

FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL IN GREECE
MAY 24-JUNE 4, 2027
HOSTED BY ASHLAND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
(Course Credit Available)
AND PASSAGES WORLDWIDE, LLC
Led by Rev. Dr. Amy Davis Abdallah

Greece is an enchanting destination whose rich and ancient history is important to all civilization. From the volcanic islands to the mountainous Peloponnese to the fertile plains in the north, the terrain is both rugged and inviting. For the Christian, Greece is rich. Paul first proclaimed the Gospel to Europe in Philippi, gave his most famous sermon in Athens in sight of the Parthenon, and had a close relationship with the church in Corinth. In Greece, the Orthodox Christians remained faithful and strong in spite of the years of Ottoman occupation. The majestic Cathedrals, the multiple monasteries, and the biblical sites all offer the traveler a deep and unparalleled spiritual experience. Greece never disappoints and all who visit once long to visit again. **Our tour is unique among Bible lands tours due to its intentional small size, its rich and varied culinary offerings, and its enhancement of a biblical understanding of Greece with cultural and historical exploration.**

MONDAY, MAY 24
Arrive in Thessaloniki

Upon arrival in **Thessaloniki**, transfer to *Grand Palace Hotel* or similar for check-in and overnight. Note: depending on time of arrival, walk to the Aegean Sea and the center of Thessaloniki for dinner.



TUESDAY, MAY 25
Thessaloniki–Lydia–Philippi–Kavala–Thessaloniki (Acts 16)

After breakfast, depart for **Lydia,** a church and holy baptismal site by the river that commemorates Lydia, Paul's first European convert. Continue to the famous archeological site of the city of **Philippi**, where Paul and Silas sang in jail. Visit the impressive theater, ancient basilica, prison, and agora; walk along the *Via Egnatia*. After lunch in **Kavala** (ancient **Neapolis** where Paul first set foot in Europe), walk through the old town, admiring the beauty of the architecture and gaze out to sea toward Samothrace from where Paul came. In the afternoon, drive back to Thessaloniki. Dinner and overnight Thessaloniki. **B, L, D**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26
Thessaloniki–Berea–Kalabaka

After breakfast, continue to visit Thessaloniki. The first stop is **St. Demetrios Church,** dedicated to the patron saint of Thessaloniki who was martyred for his Christian faith in the early fourth century. After visiting the amazing preserved catacombs under the church, take a short walk to the overlook of the agora of **ancient Thessaloniki** where Paul preached, rioters fruitlessly sought to arrest Paul and Silas, and Jason and the other believers sent them away under cover of night (Acts 17). Visit the **White Tower** before departing for **Veria** (ancient **Berea**), where the nobler Christians lived. Visit the holy mosaics at Berea and continue to **Kalambaka.** Upon approaching the town, the terrain changes drastically to reveal the high cliffs and caves where the medieval monastics retreated to worship and pray for the region. Dinner and overnight in *Divani Meteora Hotel* or similar, Kalambaka. **B, L, D**

THURSDAY, MAY 27
Kalabaka–Meteora–Delphi–Itea

After breakfast, ascend to the mountain heights to visit **Meteora** monasteries, perched atop conical cliffs. The original monks were lifted in baskets, but we get to use stairs. Visit the highly decorated



churches and grounds, imagining the monastic's life dedicated to prayer and austerity. After taking in the views, travel through the gorgeous mountains to the fantastic archeological site of **Delphi**, the center of the ancient world and the site of the Delphic Oracle. Walk through the ancient temples, learn mythological origins, and visit the museum. Dinner and overnight *Delphi Amalia Hotel* or similar, Delphi. **B, L, D**

FRIDAY, MAY 28
Itea–Kechries–Corinth–Athens (Acts 18)

Depart Delphi and journey along the beautiful Corinthian gulf to the bridge to rugged and serene terrain of the Peloponnese. Visit the ancient site of **Corinth,** where Paul stayed multiple times, initially spending a year and a half there. Stand in the church built on the **Bema,** where Paul was judged by Gallio and found innocent. See the **Erastus Inscription** and view the **Acrocorinth**, the fortified castle above the city. Travel to Corinth's eastern port, **Kechries** (ancient **Cenchrae**) where Phoebe led the church that met in her house (Romans 16), and gaze out toward Ephesus, the direction of Paul's journey after he left Corinth. Then view the recently built **Corinth Canal** that now spans the narrow land. Arrive in **Athens** and catch the first glimpse of the **Parthenon**. Dinner, overnight *Amalia Hotel* or similar, Athens. **B, L, D**



SATURDAY, MAY 29
Athens (Acts 17)

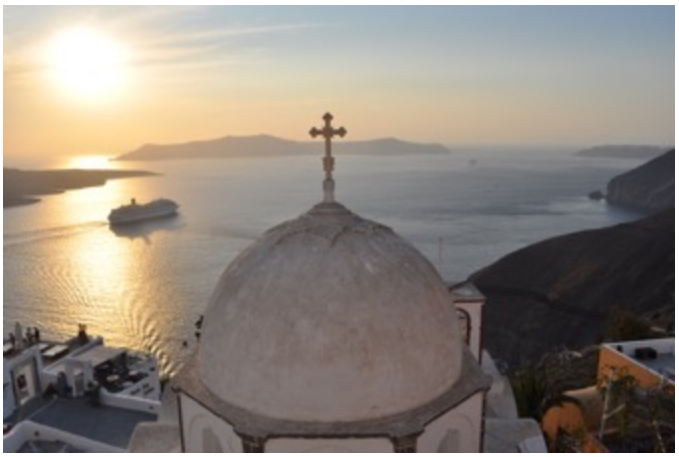
Begin the tour of the amazing historical city of Athens by visiting the **Acropolis Museum**, where there are images of all the ancient gods. Then ascend to the majestic **Acropolis** to the **Erechtheion** and the massive temple to the goddess Athena, the **Parthenon.** View the ancient **Agora** and picture Paul debating there. After a restful afternoon, arrive on **Mars Hill,** the **Aereopagus,** where Paul's most famous speech proclaimed Christ to the city that worshiped all gods (Acts 17). Dinner in **Plaka**, overnight Athens. **B, D**

SUNDAY, MAY 30
Athens

After breakfast, head through the **National Garden** to Syntagma to watch the famous **Changing of the Guard** in front of the **Presidential Palace.** Optional hike up **Lykavitos Hill** for a breathtaking view of the Parthenon and surrounding city. **Free afternoon**; consider visiting **Monastiraki,** the national **Cathedral**, or the **Philopappos Monument.** Dinner, overnight Athens. **B, D**

MONDAY, MAY 31
Athens–Crete

Fly to our first island destination, Crete. Enjoy the rugged and picturesque drive along the northern coast of the island, from Heraklion to Rethimno. Visit the **Old Town of Rethimno**, the historical **Venetian Harbor** and view the huge **Venetian Fortress** on the water. Return to Heraklion to visit the modern **Church of St. Titus.** Then enjoy a stroll along the **Waterfront**, by the **Koules Fortress**, and through **Old Town.** Dinner, overnight Heraklion at *Lato Hotel* or similar. **B, L, D**



TUESDAY, JUNE 1
Crete (Acts 27, Titus 1)

After breakfast, continue to explore the largest of Greece's 4,000 islands. Visit the ancient Minoan city and **Palace of Knossos,** a fantastic and fascinating historical site. Continue through the mountains to the rugged **Kali Limenes** (ancient **Fair Havens**), the port where the ship that was taking Paul to Rome after he appealed to Caesar landed with difficulty. Return to Heraklion. Dinner, overnight Heraklion. **B, L, D**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2
Crete–Santorini

Fast ferry to Santorini, the most famous of Greece's islands. Tour **Fira** and walk along the **Caldera** enjoying the magnificent views of the colorful cliffs and sea. Free afternoon to explore towns and beaches. Overnight at *Smaro Boutique Hotel* or similar, Santorini. **B, L**

THURSDAY, JUNE 3
Santorini

Optional Caldera Hike to **Oia**, tour **Oia,** enjoy the picturesque beaches. Sunset dinner, overnight Santorini. **B, D**

FRIDAY, JUNE 4
Santorini–Athens

After breakfast, depart Santorini, fly to Athens. **B**

MEET YOUR LEADER

Amy has been leading tours and spiritual pilgrimages to biblical lands since 2005, beginning with the Holy Land and continuing to Egypt, Turkey, Syria, and Lebanon. Most recently, she has taken multiple tour groups to Greece to walk the Footsteps of St. Paul on the mainland and the islands. Amy spent more than two decades teaching New Testament, Acts, and the Pauline Letters, so it is her joy to open others' eyes to the engaging story of the Bible and the reality of the land and culture where it happened. Amy has a passion for the history, worship, culture, and food of the Mediterranean. She seeks to ensure guests love Greece as much as she does!



Tour Cost (Land Only):
Per Person Sharing Double Occupancy
$5,595 (10-15 participants)
16+ participants $5,195
Single Supplement: **$895**

*This trip is limited to 20 participants and is on a first come first serve basis.
*based on a minimum of 10 participants

**We reserve the right to change the order of activities or sites due to unforeseen schedule conflicts such as weather conditions or in order to allow the itinerary to run smoothly. All prices are subject to change due to currency fluctuation, fuel prices, and/or unforeseen economic circumstances.*

This is an active trip, involving walking and sometimes ascending stairs. The lodging is 4-5* in the best locations for exploring.

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Accommodation as indicated above, or similar
- Entrance to all sites
- Meals as indicated above (**B, L,** or **D)**
- Water at meals and on bus
- Land Transportation
- Domestic Flights (Athens–Crete and Santorini–Athens)
- Ferry (Crete–Santorini)
- All Guide and Lecturer fees
- Gratuities for meals and local guides, hotel staff

TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to/from Thessaloniki or Athens
- Visas for non-US citizens as required by Greece (US citizens do not need a visa)
- Transportation to Thessaloniki hotel from airport
- Beverages at meals
- Travel Protection Insurance or Travelers Insurance
- Items of a personal nature (laundry, phone calls, excess luggage, etc.)
- Any additional nights due to flight schedule

Payment Schedule

$500 non-refundable deposit due upon registration

January 15, 2027	$2500
April 2, 2027	Balance due

For information about course credit fees and registration, please contact lbedocs@ashland.edu

Zelle Payments are preferred (Passages Worldwide LLC, passagesworldwide@gmail.com)
Checks are also preferred, and should be made out to Passages Worldwide LLC, ATTN: Amy Davis Abdallah, 2525 Barrington Rd., Fairlawn, OH 44333
Credit card payments will incur an additional 3.5% charge due to fees; call Amy at 845-596-8176

To register for this trip, please click this link
For more information please contact
passagesworldwide@gmail.com

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