



Türkiye - Samos - Greece

May 29-June 25
2025



TOUR HOSTS



Dr. Jason Whitlark



Dr. Charles McDaniel



Dr. Bruce Longenecker



Türkiye - Samos - Greece

May 29 - June 25

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| May 29 Thu | Departure from US |
| May 30 Fri | Arrival to Istanbul Airport (IST) |
| Meet and greet. One group transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Istanbul.(B,D) | |
| May 31 Sat | Istanbul |
| Historical Istanbul tour, including Archaeological Museum, Hagia Irene, Hagia Sophia, Roman Hippodrom. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.(B,D) | |
| June 1 Sun | Istanbul |
| Continue to discover Istanbul. Visit the Topkapı Palace, visit Blue Mosque, Galata Tower, Patriarchate, Spice Market. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.(B,D) | |
| June 2 Mon | Istanbul Free Day |
| Dinner and overnight. (B,D) | |
| June 3 Tue | Istanbul – Troy – Assos |
| Morning drive to Gallipoli. Drive across the bridge and visit Troy. After the legendary city of Homer's Iliad, continue to to Assos for dinner and overnight.(B,D) | |
| June 4 Wed | Troas - Assos |
| Visit 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 ancient harbor and granite quarries. Then drive to Assos, the same way Paul walked. On our way, we will stop (6 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 road, enjoying the view of the area and Lesbos island from the distance. Arrive to Behramkale and visit Assos acropolis and harbor. Overnight in Assos. (B,D) | |
| June 5 Thu | Assos – Pergamum – Sardis - Izmir |
| Morning departure for Pergamum one the churches addressed in Revelation. Visit the Acropolis and Asclepion. Drive to Izmir for dinner and overnight.(B,D) | |
| June 6 Fri | Smyrna |
| Visit the Agora, New Archaeological Museum and St. Polycarpus Church if open. Dinner and overnight in Izmir. Smyran is one of the churches addressd in Revelation.(B,D) | |
| June 7 Sat | Sardis – Laodicea - Pamukkale |
| After breakfast we check out of the hotel and drive to Sardis, the site of the ancient Lydian Capital and where the first coins were minted. Continue to Laodicea one of the churches addressed in Revelation. Visit the theater, temple, nymphaeum and columned streets. Drive to Pamukkale for dinner and overnight (B,D) | |
| June 8 Sun | Hieropolis - Aphrodisias - Kusadasi |
| 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 necropolis, impressive theater with seats still in perfect condition, the martyrium of Philip, the Plutonium, 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. Visit Aphrodisias with its impressive friezes from the Sebastion and go to Kusadasi for dinner and overnight. (B,D) | |
| June 9 Mon | 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 Tue | 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 Wed | 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 Thu | Kuşadası – Samos Ferryboat - Samos |
| Morning departure from Kusadasi for the ferryboat (Erturk Lines) to Pythagorian,Samos. Arrive at 10:00 am, after passport control, meet your guide Nikos. Drive to hotel Hydrele Beach to store luggage. Proceed with the tour to Hera Temple and site, then 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 (the site closes at 15:30). Visit the small archaeology museum and return to the hotel for check-in and relax. Dinner and overnight at Hydrele Beach Hotel in Samos. (B,D) | |

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| June 13 Fri | Samos - Patmos - Samos |
| Day trip to Patmos Island. At 7:15 am we transfer to the Pythagorion port and embarkation on the ferry from Samos departing at 8:00 am, arriving in Patmos at 10:25am. Upon arrival meet the local guide and visit St. John Monastery and then the Cave of Apocalypse. Free time until the departure of the ferry at 3:20 pm. Board the ferry and return to Samos at 6:00 pm Return transfer from the port to the hotel. Dinner at 7pm and overnight at Hydrele Beach hotel. (B,D) | |
| June 14 Sat | Kokkari or Navagos beach – Return to Samos town |
| Breakfast at hotel. At around 9:00 am, transfer to Kokkari or Navagos beach in Samos (R/T Bus transfer to the beach). Dinner in at hotel Hydrele Beach. Dinner and overnight in Samos. (B, D) | |
| June 15 Sun | Samos – Fly to Athens (panoramic tour) - Athens |
| Early breakfast at hotel. At 7:30 am bus transfer to Samos Airport for flight to Athens, departing at 9:00 am. Arrival to Athens airport at 10:05 am. Enjoy an orientation city tour of Athens. 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 Herodion for check-in. Dinner in a local restaurant overlooking the Parthenon. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B, D) | |
| June 16 Mon | Athens - Acropolis Museum – Acropolis - Mars Hill - Plaka |
| Enjoy the morning free in Athens. At around 3 pm, we start the walking tour to the Acropolis Museum where we will see all the sculptures and findings excavated around the Parthenon, on the slopes of the Acropolis, the original Caryatides and part of the marble frieze of the upper part of the Parthenon Temple. We will then climb up the Acropolis Hill, to see the Temple of Athena, Nike, the Parthenon Temple and the Erechtheion. After some free time for photos we will walk down to the Mars Hill and see the inscription commemorating St Paul's sermon to the Athenians for the "Unknown God". After the visit, enjoy free time in Monastiraki area. Return to the Herodion hotel for dinner (around 7:30 pm) and overnight in Athens. (B,D) | |
| June 17 Tue | Athens - Ancient Agora-National Archaeological Museum |
| In the morning we board the bus for transfer to the National Archaeological Museum. This is the largest museum in Greece which displays finds from all parts of the ancient Greek world that date from Neolithic times to the last years of the Roman Empire. Afterwards we will enjoy a panoramic city tour and we will be dropped off at the Varvakios Central Market in Athens for free time for lunch. From there, we will walk to the ancient Agora, that was the center of everyday Athenian life, the seat of administrative bodies and of the Courts of Law. After the tour, walk back to the hotel for dinner and overnight at Herodion hotel in Athens. (B,D) | |
| June 18 Wed | Athens - Eleusis - Corinth Canal - Corinth - Nafplion |
| 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. 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 Gallo's seat, associated with St. Paul's ministry in the ancient city of Corinth. After visiting the small museum at Corinth we drive to Nafplion for check in to hotel Park, followed by dinner and overnight. (B, D) | |
| June 19 Thu | Nafplion – Mycenae – Epidaurus |
| After breakfast we drive to Mycenae, where we will visit the Mycenaean Palace and the Tomb of King Agamemnon). We then drive to Epidaurus to see the ruins of the largest ancient theatre in whole Greece with the remarkable acoustics. I Dinner and overnight at hotel Park in Nafplion. (B,D) | |
| June 20 Fri | Nafplion - Olympia |
| Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Depart from Nafplion and drive westwards in the Peloponnese. After a brief stop, we continue on to Olympia to visit the archaeological museum. Check in to Hotel Olympion Asty for dinner and overnight in Olympia. (B,D) | |
| June 21 Sat | Olympia – Delphi |
| After breakfast, visit to the museum of Olympia and then 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 at a local restaurant. Overnight at hotel. (B,D) | |
| June 22 Sun | Delphi |
| Delphi was considered the center 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 Aghias. Free time in Delphi. Dinner at local restaurant and overnight at the Parnassos Hotel (B,D) | |
| June 23 Mon | Delphi - Ossios Loucas - Athens |
| Morning departure from Delphi. Visit to Ossios Loucas monastery. In the afternoon check-in to <i>Philippos</i> Hotel. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B,D) | |
| June 24 Tue | Athens – Free Day |
| Enjoy your day in Athens. Dinner and overnight in Athens at <i>Philippos</i> hotel. (B,D) | |
| June 25 Wed | Athens Departure |
| Escorted private bus transfer to Athens International Airport for departure flight (B) | |

| Program Fee |
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| <p>\$3750</p> |
| 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 airfare Samos–Athens one way ticket • 4 nights Istanbul Sultanahmet Hotel or similar • 2 nights Assos Kervansaray Hotel or similar • 2 nights Izmir Movenpick or similar • 1 night Pamukkale Doğa Thermal or similar • 4 nights Kusadası Charisma Hotel or similar • 3 nights Hydrele Beach Hotel Samos HB or similar • 3 nights Herodian Hotel in Athens HB or similar • 2 nights Park Hotel in Nafplion HB or similar • 1 night Olympion Asty Hotel in Olympia HB or similar • 2 nights Parnassos in Delphi BB or similar • 2 nights Philippos Hotel in Athens HB or similar • Daily breakfasts at the hotels • 26 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 and including 1 dinner at outside restaurant in Athens June 15. • 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 May 29, arriving in Istanbul May 30 and departing Athens June 25. • All lunches and drinks at all meals. • All personal expenses, insurance, any other service which are not mentioned above |
| Interest Meetings |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 17 and 23 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm in Morrison Hall 102 |