

The Seven Churches of Revelation & Greek Islands

A 13-Day Pilgrimage to Istanbul, Turkey, and Greece
with Fr. Mario Valencia
from September 7th, 2027 - September 19th, 2027

Day 1

Depart from your local international airport. Enjoy onboard meals and prepare for your pilgrimage ahead. Overnight flight to Istanbul.

Day 2

Welcome to Istanbul, Turkey! Your private assistant, welcoming you at the arrival hall of the International Terminal of Istanbul Airport, holding a sign bearing your name, will escort you to your hotel for check-in and relaxation. Dinner and overnight in the Istanbul hotel.

Day 3

After breakfast, you begin your exploration of fascinating Istanbul with the priceless pieces of history available at your doorstep. You begin at the remains of the Hippodrome. The next stop will be the Basilica of Saint Sophia, one of the largest Christian shrines ever built in history. Then, you see the serene Blue Mosque, one of Istanbul's most venerable monuments. Continue with the magnificent Topkapı Palace, the residence of the sultans for almost three centuries. We will visit the Hagia Irene. Then you will visit the Grand Bazaar (Kapalı Carsi) – Grand Bazaar is one of the earliest shopping malls ever built in history, which maintains its charm and volume of business to the modern day with its indoor and outdoor sections. Dinner and overnight in the Istanbul hotel.

Day 4

After breakfast we drove to Iznik for a visit. Late afternoon we continued our drive to Bursa. Dinner and overnight at a hotel in Bursa.

Day 5

After breakfast, we will drive to Pergamum to visit the Askleion and the Acropolis. Pergamon was a very important attraction center for those who wanted to study, to practice, to heal, and to present offerings to the gods and goddesses. Today's tour is a trip to western Anatolia. After we finish the visits around Pergamum, we drive to Izmir. Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Izmir.

Day 6

After breakfast at the hotel. We will drive to Thyateira. Then continue to Sardis. Our last stop will be Philadelphia. Dinner and overnight stay in Pamukkale Hotel.

Day 7

Today, you will visit Hierapolis and Laodicea. Once you reach the lower slopes of the hills that rise behind the site, you will note one of the best preserved Roman Theatres of the world of archaeology. Continue to Laodicea, where the ruins of one of the seven biblical churches of Asia remain. After Laodicea, we will drive to Kusadasi. Dinner and overnight stay in the Kusadasi Hotel.

Day 8

After breakfast at the hotel. We will drive to Ephesus. You will start your Ephesus excursion at the upper Magnesia Gate, and work your way down through the city, ending near the ancient Harbor. Along the way, you will see the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the Thermal Baths of Scholastic, the Great Theater, and the Arcadian Way. After the Ephesus visit, we will return to Kusadasi and board the cruise to Patmos. Visit the Holy Cave of the Apocalypse, the Grotto of the Revelation, and the Monastery of St. John. Overnight onboard.



Day 9

Early morning arrival in Rhodes. This fortified stronghold was built by a Crusading Order that originated from Palestine. After your stroll, enjoy the cosmopolitan atmosphere from one of the elegant cafes on the yacht harbor, or take an optional excursion to visit the Temple of Athena on the majestic, rocky Acropolis of Lindos, with the blue Aegean beneath it and the sophisticated, whitewashed artists' colony at its foot. Overnight onboard.



Day 11

After disembarkation, begin a tour of Athens, the world's oldest city. Visit the Acropolis, home to the Parthenon, Erechtheion, and Propylaea. Continue to Mars Hill, where Saint Paul preached to the Athenians (Acts 17:22), and view the ancient Agora, the center of political, commercial, and religious life. Drive through the city to see Syntagma Square and the House of Parliament, the University of Athens, the National Library, and the Panathenaic Stadium, site of the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. End with a guided walk through the charming Plaka district before dinner and an overnight stay in Athens.



Day 10

This morning, we woke up in Heraklion, Crete, the home of the great Minoan Civilization. Optional: Visit the Knossos excavations dating back to 4000 B.C. and the Palace. Return to our cruise ship to sail to Santorini for a visit to this interesting island.

Optional: Enjoy a short trip by local boat to Athenios Harbor, where we board our motorcoach to visit Oia Village, built on the caldera rim, which is an excellent example of Cycladic architecture. Proceed through the beautiful countryside to Fira. Enjoy the town at leisure or perhaps relax over a coffee as you gaze down upon Kamenes. Afterwards, return to the small pier of Scala by cable car or mule, where the vessel's tenders will take you back to the ship. Overnight onboard our cruise ship.



Day 12

Enjoy a free day in the city of Athens. Walk around, shop, relax and explore Athens on your own pace. Dinner and overnight in Athens.



Day 13

Early this morning, we transfer to the airport and departed on our flight back home with pleasant memories of the lands just visited.

Mass/Service will be celebrated daily if possible

Tipping is an important part of the earnings for your team. To ensure a smooth and equitable process, we will be collecting a total of \$18.00 per person per day. This amount is distributed as follows: Tour Escort: \$8.00 per person per day, Bus Driver: \$5.00 per person per day, Local Guides: \$3.00 per person per day, Restaurant Service Staff: \$2.00 per person per day. We appreciate your cooperation and generosity in recognizing the hard work and dedication of the team who will be assisting you throughout your journey.



\$5,495 per person

on double occupancy basis

**\$995 extra per single room*

**\$500 extra per triple room*

The price does NOT include:

- Trip cancellation protection (recommended)
- Passport & visa costs, if any
- Gratuities to the tour manager, guides, and driver
- Items of personal nature (hotel extras, laundry, phone calls)
- Meals not specific in the program (lunch, snacks, etc.)
- Room service meals in hotel (beverages, alcohol, etc.)
- Items not specifically mentioned above
- Trip Insurance / Protection Plan
- Transportation to and from USA airport
- Professional pictures taken
- Food purchased at the airport

The price includes:

- Round trip airfare, including all airlines/tax fuel surcharges
- Deluxe Accommodation hotels
- All hotels taxes
- 2 meal daily (Breakfast and Dinner) (including meals on plane)
- Land transportation by deluxe motor coach
- European Transformer Adapter (if requested)
- 4-night cruise excursion from Kusadasi
- Comprehensive sightseeing with a bi-lingual licensed guide
- All entrance fees as per itinerary
- Daily Mass/Service (if requested)
- Whispers throughout the trip
- Portage at the hotel

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