







# FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL

# **DAY 1: ARRIVAL – ATHENS**

Arrival at Athens airport and transfer to the center of Athens, the capital of Greece- birthplace of democracy and philosophy – and to your hotel for check in and overnight.

## **DAY 2: ATHENS SIGHTSEEING**

Breakfast at hotel and depart to see the centre of the city, the Constitution Square (Syntagma), the House of Parliament, the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier, Academy-University-National library, Hadrian's Arch, the Temple of Olympian Zeus and photo stop at the Panathenean Stadium, where the first Modern Olympic Games in 1896 were held. On Acropolis visit the architectural masterpieces of Golden Age of Athens: The Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion and finally the Parthenon "the harmony between material and spirit", the monument that "puts order in mind". Then visit Mars Hill Then visit Mars Hill and continue tour in Plaka with some free time to walk around on your pace. Then transfer back to hotel for overnight.

## **DAY 3: ATHENS - THESSALONIKI**

After breakfast depart to Thessaloniki via highway; start tour by viewing the White Tower, an historical landmark before continuing on to visit the Archaeological Museum which houses interesting finds from the Archaic, Classical and Roman periods, with findings of Sindos area and a stunning exhibition of golden jewels. Further visit of St. Demetrios Basilica which was erected in the 5th century AD. The five aisled basilica suffered a tragic fire in the year 1917 but was later restored in 1948. Marvel at the beautiful mosaics, dating back from the 5th to 9th Centuries. Drive along the modern Egnatia street and view the Arch of Gallerius and St. George's Rotonda. The tour will end with a short stop at the well preserved Byzantine Basilica of St. Sophia, an 8th Century structure, rich in mosaics and frescoes. Transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

# DAY 4: PHILIPPI – KAVALA

After breakfast depart for full day excursion starting with a tour of the area to view the St. Sylas Monastery named after one of St. Paul's companions. Proceed to St. Lydia's Baptistery where the first Christian Lady of Europe was baptized and continue to the Archaeological Site of Philippi, founded by Philip II King of Macedonia. It was here too where St. Paul set foot on Europe during his second missionary journey, establishing a thriving Christian church. The ruins include the Forum Romanum with its Basilica, St. Paul's Prison and the Theater. The famous road Egnatia, which once ran from Adriatic Sea to Constantinople, passed by this city. Continue our drive to Amphipolis and view the Lion Statue. Return to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight at your hotel.











#### DAY 5: THESSALONIKI – VERIA – KALAMBAKA

After breakfast at hotel, depart to Veria to visit the stone building of the Synagogue from 1850 a.d. and continue for a short visit at St. Paul's Tribune where the 3 steps in situ and the modern mosaic. Drive on to Kalambaka, a small town at the foot of the astonishing complex of Meteora, gigantic rocks. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

#### DAY 6: KALAMBAKA – DELPHI - ATHENS

After breakfast at hotel, depart to visit Meteora - among striking scenery, perched on top of huge rocks which seem to be suspended in mid-air, stand ageless Monasteries, where you can see exquisite specimens of Byzantine art. Continue to Delphi for dinner and overnight at your hotel. After lunch at local restaurant in Kalambaka, depart to visit Delphi - once believed as the centre, "Naval" of the Earth, is the home of the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios. You will also visit the Treasury of the Athenians and Delphi Museum, which hosts valuable pieces of art like the famous bronze charioteer. Drive to Arachova, a small picturesque village famous for its traditional dairy products, hand woven colorful rugs and carpets (short stop). Drive to Athens for overnight at the hotel.

#### **DAY 8: ATHENS - CORINTH**

Breakfast at hotel and depart for a morning tour - drive south west until we reach the Corinth Canal which connects the Aegean sea with the Ionian sea (photo stop). Continue to visit Ancient Corinth where St. Paul lived and preached for two years. The remains of the city, which include the Agora (market place) and Apollo's Temple (6th century B.C) clearly show how rich and important Corinth was in ancient times. A short stop at the site of the ancient port of Kehries, where St. Paul disembarked, will conclude the visit. Return to Athens and your hotel for some rest. Later in the evening transfer to Plaka for local dinner at traditional restaurant with music. Return to the hotel for overnight.

#### **DAY 9: ATHENS - DEPARTURE**

Breakfast at hotel and check out. At indicated time transfer from hotel to airport for departure.

# Contact us



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