# Turkey - Footsteps of Paul

St. Paul's Anglican Church - San Miguel de Allende, with Canon George F. Woodward III

April 14 - 29, 2023





Roundtrip Airfare

Deluxe Hotels

Daily Breakfast

Executive Coach

Transportation

Group Dinners

Entrance Tickets

Tour Guide

Tour Manager

Istanbul
Tarsus
Cappadocia
Lystra
Konya
Antalya

Perge Ephesus

Kusadasi



ROMAN LIBRARY IN EPHESUS, ABOVE, AND THE ROMAN THEATRE IN ASPENDOS, BELOW

## ITINERARY

#### - APRIL 14 — TRAVEL DAY

For those arriving on the group flight at Istanbul on April 14, you will have a shuttle transport arranged to our hotel at 10 PM. If 'Land Only' travelers need transportation, we can arrange this per the hotel, which costs EUR 50,- per transfer, payable at the hotel with card or cash. Tip not included.

#### - APRIL 15 — ISTANBUL

World Heritage Center Hotel \*\*\*\*
For those arriving on the group flight at Istanbul, on April 15, you will have a shuttle transport arranged to our hotel at 10:45 AM. If 'Land Only' travelers need transportation, we can arrange this per the hotel, which costs EUR 50,- per transfer, payable at the hotel with card or cash. Tip not included.

#### - APRIL 16 — ISTANBUL

Our fabulous guide, Edip, will take us on a walking tour of Hagia Sofia, and her Cisterns; Topkapi Palace; the Hippodrome. The Blue Mosque is unfortunately closed for renovation. After our full day, we'll enjoy dinner at a restaurant by our hotel, and experience another lovely evening in Istanbul. **Including:** Breakfast/Dinner

#### - APRIL 17 — ISTANBUL

Today we will see the Church of the Patriarchs, named after St. George. We will have the privilege of a two hour private Bosphorus Cruise. The rest of the day will be at your leisure. We depart for Istanbul Airport the following morning, so you might want to prep your luggage for an early departure. **Including:** Breakfast



HAGIA SOPHIA, ISTANBUL

# - APRIL 18 — CAPPADOCIA Deresuites Cave Hotel \*\*\*\*

After breakfast, at 7 AM we load our coach, and return to the IST airport for our flight to Adana. After we arrive in Adana, we will make our way to Cappadoccia, via Tarsus, the birth place of St. Paul. We visit the Gümüşlük Monastery on our road trip. In Acts 21:39, Paul was proud of his home city often saying, "I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no ordinary city". Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia. **Including:** Breakfast / Dinner



CAVE TOMBS SELEUKEIA PIERIA

#### - APRIL 19 — CAPPADOCIA

Deresuites Cave Hotel \*\*\*\*

We drive to Nigde to visit Eskigumus
Monastery, one of the best preserved
monastery complexes with an intact fresco of
Mary depicted smiling with her infant, Jesus.
Then on to Derinkuyu, a deep underground
city with eight layers. We will also see the
Keslik Monastery and Sobessos excavation site.
Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia.

Including: Breakfast / Dinner

#### - APRIL 20 — CAPPADOCIA

Including: Breakfast / Dinner

Our full-day tour of Cappadocia includes visits to the Goreme Open Air Museum; Zelve Valley; Avanos; and Uchisar. A land of eerie beauty, this region was a Roman province and the refuge for persecuted Christians during the early days of the Roman Empire. Cappadocia is well known for its rock churches that date to the period of the persecution; its underground cities; and amazingly intricate systems of tunnels cut into the mountain of rock. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia.



UNDERGROUND CITY, CAPPADOCIA

#### - APRIL 21 — LYSTRA & KONYA

Hich Hotel Konya \*\*\*\*

Today we visit the Ihlara Valley where, at one time, there were more than one hundred churches. Then on to Sultanhan Caravanserai and Lystra where Paul was stoned by the people during his first visit. We drive on to Konya, ancient Iconium, to enjoy an optional Whirling Dervish performance at our hotel. Dinner and overnight in Konya. **Including:** Breakfast / Dinner

### - APRIL 22 — PISIDIAN ANTIOCH & ANTALYA

Hotel NU Antalya \*\*\*\*\*

Today our journey takes us to the Mevlana Museum, which was the cloister of Mevlana, a great mystical philosopher of the 13th century. After our museum stop, we drive on to Yalvac to visit Pisidian Antioch where St. Paul addressed the congregation on the Sabbath in a synagogue! The synagogue was later converted into a basilica dedicated to St. Paul. Overnight in Antalya. **Including:** Breakfast / Dinner

#### - APRIL 23 — PERGE & ASPENDOS

We're off to the colonnaded streets of Perge. In Perge, the apostles Paul and Barnabas began their first missionary journey in Asia Minor. Its most notable ancient remains include a theater; a stadium; two basilicas; and an agora. During the Roman period, it was renowned for its schools of sculpture art. Next, the ancient Pamphylian city of Aspendos, noted for its Roman ruins including an aqueduct and a possibly the finest Roman theater in the world. We'll plan free time for strolling through the old harbor in Antalya in the afternoon. Overnight in Antalya.

Including: Breakfast / Dinner

#### - APRIL 24 — PAMUKKALE

Doğa Thermal Health & Spa \*\*\*\*\*

We visit the Antalya Archaeological Museum containing a rich collection of artifacts from the vicinity ranging from the upper Paleolithic period to Ottoman times. On our drive to Pamukkale, we'll visit Laodiceia and Colossae, mentioned by Paul in his letter. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale.

Including: Breakfast / Dinner

#### - APRIL 25 — HIERAPOLIS

We visit ancient Hierapolis where the martyrium of St. Philip the Apostle can be found behind the Aphrodisias Tetrapylon theater. The hot springs here have been used since Roman times for their therapeutic powers. Then on to Aphrodisias, the city of Aphrodite, where her temple has been converted into a basilica. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale.

Including: Breakfast / Dinner

#### - APRIL 26 — BERGAMA

Attalos Suite Hotel Bergama \*\*\*
Today we drive to Bergama to visit three of the Seven Churches there - Thyatira, Sardis, and Philadelphia - from the Book of Revelation.
Sardis, where the first coins were minted, was the capital of the Lydian Empire and the city of King Croesos. Dinner and overnight in Bergama. Including: Breakfast / Dinner

#### - APRIL 27 — KUSADASI

Charisma Deluxe Hotel \*\*\*\*\*

We visit Ephesus and the surrounding area. Today's sites include the Museum; the Temple of Artemis; the Basilica of St. John; and the Church of the Virgin Mary. St. John preached and lived in Ephesus. It is believed that he brought the Virgin Mary to Ephesus after the crucifixion of Christ and that she spent her last days in the small house that was built for her on Mt. Koressos (Bulbuldagi). Dinner on your own, overnight in Kusadasi.

**Including:** Breakfast

#### - APRIL 28 — KUSADASI & TRAVEL

Today we relax in Kusadasi and take time for some shopping at the market. Some travelers, will depart for Istanbul Airport tonight, as their flight back to Mexico departs Istanbul early in the morning. We say our goodbyes, and enjoy the day at your own pace and leisure. Dinner on your own, overnight in Kusadasi or Istanbul Airport. **Including:** Breakfast

#### - APRIL 29 — TRAVEL

Our fabulous tour of Turkey will unfortunately come to an end. Our coach will take us to the Izmir Airport where we will say our goodbyes. Enjoy your flights!

**Including:** Breakfast

Eric Gundersen 281-687-9969 jeg@stcecilia.co

Laura Avery 281-923-6867 lka@stcecilia.co