

"A Missional Journey With Paul"

September 13 - 26, 2012

Your Daily Itinerary

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 - SAN DIEGO • ATHENS

Depart from San Diego on our flight to Athens, Greece. Meals and overnight on board. After dinner relax and enjoy the on-board entertainment.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 - ATHENS

Arrive at the Athens airport where we are met by our guide and transferred to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 - ATHENS

Full day tour of Athens, visiting the legendary Acropolis. See the chief jewel of the Acropolis, the Parthenon, the Temple of Wingless Victory, the Propylaea and the Erechtheum with its peerless Porch of Maidens. Beneath the Acropolis is the Areopagus or Mars Hill. This is where Paul made his famous 'MEN OF ATHENS' speech revealing a considerable knowledge of the Greek philosophy and character. Visit the New Acropolis Museum. Driving through the city you will see the National Library, the Presidential Palace, the Stadium, the Temple of Zeus, Hadrian's Arch and House of Parliament. Dinner and overnight.

SUN, SEPTEMBER 16 - ATHENS • CORINTH • MYCENAE

Morning drive to Ancient Corinth, which was the most beautiful city of Roman Greece. Visit the Doric style temple of Apollo, the market place, the fountain of Pirene, the Bema of Paul and the Agora, where Paul preached. We will also see Acrocorinth and Kehrees. After lunch visit Mycenae. Visit the Lions Gate, the Cyclopean Walls and the Royal Tombs. Return to Athens for dinner & overnight.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - ATHENS • DELPHI

This morning we drive through Thebes, Levidia (short stop) and Arachova where colored rugs and hand-woven items are locally made. Continue the drive through rich olive groves to Delphi, center of the ancient world. We will take a walking tour of Apollo's sanctuary that houses the Temple of Apollo and renowned oracle that advised both king and commoner. Tour the Theater and the Stadium where festivals and games were held in honor of the Sun God. We will also visit the museum that contains exquisite pieces of sculpture among which is the Bronze Charioteer. Dinner and overnight in Delphi.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - DELPHI • METEORES • KALAMBAKA

This morning we will drive through rugged mountains past villages and farms to the monasteries of Meteores where pillar-like rocks provide an amazing sight. Monasteries were built into the cliffs here in the 14th century. Later there will be time to explore the quaint, unspoiled town of Kalambaka. Dinner and overnight in Kalambaka.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - KALAMBAKA • VERIA • PELLA • THESSALONIKI

This morning drive through the plains of Thessaly, legendary home of the Greek gods to Thessaloniki. En route we will visit Veria, Pella where it is indicated that Paul remained for several days on his way to Athens. Continue on to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - THESSALONIKI • PHILIPPI • KAVALA

"And from there we went to Philippi which is the leading city of the district of Macedonia..." (Acts 16: 12-18.) Our full day excursion will take us overland along the ancient route of Paul through mountain passes and plains to Amphipolis for a short stop to view the ancient Lion statue. Continue to Ancient Philippi where we find two early Christian basilicas, traces of the Egnatian Way, the Roman Forum, the citadel and the ancient theater. It is also here that Paul first preached the Gospel to Europe. Dinner and overnight in Kavala.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 - GREEK - TURKISH BORDER • CANAKKALE

Morning drive to the Greek-Turkish Border. After passport formalities, board our Turkish motorcoach. Drive through the First World War Battlefields of Gallipoli and cross by ferry to the Asia Minor side. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - CANAKKALE • TROY • PERGAMON • IZMIR

We continue today through the ancient city of Troy, with its 4000 year old history recalling the epic struggle of the

Iliad and then through Pergamom where the first Christian was put to death by the Roman state. We will also see the site of the Homonym Church as well as the Acropolis with the Altar of Zeus (Throne of Satan), the Asclepion and the Red Basilica. See the Church of Pergamom and Thyatira, the remains of two of the Seven Churches of Revelation. Dinner and overnight in Izmir.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - IZMIR • KUSADASI

In the morning we drive to Kusadasi and proceed to the Valley of Ephesus, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World and our 7th Church of Revelation. It was here that the special miracles were wrought by the hands of Paul. The apostle John was one of the early leaders of the church of Ephesus. It is believed he brought Mary, the mother of Jesus, here. We will visit the Basilica of St. John and the magnificent ancient city of Ephesus. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 - KUSADASI • IZMIR • FLY TO ISTANBUL

This morning we re-visit Ephesus. Afternoon transfer to the Izmir airport for your flight to Istanbul, ancient Constantinople. This city of Constantine became the "Second Rome" in the fourth century and Ecumenical Councils held here played an important role in the first thousand years of the Christian Church. Eastern Orthodoxy and Islam are also a significant part of the city's history. Istanbul was once referred to as the "Earth's Pearl." It is still a beautiful city and exudes an old world elegance.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 - ISTANBUL

Today we start our tour with a visit to the Blue Mosque which was commissioned by Sultan Ahmet in 1603. Exceptional in many ways, the Blue Mosque is famous for the finely glazed blue tiles adorn the interior. It also sits opposite the site of the Hippodrome of Constantinople, which we will see. Continue with a visit to the Topkapi Palace Museum. Once home to the Ottoman Sultans, the Topkapi Palace was strategically located overlooking the Bosphorus. Visit the Treasury containing jewel encrusted thrones, the world's largest emerald, and the famous Topkapi Dagger. From here we will see the Hagia Sophia Church, which was built by the Emperor Justinian of the Byzantine Empire. The Hagia Sophia was completed in 537 A.D. and ruled as the greatest Christian Church in the world for more than 1000 years until it was converted into a mosque by the conquering Ottomans, who used it as a model for the construction of all their later mosques. We will take the time to explore the wide-ranging history of this amazing building, now a museum. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 - ISTANBUL • SAN DIEGO

This morning we transfer to the airport for our flight home. We arrive home today with wonderful memories of a fantastic voyage!

Optional Rome Extension

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 - ISTANBUL • ROME

Morning transfer to Istanbul airport where we are assisted with check in for our flight to Rome. Arrive Rome, the eternal city. Meet and assist on arrival and transfer to our hotel located in the hear of Rome. This afternoon we tour the city of Rome. The Parliament House, The Pantheon and Navona Square. Some may wish to stay on and return on their own to the hotel, or take the tour bus to the hotel. Transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - ROME • VATICAN MUSEUM • CATACOMBS

Today we will visit the Vatican Museum and Art Galleries, St Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel with the works of Michelangelo, Gallery of the Chandeliers, Tapestries, Geographical Maps, Raphaels's Gallery, and the Library Hall. Lunch on own at the Vatican Cafe. This afternoon we will tour the Roman Forum, Colosseum (external only). In the afternoon we visit St John's Gate, Via Latina, Old Appia Way, Chapel of "Domine Quo Vadis, Catacombs of St. Callixtus or St. Sebastian the site of over 125,000 martyrdoms, St. Sebastian's Gate, the Caracalla Baths, and the Circus Maximus.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 - ROME • SAN DIEGO

Morning transfer to Rome airport where we are assisted with check in for our flight back home. Arrive San Diego with wonderful memories of the lands we recently visited.

Highlights of Your Tour

Scheduled International Flights • Top Quality Four Star Hotels • Full Buffet Breakfast & Dinner Daily • Top Guide with In-Depth Knowledge of the Old and New Testaments • Private Air Conditioned Motorcoach Visits to the Major Historical Sites •and much more!

Have A Very Pleasant Journey!

SPECIAL NOTE: The tour operator and/or guide reserve the right to alter the sequence of the daily itinerary and make substitutions in order to meet changes brought about by weather, airline delays or as deemed necessary for the best interest and overall comfort of the group

TOUR CONDITIONS
PRICE PER PERSON FROM SAN DIEGO: \$3922 (\$3772 if paid by check)
Land Only: \$2727 (\$2622 if paid by check)
OPTIONAL ROME EXTENSION: \$1155 (\$1110 if paid by check)
(Note: This is a custom tour and the cost quoted above is based on a minimum No. of 25 adult participants. Should tour membership fall below this number, the tour operator reserves the right to re-cost the program.)
All airfares are subject to change.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Round trip jet economy class via **Lufthansa German Airlines** and connecting ARC and IATA carriers
- Four Star Hotels. Accommodations based on two persons sharing a room
- Full Buffet-Breakfast and Dinner Daily.
- Round trip transfers by private motorcoach including a qualified, licensed English-speaking guide
- Portage for one standard suitcases per person, not to exceed 50 pounds.
- All hotel taxes and service charges are included
- Suggested tips to guide, driver, and hotel staff of **\$90** per person
- Airport taxes & fuel surcharges of **\$490** per person, subject to change

NOT INCLUDED

- The cost of obtaining a U.S. passport, meals or beverages other than specified, insurance, items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, etc.

DOCUMENTS: A valid U.S. passport is required. Turkish visa will be obtained by Friendship Tours for all U.S. passport holders.

RESERVATIONS: A nonrefundable deposit of **\$500** per person is required by no later than **April 20, 2012** to make a reservation by **July 1, 2012**. All returned checks are subject to a \$50 charge, no exceptions.

CANCELLATIONS: All cancellations must be in writing. **Special note for all passengers on Lufthansa German Airlines: Any cancellations received 91 days or earlier prior to departure will incur an additional \$100 cancellation charge over and above the charges stipulated under the normal cancellations for this tour.** For individual cancellations received up to:

91 days prior to departure an administrative fee of \$200 will be charged; **90-60** days prior to departure a \$450 fee will be charged; **59-46** days prior to departure a \$650 fee will be charged; **45-31** days before departure are subject to a charge of 50% of the total tour cost; **30-0** days before departure are subject to a charge of 100% of the total tour cost.

INSURANCE NOTE: We strongly recommend that passengers purchase comprehensive insurance that includes coverage for **Trip Cancellation or Interruption, Medical Expense and Baggage**. An optional travel insurance plan is available to Friendship International Tour Participants. Information about this plan is included with the reservation form.

SPECIAL NOTE: Access America Insurance Plan payment must be received no later than your final tour payment, or it will not be accepted. **The Access America Insurance Plan** is not in force until the premium is received.

DEVIATIONS: Any change in the basic program will result in a charge of **\$150** per change per person plus any additional charges that may apply for revised air or land arrangements.

VALIDITY: Prices are based on tariffs and rates of exchange effective 5/5/11. Airfares are subject to change. **1 Euro = USD 1.35**

RESPONSIBILITY: Friendship Tours, and their agents act only in the capacity of agents for the passengers in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing, tours and transportation, whether by air, railroad, motorcoach, steamship, boat or other means and, as such, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damage(s) from any cause(s) whatsoever. The tour operator will not be responsible for any damage, expense or inconvenience caused by late air, rail or boat arrivals or departures or by any change of schedules or other conditions; nor will they be responsible for the loss of, or damage to baggage or any article belonging to the passenger. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person traveling under our auspices. The carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. The passenger contract used by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of this tour and/or the passengers. "This brochure is issued on the sole responsibility of the Tour Operator. It is not issued on behalf and does not commit the airline mentioned therein or any airline whose services are used in the course of the tour." The Tour Operator and their agents and suppliers reserve the right to change the sequence of the itinerary to re-route, substitute or change certain site visits according to local conditions at the time of our stay. **CST # 2069059-40 Printed 5/5/11**

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"A Missional Journey With Paul"

With an optional Extension to Rome

September 13 - 26, 2012

Hosted by:

*Pastors Tom Theriault & Barry Moller
Solana Beach Presbyterian Church*

Dear Friends,

Some say he was the first great multi-market communicator. The Apostle Paul took the Good News of Jesus and made it compelling to a very secular, morally ambiguous, Greek and Roman world. And in doing so, he changed the whole world. We will journey with Paul, from Athens to Istanbul, learning in-depth about his missional strategies and practices by seeing for ourselves where he did his earth-shaking work. Together, we'll discover how Paul's life enhances our own witness in a secular, morally ambiguous world.

Please give us the privilege of sharing this experience with you.

Pastor Tom Theriault & Pastor Barry Moller