



TURKEY • SAMOS • GREECE
 May 30 - June 25, 2024



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Dr. Jason Whitlark



Dr. Paul Carron



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May 30 - June 25, 2024

May 30 Thu	Departure from US
May 31 Fri	Arrival to Istanbul (New Airport)
Meet and greet. 1 group Transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Istanbul.(D)	
June 1 Sat	Istanbul
Historical Istanbul tour, including Topkapı Palace, Archaeological Museums, Hagia Irene, Hagia Sophia, Roman Hippodrom. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.(B,D)	
June 2 Sun	Istanbul
Continue to discover Istanbul. Galata Tower, Patriarchate, Spice Market, visit Blue Mosque. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.(B,D)	
June 3 Mon	Istanbul Free Day
Dinner and overnight. (B,D)	
June 4 Tue	Istanbul – Troy – Çanakkale
Morning drive to Gallipoli. Drive across the bridge and visit Troy. After the legendary city of Homer's Iliad, continue to Çanakkale for dinner and overnight. (B,D)	
June 5 Wed	Troas – Assos
Continue to Alexandrian Troas, the important port founded by Alexander the Great. Paul visited here at least twice (Acts 16:8-11, 20:5-13) Visit the harbor side and the small excavation area. Then drive to Assos, the same way Paul walked. On our way, we will stop (8 miles before we arrive) at Korubaşı, and begin to walk on the remainder of an ancient Roman Road (0,5 mile). Then we continue our walk on the Ayvacık Gölüpınar Yolu road (Ayvalık (7,5 miles), enjoying the view of the area and Lesbos island from the distance. Arrive to Behramkale where we are picked up by our bus and proceed to the harbour of Assos where our hotel is located. Dinner and overnight in Assos. (B,D)	
June 6 Thu	Assos
Visit Assos acropolis and harbor. Overnight in Assos.(B,D)	
June 7 Fri	Assos – Pergamum – Sardis – Pamukkale
Morning departure for Pergamum. Visit the Acropolis and Asclepion. Drive to Sardis, the site of the ancient Lydian Capital and where the first coins were minted. Drive to Pamukkale for dinner and overnight. (B,D)	
June 8 Sat	Hierapolis – Laodicea – Kuşadası
After breakfast, visit Hierapolis which is blessed by hot mineral springs and some of the best-preserved Roman ruins in Asia Minor. Christianity came to Hierapolis via Epaphras (Colossians 4:12-13). The ruins cover more than a square mile. We will see the impressive theater with seats still in perfect condition and visit one of themal pools that still has ancient columns in it. Today, the area is known as Pamukkale, meaning “Cotton Castle.” It is named for the limestone-laden hot springs that cascade from one white-edged terrace pool to the next. Drive to Laodicea one of the Seven Churches. Visit the theater, temple, nymphaeum and columned streets. Drive to Kuşadası for Dinner and overnight (B,D)	
June 9 Sun	Ephesus
Visit the famous ancient city of Ephesus with its spectacular Terrace Houses, Basilica of John, the Ephesus Archaeological Museum and the ancient Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Dinner and overnight. Lunch at the carpet school. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi. (B,D)	
June 10 Mon	Kuşadası (Boat Tour)
Enjoy a boat tour with lunch visiting the different bays of Kuşadası region along the Aegean coastline. Dinner and overnight Kuşadası (B,L,D)	
June 11 Tue	Miletos – Didyma – Priene
Drive to Miletos, visit the famous theater and the remains of the site. Continue to Didyma to visit the well preserved Temple of Apollo. Afternoon proceed to Priene, a Greco-Roman city visited by Alexander the Great and is located near the Mykale mountains. Back to Kuşadası for Dinner and overnight. (B,D)	
June 12 Wed	Kuşadası – Feribot Samos
Morning departure from Kusadasi for the ferryboat to Pythagorian,Samos. After passport control enjoy a tour of Samos, visit the Tunnel of Eupalinos, one of the greatest engineering achievements of ancient times. It is a water tunnel, 1,036 meters (4,000 feet) long, excavated through a mountain of Samos in the sixth century B.C. It was dug through solid limestone by two separate teams advancing in a straight line from both ends, using only picks, hammers, and chisels. We visit the Hera Temple and site. Return to Hotel in for dinner and Overnight. (B,D)	

June 13 Thu	Patmos - day trip to Patmos (Subject to ferry schedules in 2024)
Take the morning departure at 9:00 am by public scheduled ferry to Patmos . Arrival to Skala at 12:10 and enjoy a visit to the Cave of Revelation and the Basilica of John , a fter lthe tour enjoy lunch in a local restaurant and free time until ferry departure and return to Samos for dinner and overnight. (B,D)	
June 14 Fri	Samos- FREE day, Overnight (B,D)
Free day at Kokkari beach (R/T) bus transfer to beach. Dinner and Overnight at hotel in Samos (B,D)	
June 15 Sat	Samos airport - FLY ATHENS
After breakfast transfer to Samos airport for Morning flight to Athens departing at 8:05 am arriving Athens at 9:10.. Arrival and enjoy an Orientation tour from the bus, Watch the changing of guards in front of the Parliament Building and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We will then stop at the Temple of Zeus for outside visit. Transfer to hotel for check-in, dinner and overnight. (B, D)	
June 16 Sun	Athens - Eleusis - Corinth Canal - AcroCorinth - Corinth-Nafplion (B,D)
After breakfast we check-out of rooms and depart from Athens. Drive to Eleusis and visit the site and museum. Then we continue on to Corinth and Acro Corinth. We stop at the Corinth Canal and from here we drive to the ancient site of Corinth. We visit the ruins of the Temple of Apollo, we walk along the Agora and see the Bema and Gallio's seat, associated with St. Paul's ministry in the ancient city of Corinth. After visiting small museum at Corinth we drive to Nafplion for check-in at Hotel Park . Dinner and overnight at in Nafplion. (B, D)	
June 17 Mon	Nafplion - Mycenae - Epidaurus
Morning visit to Mycenaean Palace and the Tomb of King Agamemnon. Then drive to Epidaurus, to see the ruins of an ancient theatre with the remarkable acoustics. Return to Nafplion for free time in Tolo (swimming) or climb up to Palamidi Fortress (optional) before dinner in Nafplion. (B,D)	
June 18 Tue	Nafplion - Patras - Olympia.
Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Depart from Nafplion and drive to Patras, the 3 rd largest port of Greece. After a brief stop we continue on to Olympia for check -in at Hotel Olympion Asty . Time permitting we will visit the archaeological site of Olympia before the dinner. Overnight at hotel in Olympia. (B,D)	
June 19 Wed	Olympia - Delphi
Morning visit to the museum of Olympia. Depart for Delphi. We cross over the modern suspended bridge from Rion (Peloponnese peninsula) to Antirion (Central Greece) and then we pass by Nafpaktos, before we arrive in Delphi. Upon arrival check-in at the Parnassos Hotel in Delphi. Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight at hotel. (B,D)	
June 20 Thu	Delphi
Delphi was considered the centre of the ancient world. On the slopes of Mt. Parnassus, in a landscape of unparalleled natural beauty and majesty, lies the archaeological site of Delphi. We visit the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Treasury of the Athenians and the Archaeological Museum containing such masterpieces of ancient Greek sculpture as the bronze Charioteer and the famous athlete Agias. Free time in Delphi. Dinner at local restaurant and overnight at the Parnassos Hotel (B,D)	
June 21 Fri	Ossios Loukas Monastery - Athens
Morning departure from Delphi. Stop for a visit to the Ossios Loucas Monastery. In the afternoon check-in to Divani Palace Acropolis Hotel Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B,D)	
June 22 Sat	ATHENS (ACROPOLIS - MARS HILL - ACROPOLIS MUSEUM - PLAKA)
At 9:00a.m. we enjoy our full-day sightseeing tour of <i>Athens</i> . We will walk to the <i>Acropolis Hill</i> the sacred rock of Athens, the citadel and the sanctuary of the city in antiquity. We visit the famous <i>Parthenon</i> and the <i>Erechtheion</i> . Then, we go to nearby <i>Mars' Hill (Areopagus)</i> to read Acts 17:22 where Paul gave his famous speech to the Athenian philosophers (Acts 17:18-34) and spoke about the inscription: "to an unknown god". From here we continue to Monastiraki for lunch. In the afternoon at 15:00 we visit <i>Acropolis Museum</i> . Enjoy the afternoon at leisure in Plaka. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B,D)	
June 23 Sun	ATHENS - Ancient AGORA - National Archaeological Museum - Open Market
Visit Ancient Agora of Athens and the National Archaeological Museum. After a short lunch break we will board the bus and enjoy a panoramic city tour. In the afternoon we will enjoy the Varvakios Central Market before returning to the hotel. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B, D)	
June 24 Mon	Athens – Free Day – Final Exams.
Dinner and overnight at Hotel in Athens. (B,D)	
June 25 Tue	Athens Departure – Private group transfer to Athens International airport for departure. (B)

Program Fee
<h1>\$3250</h1>
Program Fee Includes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kuşadası- Samos public ferry ticket one way • Samos-Patmos-Samos round trip public ferry ticket • Domestic aifare Samos –Athens one way ticket • 4 nights Istanbul Sultanahmet Palace or similar • 1 night Akol Hotel Çanakkale hotel or similar • 2 nights Assos 4* Dove Hotel or similar • 1 night Pamukkale 5* Doğa Thermal or similar • 4 nights Kusadasi 4* Charisma Hotel or similar • 3 nights at Doryssa Bay Hotel Samos HB or similar • 5 nights Hotel Divani in Athens HB or similar • 2 Nights at Park Hotel in Nafplion HB or similar • 1 Nights at Olympion Asty Hotel in Olympia HB or similar • 2 nights at Parnassos in Delphi BB or similar • Daily breakfasts at the hotels • 25 Dinners as stated at the program (B:breakfast – D:dinner), 1 lunch on the boat in Kusadasi (dinners in Delphi are served in Local restaurant) • Sightseeing as per the itinerary with professional guides • All land transportation by private fully A/C bus with experienced driver throughout the tour • Tolls & parking fees • Local English speaking professional licensed tour guides during all sightseeing • Reduced entrance fees to the sites and museums for students. All students must present a valid Student ID card to get benefit of the discount. • English speaking escorted group transfers between ports/airport and hotels in mainland and on the island. • All local service charges & local taxes & VAT • Whisper headsets
Additional Costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International flights - You need to arrange your international flights departing from the U.S. on May30, arriving Istanbul on May 31 & departing ATHENS June 25. • All lunches and drinks at all meals. • All personal expenses and any other service which are not mentioned above