

# Paul's Journeys from Athens to Rome

May 19-29, 2025

## **INFORMATION**

## DEPOSITS, DUE DATES, CANCELLATIONS, AND REFUNDS

A deposit of \$ 350.00 per person is due to secure airfare and cruise ship by October 24, 2024 (refundable, less \$100.00 cancellation fee, until December 19, 2024. After December 19, all is nonrefundable).

The final remaining non-refundable payment is due by February 27, 2025, unless someone takes the slot.

#### PRICING

Per Person Double Occupancy - \$6,300.00 Per Person Single Occupancy - \$8,300.00 Land, Cruise, Flight to Rome only - \$4,500.00

#### Included:

- Roundtrip airfare from Lubbock to Athens & Rome to Lubbock
- Transportation to and from hotels
- Four Star hotel accommodations
- Full breakfast and dinner daily ~ Cruise line accommodations
- Full breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily
- Flight from Athens to Rome
- Sightseeing in a luxury air-conditioned coach with licensed guides
- Entrance fees according to the itinerary

Taxes and tips are included in the price: [hotel, drivers, guides, porters, airport, fuel surcharges] based on the current rates (should the airlines impose any additional fuel surcharges these will be passed on to the tour participants).

#### Not Included:

- Personal items such as laundry
- Land lunches, bottled drinks
- Tips of a personal nature
- Excess baggage and forwarding of baggage
- Transfers other than with the group

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend you purchase Travel Insurance that covers you for Health Issues, Lost Luggage, **Delays, and other conditions**. Information will be available after registration.

#### Tour arrangements by Transglobal Travel Ltd.

## **ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1 | MAY 19-DEPARTURE FROM USA

#### DAY 2 | MAY 20-ARRIVAL ATHENS

Upon arrival at Athens International Airport, meet your guide and driver. Transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### DAY 3 | MAY 21-ATHENS OF APOSTLE PAUL

In 51 AD, Apostle Paul traveled from Berea to Athens by boat. His boat anchored at Faliron which used to be the main port serving Athens. Apostle Paul traveled from this port to Athens. While waiting for Silas & Timothy to come from Macedonia, he spent most of his time talking with citizens at the Synagogues and the Agora. The Athenians took an interest in his teachings and invited him to present it more analytically at the Aeropagus, the hill west of Acropolis. Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and gave his famous Aeropagus Sermon, emphasizing the need to know God rather than worship the unknown gods as described in Acts 17:16-34. Follow your guide on a journey to the ancient Acropolis where you will see the Propylaea, the Parthenon and the Erectheum. View Mars Hill where Paul preached the gospel to the intellectual Athenian community of his day (Acts 17: 15-34). View the ruins of the Agora, ancient marketplace and center of Athenian public life, where Paul preached to the skeptical Athenians. You will view the Olympic Stadium, where the modern Olympics began and where the games returned in 2004. Dinner and overnight in Athens

#### DAY 4 | MAY 22-CORINTH OF APOSTLE PAUL

Corinth (Acts 18: 1-18), a city that inspired St. Paul's most familiar letter. You will visit the Archeological Museum, the Market Place, and Temples. Walk among the ruins and stand on the Bema where Paul stood. Read Paul's letter to the Corinthians and visualize his address to the Gentiles as he began the task of building Corinth's church. Imagine where Aquila and Priscilla lived and where they had their tent making business. Acts 18:9-11 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." I And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. Return to Athens for Dinner and overnight

# DAY 5 | MAY 23-CRUISE EMBARKATION AND AFTERNOON IN MYKONOS

This morning, we drive to Piraeus and embark on our cruise through the Aegean to Turkey. Arrive at Mykonos in the afternoon. The afternoon is at leisure on this small and famous gleaming white Aegean Island, with its golden beaches, windmills and picturesque narrow roads. All meals on board our cruise ship.

#### DAY 6 | MAY 24-EPHESUS & PATMOS

This morning, we arrive in Kusadasi, Turkey. Kusadasi is a colorful harbor town and the starting point for an excursion to the ancient Greek city of Ephesus, site of one of the Seven Churches of Revelation. Excavation continues in this once great and important city, which was founded in the 10th century BC and was subdued by both Croesus and Alexander the Great. Walk through history along streets lined with magnificent public buildings, among them the Baths of Skolasticia, the Library of Celsus, the Temple of Hadrian and the theater. We will also visit recent excavations of villas. Ephesus also played an important part in the life of the Apostle Paul, who wrote an epistle to its inhabitants. This afternoon we will spend our time cruising the beautiful, blue Aegean arriving after lunch in Patmos. Patmos is the beautiful rocky island where the exiled St. John the Divine received the mystical Revelation which form the last book of the New Testament. Visit the Grotto of the Revelation and then on to the 11th Century Monastery of St. John, which housed an original manuscript of the Gospel. Enjoy the panoramic view of this superb fortress-like complex, high on a hill.

#### DAY 7 | MAY 25 HERAKLION & SANTORINI

Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. You may take an OPTIONAL shore excursion to Knossos Minoan Palace: Discovered in 1899 and partially reconstructed, the elaborate Palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. This afternoon visit the island of Santorini which is perhaps the most breathtaking of al the Greek Islands. The town of Thira where white-washed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes and glittering boutiques cling to steep cliffs, is accessible by foot path, cable-car or mule. Again, we return to the ship for dinner and evening entertainment.

## DAY 8 | MAY 26-CRUISE DISEMBARKATION & FLY TO ROME

Today upon disembarkation you continue your Biblical Journey in Rome. Upon Arrival in Rome, you will head for the heart of the eternal city. Enjoy an orientation walk with your tour director and lunch in one of the famous squares. Continue to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### DAY 9 | MAY 27-VATICAN MUSEUMS & ROMAN

This morning you visit The Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, and St Peter's Basilica. Almost all Christians martyred in the Circus of Gaius/Nerothe site where S.t Peter's Square now stands. The Egyptian obelisk in the center of the square is original to the circus, though it stood in a different spot. Here Peter was crucified, according to tradition, upside down. (John 21:18-19). He is most likely buried deep beneath the Basilica in the original burial cave. In the afternoon, you continue to the Catacombs. Most famous for the early Christians buried here, the catacombs offer an essential contribution to early Christian art. Early frescoes and sculptures still exist in the catacombs. Most touching are the smaller burial spots carved out for children who had died. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

#### DAY 10 | MAY 28-ROME OF APOSTLE PAUL

This morning you start your day at the most inspiring place, Tre Fontane (Abbey of Three Fountains). Tradition tells us Paul was martyred outside the walls of Rome at a place most people have never heard of-one of the Christian sites not on the tourist maps. Don't confuse Tres Fontane with the famous Trevi Fountain. It's called Tres Fontane ("Three Fountains") because, according to legend, after Paul's head was cut off, it bounced three times, and three fountains sprung up! You gather at the gardens here for your Teaching. Next, you see the Church of St Paul outside the walls; many believe Paul is buried here.

Paul went to Rome as a prisoner in chains; Acts 2-28 tell us the story, arrested in Jerusalem, imprisoned at Caesarea for two years, Paul appealed to Caesar and suffered a shipwreck on his way to Rome as a prisoner. After two years, Paul was released from his imprisonment, after which he traveled and wrote two more epistles before his final Roman imprisonment in Mamertine Prison. You visit Mamertine prison today.

You continue with a walking tour through Roman Forum and towards the Arch of Titus; the reliefs portray Roman soldiers carrying of treasures from the Jerusalem Temple, destroyed by Titus in 70 AD. Jesus predicted this destruction (MATT. 24:1-2). Afterwards, you enter the Colosseum. We continue to view the Pantheon, Piazza Navona & Trevi Fountain. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

#### DAY 11 | MAY 29-DEPARTURE