



JOURNEY OF THE APOSTLE PAUL III

Duration: 13 Days/ 12 Nights

DAILY ITINERARY

01 -ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL

Welcome to Istanbul. After arrival at the airport in Istanbul, we are transported with assistance to the hotel. Registration in the hotel and time for relaxation.

02 - ISTANBUL

After breakfast, we have a full day tour of the Old City. The Old City of Istanbul, also known as Sultanahmet, is a living testimony of the rich history and cultural heritage of the city. Encompassing a fascinating mix of Byzantine, Roman and Ottoman influences. This historic district is a treasure of emblematic milestones and marvelous architecture dominated by the majestic Hagia Sophia, an ancient cathedral converted into a mosque and later a museum. Visit the impressive Blue Mosque with its

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intricate works of blue tiles and grand cupolas. The Old City is a canvas painted with centuries of civilization. Wandering through its labyrinthine streets, one encounters the Hippodrome, an ancient stadium of chariot races, the extensive Palace of Topkapi, that once housed the Ottoman Sultans, where visitors can explore the intricate design of the Imperial Council Chamber and witness the opulent, invaluable treasures on display. Each corner guards stories of conquest, empires and the fusion of cultures that make the Old City of Istanbul a captivating destination that preserves the soul of the city's glorious past. Following this visit, the last stop of the day will be the Grand Bazaar. With a history going back to the 15th century, this iconic bazaar counts more than 4000 shops distributed in a labyrinth network of alleys and patios. It is a vibrant center where artisans and merchants sell a wide variety of products. We are then transported to the hotel for lodging in Istanbul.

Meals: Breakfast

03- ISTANBUL

After breakfast, our route is a complete one of the city. The first visit is to the Church of Sveti Stefan, also known as the Church of Saint St Esteban, Bulgaria, it is an orthodox church. It is known for its architectural beauty and historic importance. The church building was constructed at the end of the 19th century and served as the principal church of the Orthodox Exarchate of Bulgaria. The architectural style of the Church of Sveti Stefan reflects elements of neobyzantine style, with a distinctive facade of red brick and an ornamental decorated interior. It is a testimony of the cultural and religious heritage of the Bulgarian community in Istanbul. The next visit is to Ecumenical Orthodox Patriarchy, commonly known as the Ecumenical Patriarchy of Constantinople, the highest institution of the Eastern Orthodox Church. The Ecumenical Patriarchy has its historic roots in the primitive Christian Church and is considered one of the oldest and prominent in Orthodoxy. The following visit is to the Mosque of Süleymaniye, one of the most magnificent and important in Istanbul. Designed by the renowned Ottoman architect Mimar Sinan, this mosque was completed in the 16th century around the year 1557. Then a visit to the Egyptian Bazaar (Spice Market), followed by a walk down the street of Istiklal and the possibility of attending mass in the Church of San Antonio. Finally, we are transported to the hotel for lodging.

Meals: Breakfast

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04- ISTANBUL - ADANA (118 Miles) DOMESTIC FLIGHT INCLUDED

Breakfast. We leave from the hotel toward the airport to take the flight to ADANA. Arrival, then take in the panoramic view of the city with a visit to the Church of the Dolls. Arrive at the hotel for dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

05 – ADANA – TARSUS - CAPPADOCIA

After breakfast we leave for Tarsus to visit the Church of Saint Paul. Tradition holds that this church is located at the place where the Apostle Paul was born and lived his early years. Although, the actual date of the building is from the 19th century. The site has historical and religious importance. The next visit is to the “Well of Saint Paul” where it is believed Paul drank water and passed time. We then depart for Cappadocia, the land of the fairy chimneys. Arrival at the hotel for dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

After breakfast, we have an all day excursion in Cappadocia. The first visit is to the open air museum of Göreme. The valley of Göreme is known for its landscape characterized by its fairy chimneys, ancient rock formations and troglodyte households. The historical importance of the area lies in the ancient cave churches adorned with intricate frescos that date back to the Byzantine era. The next visit is the Valley of the Doves (Pigeons), that gets its name from the dovecotes carved in the cliffs. These dovecotes, constructed by locals takes centuries. They are utilized to collect excrement of the doves/pigeons, a valuable natural fertilizer used in agriculture. La importancia histórica del área radica en sus antiguas iglesias cueva adornadas con intrincados frescos, que datan de la era bizantina. La siguiente visita es al Valle de los Palomares, que recibe su nombre de los palomares tallados en los acantilados. We are then transported to town of Avanos. Avanos is a picturesque town known for its rich history of ceramic fabrication and its essence around the lake of the River Kızılırmak. The last visit of the day will be at the subterranean city of Serhatlı (or Özkonak).

This subterranean city served as a refuge for the first Christian during times of conflict or invasions, provided refuge with areas for storage and space for housing during the 6th and 7th centuries. We end the day transported to the hotel for dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

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07- CAPPADOCIA – KONYA -YALVAC - PAMUKKALE

After breakfast we leave for Konya (Iconium). Konya was the capital of the Grand Seleucid Empire. The city had a considerable population and was considered an important Jewish community. It was visited by the Apostle Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. We are transported to Antioch of Pisidia (Yalvaç). This city was visited by the Apostle Paul and Barnabas during one of their missionary journeys and it is here that Paul pronounced a significant sermon in the synagogue of the city as related in the New Testament. The city counted its impressive structures including theaters, temples and baths that displayed prosperity and meaningful culture. Today the archaeological site of Pisidian Antioch conserves vestiges of its glorious past attracting visitors interested in ancient history and its link with primitive Christianity. After this visit, we are transported to the hotel in Pamukkale for dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

08 - PAMUKKALE – HIERAPOLIS – LAODICEA – MILETUS – KUSADASI

After breakfast we visit Pamukkale, the “Cotton Castle” which describes the surreal appearance created by the travertine terraces rich in calcium and formed during millennia by thermal waters rich in minerals. The site houses the ancient city of Hierápolis, where the ruins are well preserved, including theaters, temples and a necropolis that offers information about the history of the ancient region. The theater is the oldest necropolis in Anatolia and includes the Martyrium of Saint Philip, the place that honors the Apostolic Christian. We go to Laodicea, founded by Seleucus I Nicator, one of the generals of Alexander the Great in the 3rd century B.C. The city had one of the seven churches of Revelation. After a visit to the epoch Roman ruins we are transported to Miletus. The city was home to the renowned philosopher Tales where the Apostle Paul gave his farewell address to the elders from Ephesus. We visit the theatre, then are transported to Kuşadası for dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

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09 – KUSADASI – EPHEBUS - VIRGIN MARY -SMYRNA

After breakfast we leave for Ephesus, and ancient Greek and Roman city is of great historical and cultural importance. In its time, Ephesus was a prosperous city with a port and a population of 250,000 known to be the center of commerce, culture and religion in the ancient world. The city houses discarded monuments such as the Celso Library, the Great Theater, the Temple of Artemis (one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world). Ephesus also has relevance to Christian history in that the Apostle Paul preached here and where possibly the Gospel of John was written. The second visit of the day is to the House of the Virgin Mary, where she passed her final years after being brought dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner.

10 – SMYRNA – PERGAMUM – ASSOS (O EDREMIT)

After breakfast, we travel toward Pergamum, one of the earliest places where parchment was used during the Hellenistic period. The library and the city had important paper in the development of parchment. It eventually became the term "pergamino" from which derived the word "pergamenum". Visit the Acropolis, the steepest theater in the world. Here we will see the Temple of Trajan, Athena and the Grand Altar of Pergamum. See the Red Basilica, an impressive structure believed to have been a temple dedicated to the Egyptian gods. After these visits we are transported to Assos (or Edremit) for dinner and lodging.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

11 – ASSOS (O EDREMIT) – ALEXANDRIA TROAS – TROY – BURSA

After breakfast we depart toward Alexander of Troas a city named in honor of Alexander the Great. During his second missionary trip, the Apostle arrive here. While here, Paul had a vision of a man from Macedonia begging Paul to come help him. As a result of this vision, Paul and his companions departed from Troas traveling toward Macedonia. This led to the expansion of Christianity into Europe. We visit the ancient city of Troy, known for the famous War of Troy mentioned in Greek mythology. Esto condujo a la expansión del cristianismo hacia Europa. The War of Troy described in the famous poem, "The Iliad and The Odyssey" by Homer, is a legendary conflict between the Greeks and the Trojans. Finally, we visit the Trojan Horse. Then we are taken to the hotel in Bursa for dinner and lodging.

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Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

12 BURSA – IZNIK (NICEA) – ISTANBUL

Following breakfast, we leave to visit the Grand Mosque and the Green Mosque in Bursa. The next visit is to Iznik, a city that has great historical and religious importance, including its connection with early Christianity and the Ecumenical Councils of the Christian Church. This city became noticeable due to the First Nicean Council celebrated here in the year 325 A.D. This council was convened by the Emperor Constantine the Great. Its objective was to deal with theological questions and establish important doctrines within Christianity. The final visit of the day is to the Museum of Hagia Sophia. After, we have time to relax near the Lake of Iznik. We are then transported to the hotel in Istanbul.

Meals: Breakfast

13 LEAVE ISTANBUL:

Breakfast and transport to the airport for your return flight from Istanbul.

Meals: Breakfast

INCLUDED

- Transport to and from according to itinerary and private assistance
- 4 nights in Istanbul with bed and breakfast
- 2 Nights in Cappadocia + 1 Night in Pamukkale + 1 Bursa, 1 Night In Adana, 1 night in Kusadasi, 1 Izmir + 1 Asos with regimine of breakfast and dinner
- Meals according to description : 12 breakfasts and 8 breakfasts
- Professional English speaking guide
- Luxury bus with A/C
- Entrance to museums
- Tips at hotels and restaurants
- 1 domestic flight 44 pounds + 15 carry on

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NOT INCLUDED

- Drinks
- Lunches are addition unless otherwise specified
- International flights
- Personal expenses
- Tips for the guide and bus driver
- Optional tours
- Hot air balloon ride(s)

PLANNED HOTELS DURING THE TOUR

ISTANBUL : LAMARTINE 4 OR SIMILAR
ADANA: SETHAN 4* OR SIMILAR
CAPPADOCIA: MUSTAFA 5*/ DINLER 5* OR SIMILAR
ADANA: SEYHAN 4* OR SIMILAR
PAMUKKALE : ADEMPIARA 5*/ COLOSSEA 5* OR SIMILAR
KUSADASI: GRAND BELISH RESORT 5* OR SIMILAR
SMYRNA: HILTON GARDEN BAYRAKLIK INN 4* OR SIMILAR
ASSOS /EDREMIT: GRAND TEMIZEL 5* OR SIMILAR

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PRICE PER PERSON CATEGORY 4 ****	
CATEGORIA TAKSIM WINTER / DOUBLE OR TRIPLE	1.597 USD
CATEGORIA RETAJ ROYAL WINTER / DOUBLE OR TRIPLE	1.438 USD
CATEGORIA TAKSIM SUMMER / DOUBLE OR TRIPLE	1.813 SD
CATEGORIA RETAJ ROYAL SUMMER / DOUBLE OR TRIPLE	1.696 USD

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- In the meantime, this quote is subject to availability of space and current fees that are in force at the time the reservation is confirmed.
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Requirements to enter as a tourist:



Electronic passport or mechanically readable with a minimum validity of six months from the date of entry

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