information (please check one)

- Enclosed is my \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). *Make checks payable to Ed-Ventures, Inc.*
- Please charge \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa

Credit Card Number: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

Card ID Code:* _____ **last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card*

_____ Initial to acknowledge you understand that Federal law prohibits the carriage of certain hazardous materials in your luggage or on your person aboard aircraft and could result in a fine or imprisonment. Visit www.tsa.gov for more information.

Prices in this brochure were effective on 1.16.15. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers travelling in the group. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ **Date:** _____



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1.16.15 land