**Total Advantage Travel & Tours presents...** 

# **GREECE: IN THE FOOTSTEPS ST. PAUL**

Featuring a 3-night Greek Islands & Türkiye cruise! September 24 – October 4, 2024





# For more information, please contact

Robert Townshend at Total Advantage Travel & Tours via 1-800-419-1635, (416) 240-7700, or <a href="mailto:robert@totaladvantage.com">robert@totaladvantage.com</a>.

TICO Licence #4374724



11 Days - Sept. 24 - Oct. 4, 2024

19 Meals: 9 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 7 Dinners

- Athens,
- Plaka, Athens Taverna Dinner Show,
- Corinth,
- The Acropolis, Mars Hill,
- 3-Night Cruise: Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Santorini,
- Thessaloniki,
- Kavala, Philippi, Meteora



# ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 - Overnight Flight

**Days 2, 3** – Crowne Plaza, Athens City Centre, Athens

**Days 4 - 6** - Celestyal Olympia Cruise, Athens

Day 7 - Famissi Eden Hotel, Kalambaka

**Days 8, 9** – Capsis Hotel Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki

**Day 10** – Holiday Inn Athens Attica, Athens

On some dates, alternate hotels may be used.



# Greece - In the Footsteps of Gt. Paul the Apostle ITINERARY

Day 1: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 - Overnight Flight

Paul the Apostle, the prolific writer of the New Testament letters, was one of the first Christian missionaries. Trace his journey through Greece and Turkey's ancient cities and pastoral countryside.

**Day 2: Wednesday, September 25, 2024** - Athens, Greece - Tour Begins

Your tour begins in Athens, Greece's lively capital. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner in the Plaka, Athens' historic district nestled at the foot of the Acropolis. Celebrate the beginning of a marvellous trip while feasting on local cuisine and fine wine in a traditional taverna, while Greek entertainment creates a beautiful ambiance around you. (D)

**Day 3: Thursday, September 26, 2024** - Athens - Corinth - Athens

This morning, travel to Corinth where Paul lived and preached for two years and also wrote 2 epistles. Explore ancient Corinth on a guided tour featuring the Agora, where Paul's trial by Gallio took place, and the Bema, where Paul was brought before the tribunal, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Back in Athens, see the hill of Areopagus (Mars Hill) – where Paul delivered his famous "Men of Athens" speech – and visit the incomparable Acropolis. The evening is yours to explore Greece's vibrant capital city. (B)

Day 4: Friday, September 27, 2024 - Athens - Piraeus\*

(Embarkation) - Mykonos

Embark on a 3-night cruise to the Greek Islands and Turkey.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served daily while on board. The island of Mykonos is your first stop. This charming, mountainous island is known for the hundreds of tiny chapels, whitewashed buildings, and beautiful windmills that dot its landscape. Don't miss Mykonos Town, following the mazes of narrow streets full of bustling activity. Enjoy free time to explore this island paradise. (B, L, D)



**Day 5: Saturday, September 28, 2024** - Kusadasi, Türkiye - Patmos, Greece

Visit the Turkish port of Kusadasi for an excursion to the ruins of Ephesus (UNESCO), where Paul the Apostle lived 3 years during his ministry. You'll also visit the Agora, the great theatre, and the stadium where chariot races and gladiatorial combats took place. Legend claims that Paul fought here against wild beasts. Visit the House of Mary, where the Virgin Mother spent her last days.

Continue your cruise to Patmos. Visit the Monastery of John and the Cave of the Apocalypse, where John the Evangelist wrote the Book of Revelation during his exile. (B, L, D)

**Day 6: Sunday, September 29, 2024** - Heraklion (Crete)\*\* - Santorini

Enjoy an excursion to the incredible open-air museum of the Minoan Palace of Knossos. Then, during your free time in Crete's largest city, enjoy a variety of museums and shopping, or visit a nearby winery to sample traditional Greek wine. Later, arrive on the fabled island of Santorini, known as the "Black Pearl of the Aegean." Enjoy time at leisure to explore this lovely port independently or purchase a ship excursion from the cruise line. (B, L, D)

Day 7 - Next page.



# ITINERARY Greece-In the Footsteps of St. Paul the Apostle



CONTINUED

Day 7: Monday, September 30, 2024 - Piraeus\* - Disembark Cruise Ship - Kalambaka
After an early morning disembarkation, travel north. Pause at Thermopylae is famous for its heroic defence against the Persian army by Leonidas. This afternoon, visit an icon-painting workshop and discover the ancient traditions behind the sacred images used in Orthodox Byzantine devotional tradition. Overnight in Kalambaka. (B, D)

**Day 8: Tuesday, October 1, 2024** - Kalambaka - Meteora - Thessaloniki

Marvel at the hanging monasteries of Meteora (UNESCO). These dark, sandstone pinnacles rise abruptly from the plain of Thessaly, with 6 historic monasteries perched upon their peaks. Beginning in the 10th century, hermits, monks, and ascetics sought solitude and spiritual solace in these dramatic crags. Visit two remarkable Meteora monasteries\*\*\*, which are renowned for their intricate construction and exquisite Byzantine art. Your day ends in Thessaloniki, Greece's second-largest city. Founded in 315 B.C., Thessaloniki was an early centre for Christianity. Paul visited and preached here during the winters of A.D. 49-50 and wrote 2 epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. (B, D)

Day 9: Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Thessaloniki - Kavala - Philippi - Thessaloniki
Travel to the coastal town of Kavala, where
Paul, accompanied by Silas, Luke and Timothy,
first set foot on European soil. In nearby
Philippi, Paul delivered his first sermon in
Europe, planting the seeds of Christianity. Join a
local expert for a guided tour of this historic
town featuring the archaeological sites and
monuments spanning the Ancient Roman and
Byzantine eras. See the dungeon where Paul
was held prisoner and the site where he
baptized Lydia, the first Christian in Europe. (B)

Day 10: Thursday, October 3, 2024 -

Thessaloniki - Athens

Proceed through the fertile Thessalian Valley and the plains of Central Greece to Athens, arriving in the late afternoon. This evening, celebrate the end of your spiritual journey during a farewell dinner at your hotel close to the airport. (B, D)

**Day 11: Friday, October 4, 2024** - Athens - Tour Ends

Return home inspired by the incredible, soothing landscapes and the words and deeds of St. Paul the Apostle. (B).









# **Book Now & Save \$250 Per Person:**

**Double** \$6,789\* Double \$7,039; Single \$8,339; Single \$8,089; Triple \$6,989 **Triple** \$6,739

# For bookings made after Mar 25, 2024 call for rates.

Included in Price: Port Charges, Round Trip Air from Toronto Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges of \$180 per person (subject to increase until paid in full), Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$649 per person \*All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

based on air inclusive package from Toronto (YYZ).



Book Now rates are valid until Mar 25, 2024, and valid on air-inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveller. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces is no problem for you. Walking four miles over a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). To access the Acropolis archeological site, you must climb about 30-40 uneven steps and walk over rugged terrain with loose stones and without railings. Accessing the Monasteries in Meteora requires climbing approximately 200 steps. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect longer days, with early mornings starting 7:00-7:30 am and some late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your adventure. This level is not a fit for travellers who require mobility assistance devices. Before full payment for the program, the cruise line reserves the right to impose a supplemental fuel charge. Should this occur, you will be notified of the additional

Because of flight schedules, a pre or post-night may be required at an additional cost.

On Mykonos Island, round-trip transfers by bus to/from the ship to/from Mykonos Town are included in the land price of the program.

Please remember that many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions. For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at the time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

# PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP: PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Foreign governments require documentation for all trips outside Canada. You should visit Global Affairs Canada at https://travel.gc.ca/ for general information about passports and visa requirements. Some countries require a visa in addition to a valid passport for entry, so it is essential that you check with the appropriate foreign consulate or embassy for specific entry requirements and details you need to know regarding how and when to obtain the visa. Please remember that possessing valid passports and necessary visas is the responsibility of each client/passenger. If you would like help ensuring you have the proper visa(s) for your trip outside of Canada, we would be happy to refer you to a company that can help you.

We strongly recommend that you have a valid passport (with seven-month validity) for all travel outside Canada or the US. Transit visas may be required if you're connecting through a country en route to your final destination.





## **INSURANCE**

When travelling outside Canada, health insurance is required. Please reach out to your travel agent for more details.

#### TRAVEL CONDITIONS

There may be different living standards, practices, and conditions concerning providing services and accommodations outside of Canada.

Your cruise ship provides a "blanket visa" when visiting Ephesus, Türkiye. You do not need to buy a Turkish visa if you travel with the group to/from Ephesus.

Effective for travel in 2024, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver for a fee when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://www.etiasvisa.com/.

Port tax and service charges of approximately CAD 195 (subject to change without advance notice), quoted at the time of booking per person, are not included in the land-only tour cost. Single cabins, if confirmed, are higher. Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

The order and days of sightseeing may change to optimize your tour experience.

Optional shore excursions are available for purchase directly from the ship upon embarkation.

**Single accommodations are limited** and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Triple accommodations are limited and will be confirmed upon request and availability from the cruise line.

## The cruise line may change the order of ports.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your air, we are happy to give you the option of purchasing these transfers. So that you know, all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

\*The port of embarkation/disembarkation can be either Piraeus or Lavrion. Please check your final travel documents for the correct listing.

\*\*For sailings during March, Crete may not be available as a port of call. Instead, more time is spent in Patmos or Santorini.

\*\*\* All guests must have their shoulders covered to enter the monasteries in Meteora. Women are highly encouraged to wear skirts or dresses that cover the knees, and however, if you choose to wear pants, you will be given a scarf to tie around your waist. Men must wear long trousers.

**Cruise ships** have a limited quantity of cabins available in each cabin category. We will try to accommodate your cabin category preference when booking. If the preferred cabin category is unavailable when booking, the next closest available category will be offered, and a surcharge may apply.

**Celestyal Cruise Lines** cabin categories are based on the following: Outside cabin XA (deck 2 or 3), XB (deck 3 or 4) and XC (deck 5 or 6). Cabin availability is first come, first serve; please let us know when you book.

Economy air rates and schedules are applicable for groups of 10 or more travelling on the same flights and dates.

Your deposit is \$898 per person, due when you make the reservation. Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of March 25, 2024, are based upon availability.

Final payment is due by May 27, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until March 25, 2024.



# Total Advantage Travel & Tours

For more information, please contact:

Robert Townshend at Total Advantage Travel & Tours via 1-800-419-1635, (416) 240-7700, or <a href="mailto:robert@totaladvantage.com">robert@totaladvantage.com</a>.

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# Extend your holiday with...

# **Optional 4 Days 3-Night Journey to Rome Post Tour Extension**

Per Person Rates: \$2,020.00 CAD double, \$2,280.00 CAD single, land & air inclusive 4 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner

# Day 11: Athens - Rome, Italy - Extension Begins

Early this morning,\* travel from Athens on an inspirational journey to Rome and experience fascinating religious sites connected to the life of Paul the Apostle, recalling both his first and second visits to the city. Pause for a moment of reflection in the Abbey of Tre Fontane (Three Fountains), built on the believed site of Paul's martyrdom. At the nearby Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, meditate on the Apostle's tomb. Then, visit the Mamertine Prison, where Paul was arrested, bound in chains and executed. After settling into your hotel in the late afternoon, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies. Today, dinner will be included.

### Day 12: Rome

The day is yours to explore more of the Eternal City. Perhaps you will join an optional tour of the Vatican Museums\*\* and St. Peter's Basilica, taking in world-renowned wonders such as the Sistine Chapel and Michelangelo's mural of The Last Judgment. This optional tour concludes with a visit to St. Peter's Basilica, one of the largest religious buildings in the world; pause for a moment of reflection by the Confessio, the sunken area directly in front of the tomb of the Apostle which is dedicated to the Confession of faith by Peter that led to his martyrdom. Take time to reflect before an evening at leisure. Perhaps you will join an optional dinner in a popular restaurant, where you'll indulge in a hearty meal accompanied by wine and local entertainment. Today, breakfast will be included.

## Day 13: Rome

Begin your day exploring one of Rome's sixty Catacombs. It was in these underground tunnels that early Christians hid and buried their dead. The afternoon is yours to explore more of the Eternal City. Consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's bohemian Trastevere district. Perhaps you'll venture back to the Vatican to join the Papal Blessing, traditionally held on Sundays.\*\*\* Today, breakfast will be included.

# Day 14: Rome - Depart for Home

Your extension comes to a close today. Say, arriveerci to Rome as you head to the airport for your flight home. Today breakfast will be included.

### **Please Note:**

The space on this extension is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicable charges may apply at the time of request.

**Fully-guided** extensions are perfect for travellers who want the complete experience of a new destination and local experiences. Travellers will have a dedicated guide throughout this entire extension.

\*\*Depending on the day of the week you travel, you may be in Rome on Sunday, allowing you to attend the Papal Blessing in St. Peter's Square. The Papal Blessing is sometimes unavailable due to the Pope's travel schedule. You don't need to make a reservation.

\*\*\*The optional tour to the Vatican Museums may operate on a different day on select departures due to the availability of reservations and closure on Sundays and holidays. Dates and times are subject to change based on the availability of reservations.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

\*Due to tour scheduling, flights should arrive in Rome by 10:30 a.m. The flight between Athens and Rome is separate from the land price of your extension.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at the time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

The overall activity level of this extension is level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and possibly anticipate elevation changes. Walking four miles daily is as doable as climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travellers who require mobility assistance devices.



# TRAVEL DATE: 9/24/2024 TERRITORY: C2 Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle Featuring a 3-night Greek Islands & Türkiye cruise!

#### **For Reservations Contact:**

Robert Townshend via 1-800-419-1635, (416) 240-7700, email: robert@totaladvantage.com Total Advantage Travel & Tours, 25-2011 Lawrence Ave West, Toronto, ON M9N3V3

A deposit of \$898 CA per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of March 24, 2024, are based upon availability. Final payment is due by May 27, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until March 25, 2024.

### YOUR INFORMATION:

Could you print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government-issued travel documentation? **IMPORTANT:** To avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is very important that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID used to travel (passport), including middle names or suffixes (Jr, Sr).

First:	Middle:		Suffix:
Nickname:	Gender: ( ) N	Male ( ) Female ( ) NB DOB:	<del></del>
Address:	City:	Province/State:	Postal Code/ZIP:
Phone: ( )	Cell: ( )	_ Cell: ( ) Email Address:	
Passport Number:	Expiration	Date: (dd/mm/yy)Da	ate of Issuance: (dd/mm/yy)
City, Province, Country of	Province, Country of Issuance: Citizenship:		
Should you become ill or	injured, whom should we	e contact (not travelling with you	u):
Phone: ( )		<del></del>	
ROOMING WITH: 🛭 Check	if the address is the san	ne as Passenger #1	
First:	Middle:	Last:	Suffix:
AIR GATEWAY: Departure	airport for this tour:		
Air Seat Request: ( ) Aisl	e ( ) Window ( ) Next To	Travelling Companion	

We cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through the tour and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times. Please be advised that many airlines do not provide seat assignments when travelling as part of a group. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

Federal law forbids the carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries, and flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: http://www.tsa.gov/traveller-information/prohibited-items.

### TRAVEL PROTECTION:

( ) Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection for \$649 CA ( ) No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with the first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges arising from an individual's travelling companion electing to cancel for any reason before departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B, including a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for specific reasons. See Part B for details.)

# **EXTENSION:**

I wish to purchase "3-Night Journey to Rome" ( ) Yes ( ) No

**Important Conditions:** Your price is subject to increase before the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.

