



**ST. PAUL'S**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Paul's - Brenham



CRUISING WITH PAUL

**April 7 - 19, 2024**

**12 Day Tour** with

**4 Night Cruise**

**Pastor Phil & Anna Geleske**

*Thessalonica*

*Philippi & Lydia*

*Ephesus*

*House of Mary*

*Athens*

*Corinth*

*Santorini & Mykonos*

*Crete & Rhodes*

*Isle of Patmos*





# THESSALONIKI

## **TRAVEL DAY**

### **Sunday, April 7**

We meet in the afternoon in Terminal D of the Houston Intercontinental Airport, where we will check-in for our flight with Lufthansa to Thessaloniki. The flight, LH 441, departs Houston at 3:45 PM. Get some rest, as tomorrow, we will begin our pilgrimage, and trace some of the missionary journeys of Paul, the Apostle.

### **Monday, April 8**

After we arrive the airport in Thessaloniki, we meet our guide, load our coach and travel to our beautiful hotel located in the historic old city. We freshen up and have a welcome drink and a brief orientation meeting in the bar of our hotel. Welcome, to Greece!

### **Tuesday, April 9**

We take time to enjoy a traditional breakfast, which is included every morning, in all of our hotels, throughout our pilgrimage. A morning guided walking tour of the ancient city of Thessalonica, which is not only a significant Biblical civilization, but an UNESCO world heritage site as well. Our day concludes with the entrance to the Byzantine museum. We have free time in the late afternoon to explore the vibrant city of Thessaloniki, dinner is on your own. [B]

### **Wednesday, April 10**

Our guide will lead us on a scenic journey to Philippi, where we visit the archeological site and ruins of the Biblical civilization where Paul preached. We see the cell where he was imprisoned, and the excavation of a 1st century church. We take time for a devotional to ponder the words that Paul shared with the church in Philippi. A delicious fish lunch is served in Kavala. We visit Lydia, where Paul baptized the first Gentile woman, Lydia. We celebrate Holy Communion, before we return to our hotel in Thessaloniki. Dinner is included in our hotel restaurant at 20:00. [B,L,D]



#### **Thursday, April 11**

We bid adieu to Thessaloniki, and head to Meteora. We travel by coach, and enjoy the incredible views of Mount Olympus, and the beauty of God's creation. Meteora is made up of a unique landscape, with several monasteries dotting the top of its rock formations. We stay one night at the Tsikeli Boutique Hotel. The evening is at your leisure, but we enjoy dinner in our hotel restaurant, together. [B,D]

#### **Friday, April 12**

We transfer to the Divani Palace Acropolis Hotel located in the heart of Athens, and where we will stay for the next three nights. After we check-in, we will enjoy a welcome toast and light snacks on the hotel's rooftop bar, with views of the Acropolis and Mars Hill. We will have a brief orientation meeting regarding the next two days, and our upcoming cruise. The remainder of your day is free time to relax, sightsee on your own and enjoy this historic and vibrant city. Have fun! [B]

#### **Saturday, April 13**

Following breakfast, we tour ancient Athens, the foundation of democracy. We visit the Acropolis and its Museum, the Parthenon, and Erechtheum and take in the views of Athens atop Mars Hill, where Paul stood and preached the truth to the Gentile nation. The rest of the evening will be at your leisure. Dinner on your own this evening, enjoy! [B]



# 4 NIGHT CRUISE

## APRIL 15-19 CRUISE SCHEDULE

15 April Mykonos  
16 April Ephesus  
16 April May Isle of Patmos  
17 April Rhodes  
18 April Crete  
18 April Santorini  
19 April Athens - Airport

### **Sunday, April 14**

At 8:30 AM, we travel by coach to the city of Corinth, where early Christians received Paul's letters to the Corinthians. Here we will see the pillars, steps, and places where Paul preached as well as celebrate Communion in the midst of the ruins. We take time for lunch before we witness the shore where Paul arrived by boat to Corinth. We return to Athens and dinner is on your own. [B]

### **Monday, April 15**

We set sail on a four-night cruise, embarking first for the beautiful Isle of Mykonos. Choose to spend the evening on the boat or disembark to explore the local scene. Mykonos is one of the Mediterranean's most famous tourist destinations, well known for its beaches and turquoise water. Later this evening, we depart for Ephesus and Kusadasi, Turkey. [B,L,D]

### **Tuesday, April 16**

A guided, morning excursion to Ephesus includes the Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, House of Mary as well as other ancient sites in this biblical city. In the afternoon, we depart for the Isle of Patmos, where John received and recorded his Book of Revelation, the last book of the New Testament. [B,L,D]





### **Wednesday, April 17**

We arrive on the Greek island and city of Rhodes. Optional excursions include beautiful beaches and the city's old town, which features the medieval Street of the Knights and the castle-like palace of the Grand Masters. The cruise ship departs later this evening. [B,L,D]

### **Thursday, April 18**

This morning, we dock at Crete, the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. Take a tour to Heraklion and the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. Our ship departs this afternoon for the island of Santorini, perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. We depart Santorini this evening to arrive Athens the next morning. [B,L,D]

### **Friday, April 19**

We disembark at 6:30 AM. Our coach will transport us from the cruise docks to the airport, where our pilgrimage unfortunately must come to an end. We fly as a group from Athens to Houston.



CORINTH

RHODES



ISLE OF PATMOS