

Join us on a Pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey In the Steps of St. Paul

Under the Spiritual Direction of Fr. Mark Gazzingan

Istanbul - Philippi - Athens - 3-Night Greek Isles Cruise - Ephesus



April
16-28, 2026



Starting From
\$5199
Per Person

Book Now at www.PaxVia.com



April 16 Day 1: Depart USA: Today we board our flights with meals and beverages served aloft.

April 17 Day 2: Arrive Istanbul: Welcome to Istanbul, formerly known as Constantinople! Upon arrival, we are welcomed by our Holy Land Travel Center representative. After visa formalities, we head to our hotel where time permitting, we celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass for our safe travels.

Overnight: Istanbul (Dinner)

April 18 Day 3: Istanbul: Sultanahmet, Topkapi Palace, St. Sofia, Hippodrome: This morning we head to the Sultanahmet district. This World Heritage-listed district is crammed with historic buildings and atmosphere to keep you enthralled for days. Full day visits to the Topkapi Palace; overlooking the Sea of Marmara and containing numerous chambers, courtyards, and royal treasures; the Sultan Ahmed (Blue) Mosque, with its six minarets and thousands of blue tiles; and the historic Hagia Sophia, now a museum, converted to a mosque from a Christian Basilica after the fall of Constantinople in 1453. Next, we see the Hippodrome and the Obelisk brought from Egypt.

Overnight: Istanbul (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 19 Day 4: Istanbul: Grand Bazaar: This morning we will have time to visit the Grand Bazaar for shopping. The Grand Bazaar is an amazing place - literally a maze of streets. It is one of the largest undercover bazaars in the world and is even divided into areas like the leather section, or the rug section.

Overnight: Istanbul (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 20 Day 5: Istanbul: Continue to Kavala: Today we depart Istanbul for Kavala, Greece. Meet our new Greek guide and driver and continue on through our tour of Greece.

Overnight: Kavala (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 21 Day 6: Kavala/ Thessaloniki: Great Acropolis, Market Place, Theatre & Forum: Today we visit Kavala, which occupies the site of ancient Neapolis and Philippi (Acts 16:12-40, Phil.), that today lies as a major archaeological site near Krinides where St. Paul and St. Silas were imprisoned after St. Paul's first sermon in what we today call Europe. We will celebrate Mass nearby. After visiting the ruins of the great Acropolis, the Market Place, Theatre and Forum, we continue to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Thessaloniki (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 22 Day 7: Thessaloniki/ Veria: Rotonda, St George Church, Galerius Arch: This morning we visit the Rotonda, St. George Church, one of the oldest constructions in the city, the church was built at the end of the 4th century by the Roman emperor. We will read today from the Acts 17:1-9 and "Letter to the Thessalonians". This time period will become more alive to us as our visit will include the Galerius Arch, built a little before 305 AD in commemoration of Galerius's victory over the Persians in 297. Next is the most beautiful basilica in the city St. Demetrius where Saint Paul was imprisoned, tortured and buried. Mass is held in a local church. We then visit Veria, one of Paul's stops, where a Byzantine mosaic commemorates his preaching. We check into our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Veria (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 23 Day 8: Veria/ Kalambaka/ Athens: Meteora Monastery: This morning we leave Veria and continue to Kalambaka, a town near the Meteora Monastery. Later this afternoon we will visit the Grand Meteoran Monastery (Transfiguration of Christ), the most beautiful Byzantine monastery. The word Meteora means literally 'hovering in the air' as all the monasteries were built on top of the high rocks. Monks have been recorded living in these caves since the 11th century. The Church of the Transfiguration is the best known of the Monasteries and is built upon the highest rock, founded by Athanasios the Meteorite, a well-known figure in Orthodox monasticism. We continue to Athens for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Athens (Breakfast, Dinner)



Base Price: \$5199

Single Supplement: \$1250

Land Only: \$4199

✓ **Included**

- Roundtrip Airfare
- 4-5 Star Hotels
- Meals Per Itinerary
- Excursions Per Itinerary
- Daily Mass
- Local English-Speaking Tour Guide
- Pilgrim's Pack

✗ **Not Included**

- Passport/Visa Costs
- Gratuities
- Travel Insurance
(Plan offered at www.paxvia.com/travel-insurance)

Payment Schedule

Deposit: \$500

\$1249 due 150 days prior to departure

\$1000 due 90 days prior

Remainder due 45 days prior

Tour Number:

SFO-0409/13D



April 24 Day 9: Cruise-Embark Athens: Mykonos: Today we'll leave Athens early in the morning for Piraeus and at 11:00 a.m. sail into the Aegean Sea. Our first island is one of the islands belonging to the Cyclades group of islands. This mountainous island of Mykonos has about 400 churches and is famous for its picturesque white houses and the island's trademark, the charming windmills. Mykonos has a unique architecture of Byzantine and Western characteristics. Next, we will visit the Church of Panagia Paraportiani (Greek for Our Lady of the Side Gate) on the main square Cathedral and an old Catholic Church and many boutiques and taverns along tiny, paved streets. Return on board of the ship.
Overnight: Cruise (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 25 Day 10: Cruise Kusadasi Port & Patmos Port: Ephesus, Turkey - Patmos Greece: This morning you will arrive at the Turkish port city of Kusadasi. From here you will travel to Ephesus, where the Blessed Virgin Mary lived with St. John in a small house on the hill behind the city. Here you will have Mass before traveling down to the ancient city where you can walk the marble roads rutted by wheels of countless chariots and pass the ruins of architectural masterpieces. It is here that St. Paul preached to the Ephesians, and where he was arrested and cast out of the city. In the afternoon you will visit the island of Patmos, where St. John wrote the apocalyptic Book of Revelations. On our excursion we will visit the cave where he lived, now the site of a monastery housing priceless icons and manuscripts.
Overnight: Cruise (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 26 Day 11: Cruise: Santorini – Crete: Today is the last day of the cruise. Pilgrims, at their own leisure, can enjoy visiting Heraklion on the Island of Crete, as well as Fira, the capital of the Island of Santorini. The Cruise Ship offers excursions which you can purchase onboard if you want a more structured tour of either island.
Overnight: Cruise (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 27 Day 12: Disembark: Athens/Corinth: Today we disembark our cruise ship, and we will be visiting and exploring the city of Athens (Acts 17: 16-34). Acropolis with Parthenon the greatest monument of antiquity, dedicated to the goddess Athena, from here one can see Areopagus (Areios Pagos = Hill of Ares) visited by Pope John Paul II, the same hill where St. Paul gave his famous sermon of "Unknown God". Our pilgrimage will continue with a drive to Corinth first across the Corinthian Canal, started by Roman emperor Nero and then to one of the oldest towns of Greece, where St. Paul came after he left Athens and after a stop at the ancient Corinth (18: 1-18; Cori.) we again meet with St. Paul, here he remained for one and a half-year. We will be visiting a marketplace where the Apostle preached to the Corinthians, the Temple of Apollo and the Corinth Museum.
Overnight: Athens (Breakfast, Dinner)

April 28 Day 13: Return USA: Today we board our flights home, carrying with us memories and keepsakes that will last a lifetime.

Terms & Conditions

Below are the general terms & conditions. Dates and fees may change from tour to tour. For tour-specific information please refer to the terms and conditions on the travel brochure specific to your tour.

By making any payments (cash, credit card or otherwise) towards any tour constitutes your unconditional acceptance of all the terms and conditions stated in this brochure. Pax Via Tours & Travel Inc. shall be referred to as PVTT within this document.

DOCUMENTS: US citizens require a valid passport. Other nationalities please inquire with the appropriate embassies.

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT: Deposit of \$500 per person is required upon registration along with a signed copy of the registration form. Registrations are processed in the order received by PVTT. Final payment is due 45 days prior to departure. Late payments are subject to a \$50 late fee per week past the due date. PVTT reserves the right to cancel reservations whose payments are 30 days late and to apply applicable cancellation/penalties indicated below. No registrations can be made over the telephone.

INDIVIDUAL CANCELLATION FEES & REFUNDS: Upon cancellation of participation of tour by you, the registrant, for any reason, and only after PVTT receives your written cancellation via email used to register or by US mail, PVTT will then refund your payment for services not received by you, minus applicable cancellation fees per person, according to the following schedule: All refunds will be processed via check. Credit card fees are collected by the payment processor and will not be refunded.

Minimum cancellation fee is \$500 from time of registration up to 120 days prior to the tour's departure date.

From 119 to 60 days prior to departure day, the cancellation fee is \$500 + 20% of total price.

From 59 days to 31 days prior to departure day, cancellation fee is \$500 + 50% of total price.

From 30 days prior to departure day onward, no refund is possible.

PAYMENT: Advertised price is the cash/check discounted price. If paying with a card, a processing fee will apply. Card processing fee is nonrefundable.

BOUNCED CHECKS: Bounced checks will incur a \$25 administrative fee.

DISPUTED PAYMENTS: In the event of a disputed payment for reasons other than a fraudulent charge, the administrative fees associated with a dispute will be invoiced to your account and either deducted from your refund or invoiced to you. These fees are subject to change due to payment processors' rules and regulations.

TRAVEL PROTECTION: Travel insurance is recommended to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection. If you do not wish to purchase now, the plan can be purchased any time before submitting your final payment. Coverage takes effect once payment is received. If you choose to purchase outside of the time-sensitive period outlined in the plan, you will not be eligible for time-sensitive benefits. All plan premiums are non-refundable. To view/download and purchase the plan, which provides the full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, please visit our website: www.paxvia.com/travel-protection

MEDICAL CONDITION: We endeavor to provide the highest level of service to all our passengers. Participants who require special assistance must be accompanied by a qualified helper who assumes total responsibility for the participants' well-being. This pilgrimage demands a lot of walking and can be strenuous. PVTT is not responsible for any medical conditions that occur prior to, during, or after the tour.

LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSFERS: By private deluxe motor coach.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Tour prices are per person, based on two persons sharing double or twin-bedded rooms with a private bathroom with tub or shower. In the event that one does not sign up with a roommate and is not able to be paired with another traveler, there will be a single supplement charge to the account. Single rooms subject to availability and an additional cost indicated on the brochure. Accommodations are subject to change due to upgrade, size of group, etc.

MOBILE APP: Final pilgrimage details will be available through an app before departure. Please be aware that the information on the app is regularly updated and subject to change. PVTT holds no liability for errors or discrepancies in the app's content.

MEALS: Meals in accordance with the itinerary. All beverages are extra.

TIPPING: Unless it is specified in the tour brochure, the price of the tour does not include tips and gratuities. Tipping is recommended to the tour guide and motor coach driver approximately \$6 and \$4 per person, respectively, per day to each. Hotel tips are approximately \$2 per day per person. Tips may be pre-collected before the pilgrimage for your convenience.

AIRLINE TICKETS AND ITINERARY LENGTH: Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class aboard carriers utilizing non-refundable, non-amenable tickets. Preliminary international flight schedules are available 60 days prior to departure and may change before they are finalized. Therefore, if you book the domestic flight on your own, you will be responsible for changing your domestic flights and incurring any change fees that would be generated by this adjustment. We are not responsible for changes and delays in airline schedules and do not reimburse passengers for expenses resulting from such occurrences. Travelers making their own flight arrangements should not purchase non-refundable, non-changeable tickets. We cannot

guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. If flight schedules change, we reserve the right to lengthen or shorten the itinerary accordingly, and if changes or flight schedules necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged at normal hotel rates. Land Only packages do not include airport-hotel transfers.

SEAT ASSIGNMENT: THERE IS NO ADVANCE SEAT SELECTION FOR TOUR DEPARTURES. PVTT cannot guarantee specific seats, which are at the discretion of the airline and are pending availability. When PVTT disperses travel packages, you will receive your record locator. You can use this locator to do online seating arrangements, if permitted by the airline. Any additional costs for seat selection are your responsibility. If your airline ticket is canceled for any reason, you must directly contact the airline to request a refund for your seat selection. The refund will be processed to your original form of payment, subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

BAGGAGE: Transatlantic and transpacific flights to and from the USA allow the passenger to bring one (1) checked bag, which may have a maximum weight of 50 lbs., and maximum combined dimensions of 62 inches. Also, one (1) "carry-on" with maximum dimensions of 8"x12"x20" is permitted. Luggage on domestic flights including Mexico & Canada will cost extra. Luggage is the passenger's responsibility and that of the airlines. For lost luggage, the passenger is responsible for notifying the airline directly. Check with your carrier regarding carry-on luggage rules and regulations. **PRICES:** All prices are based on exchange rates and fares applicable at the time of quotation and based on the minimum number of paying passengers stated in the brochure and are therefore subject to change if fares change (including fuel surcharges increase), if the group does not reach the minimum or if exchange rates fluctuate. Minimum number of paying passengers is 30.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport and Visas, exit taxes, meals not mentioned, beverages with meals, extras beyond the standard menu, excess baggage, luggage on domestic flights, telephone calls, fuel surcharges increase.

VISAS: When and if a visa or visa waiver is required, it is the passenger's responsibility to obtain one. PVTT, owner, agent, or employees cannot be held liable for clients not having proper passports, visa, visa waiver, or other travel documents. Cancellations or changes to schedule due to a lack of appropriate documents will incur usual penalties.

PASSPORTS: Passports are required to travel with Pax Via Tours & Travel Inc. A Passport Card is not useful for International Air Travel. Attempting to use this instead of a Passport Book will result in a denial of boarding by the airlines and entry by the legal authorities.

PHOTO RELEASE: Photos taken on the pilgrimage may be used to advertise for future pilgrimages. By registering for the tour, you consent to photographs taken of you during your participation in the tour and to the publication of the photographs by the Operator for advertising, promotional, and marketing purposes. I assign a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use, for any purpose, photographs submitted by me to Operator and any photographs taken of me during my tour. I waive my right to inspect or approve the eventual use of such photographs.

VISA FOR EUROPE – ETIAS -Starting in 2025, Americans, Canadians, Australians will need to apply online for travel authorization for Europe. – This applies to all travelers, and all ages. – Fee approx. \$9 per person – The program is called ETIAS. Some refer to it as a "visa for Europe". It is not a traditional visa but needs basic details about the traveler and their trip.

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER: PVTT hereby expressly disclaims any liability for any personal injury, property damage, loss of baggage, accident, delay or irregularity, any claim for special or consequential damages, or any other loss which may be occasioned by the acts and/or omissions, whether negligent, intentional, wrongful, or otherwise, of any air carrier, hotel/motel or other lodging operator, railroad operator, bus operator, public transportation, sea carrier, local sightseeing company, tour operator, tour leader, or spiritual director, any employees thereof, or any other entity or individual not under the direct supervision and control of PVTT when engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour, or otherwise in connection therewith. PVTT likewise expressly disclaims any responsibility for losses or expenses incurred, or inconvenience caused, due to delay or changes in schedules, defaults, overbooking of hotels or airlines, sickness, weather, strikes, quarantines, pandemics, epidemics, acts of terrorism, constructions, war, force majeure, or other such events which are beyond PVTT's control. PVTT likewise hereby expressly disclaims any liability for statements, actions, or inactions of any intermediary agents such as group administrators, spiritual directors or tour leaders, travel agents, or any other intermediary involved with the selling, promotion, or operation of its tours. Group administrators, spiritual leaders, and tour leaders likewise hereby expressly disclaim any liability for the acts and/or omissions of any of the above entities and/or individuals not directly under their supervision or control. Please be advised that the liability of carriers as well as providers of hotel and lodging accommodations is limited by law and you may thus wish to consider purchasing additional insurance to protect yourself against any losses or injuries suffered as a result of their acts and/or omissions. In all instances, PVTT's liability shall be limited to the amounts paid by you for participation in the tour and subject to the provisions and cancellation fees as set forth in the 'Brochure Terms and Conditions'. In the event that the tour leader and/or spiritual director named in a brochure or itinerary does not travel with the group, and a substitute is not named to replace such person(s), then PVTT reserves the right to make substitutions of its choosing for such person(s) in the operation of the tour.

CANCELLATION DUE TO LOW PARTICIPATION: On rare occasions, a tour departure may be canceled due to lack of participation. In the event that PVTT would decide to cancel a departure, a full refund will be issued (not including travel insurance). PVTT is not responsible and does not assume responsibility for any additional costs or any fees relating to the cancellation of air tickets or other arrangements not made through PVTT.

FORCE MAJEURE: Cancellations due to state advisories and/or state warnings, pandemics, epidemics, acts of war, terrorism, acts of God, natural disasters, force majeure, or any other circumstance outside the control of PVTT, are not the fault of PVTT. Great effort will be made to accommodate passengers on another trip, a postponed date, or to revise the itinerary. However, cancellations for any of these reasons will not be eligible for a refund and are subject to cancellation fees as stated above.

Note: While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary, either due to changes to the airline schedule, government regulations, travel restrictions, or any other reason. Pax Via Tours & Travels Inc. reserves the right to change the itinerary or name alternate dates due to such unforeseen circumstances or emergencies

Pax Via Tours & Travel

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