



Footsteps *of* Sts. Paul & John *in Greece & Turkey*

February 16 - 27, 2025

12 Day Pilgrimage with Fr. Stephen Hauck of St. Martin de Porres Church



For information or to make a reservation, contact:
Rebecca Jacobsen | Cruise Planners
310-707-7584 | rjacobsen@cruiseplanners.com



ITINERARY



February 16 – Depart the USA

Your pilgrimage begins as you board your international flight to Istanbul.

February 17 – Arrive in Istanbul

Upon arrival, you will be met by our airport representative. Enjoy a Bosphorus cruise and dinner. You will glide beneath some of the city's famous bridges and sail past some of Istanbul's more colorful neighborhoods and peaceful suburbs. Your boat will take you past castles and quaint fishing villages. Transfer to your hotel in Istanbul for dinner and your overnight stay. (D)

February 18 – Istanbul

Celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Antonio di Padova. The bejeweled capital of Istanbul sits between two continents and is home to 450 mosques. You will visit the famous Blue Mosque with its six minarets and sparkling interior. Walk through Hagia Sophia, which was the largest church in Christendom for 1000 years, built by Justinian (532-537 AD) and visit the Sunken Palace and Basilica Cistern also built by Justinian. The church has 107 columns, fossil-embedded, white marble floors, and beautiful glass mosaics. Enjoy the aroma of cinnamon, cloves, thyme, and other exotic spices as you explore the Grand Bazaar. Over 4,000 shops sell everything from herbs to gold. Later, you will visit the eastern or Asian part of Istanbul. You will see the Byzantine city walls, the Golden Horn, and the world-famous mosaics of the Kariye Church. Special dinner with music and/or dancing tonight. (B, D)



February 19 – Fly to Izmir / Ephesus

Fly to Izmir this morning. Drive to Mount Koressos located behind the ancient city of Ephesus, where you will visit the house where the Virgin Mary is believed to have spent her last days, the home of St. John. There will be time for Mass, prayer and reflection before traveling back downhill to Ephesus, where you will enjoy a guided walking tour through one of the most magnificent excavations in the world. See the Great Theatre where St. Paul preached, which is the largest theatre in antiquity, having a capacity of 24,000 people, and visit the Terrace Houses exhibit. Just outside Ephesus, view the Basilica of St. John, which was erected over his grave in the 6th century AD by Emperor Justinian. (B, D)

February 20 – Patmos

Journey to the island of Patmos, where we will enjoy a short ride up to the village of Chora, where the monastery of St. John is located. Visit the courtyard, the church with its outstanding frescoes, and a small museum, which houses ancient books and manuscripts, mosaics, icons, splendid medieval textiles and vestments, as well as jewelry. Return to your motorcoach and continue on to the nearby Grotto of the Apocalypse, where the Apostle, St. John, wrote the Book of Revelations during his exile by the Roman State. Return to the port of Scala and enjoy some free time in this quaint and picturesque harbor before boarding the ship to sail back to Kusadasi. (B, D)

February 21 – Pergamum / Fly to Thessaloniki

Return to St. John's home for Mass before traveling north to Pergamum, one of the seven churches mentioned in Revelations (Rev. 2:12). It displeased the Lord because it tolerated the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which Christ hated (Rev. 2:13-17). The fabled acropolis towers 1,000 feet above the town and commands a spectacular panorama. As you pass through the Royal Gates, you will enter one of the great centers of classic Greek culture. You will see the foundations of the Temple of Zeus, the Temple of Athena, and the ruins of the library, which once held 200,000 parchment volumes. You will see the remains of the Temple of Trajan, the grand theatre, the gymnasium, and the health center (Aesclepiion). Fly to Istanbul and on to Thessaloniki this evening. (B, D)

February 22 – Amphipolis / Philippi / Neapolis

Follow in the footsteps of St. Paul and St. Silas to Amphipolis and explore the ruins of the many Christian basilicas there. In Philippi is a baptismal site commemorating where God opened the heart of St. Lydia (a seller of purple from Thyatira) to hear the words of St. Paul (Acts 16:13-15). Lydia and her household were the first Christian converts



baptized on European soil. View the Roman-era crypt thought to have served as a prison for the Apostle Paul, and explore Philippi's famous acropolis, marketplace, the Basilica of St. Paul, and theater. Today's last stop is Neapolis (Kavala), one of Greece's most picturesque mainland ports where St. Paul landed with his disciples, St. Timothy and St. Silas. See the Roman aqueduct and acropolis before returning to Thessaloniki for dinner and your overnight stay. (B, D)

Feb. 23 – Thessaloniki / Veria

Discover Thessaloniki, where St. Paul was accused of turning the world upside down with his preaching of Christ (Acts 17:3-6). As you explore St. George's Basilica, believed to be built over the synagogue where St. Paul preached, reflect on the two epistles the Apostle St. Paul wrote to the Thessalonian church here. Stroll through the archaeological museum and the beautiful basilicas of St. Sophia and St. Demetrios. St. Demetrios is dedicated to a distinguished Roman proconsul martyred for his Christian faith. Along the Via Egnatia stands the Galerius Arch, and you can look out over the second-largest city in Greece from the Old City Ramparts, some dating back to Roman times. Follow the path of St. Paul when he fled Thessaloniki for the safety of Veria (Berea), where Jews and some honorable Greeks accepted the new faith (Act 17:10-12). Continue to Kalabaka for dinner and your overnight stay. (B, D)

February 24 – Meteora

As you visit the rock forest of Meteora ("in the heavens above") in western Thessaly, imagine St. Paul walking that treacherous terrain on his missionary journey. Gaze up at the breathtaking Byzantine monasteries spectacularly perched on soaring, sheer-sided gray sandstone pillars. In the 13th century, monks sought refuge in cliffside caves before fleeing higher to build the original wooden shelters that later became these monasteries. Travel to scenic Delphi, the religious center of the ancient Greek world and marked by the conical stone called the omphalos ("navel"). Walk the Sacra Via to the Athenian treasury, theatre and the Temple of Apollo, where the oracle performed her prophetic rituals. As you consider the incredible amount of pagan influence just in Delphi alone, you will gain a new appreciation for the tremendous spiritual opposition St. Paul faced in preaching the Gospel of Christ here. In the museum are many ancient treasures, including the 5th-century bronzed charioteer so detailed you can see his eyelashes. Continue to Athens for your overnight stay. (B, D)

February 25 – Corinth / Cenchreae

Tour the city of Corinth, where the Apostle Paul met fellow tentmakers Aquila and Priscilla and received a vision from the Lord saying, "I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city" (Acts 18:10). As Paul spoke, Crispus (chief ruler of the synagogue) and many others believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8), establishing the church at Corinth to whom Paul later wrote his two epistles. Discover the archaeological museum, marketplace, and temples. As you walk among the ruins, stand on the Bema, where the Apostle Paul stood before Gallio to face charges brought against him by the Jews. Stop briefly at the port town of Cenchreae, from which Paul later departed for Syria (Acts 18: 12-18). Return to Athens for dinner and your overnight stay. (B, D)

February 26 – Athens

Enjoy the rich architectural splendor of the ancient city of Athens as your guide introduces you to the world-renowned Acropolis, the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erechtheum. Stand on Mars Hill as the Apostle Paul did when he proclaimed, "I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:23). As you look upon the agora (ancient market place and center of Athenian public life), recall that this was where the Apostle Paul preached "Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:18) to the skeptical Athenians. Also see the House of Parliament, the Presidential Palace and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Visit to the New Acropolis Museum this afternoon. Dinner and overnight are spent in Athens. (B, D)

February 27 – Return to the USA

Starting at
\$3,699* LAND ONLY

YOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

Basic Tour & Guided Sightseeing, Admin. Fees, Entrance Fees,
Hotel Gratuities & Program Fees, Intra-European airfare
Daily Breakfast & Dinner, Deluxe Motorcoaches
First-Class Hotels & much more!

See back for pricing details



FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 4, 2025

PRICE TO BE DETERMINED

February 27 – Fly to Split / Medjugorje

Transfer to the airport to fly to Split. Your guide will meet you at the airport and take you to enjoy a luxurious dinner directly on the Adriatic Sea. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel in Medjugorje. (B, D)

February 28 – Medjugorje

During your stay in peaceful Medjugorje, you will meet and share your faith with thousands of pilgrims from all over the world. At 10 AM, you will assemble at St. James Church for the English-language Mass. With your local guide, climb the Cross Mountain, and then you can climb the Apparition Hill, where the young visionaries first encountered Our Lady. Touch and pray before the cross, commemorating the spot where Mary appeared to the visionaries. Dinner will be at your hotel this evening. After dinner, you can join the villages and the pilgrims for the evening Croatia Mass and the blessing of the sick. (B, D)

March 1 – Medjugorje

Enjoy a day to reflect and pray in Medjugorje today. Breakfast and dinner will be served at your hotel. (B, D)

March 2 – Dubrovnik

You can attend Mass in Medjugorje on your own before returning to Croatia to enjoy a tour of Dubrovnik, the "Pearl of the Adriatic." We will visit the Basilica of St. Blaise, the patron saint of Dubrovnik, the medieval walls, the historical buildings, and one of the world's oldest pharmacies. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in this fascinating city. (B, D)

March 3 – Dubrovnik / Frankfurt

Enjoy free time in Dubrovnik this morning. After lunch, transfer to the airport and fly to Frankfurt. Overnight in Frankfurt. (B, D)

March 4 – Return to the USA

Transfer to the Frankfurt airport for your return flight home.

Guests taking an extension may be on a different flight than their group and/or traveling companion.

TRAVEL REGISTRATION FORM

Please mail completed form with payment and passport copy to:

Rebecca Jacobsen | Cruise Planners
2116 Olivereta Dr - Little Elm, TX 75068
310-707-7584 | rjacobsen@cruiseplanners.com

Departure City: _____ Departure Date: **02/16/25 (J)**

First, Middle & Last Name must be submitted as it appears on your passport:

Guest 1: First Name: _____ (Name Tag:)

Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Title: _____

Street Address: _____ P.O. Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: ____/____/____ State of Birth: _____ Sex: M F

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

How did you learn about this tour? _____

Tour Selection: Basic Program Only Add Medjugorje Extension

Guest 2: First Name: _____ (Name Tag:)

Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Title: _____

Street Address: _____ P.O. Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: ____/____/____ State of Birth: _____ Sex: M F

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

How did you learn about this tour? _____

Tour Selection: Basic Program Only Add Medjugorje Extension

Roommate(s): _____

If No Roommate: Try to Match Me Single Room (availability limited - \$699)

\$300 DEPOSIT PER PERSON REQUIRED WITH REGISTRATION
FINAL PAYMENT DUE NOVEMBER 20, 2024

via check # _____ via credit card (circle): **VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX**

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

Name on Card: _____ CVN: _____

PASSENGER AGREEMENT

By signing and submitting the registration form, I/we certify that I/we have read Passenger Agreement, Program Conditions, and Statements of Responsibility of the brochure, understand its content, and agree to its terms including but not limited to the potential for price increases that may apply before payment in full has been received as set forth in the Program Conditions and Statements of Responsibility of the brochure and potential price increases after payment in full has been received due to government imposed taxes and fees.

Guest 1 Signature: _____

Guest 2 Signature: _____

Tour: XG25 Date: 02/16/25 Code: J ID: 27818 V.006 06/25/24

PROGRAM CONDITIONS

INCLUDED IN PRICE:

- Deluxe motorcoaches • Intra-European airfare • 1st class hotels • Guided sightseeing • Entrance fees to sites visited (as listed in itinerary)
- Breakfast & dinner daily • Hotel gratuities • Program fees • Administrative Fee

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

- Round-trip international airfare • Tips for guide (\$6/day) & driver (\$3/day): will be collected by your bus captain on tour • Optional sightseeing as listed in the brochure • Miscellaneous fees i.e. individual transfers; passports, laundry, lunches, beverages & baggage fees • Visas for non-US citizens • Visas and Transfers for all ground only passengers • Optional Travel Protection Program (see premium schedule) • Fuel surcharges • Government Taxes \$98 (Increases in government tax and fees are subject to change)

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Price is per person based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. While we will try to match roommates, we cannot guarantee a roommate will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 30 days prior to departure and, if one is not available or you request a single room, the following charges apply: \$699 during the basic tour; **\$350 for Medjugorje Extension**

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Deposit	Payment Amount	Due Date
Registration Deposit	\$300	At time of registration
Final Payment	Full payment	Due 11/20/24 If paid after the due date, a late payment fee of \$100 will be assessed.

REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED after November 20, 2024:

We welcome registrations after 11/20/24. Registrations received between 11/21/24 - 12/03/24 will incur a fee starting at \$200 per person. Registrations received between 12/04/24 - 12/18/24 will incur a fee starting at \$400 per person. Registrations received after 12/19/24 will incur an additional fee based on air availability. Additional fees will be advised upon registration. Additional fees will be advised upon registration.

CANCELLATION:

100% of Cancellation Fees are covered by the optional Travel Protection Program, provided premium has been paid and reason for cancellation is coverable. Those who do not take travel protection should be aware of the following per-person cancellation penalties: From day of registration to 105 days prior to departure, you will be charged the \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee plus any airline fees. Additionally, thereafter, you will be charged any airline penalties and a single room supplement if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single plus the following per-person charges: 104-60 days = \$400; 59-45 days = \$600; 44-31 days = 40% of total cost; 30 days to day of departure = 100% of total cost. Submit cancellation in writing. On or after day of departure, there will be no refund for any services not used.

STATEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

We do not accept responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air schedules, hotel overbookings, other hotel related problems or causes, and/or travel supplier cancellations or postponements. Travel suppliers include all tour operators, cruise lines, airlines, hotels, bus companies, entertainment venues, and any other travel supplier used to operate the tour. All such losses or expenses will be the responsibility of the passenger. We reserve the right to make adjustments to the itinerary as deemed desirable by us, and we reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. If a tour is canceled beyond the control of us, we will provide a refund or a future travel credit to be used two years from the date of issuance for the value of all funds paid by the passenger less nonrefundable travel supplier prepaid deposits, travel supplier change fees, nonrefundable travel protection premiums, and a \$150 administration fee.

FIT TO TRAVEL STATEMENT:

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged and space limitations on tour buses, wheelchairs and scooters cannot be accommodated. Those needing oxygen or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting in their experiences. Persons using C-pap machines requiring distilled water will need to inform us ahead of time, so we can work with local operators to prepare as it is not always available. We reserve the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in our sole judgment, incapable of group travel without causing undue demands upon the staff or other tour participants. Accessible rooms/cabins are limited and subject to confirmation after receiving the passenger's written request. If you have questions, please contact us for more details.

PASSPORT INFORMATION:

Passport information must be submitted to our office no later than Due upon registration. Failure to provide your passport information to our office by this date may result in change fees or denial of travel. Discrepancies in information may result in change fees, delays in receiving travel documents for your trip, or denial of travel. Any fees incurred due to discrepancies are the responsibility of the passenger. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months after the return date.

PRICE INCREASES:

All prices quoted in this brochure are subject to change prior to payment in full due to currency fluctuations, fuel surcharge increases, government taxes and fees increases or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, you may be subject to a price increase after payment in full has been received due to potential government imposed taxes and fees.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. While we will make every effort to ensure you will see all sites listed in this brochure, the availability of sites, order of sites and/or days and number of days may be altered to accommodate changes in airline, hotel schedules, and local conditions. No changes to the itinerary are effective unless approved in writing and signed by an authorized officer of the tour operator. Except as stated herein, no other person is authorized to cancel, modify or vary the tour arrangements or to make any representation of warranty concerning the tour.

Due to airline schedules, some participants may receive one or two extra leisure days at a nominal per day charge and some extensions may not be available on all departure dates. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$125 per night; single rooms \$175 per night. Meals for extra nights are not included.

VALIDITY DATE:

This brochure is valid until 12/25/24. Registrations will still be accepted after the validity date.

RELEASE INFORMATION:

Payment of deposit indicates permission for us or our agents to record the registrant's participation and appearance on video tape, audio tape, film, photograph, or any other medium and to use the registrant's name, likeness, voice, comments, submitted documentation, written papers, and/or biographical material without restrictions or limitation for any advertising, marketing, publicity, educational or promotional purpose which we or our agents deem appropriate, unless the registrant or guardian otherwise notifies us in writing prior to departure.

Enrollment in, payment of deposit and/or acceptance of final documents, vouchers, or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the Passenger Agreement and Program Conditions of the brochure. Prices are based on tariffs in effect as of January 1 of the previous year and are subject to adjustment without notice in the event of any change or currency fluctuation.

Except where otherwise stated, we act only as agent for the relevant supplier in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall we be liable for failure by any such supplier to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. **The passenger agrees that we assume no liability for injury, death, damage, loss, theft, accident, delay, any lost or damaged luggage, or irregularity which may occur by reason of any negligent or willful act or omission of any suppliers of service.**

We do not own or operate any of the suppliers of services to your tour. Similarly without limiting the foregoing, passenger agrees to hold us harmless for any defect in any vehicle, plane, boat, bus, car, van or other vehicle, act of war or insurrection, terrorist activity, revolt or other civil uprising, military action, strikes or labor unrest or any Act of God or for any other act of any third party.

