

In the footsteps of Apostle Paul in Greece & Western Turkey with IMMANUEL TOURS



9 Day Tourand3 Day Cruise

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12 Days Trip - 11 Overnights



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Monday

Lavrion (Athens)

06:00







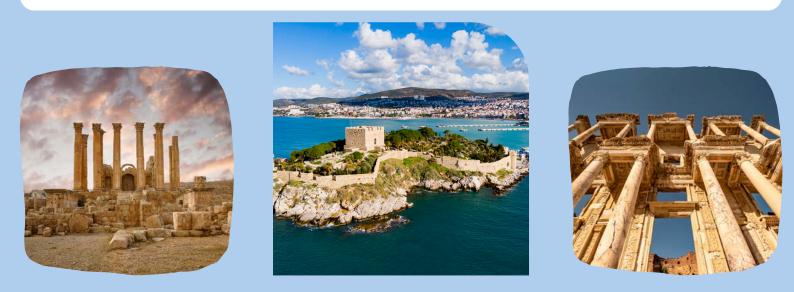


KUSADASI (TURKEY) -PATMOS (GREECE)



Early morning the ship arrives at the Port of Kusadasi. Our Ancient Ephesus Bus Tour is a journey through the golden ages which shaped a center of commerce and spirituality. Built 3,000 years ago, Ephesus shaped the history of Greek, Turkish and Christian civilizations from its privileged location, chosen (according to legend) by the oracle of Delphi.

A site of pilgrimage, due to its proximity to the Temple of Artemis (one of the 7 Wonders of the World) and the presence of major Christian figures (the apostles Paul and John and the Virgin Mary) within the city walls, Ephesus is currently one of the largest Roman archaeological sites in the Mediterranean!



The splendour of its golden age is visible throughout its streets and exceptionally well-preserved ruins. As we explore this UNESCO World Heritage Site, we will have the opportunity to breathe in the centuries of cultural effervescence, visible in the Ephesus Agora, Odeon, the Houses of the Patricians, the beautiful Temple of Hadrian and the astonishing Library of Celsus!

We will also have the opportunity to shop in the local areas for carpets, leather goods, souvenirs and more. **Returning to the ship at noon** and we will sail for **Patmos.** We will explore the **Monastery of St. John** and the **Grotto of Revelation.** Late evening return to the ship and sail for **Santorini.**

CRETE (HERAKLION - GREECE) -SANTORINI (GREECE) Overnight on board



Early morning the ship arrives at the **Port of Heraklion**. In Heraklion, we'll embark on an incredible tour to **Knossos**, where we'll explore the ruins of the legendary Palace of King Minos. In the afternoon, take in the breathtaking views as we arrive at the stunning island of **Santorini.** Then, we will have a guided tour to **Oia village**, perched on the top of the Caldera, the remains of a volcanic eruption. First, we head to **Megalochori**, one of the most authentic and unspoiled villages on the island, retaining its distinctive architecture, character and charm. Our trip continues eastwards through a number of traditional communities like Firostefani and Imerovigli until we arrive at Oia. On our journey we will have had the lace-like caldera to our west, the little islands of **Thirasia, Palea** and **Nea Kameni** and an incredible, unsurpassable panoramic view.

Early evening, we will return to the ship via cable car and we will depart and sail back to **Piraeus Port**.



Don't worry, there is plenty of time in **Oia** to explore, stroll the marblepaved alleys, visit the adorable shops and capture the moments on

DAY 4

DISEMBARKATION LAVRION PORT -ATHENS - ANCIENT CORINTH -ATHENS Overnight



We depart for **Ancient Corinth**, which was an important city - state in Ancient Greece and dates back from the Neolithic Period (5.000-3.000). We will visit one of the largest museums in Greece, in terms of the wealth and quality of the findings (Acts 18:1-17 & amp; Acts 19:22). We will see the **bema of Gallio** and the **Erastus inscription**. Also, we will visit **Cenchreae** (Acts 18:18), before travelling back to Athens.

Also, we will have a short stop to the **Isthmus of Corinth**. It is a narrow strip of land 6 kilometers in length joining Central Greece with Peloponnese. Here we will have free time to take photos. Arrival to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.





Drive to **Mt. Parnassus**: visit the Holy Monastery of Jerusalem which architecture is inspired by the New Jerusalem (John 21:13). Short nature walks in the cedars forest to a hermit's cave, panoramic view of **Valley of Boeotia**. Drive to **Arachova**, the famous shepherd's village and enjoy the panoramic view of the Ionian Sea. Proceed to **Delphi:** visit the archeological museum: the Gallio inscription, on which the dating of the life of Paul is based (Acts 18:12), the Sphinx of Thebes, Temple of Athena, Goddess of Wisdom (the philosophical background of Paul, the Hellenized Jew). Departure for **Kalambaka**. Arrival to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.



DAY 7

KALAMBAKA - VERGINA - VERIA -THESSALONIKI Overnight

Drive to **Meteora** - one of Europe's most beautiful landscapes with its six monasteries. Short nature walk in **Agios Athanasios**. Panoramic view of the 'stone mushroom' of Agia Triada.

Visit Veria: walk along the Barbouta river into the old Jewish quarter. Visit the ancient synagogue and see the Step where Paul spoke to the Verians (Acts 17). Visit Vergina - the golden treasures of the ancient kings of Macedonia. Drive along the Aegean coast to Thessaloniki. Visit the Jewish quarter: the Synagogue, the Ancient Jewish Bath House and the Modiano market (Acts 17, 1 Thessalonians 1). Dinner and overnight stay.

Drive east to Philippi: visit Paul's Jail (Acts 16), the Christian Basilica, the Greco-Roman round theatre. Visit the Ludia baptismal site at **Zigakti river** (Acts 16:15). Next, we proceed to Kavala for a panoramic view of Port of Neapolis first place where Paul put his feet in Europe (Acts 16 7-11). A short walk along Via Egnatia, where Paul walked on his way to Thessaloniki. return back and we will have a City Then, we Tour of Thessaloniki, starting from Saint Dimitrius, where we will pilgrimage the relics of the Saint, admire the mosaics of the Church and also see the spot where the Saint martured. Following that, we will visit the White Tower and the Upper Town, where we will have a panoramic view of Thessaloniki. Arrival to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.





DAY 9

THESSALONIKI - MT. OLYMPUS -LARISSA Overnight

Drive across the Macedonian rivers' delta to **Mt Olympus.** Visit the panoramic village of **Litochoro** and proceed to Greece's biggest nature reserve- Mt Olympus: nature walk near Stavros, enjoy panoramic views of **Mytikas,** traditional place of Palace of the Gods, visit **Agios Dionysius** - ancient monastery named after the first Athenian converted by Paul (Acts 17:34). Departure for Larissa. Dinner and overnight stay.

LARISSA - MT. METAMORPHOSIS -ATHENS Overnight

Larissa: Visit the Ancient Roman Theatre, the Byzantine Acropolis. Drive up to Mt. Metamorphosis and enjoy the panoramic view of the Gulf of Kamena Vourla. A short walk will bring us to the Monastery commemorating

Jesus Transfiguration. Visit the monastic garden and the church with the famous description of Jesus Transfiguration. Departure for Athens. Dinner and overnight stay.





DAY 11

ATHENS - ATHENS Overnight

We depart for a Half Day Guided Tour starting from Panathenaic Stadium known as Kallimarmaro. In Antiquity was used for the celebration of Panathenea in honour of Goddess Athena. You will have free time to take photos. Boarding on the coach and departure to see the Zappeion Hall, the Greek Parliament and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the symbolic monument in the memory of the Soldiers who died for their country. Then, along Panepistimiou Street, one of the most central streets of Athens, we will see the triad of neoclassical buildings: The Library, the Academy and the University. Next most important visit is the Acropolis with magnificent monuments such as the Parthenon, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion, the Propulaea, the Ancient Agora, the theatre of Dionysus and the Odeon of Herodes Atticus. We will have the chance to walk around the **Parthenon Monument**, which was built in the 5 th century BC by the architects Ictinus and Kallikrates. Free time at the citu center and the traditional settlement of Plaka. Return to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.



ATHENS - ATHENS AIRPORT Departure

After breakfast, we will have leisure time (depends on the departure time of our flight). Then, we will depart for the Athens Airport. Return back with the **best memories**.

