**The Bible in Asia Minor**

**Seven Churches of Revelation—Turkey**

**Journeys of Paul—The Beginning of Christianity in Europe**

**Rich Experiences and Study**

**Entire Tour—August 31—September 22, 2020**

**with Dr. Randy Roberts, Senior Pastor Loma Linda University Church**

**and Dr. Kent Bramlett, Archaeologist; La Sierra University**

**Pre-Tour—4 Day Cappadocia option (Please note: This option is full)**

**August 31-September 4, 2020**

**Main Tour 16 Days—Turkey and 4-day cruise of Greek Islands**

 **Patmos—Rhodes—Crete—Santorini**

**September 3-18, 2020**

**Post Tour—4 Day Mainland Greece**

**Athens—Thessalonica—Berea—Philippi—Corinth**

**September 18-22, 2020**

**Additional Option Added**

**Kusadasi/Ephesus (Turkey) Greek Island Cruise & Mainland Greece**

**Patmos—Rhodes—Crete—Santorini**

**Athens—Thessalonica—Berea—Philippi—Corinth**

**September 13-22, 2020**

Ancient **Asia Minor** is a geographic region located in the south-western part of **Asia** comprising most of what is present-day Turkey. The earliest reference to the region comes from tablets of the Akkadian Dynasty (2334-2083 BCE) where it is known as “The Land of the Hatti” and was inhabited by the Hittites.

**PRE-TOUR OPTION—This option is full**

**Monday, August 31**

**Transatlantic flight from US to Istanbul**

**Pre-Tour Day 1— Tuesday, September 1—Arrive Istanbul**

Following our transatlantic flight leaving the US on Sunday, August 30 arrive in the late afternoon in Istanbul. We (group’s arrival) will be met by an English-speaking guide and transferred to our hotel for overnight.

**Dinner & Overnight: Barcelo Istanbul Hotel**

**Pre-Tour Day 2— Wednesday, September 2—Istanbul-Cappadocia**

Following a leisure breakfast, we transfer to our domestic flight to Cappadocia.

**Cappadocia’s** moonscape of curvy valleys and fairy chimneys initially steal the show, but its history is also remarkable. Over the centuries, folk including Byzantine monks, farmers and winemakers have carved cave churches, cottages, pigeon houses and underground cities in the soft rock.

**Cappadocia’s** rock valleys were an important site for early Christianity. Because it was easy to carve churches and houses in the soft rock by hand, Christians chose this area to live and teach safely. From about the 7th to the 12th century, Christian people in Cappadocia were unsafe because of armies from abroad mounting military attacks. They built hundreds of underground cities here to hide from their enemies. In some of the cities, you can go seven or eight levels underground, and they all have churches, kitchens, food storages, living rooms, and natural air ventilation.

Afternoon arrival in Cappadocia, we transfer to our hotel and check in.

Before dinner we will walk in the Rose Valley. It’s already beautiful hues of red become intensified at sunset.

**Dinner and overnight: MDC Cave Hotel, Cappadocia**

**Pre-Tour Day 3— Thursday, September 3 —Cappadocia**

Following a typical Turkish breakfast we begin our exploration of the hard-set honeycomb landscape with a walk through the amazing **Devrent Valley** and visiting the surrounding region of Cappadocia including **Pasabagi (Monk’s Valley).**

**Lunch at a local restaurant—included**

We will end the day visiting **Avanos** a community known for it pottery, a craft dating back to the Hittite period. The red clay, which is worked by local craftsmen, comes from the residue in the Kizilirmak River, the longest River in Turkey.

**Dinner and overnight: MDC Cave Hotel, Cappadocia**

**Pre-Tour –Day 4 —Friday, September 4—Cappadocia--Istanbul**

Following breakfast, we will visit the underground city of **Derinkuyu**, the largest excavated underground city in Turkey with seven layers of cities underground including 100-meter tunnels between areas of the city.

We will enjoy lunch at a Turkish restaurant where the meal is served with the flair and style of the traditional Turks. **(lunch included)**

Following lunch, we will proceed to the **Goreme Open** **Air Museum** where we will see churches, chapels and monasteries carved into the fairy chimneys from the 10th to the 13th centuries. A time when many Christians were hiding due to persecution.

In the late afternoon we will transfer back to the airport to return to Istanbul and meet up with the group arriving from the US to begin the main tour

**MAIN TOUR—Turkey and Greek Islands—This option is full**

**Thursday, September 3—Travel Day**

Transatlantic flight from US to Istanbul.

**Day 1— Friday, September 4: Arrive Istanbul**

Following your transatlantic flight leaving the US on Thursday, September 3 arrive in the late afternoon in Istanbul. The group arrival will be met by an English speaking guide at the airport and transferred to our hotel for overnight. Welcome dinner will be served at the hotel at 7pm

**Dinner and overnight Istanbul—Barcelo Istanbul Hotel**

**Day 2— Sabbath, September 5: Tour of city sites, Istanbul**

Following a traditional Turkish breakfast, we will begin our day with the Old City by following the city walls to **Chora Museum, 'Church of St. Saviour in Chora'**. a masterpiece in the Byzantine art with its well preserved mosaics and frescoes. Somewhere along the way as the city unfolds, we will find a suitable location for a devotional service. Our day will include the **Church of St Sophia** (Hagia Sophia (6th c. AD), another masterpiece Byzantine Christian Architecture and one of the oldest and largest cathedrals of the world. We will cross the street to visit the **Basilica Underground Cistern**, a mystic atmosphere carried by 336 columns.

Following dinner, we will end the Sabbath with worship in the hotel.

**Dinner and overnight Istanbul—Barcelo Istanbul Hotel**

**Day 3— Sunday, September 6: Istanbul**

We begin our day with a visit to the **Hippodrome** area, the remnant of an arena built in the reign of Septimius Severus. From here we will proceed to the 17th century **Blue Mosque**, so called due to its more than 20,000 blue İznik tiles that adorn the interior walls. We will also tour **Topkapı Palace**, the residence of the Ottoman Sultans who reigned over the world for four centuries from the 15th to the 19th century. We will be enchanted by the mysterious Harem and the treasury of Topkapi.

Continuing our exploration of Istanbul we will visit the **İstanbul Archaeology Museums** with its highlights, a Hellenistic Masterpiece of Art: the Sarcophagus of Alexander the Great feasting on the impressive sculptural reliefs; the ‘’Siloam Inscription’’ , ‘’Gezer Calendar’’ and ‘’Treaty of Kadesh’’ – the tablet of first treaty in the history .

**Dinner and overnight Istanbul—Barcelo Istanbul Hotel**

**Day 4— Monday, September 7: Istanbul—Bursa**

As we prepare to leave Istanbul we will visit the **Grand Bazaar,** one of the largest of its kind. After a couple of hours at the Bazaar. we will cross the Bosphorus straight to Asia and drive to **Iznik** **known as ancient Nicaea** from which comes the Nicene Creed. In the 4th century (325 AD) Nicene Council was held on the shore of Nicaea Lake. The second Ecumenical Council was held in 787 AD. We will visit the Roman city walls, as well as the church of St. Sophia. Our journey will continue to **Bursa, the first capital of the Ottoman Turks.** In Bursa we will visit the great masterpieces of early Ottoman Turkish architecture; **the Green Mosque, the Green Tomb, and Grand Mosque.**

You will have an opportunity to relax with a Turkish Bath in the hot springs (optional)

**Dinner and overnight Bursa—Marigold Thermal Hotel**

**Day 5—Tuesday, September 8: Bursa—Ayvalik**

Following breakfast, our drive today will take us to the site of **Alexandria Troas where Paul on his second missionary** journey, was in Troas when he had a vision of a man from Macedonia inviting him to come to Macedonia (Europe) and help us. **(Acts 16:8-12).** On the return from his third missionary journey Paul walked by land from Alexandria Troas to Assos to embark for Mytilene. **(Acts 20:13-14).**

**Dinner and overnight in the seaside town of Ayvalik—Halic Park Hotel**

**Day 6— Wednesday, September 9: Ayvalik—Pergamon—Izmir**

This morning as we depart we will take a short drive to Bergama, ancient **Pergamon** (aka Pergamum) **(Rev 2:12-17**). Early Christian martyr Antipas was tortured to death here. Pergamon was the site of many temples to pagan Gods. Yet Christianity took a stronghold here as early as 2nd century, attested by the monumental size of **Basilica of St. John**.

**Pergamon was the capital city of Hellenistic Kingdom of Pergamon**. Pergamon Library was the second richest library of the ancient world after the library in Alexandria, Egypt. The city of Pergamon was also where parchment paper was invented. Here you will visit the **Basilica of St John (The Red Church), the temples of Zeus and Emperor Trajan, the Hellenistic theatre and the library site**.

We will take a short drive to the hospital site of Pergamon, named Asklepion. Asklepion was among the three most famed hospitals of the ancient world. Our drive will continue to **Thyatira** to visit the remains of the church mentioned in the Book of Revelation **(Rev 2:18-29).** We will continue our journey to **Izmir**.

**Dinner and overnight Izmir—Movenpick Hotel**

**Day 7— Thursday, September 10: Izmir—Smyrna—Philadelphia—Laodicea—Pamukkale**

Following breakfast, we will drive the countryside of ancient Turkey with many stops along the way.

İzmir is ancient **Smyrna** one of the seven churches in Revelation **(Rev 2: 8-11).**

St. Polycarp was the bishop of Smyrna, one of the disciples of St. John. We will visit **St. Polycarp Church**. We will take a morning drive to **Sardis** **(Rev.3:1-6),** **the capital city of Lydian Kingdom**. Sardis was one of the rich metropolises of Asia Minor with crowded populations of Jews which might have enabled the Good News to be heard at a faster rate than in other areas. The site is presently under the excavation of Harvard and Berkeley Universities. Sardis was where the richest man on earth, King Croesus enjoyed incredible power and wealth.

Lydians invented and minted the first coins in the world. We will visit one of the oldest synagogues of the world that was later converted into a church. We will also visit the monumental **Artemis Temple** and the impressively restored **Roman Imperial Hall**.

As we continue our journey, we will have a short visit at ancient **Philadelphia** **(Rev 3:7-13)** to see the remaining walls of a monumental church. **Philadelphia together with Smyrna were two one of the seven churches of Asia Minor which did not receive any criticism about applications of Christianity.**

The last of the seven churches **(Rev 3:14-22)** is **Laodicea,** where **John called its Christians Lukewarm**. Recent Turkish excavations on the site reveal walls of a what might have been a monumental church.

**Dinner and overnight—Pamukkale—Doga Thermal I Hotel**

**Day 8—Friday, September 11: Pamukkale**

This morning we again enjoy a hearty Turkish breakfast before we begin our visit to in and around Pamukkale a declared **World Heritage Site by the UNESCO Cultural Department**.

Our first stop will be **Hierapolis** where **Apostle Philip came to spread the gospel of Christianity.** It is believed that Philip lived and was martyred here. Hierapolis is mentioned in Paul's epistle to the Colossians **(Colossian 4:13)**. We will explore one of the richest cemetery grounds of the ancient world, the main Domitian Gate and the main avenue. We will also see the white travertine cascades of Pamukkale.

**Dinner and overnight—Pamukkale—Doga Thermal I Hotel**

**Day 9—Saturday the Sabbath, September 12: Pamukkale—Kusadasi**

This morning following breakfast we will travel to the Roman city of **Aphrodisias**, which is one of the most prestigious excavation sites in the world, funded by the National Geographic Society. The city of Goddess Aphrodite, Goddess of Love and Beauty. The artists from Aphrodisias produced some of the most sophisticated sculptures of the ancient world. We will visit the local archaeological museum where we will see the amazing collection of artwork from Aphrodisias.

We will then continue our drive to**Miletus**, a great Greco-Roman metropolis that was the home of early Greek philosophers and the scientists, including Thales and Hippodamos.

On his way to Jerusalem at the end of his third missionary journey, **Paul asked the elders of Ephesus to meet him in Miletus (Acts 20:16-38) where he predicted his own death (Acts 20:20-25)**. We will visit the ancient theatre site as well as the port area where Paul said a sentimental goodbye to the church Elders from Ephesus. Our drive continues to the beautiful Mediterranean beach resort city of **Kusadasi.**

**Dinner and overnight—Kusadası—Charisma Deluxe Hotel**

**You may join the group here for the Greek Island Cruise**

**Day 10—Sunday, September 13: Kusadasi**

**This is a day of leisure. Enjoy the beach, relax, reflect on where you are personally on your own spiritual journey.**

**Dinner and overnight—Kusadası—Charisma Deluxe Hotel**

**You may join the group here for the Greek Island Cruise**

**Day 11—Monday, September 14: Kusadasi (Ephesus)**

Today we will visit the glorious city of Ephesus and have a devotional service in the amphitheater. **(Rev 1:11, 2:1-7; Acts 18:19-28, 19:1-41)**

Our visit to Ephesus will include the **archaeological site, the Museum of Selcuk (Ephesus Museum), the Basilica of St. John and the House of Virgin Mary.**

**Ephesus was the capital city of Roman Province of Asia Minor; it is also one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World; Temple of Artemis, and the site of the third richest library of the ancient world; Celsus library.**

**Paul came to Ephesus in 54 AD and stayed for three years. He preached the Gospel, gained followers and established the church of Ephesus.**

**John (author of Revelations according to the New Testament) also spend his last years in Ephesus. John is believed to have been buried within the Basilica of St John.**

A strong tradition in the Catholic Church claims that St. John brought Virgin Mary to Ephesus and she ascended to heaven from Ephesus.

**Dinner and overnight—Kusadası—Charisma Deluxe Hotel**

**Day 12-14—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday—September 15-18:**

**Cruising: Overnight cruise ship**

**While cruising three meals a day are provided on board the ship.**

**Day 12: Tuesday, September 15: Embark Cruise.**

**Today we will board the cruise ship in Kusadasi, Turkey for a 4-day cruise in the Greek Islands and the Aegean Sea**

**Shore excursions are included—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion. These shore excursions are not interchangeable with other optional excursions that may be available on board the ship.**

Following boarding, lunch will be served. You will have time to explore the “life on board”, spa, pool, gym, and live music. If interested, Greek dancing classes are usually given on the sun deck.

**1st port stop is on the Island of Patmos.**

It was on the Island of Patmos that the **Apostle John** was exiled (**Revelations 1:9, 19**) and he received and wrote the **Book of Revelation**. Shore excursion—The monastery of St. John in Exile and the Grotto of the Revelation. The monastery is on the uppermost part of the island, which contains priceless icons and ancient artifacts including an original painting of Jesus by the famous artist El Greco (Dominikos Theotokopoulos).

**Overnight: Cruise Ship**

**Day 13—Wednesday, September 16 (day 2 of cruise) Rhodes, Greece**

Following breakfast, you can disembark and visit the beautiful island of Rhodes, the Island of the Sun. This island is a Medieval/Modern amalgam that fascinates visitors. Its medieval aspect fortified behind an impressive wall, merges harmoniously with the refined cosmopolitan air of the modern city. **Paul stopped here on his journey to Jerusalem** **(Acts 21:1)** We will have a full day to sightsee, shop, enjoy this slow-paced paradise. Shore excursion—Rhodes Medieval Tour—Acropolis of Lindos and the citadel of the Knights. **You will also see the harbor entrance where the Colossus of Rhodes once stood. (One of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World).**

**Overnight: Cruise Ship**

**Day 14—Thursday, September 17 (day 3 of cruise) Crete [Heraklion], Greece, and Santorini, Greece**

This morning the cruise ship docks in Crete, the largest in size of all the Greek Islands and famous in legend as the birthplace of Zeus, Father of the Greek Gods. Heraklion is the largest city and capital of the island—a bustling city full of life with a traditional central market and wonderful beaches. Shore excursion—Minoan Palace of Knossos—1st European Civilization. This is the mythical palace of King Minos and the Minotaur. Crete’s archaeological museum holds the remains of the 3000-year-old Minoan civilization. The city was a stronghold for the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire from 961 AD until 1204 AD. In 1204 the city was purchased by the Republic of Venice and became an outpost for the Italian Renaissance. In 1669 Heraklion was captured by the Ottoman Turks and made part of their empire. Finally, in 1913, Heraklion and all of Crete was incorporated into the Kingdom of Greece.

The city has a charming mixture of architectures as well as wonderful outdoor markets, restaurants, and shopping. You will have the morning to explore and enjoy the quaint city. Return to the ship, have lunch and we will set sail for the beautiful island of Santorini known for having some of the most breathtaking views in all the Aegean. It was first settled by the Phoenicians in 1200 BC and became part of Greece in 1821. With the expansion of tourism in the 20th century the island’s economy has grown becoming a popular destination known for its cafes, shops, and restaurants.

**Overnight: Cruise Ship**

**Day 15—Friday, September 18 (day 4 of cruise) Disembark in the morning—Athens [Piraeus], Greece**

**Following disembarkation from the ship, we will proceed to the airport.**

**Main Tour Ends at Airport.**

**POST TOUR—Mainland Greece—This portion is available**

**Day 15—Friday, September 18**

**Check in at the Athens domestic terminal for a short flight to Thessaloniki.**

Upon arrival to Thessaloniki we have a panoramic city tour, view the beautiful pier and the famous White Tower, walk around the statue of Alexander the Great, and after getting a nice smell and taste of this fun city, we continue to our deluxe hotel for a time to rest and relax.

Dinner and overnight—Thessaloniki—Grand Palace Hotel

**Day 16—Saturday, September 19—Thessaloniki – Lydia’s Spring – Philippi – Kavala – Thessaloniki**

This morning we will enjoy the Sabbath exploring the ancient city of **Philippi (Acts 16:12).** This city was built by Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great, in 358 BCE. **It was here that Paul preached his first sermon in Europe, and here the first believers were baptized.**  Our visit will include Lydia’s Spring, the place where Paul led Lydia to Christ. **Lydia was the first Christian convert in Europe.**

We will continue to the archaeological excavations of this Roman city during the time of Paul. The excavations include the remains of the Agnation Way, the Roman road that connected Rome with Greece and the Eastern provinces of the Roman Empire.

The **jail where Paul and Silas were imprisoned (Acts 16:11)** we will take time at one of our stops, to reflect on how God used them to bring the gospel to Europe.

Dinner and overnight—Thessalonica—Grand Palace Hotel

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**Day 17—Sunday, September 20—Thessaloniki—Berea—Athens**

Following a Greek style breakfast, we explore the capital city of northern Greece, the ancient city that was **home to some of Paul’s most exciting ministry experiences**. We will visit the archaeological site of this ancient city and share devotional time reflecting on **Acts 17**. Then we visit the ancient city of **Berea (Acts 17:10).** Here **Paul found a community of Jewish people**, as they listened to Paul, they “examined the Scriptures to see if it was true.” We will be able to stand on the marble synagogue steps where Paul stood and preached. Following lunch on your own in delightful Greek café’s, we will return to Thessalonica airport and board our 50 minutes flight to Athens. Arrive at our five star hotel at the very HEART of the birthplace of Western civilization. Our hotel is perfectly situated at the famous Syntagma square, 30 seconds walking distance from the parliament building and the famous changing of the guards ceremony.

**Dinner and overnight—Athens—NJV Athens Plaza**

**NJV Plaza Athens is in the center of Athens Syntagma Square**

**Day 18—Monday, September 21—Athens—Corinth—Bemah—Corinth Canal.**

This morning we wake up where some may consider it to be the birthplace of Western civilization. Following another sumptuous breakfast, we will visit the ancient city of Corinth.

The importance of Corinth during both the Greek and Roman periods has long been
known. Archaeological, architectural, epigraphical, and sculptural investigations of the
**Julian Basilica** in Corinth over the past two decades have shown that this basilica
played a key role in **Roman Corinth and Greece**. Within the basilica was housed one of
the largest known shrines in the Roman empire to the imperial cult and the likely site of
the imperial court of law for the Roman province of Achaia. **Ancient Corinth** was a major **commercial crossroad** in the time of the **Apostle Paul**. **Paul spent a year and a half as a missionary in this city** (**Acts 18:11**). As we travel through Ancient Corinth, we will see the very **road that Paul walked on almost 2000 years ago when he entered the city**. We will also see the **Bemah platform where Paul’s case was dismissed by Roman Proconsul Gallio** (**Acts 18:12**). We will make a stop at the archaeological museum to view some of the ancient artifacts from the time of Paul.

We will continue our journey to see the **Corinthian Canal** which **connects the Aegean and Adriatic Seas**. In the **19th century**, this canal was dug through the four-mile isthmus where Corinth sits and continues to be used by ships today.

Returning to Athens, we will have a city tour of the birthplace of Western Civilization, view the house of parliament, the tomb of the unknown soldier, and constitution square (Syntagma Square). We will see some of the city’s famous monuments including Hadrian Arch and the Olympic Stadium home of the original and modern day Olympic games. Our tour will also include **Mars Hill (the “Areopagus” of Acts 17:19) where Paul addressed the philosophers of ancient Athens** andthe **Parthenon** considered by many as the grandest architectural structure of the ancient world. Our day in ancient **Athens** will end with a visit to the **Agora Plakka**.

**Dinner and overnight in Athens.**

**NJV Plaza Athens in the center of Athens Syntagma Square**

**Day 19—Tuesday, September 22: End of Tour**

**Following breakfast, group transfer to Athens airport for flights back to US**

**End of services**

**Additonal Option**

**Join Group in Kusadasi/Ephesus a port for Turkey on the Mediterranean**

**End Tour from Athens.**

**Arrive September 13, 2020—Tour ends in Athens, September 22, 2020**

**Day 1—Sunday, September 13: Arrival to port city of Kusadasi**

**Depending upon arrival time, enjoy the beach and relax after a long flight.**

**Dinner and overnight—Kusadası—Charisma Deluxe Hotel**

**Day 2—Monday, September 14: Kusadasi (Ephesus)**

Today we will visit the glorious city of Ephesus and have a devotional service in the amphitheater. **(Rev 1:11, 2:1-7; Acts 18:19-28, 19:1-41)**

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A strong tradition in the Catholic Church claims that St. John brought Virgin Mary to Ephesus and she ascended to heaven from Ephesus.

**Dinner and overnight—Kusadası—Charisma Deluxe Hotel**

**Day 3-5—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday—September 15-18:**

**Cruising: Overnight cruise ship**

**While cruising three meals a day are provided on board the ship.**

**Day 3: Tuesday, September 15: Embark Cruise.**

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**Shore excursions are included—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion. These shore excursions are not interchangeable with other optional excursions that may be available on board the ship.**

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**Overnight: Cruise Ship**

**Day 4—Wednesday, September 16 (day 2 of cruise) Rhodes, Greece**

Following breakfast, you can disembark and visit the beautiful island of Rhodes, the Island of the Sun. This island is a Medieval/Modern amalgam that fascinates visitors. Its medieval aspect fortified behind an impressive wall, merges harmoniously with the refined cosmopolitan air of the modern city. **Paul stopped here on his journey to Jerusalem** **(Acts 21:1)** We will have a full day to sightsee, shop, enjoy this slow-paced paradise. Shore excursion—Rhodes Medieval Tour—Acropolis of Lindos and the citadel of the Knights. **You will also see the harbor entrance where the Colossus of Rhodes once stood. (One of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World).**

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**Overnight: Cruise Ship**

**Day 6—Friday, September 18 (day 4 of cruise) Disembark in the morning—Athens [Piraeus], Greece**

**Following disembarkation from the ship, we will proceed to the airport.**

**Check in at the Athens domestic terminal for a short flight to Thessaloniki. (domestic flight included)**

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Dinner and overnight—Thessaloniki—Grand Palace Hotel

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the largest known shrines in the Roman empire to the imperial cult and the likely site of
the imperial court of law for the Roman province of Achaia. **Ancient Corinth** was a major **commercial crossroad** in the time of the **Apostle Paul**. **Paul spent a year and a half as a missionary in this city** (**Acts 18:11**). As we travel through Ancient Corinth, we will see the very **road that Paul walked on almost 2000 years ago when he entered the city**. We will also see the **Bemah platform where Paul’s case was dismissed by Roman Proconsul Gallio** (**Acts 18:12**). We will make a stop at the archaeological museum to view some of the ancient artifacts from the time of Paul.

We will continue our journey to see the **Corinthian Canal** which **connects the Aegean and Adriatic Seas**. In the **19th century**, this canal was dug through the four-mile isthmus where Corinth sits and continues to be used by ships today.

Returning to Athens, we will have a city tour of the birthplace of Western Civilization, view the house of parliament, the tomb of the unknown soldier, and constitution square (Syntagma Square). We will see some of the city’s famous monuments including Hadrian Arch and the Olympic Stadium home of the original and modern day Olympic games. Our tour will also include **Mars Hill (the “Areopagus” of Acts 17:19) where Paul addressed the philosophers of ancient Athens** andthe **Parthenon** considered by many as the grandest architectural structure of the ancient world. Our day in ancient **Athens** will end with a visit to the **Agora Plakka**.

**Dinner and overnight in Athens.**

**NJV Plaza Athens in the center of Athens Syntagma Square**

**Day 10—Tuesday, September 22: End of Tour**

**Following breakfast, group transfer to Athens airport for flights back to US**

**End of services**

**Please remember when you book your international flights you will fly into Istanbul (IST) Turkey and connect to a domestic flight for Izmir (ADB) which is the closest airport to Ephesus. You will have about a 45-minute drive to Ephesus. Your return is from Athens, Greece. (ATH)**

**For all of the above options you will need a Turkish visa. You will find a link on the LLUC website to apply for an e-visa.**

**The Bible Lab of Asia Minor**

**Seven Churches of Revelation—Turkey**

**Journeys of Paul—The Beginning**

**Entire Tour—August 31—September 22, 2020**

**Rich Experiences and Study**

**Pre-Tour—4 Day Cappadocia option**

**August 31-September 4, 2020**

**Main Tour 16 Days—Turkey and 4-day cruise of Greek Islands**

 **Patmos—Rhodes—Crete—Santorini**

**September 3-18, 2020**

**Post Tour—4 Day Mainland Greece**

**Athens—Thessaloniki—Berea—Philippi—Coronth**

**September 18-22, 2020**

**Additional Option—September 13-22, 2020**

**Kusadasi/Ephesus, Turkey—Greek Island Cruise, Main Land Greece**

**Option #1—Pre Tour—Main Tour—Post Tour—August 31-September 22, 2020**

* $6825/double occupancy
* Single Supplement throughout add: $1660

**Tour Includes:**

* Deluxe and best hotels available as specified on the itinerary
* 2 meals per day unless specified on itinerary (some lunches are included in Turkey (including vegetarian and vegan meal options)
* 3 meals per day on cruise
* Entrances into all sites as specified on itinerary
* Port charges for cruise
* Three shore excursions as specified on the itinerary—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion
* 1 round trip domestic flight from Athens to Thessaloniki
* Departure taxes
* Air-conditioned deluxe coaches
* Expert licensed English speaking guides
* Listening Devices
* All Tips

**Not Included:**

* International airfare to Istanbul (IST) and return from Athens. (ATH)
* Domestic flight from Athens to Cappadocia for pre-tour—flight schedule and fares are not published yet. (Cost will be approximately $480) Will book in Feb or Mar—flight will not be refundable if you cancel.
* Personal Expenses
* Travel Insurance—highly recommended
* Lunches not listed on itinerary
* Passport
* Visa for Turkey
* Transportation to airports in US

**Option #2—Pre-Tour and Main Tour—August 31—September 18, 2020**

* $5875 double occupancy
* Single supplement--$1300

**Tour Includes:**

* Deluxe and best hotels available as specified on the itinerary
* 2 meals per day unless specified on itinerary (some lunches are included in Turkey (including vegetarian and vegan meal options)
* 3 meals per day on cruise
* Entrances into all sites as specified on itinerary
* Port charges for cruise
* Three shore excursions as specified on the itinerary—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion
* Departure taxes
* Air-conditioned deluxe coaches
* Expert licensed English speaking guides
* Listening Devices
* All Tips

**Not Included:**

* International airfare to Istanbul (IST) and return from Athens. (ATH)
* Domestic flight from Athens to Cappadocia for pre-tour—flight schedule and fares are not published yet. (Cost will be approximately $480) Will book in Feb or Mar—flight will not be refundable if you cancel.
* Personal Expenses
* Travel Insurance—highly recommended
* Lunches not listed on itinerary
* Passport
* Visa for Turkey
* Transportation to airports in US

**Option #3—Main Tour—September 3-18, 2020**

* $5075 double occupancy
* Single supplement--$1025

**Tour Includes:**

* Deluxe and best hotels available as specified on the itinerary
* 2 meals per day unless specified on itinerary (including vegetarian and vegan meal options)
* 3 meals per day on cruise
* Entrances into all sites as specified on itinerary
* Port charges for cruise
* Three shore excursions as specified on the itinerary—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion
* Departure taxes
* Air-conditioned deluxe coaches
* Expert licensed English speaking guides
* Listening Devices
* All Tips

**Not Included:**

* International airfare to Istanbul (IST) and return from Athens. (ATH)
* Personal Expenses
* Travel Insurance—highly recommended
* Lunches not listed on itinerary
* Passport
* Visa for Turkey
* Transportation to airports in US

**Option #4—Main Tour and Post Tour—September 3-22, 2020**

* $6075 double occupancy
* Single supplement--$1390

**Tour Includes:**

* Deluxe and best hotels available as specified on the itinerary
* 2 meals per day unless specified on itinerary
* 3 meals per day on cruise
* Entrances into all sites as specified on itinerary
* Port charges for cruise
* Three shore excursions as specified on the itinerary—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion
* 1 round trip domestic flight from Athens to Thessaloniki
* Departure taxes
* Air-conditioned deluxe coaches
* Expert licensed English speaking guides
* Listening Devices
* All Tips

**Not Included:**

* International airfare to Istanbul (IST) and return from Athens. (ATH)
* Personal Expenses
* Travel Insurance—highly recommended
* Lunches not listed on itinerary
* Passport
* Visa for Turkey
* Transportation to airports in US

**Option #5—Additional Option—September 13-22, 2020**

**Kusadasi/Ephesus, Turkey—Greek Island Cruise, Main Land Greece**

* $5355 double occupancy
* Single supplement--$1290

**Tour Includes:**

* Deluxe and best hotels available as specified on the itinerary
* 2 meals per day unless specified on itinerary
* 3 meals per day on cruise
* Entrances into all sites as specified on itinerary
* Port charges for cruise
* Three shore excursions as specified on the itinerary—Patmos—Rhodes—Herklion
* 1 round trip domestic flight from Athens to Thessaloniki
* Departure taxes
* Air-conditioned deluxe coaches
* Expert licensed English speaking guides
* Listening Devices
* All Tips

**Not Included:**

* International airfare to Izmir, Turkey (ABD) and return from Athens, Greece. (ATH) Izmir is approximately a 45 minute drive to Ephesus. We will arrange for group transportation depending on your flight arrival time to keep costs at a minimum.
* Personal Expenses
* Travel Insurance—highly recommended
* Lunches not listed on itinerary
* Passport
* Visa for Turkey
* Transportation to airports in US

**To book this tour go to** [**www.lluc.org**](http://www.lluc.org) **and click on the “Trips” on the main page. You will be directed to the reservation form.**