

# **Steps of Paul Tour: Greece, Turkey, & Italy**

**April 26 – May 9, 2025**

## **DAY 1- Saturday, April 26, 2025: DEPART MSP**

Your journey to the Biblical land of Greece, Turkey, and Italy begins!

## **DAY 2- Sunday, April 27, 2025: ARRIVAL TO ATHENS, GREECE**

Arrive at Athens International Airport, meet with our assistant, and transfer to the hotel. Athens is a city with a history of more than 5,000 years. Temples, churches, and museums blend with neoclassical buildings, quaint shops, and cafes, in a vibrant cosmopolitan bustle that will stimulate your senses and inspire your mind!

Overnight in Athens- Titania Hotel ([www.titania.gr](http://www.titania.gr))

## **DAY 3- Monday, April 28, 2025: ACROPOLIS – MARS’ HILL – ANCIENT AGORA**

In the morning, we climb up to the marble-capped Acropolis Hill and visit the famous Parthenon and Erechtheion Temples. From the top of the hill, we will also see the Odeon of Heroes Atticus. Then walk to nearby Mars' Hill (Areopagus) (Acts 17:22) where Paul delivered his soul-stirring sermon to the giants of philosophy, logic, and learning and spoke about the inscription: “to an unknown god”. While driving through the main streets of Athens, we have an opportunity to see other places of interest such as the University, the Academy, the National Library, the Temple of Zeus, the Panathenian Stadium, Omonia Square, Constitution Square, and the Royal Palace. We will see the Roman Cathedral of St Dennis dedicated to Dionysius “Some men joined him and believed, among whom was Dionysius...” (Act 17:34).

After lunch, we will visit the ancient Agora. The Agora, now in ruins, was formerly the commercial hub of ancient Athens and the birthplace of politics and philosophy. Here the Apostle Paul reasoned with the most skeptical audience he met during his travels (Acts 17:16-21). Our tour ends with a panoramic sightseeing of the city highlights.

Overnight in Athens- Titania Hotel ([www.titania.gr](http://www.titania.gr))

## **DAY 4- Tuesday, April 29, 2025: ANCIENT CORINTH**

Today we depart for our morning tour out of Athens. Driving along the Saronic Gulf, we will enjoy a quick photo stop at the historic Corinth Canal. Continue to the Corinth archaeological site (Acts 18:1-18) where the Apostle Paul lived and worked, establishing a thriving church, subsequently sending two of his epistles, now part of the New Testament. Here, we see all the sites associated with his ministry: the Agora, the Temple of Apollo, the Roman Odeon, the Bema, and Gallio’s Seat. We then will visit the small local archaeological museum. After lunch, we pass the ancient port of Cenchrea, before we start the drive back to Athens.

Overnight in Athens- Titania Hotel ([www.titania.gr](http://www.titania.gr))

## **DAY 5- Wednesday, April 30, 2025: ATHENS – FLIGHT TO THESSALONIKI**

We have a morning transfer to the Athens airport and fly to Thessaloniki, the second largest city in Greece. Enjoy a city tour of Thessalonica (Acts 17:1) where Paul went immediately to the synagogue and for three Saturdays explained the prophecies of the Old Testament to Jews and Greeks. According to the Book of Acts, many Greeks and even many Greek chief women believed (Acts 17:1-4). We go to the upper Old City Walls, then drive along the Egnatian Way to see the Triumphal Arch of Galerius and the Rotunda.

Overnight in Thessaloniki- Hotel Electra Palace ([www.electrahotels.gr/hotels/electra-palace-thessaloniki](http://www.electrahotels.gr/hotels/electra-palace-thessaloniki))

**DAY 6- Thursday, May 1, 2025: PHILIPPI – KAVALA – THESSALONIKI**

On our way to Philippi, we drive by the Lion Statue of Amphipolis (a short stop for photos). We visit Philippi, the site where Paul established a strong church and sent his letter (Acts 16:9-33). We see the river where Lydia is said to have been baptized, the ruins of a prison where the Apostle Paul and Syllas had been kept, the Agora, the 5th and 6th-century Basilica, and the Theater. After the visit, we continue to Kavala, the ancient port of Neapolis (Acts 16:11) where we enjoy a panoramic tour before returning to Thessalonica.

Overnight in Thessaloniki- Hotel Electra Palace ([www.electrahotels.gr/hotels/electra-palace-thessaloniki](http://www.electrahotels.gr/hotels/electra-palace-thessaloniki))

**DAY 7- Friday, May 2, 2025: THESSALONIKI – FLIGHT TO IZMIR, TURKEY**

Transfer to Thessaloniki airport and take a morning flight to Izmir, Turkey. Our representative will meet you at the airport and escort you to the hotel.

Overnight in Izmir- Movenpick Hotel ([www.movenpick.accor.com/en/europe/turkey/izmir/hotel-izmir.html](http://www.movenpick.accor.com/en/europe/turkey/izmir/hotel-izmir.html))

**DAY 8- Saturday, May 3, 2025: PERGAMUM – THYATIRA – IZMIR**

Drive to Pergamum, modern-day Bergama [Rev. 1:11; 2:12]. Explore the impressive Acropolis, the steepest theater in the world, and the Asklepion. See the Altar of Zeus mentioned as the “Throne of Satan” in the book of Revelation. Continue to Thyatira (Akhisar) [Rev. 1:11; 2:18-24; Acts 16:14] and visit the remains of the Basilica. Enjoy a panoramic drive through Smyrna, the third largest city in Turkey and one of the sites of the Seven Churches of Revelation [Rev. 2:12-17].

Overnight in Izmir- Movenpick Hotel ([www.movenpick.accor.com/en/europe/turkey/izmir/hotel-izmir.html](http://www.movenpick.accor.com/en/europe/turkey/izmir/hotel-izmir.html))

**DAY 9- Sunday, May 4, 2025: SARDIS – PHILADELPHIA - LAODICEA – HIERAPOLIS**

An early morning start and first visit is Sardis (presently Sart) [Rev. 1:11; 3:1-4], one of the most picturesque sites of the Seven Churches. We visit the great Temple of Artemis and the Temple of Cybele. In Philadelphia (Alasehir) [Rev. 1:11; 3:7], we will see the remains of the Byzantine Basilica and 11th-century frescoes. Proceed to Laodicea (Denizli) [Rev. 1:11; 3:14; Col. 2:1; 4:13-16], where we see the ancient theater and visit the Gate of Domitian, and the Arcadian Way among other monuments. Today’s tour ends with a visit to Hierapolis (Pamukkale) [Col. 4:13] where ancient hot springs cascade over cliffs, forming stalactites and pools.

Overnight in Hierapolis- Doga Thermal Hotel ([www.dogathermalhotel.com](http://www.dogathermalhotel.com))

**DAY 10- Monday, May 5, 2025: EPHEBUS – KUSADASI**

Drive to Ephesus (Acts 18:19-21) and visit the ancient city and the Basilica of St. John. The Apostle Paul preached to the Ephesians and lived here for three years. We tour the spectacular ruins where excavations continue in this once great and important city, which was founded in the 10th century BC.

Overnight in Kusadasi- Charisma Deluxe Hotel ([www.charismahotel.com/kusadasi](http://www.charismahotel.com/kusadasi))

**DAY 11- Tuesday, May 6, 2025: FLIGHT TO ROME**

Transfer to Izmir airport for an early flight to Rome. Upon arrival at the airport, meet the tour escort and transfer to the close site of Ostia Antica. This was the port of ancient Rome. A site still in excavations, a place so well preserved to allow, via its vestiges, its history, and its art, to plunge a few moments into Roman antiquity.

We then head to Rome's City center for a walking tour in the Baroque Rome, tour inside the Pantheon, the Trevi Fountain, and Piazza Navona before checking into our hotel.

Overnight in Rome- Mediterraneo Hotel ([www.romehotelmediterraneo.it](http://www.romehotelmediterraneo.it))

**DAY 12- Wednesday, May 7, 2025: ROME**

In the morning we will visit the Vatican Museums including the famous Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's magnificent ceiling. Our next stop is the Basilica of St. Peter, the largest church in the world, which overlooks the enormous St. Peter's Square, the site where Peter was crucified upside-down. We continue to the Catacombs (San Callisto, Santa Domitilla, San Sebastiano) the burial tunnels of Rome's early Christians. We explore tunnels and see the carvings on the walls from early Christians.

We will then travel a short distance along the Appian Way (Via Appia Antica) with a stop at the church of Domine Quo Vadis, the same road that the Apostle Paul traveled as a prisoner entering Rome.

Overnight in Rome- Mediterraneo Hotel ([www.romehotelmediterraneo.it](http://www.romehotelmediterraneo.it))

**DAY 13- Thursday, May 8, 2025: ROME**

We start our day with a visit to the Roman and Imperial Forum with the Mamertine Prison (Acts 27-28). This is the place where Paul was held before his execution. Continue to the Colosseum for a tour and see the Arch of Titus (Matthew 24:1-2). The afternoon will be at your leisure, and dinner will be on your own at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Rome- Mediterraneo Hotel ([www.romehotelmediterraneo.it](http://www.romehotelmediterraneo.it))

**DAY 14- Friday, May 9, 2025: DEPART FOR HOME**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Transfer to Rome Airport for your flight back home.