Baylor University

GREECE · CRETE · TURKEY

MAY 28 - JUNE 22, 2021

Tour Hosts:

Dr. Scott Moore

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organized by

TUTKU

— EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL —

Baylor University

GREECE • CRETE • TURKEY

MAY 28 - JUNE 22, 2021

Parthenon, Athens

Tour Itinerary:

May 27 Thu **US Departure- with your own air reservations.**

May 28 Fri **ARRIVE ATHENS**
Upon arrival in Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" our representative will meet, welcome and assist in your transfer to the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

May 29 Sat **ATHENS (ACROPOLIS - MARS HILL – ACROPOLIS MUSEUM - PLAKA)**
At 9:00a.m. we enjoy our full-day sightseeing tour of *Athens*. We will walk to the *Acropolis Hill* the sacred rock of Athens, the citadel and the sanctuary of the city in antiquity. We visit the famous *Parthenon* and the *Erechtheion.* Then, we go to nearby *Mars' Hill* (*Areopagus*) to read Acts 17:22 where Paul gave his famous speech to the Athenian philosophers (Acts 17:18-34) and spoke about the inscription: "to an unknown god". In the afternoon visit *Acropolis Museum*. Enjoy th afternoon at leisure in Plaka. Dinner and overnight in Athens. **(B,D)**

May 30 Sun **ATHENS (ANCIENT AGORA – NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM)**
At 9a.m. we will start our sightseeing tour with a panoramic bus tour to see the highlights of Athens: we pass by the *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Parliament House, the Academy, the University of Athens, the National Library, Panathenaic Stadium, Temple of Olympian Zeus, and Hadrian's Arch.* We will be dropped off at the *Ancient Agora,* once the commercial and cultural centre of Athens. Here Apostle Paul reasoned with the most skeptical audience he met in the course of his travels. We see the very well preserved Doric *Temple of Hephaestus* (or Thesseion) and the *Stoa of Attalos*, an arcade built by Attalos II, king of Pergamum, used as a retail market. Today it is used as museum, displaying statutes, pottery and especially coins. Socrates is known to have discussed philosophy with his friends in the Stoa of Zeus Eleftherios. He was indicted in the Stoa Basileios or royal portico, where the archon Basileus held his court. He was executed in the state prison here in 399 BC by the Strategeion. We will then visit the *National Archaeological Museum* which displays finds from all parts of the ancient Greek world that date from Neolithic times to the last years of the Roman Empire. Afternoon at leisure to explore **Monastirak**i and Flea Market. Dinner and overnight at hotel in Athens. **(B,D)**

May 31 Mon **ATHENS - CORINTH CANAL - CORINTH – ACROCORINTH - NAFPLION**
At 8:30a.m. depart from Athens and drive along the coastal highway of Saronic Gulf.
Arrive at the Corinth Canal for a brief stop and then continue on to the Acropolis of Corinth. *Acro-corinth* is the citadel of Corinth. It is situated to the southwest of the ancient city and rises to an elevation of 1883 ft. [574 m.]. Today it is surrounded by walls that are about 1.85 mi. [3 km.] long. The foundations of the fortifications are ancient—going back to the Hellenistic Period. The current walls were built and rebuilt by the Byzantines, Franks, Venetians, and Ottoman Turks. Climb up and visit the fortress. Then proceed to the *Ancient city of Corinth*. It was to this megalopolis where the apostle Paul came and worked, established a thriving church, subsequently sending two of his epistles now part of the New Testament. Here, we see all of the sites associated with his ministry: the *Agora*, the *Temple of Apollo*, the *Roman Odeon*, the *Bema* and *Gallio's Seat*. The small *local archaeological museum* here is an absolute must! In Romans 16:23 Paul mentions his friend Erastus and we will see an inscription to him at the site. In the afternoon we will drive to Nafplion for check-in at hotel followed by dinner and overnight**. (B,D)**

June 1 Tue **EPIDAURAUS - MYCENAE - NAFPLION**
Morning visit to *Mycenae* where we see the remains of the prehistoric citadel fortified with the *Cyclopean Walls*, the *Lionesses' Gate*, the remains of the *Mycenaean Palace* and the *Tomb of King Agamemnon* in which we will actually enter. After lunch we continue on to visit *Epidaurus:* the *Sanctuary of Asclepius*, ancient god of healing. We see the best-preserved ancient theater in all of Greece, famous for the harmony of its design and the perfection of its remarkable acoustics, easily accommodating 12,000 people. Return to hotel in Napflion for dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

June 2 Wed **NAFPLION - OLYMPIA**
Morning drive through the Central Peloponnese area passing the commercial provincial towns of Tripoli and Megalopolis through the mountains of Arcadia, home of Pan and the Nymphs, onwards to *Ancient Olympia*. Here, we will visit *Ancient Olympia,* the birthplace of the Olympic Games and the most important sanctuary of Zeus, father of all gods and goddesses. The starting line is still visible etched on the marble in the stadium there, inviting you to run and in your imagination compete with the ancient athletes. Enjoy the play of light on the soft greenery and dappled ancient columns in this wonderful and peaceful setting. We will also visit the archaeological museum beside the ancient site. It contains most interesting exhibits such as the pediments and the metopes of the *Temple of Zeus*, the *Statue of Nike* and of *Hermes.* After the tour, check-in at hotel followed by dinner and overnight in Olympia. **(B,D)**

June 3 Thu **OLYMPIA – PATRAS - DELPHI**
Morning drive to *Patras,* the third largest city-port of Greece and then on to Rion where we cross the new suspended bridge considered to be the longest and most modern in Europe. We drive from Antirrion through Nafpaktos and we arrive in *Delphi*, the site of the Oracle. Check-in at hotel upon arrival. Rest of the day at leisure. Dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at hotel. **(B,D)**

June 4 Fri **DELPHI TOUR**
Morning visit to the archaeological site of *Delphi* , where we see the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Athenian Treasury and Tholos. We will walk up to the theatre and the stadium and then proceed to the archaeological museum, in which we can see among other treasures, the unique bronze Charioteer and the marble statues of the athlete Aghias.
Rest of the day at leisure in Delphi to explore the town on your own. Dinner will be served in a local restaurant. Overnight at hotel. **(B,D)**

June 5 Sat **DELPHI - ATHENS AIRPORT - FLY TO CHANİA, CRETE (with Nick Lanser)**
Early morning departure from Delphi and drive to Athens Airport for noon flight to *Chania*, Crete. Upon arrival at Chania Airport meet the local representative who will assist with your transfer to hotel. Check-in at hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Chania. **(B,D)**

June 6 Sun **GLASS BOTTOM BOAT CRUISE (Lazaretta & Agioi Theodori)**
After early breakfast at hotel transfer to the port for embarkation on the cruise boat "Fanourios"
We will enjoy two swim stops, free soft drinks on board and free use of snorkeling equipment. In Lazaretta island, which was a leper colony, we will be told the history of the island and after that we will watch the "fish show" through the glass panel of the boat. On the way back to Chania we will sail across the Venetian port and the lighthouse.
Transfer back to hotel for dinner and overnight in Chania. **(B,D)**

June 7 Mon **CHANIA – KNOSSOS & HERAKLION CITY & ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**
Today we will drive to Heraklion (2hrs 30 min) to visit *Knossos*, the capital of Minoan Crete and the centre of the first European Civilization. Here we will learn about the peak of the Minoan culture in 2000 B.C. We will see the mythological Labyrinth and the remains of the Palace and the courtyards with the most prominent features.

We will then return to *Heraklion* town to stroll around the highlights of the old city and visit the *Archaeological Museum* of Heraklion. The museum brings together archaeological finds from all over Crete, covering over 5,000 years of the island's history. It houses the most important collection of Minoan antiquities the world over. After the visit in Heraklion, enjoy dinner at local restaurant. In the evening return to hotel in Chania for overnight. **(B,D)**

June 8 Tue **FREE DAY IN CHANIA**
Free day at the beach hotel in Chania. Outdoor farewell dinner with the group in a traditional restaurant. (**B,D)**

June 9 Wed **CHANIA –FLY TO IZMIR via Athens**
Morning and afternoon at leisure. Transfer from hotel to Chania airport for departure flight back to Athens and connection to onward flight to Izmir. Arrive in Izmir and transfer to hotel and overnight. **(B,D)**

June 10 Thu **IZMIR**
Morning visit the ancient Agora of Smyrna, then the museum of History. Afternoon visit the church of St.Polycarp. Dinner and overnight in Izmir**. (B,D)**

June 11 Fri **IZMIR - SARDIS - HIEROPOLIS - PAMUKKALE**
After breakfast in Izmir on to Hierapolis via Sardis, the site of ancient Lydian capital and where the first coins were minted. Onto Hieropolis which is blessed by hot mineral springs and some of the best-preserved Roman ruins in Asia Minor. Christianity came to Hierapolis via Epaphras (Colossians 4:12–13). The ruins cover more than a square mile. We will see the impressive theater with seats still in perfect condition and visit one of themal pools that still has ancient columns in it! Today, the area is known as Pamukkale, meaning "Cotton Castle." It is named for the limestone-laden hot springs that cascade from one white-edged terrace pool to the next. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale. **(B,D)**

June 12 Sat **LAODICEA - KUŞADASI**
Morning visit to Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches. Visit the theater, temple, nymphaeum and columned streets.Drive to Kuşadası for dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

June 13 Sun **MILETOS - DIDYMA - PRIENE - KUŞADASI**
Drive to Miletos, visit the famous theater and the remains of the site. Continue to Didyma to visit the well preserved Temple of Apollo. Afternoon proceed to Priene, a Greco-Roman city visited by Alexander the Great and is located near the Mykale mountains. Back to Kuşadasi for Dinner and overnight**. (B,D**)

June 14 Mon **EPHESUS**
Visit the famous ancient city of Ephesus with its spectacular Terrace Houses, Basilica of John, the Ephesus Archaeological Museum and the ancient Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Dinner and overnight. Lunch at the carpet school. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi**. (B,D)**

June 15 Tue **KUŞADASI**
Enjoy a boat tour with lunch visiting the different bays of Kuşadası region along the Aegean coastline. Dinner and overnight Kuşadası (B,L,D)

June 16 Wed **KUŞADASI - PERGAMON - ASSOS**
From Kuşasdası we drive to Assos. Stopping in Pergamon to visit the Ancient Acropolis. Continue onto Assos for overnight. Dinner and overnight in Assos **(B,D)**

June 17 Thu **ASSOS**
We enjoy a morning visit to Assos acropolis and harbor. Free afternoon. Dinner and Overnight in Assos**. (B,D)**

June 18 Fri **TROY-ISTANBUL**
Drive to Troy to see the legendary city of Homer's Iliad. Continue to Alexandria Troas, the important port founded after Alexander the Great. Continue to Çanakkale where we cross the Dardanel Strait by ferry. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. **(B,D)**

June 19 Sat **ISTANBUL**
Full day Istanbul tour; visit the Roman Hippodrome, the Blue Mosque –from the outside, the Hagia Sophia, one of the world's greatest architectural marvels. Then visit the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. Finish the day at the colorful Grand Bazaar. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight**. (B,D)**

June 20 Sun **ISTANBUL**
Visit the fragrant Spice Market and then enjoy a Bosphorus boat tour, seeing both European and Asian shores of Istanbul. Then visit Sveti Stephan Church and St.Chora Church. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul**. (B,D)**

June 21 Mon **ISTANBUL - FINAL EXAMS**
Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. **(B,D)**

June 22 Tue **DEPARTURE FOR USA**
Morning transfer to airport for departure home.

TOUR MAP

INCLUDING

- Athens- Chania flight
- Chania- Athens-Izmir flight
- 3 nights Hotel Phillipos in Athens or similar
- 2 Nights at Park Hotel in Nafplion or similar
- 1 Nights at Neda Hotel in Olympia or similar
- 2 nights at Acropole in Delphi or similar
- 4 nights close to Chania, Crete in superior hotel on HB basis. Porto Platanias Village Resort 4* www.portoplatanias.gror similar *(last night is on BB as the group will have outdoor dinner in local restaurant)*
- 2 nights Izmir 5* Movenpick Hotel or similar
- 1 night Pamukkale 5* Doğa Thermal or similar
- 4 nights Kusadasi 4* Charisma Hotel or similar
- 2 nights Assos 4* Dove Hotel or similar
- 4 nights Istanbul Deluxe Golden Horn Hotel, Sultanahmet or similar
- Daily breakfasts at the hotels
- 25 Dinners as stated at the program *(B:breakfast – D:dinner)*
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary with professional guides
- Glass bottom cruise from Chania harbour to Lazaretta island & Ag. Theodori including snorkeling equipment and a soft drink on board.
- All land transportation by private fully A/C bus with experienced driver throughout the tour
- Tolls & parking fees
- Local English speaking professional licensed tour guides during all sightseeing
- Reduced entrance fees to the sites and museums for students. All students must present a valid Student ID card to get benefit of the discount.
- English speaking escorted group transfers between ports/airport and hotels in mainland and on the island.
- All local service charges & local taxes & VAT
- Whisper headsets

EXCLUDING

- International flights - You need to arrange your international flights arriving Athens on May 28 & departing ISTANBUL June 22.
- All lunches and drinks at all meals.
- All personal expenses, any other service which are not mentioned above
- Tips to tour guide and to the driver
- Turkish Visa Fee to be obtained online before arrival www.evisa.gov.tr

GREECE AND TURKEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL MAP

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