



PILGRIMAGETO
Greece
AND TURKEY
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL

amazing grace

PILGRIMAGES

Fr. John Taosan

Spiritual Director

St. John's Catholic Church

OCT. 20 - NOV. 1

[@nativitypilgrimage.com/greece-fr-taosan](https://nativitypilgrimage.com/greece-fr-taosan)

2026

YOUR DAILY itinerary

DAY 1: DEPARTURE FOR GREECE

(Oct. 20th) Your pilgrimage begins today, boarding your flight to Greece! Relax during your flight and prepare for an incredible spiritual journey ahead!

DAY 2: ARRIVE IN THESSALONIKI

(Oct. 21st) Upon airport arrival, you will meet our professional tour guide and board our private motorcoach. Welcome to Thessaloniki, where the apostle Paul initiated the first church while he evangelized the city during his second and third missionary journeys. We will check into our hotel, settle in, and prepare for our Welcome Dinner and overnight stay in Thessaloniki.

DAY 3: PHILIPPI – KAVALA – THESSALONIKI

(Oct. 22nd) After breakfast, we travel to Philippi, where St. Paul preached his first sermon in Europe and established the continent's first Christian community. Here, he baptized Lydia, the first known Christian convert in Europe, along a nearby river (Acts 16:11-15). We will also recall St. Paul's imprisonment and his later epistle to the Philippians (Acts 16:11-40). We then continue to Kavala, ancient Neapolis, where St. Paul, Silas, Luke, and Timothy first arrived in Europe. Mass will be celebrated before we return to Thessaloniki for dinner and a restful overnight stay.

DAY 4: METEORA – KALABAKA

(Oct. 23rd) After breakfast, we will make our way to Meteora, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Meteora monasteries are built upon immense boulders that dominate the area. We will view stunning Byzantine art and breathtaking landscapes. We'll enjoy dinner before settling in for a restful overnight stay in Kalabaka.

DAY 5: CORINTH – ATHENS

(Oct. 24th) After breakfast, we will travel to the ancient city of Corinth, where St. Paul spent almost two years evangelizing, starting a church, and working with tent makers Aquila, and Priscilla (Acts 18:1-18). Disheartened by the state of the Gentile Church in Corinth, St. Paul was prompted to write four letters. Mass will be celebrated. We will then travel onward to Athens, one of the world's oldest and most renowned cities, for dinner and overnight accommodations.

DAY 6: ATHENS

(Oct. 25th) After breakfast, we will visit the Acropolis and Parthenon. We will ascend Mars Hill where St. Paul spoke to the Athenians about the one, true God (Acts 17:22). Mass will be celebrated. Enjoy the rest of the day and dinner at leisure before a restful overnight stay at our hotel.

DAY 7: ATHENS TO ISTANBUL

(Oct. 26th) After breakfast, we will transfer to the airport to catch our flight to Istanbul. Upon our arrival, we will be welcomed by our knowledgeable tour guide and friendly driver, who will escort us to our hotel. Mass will be celebrated. After settling into our hotel, we will enjoy a delightful dinner and overnight stay in Istanbul.

DAY 8: ISTANBUL

(Oct. 27th) After breakfast, we will experience Istanbul's wonders, including the magnificent Hagia Sophia, the Byzantine Hippodrome, the stunning Blue Mosque, Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua, Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, and the vibrant Grand Bazaar! Mass will be celebrated, and after a full day of exploration, we will gather for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

★★★★ Travel Notes ★★★★★

This pilgrimage itinerary may include early mornings, full sightseeing days, extended travel times, multiple modes of transportation, and moderate physical activity. Please review the full itinerary for complete details.



The Parthenon
Athens



Ancient Corinth
Greece



Hanging Monasteries
Meteora

DAY 9: ISTANBUL – NICEA – BURSA

(Oct. 28th) This morning, we will travel to historic Nicaea, the birthplace of the Nicene Creed. Here, we'll visit St. Sofia of Nicaea, a site of profound significance where the First Council of the Christian Church was held. This region played a pivotal role in the history of Christianity. We will then continue to Bursa, settle in at our hotel, enjoy dinner and a restful overnight stay.

DAY 10: BURSA – PERGAMUM – IZMIR

(Oct. 29th) Today, we journey to Pergamum, once a prominent cultural and political center of the Hellenistic world and later the capital of the Roman province of Asia. Now one of Turkey's most captivating archaeological sites, Pergamum is also remembered among the Seven Churches for remaining faithful to Christ in the face of persecution (Revelation 2:13). Mass will be celebrated before we continue to Izmir, where we will enjoy dinner and a restful overnight stay.

DAY 11: IZMIR – SARDIS – PHILADELPHIA

(Oct. 30th) Following breakfast, we travel to Sardis, one of the most picturesque of the Seven Churches. Once a flourishing city, its ruins include the grand Temple of Artemis and an ancient synagogue. We will reflect on Revelation 3:1-6 before continuing to Philadelphia, which translates to "brotherly love," known as the faithful church and "the New Jerusalem." Mass will be celebrated. After an inspiring day, we return to Izmir for dinner and overnight stay.

DAY 12: EPHEBUS – KUSADASI

(Oct. 31st) After breakfast, we journey to the ancient city of Ephesus, where the Apostle Paul founded one of the seven churches. Renowned for its remarkable ruins, Ephesus invites us to walk through history as we visit the Temple of Artemis, the Library of Celsus, and the Grand Theater. We will then continue to the House of the Virgin Mary, traditionally believed to be Mary's final home, before returning to Izmir for our Farewell Dinner and overnight stay.

DAY 13: RETURN FLIGHT HOME

(Nov. 1st) We will transfer to the airport for our return flight home.



Hagia Sophia
Istanbul

\$5,699

FULL PACKAGE

Round-trip airfare included

\$4,899

LAND PACKAGE

Round-trip airfare not included

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Round-Trip Airfare
- Daily Mass
- Professional Guides
- All Airport/Hotel/City Taxes & Fuel Surcharges
- Sightseeing Fees as per itinerary
- On-Site Tour Facilitator
- First-Class Hotels
- Daily Breakfast Buffet
- Porterage @ Hotels
- Private Transportation
- Lunch & Dinner as per itinerary
- All Tips/Gratuities
- Listening Headsets
- Wine/Beer at included dinners
- Medical Insurance

GENERAL INFO

Lori Candrian
Parish Liaison
281-435-9631

PAYMENT INFO

Deisi Hernandez
Nativity Group Manager
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Ephesus
Turkey

TERMS & CONDITIONS

YOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES

Air Transportation: Economy class and round-trip airfares are based on the time of the reservation. Rates and times are subject to change without notice. Airfares, once issued, are non-refundable, non-transferable, and cannot be used towards future travel.

Land Transportation: All land transportation as described in the itinerary will be by Deluxe Motor Coach. Some may be equipped with Wi-Fi service.

Hotels: Your hotels will be first-class with double occupancy (2 people per room with a private bath). Neither Nativity Pilgrimage nor the trip coordinator are responsible for providing a roommate.

Meal Plan: The meal plan offers daily breakfast & lunch/dinner as per itinerary.

Baggage: Most airlines limit passengers to one (1) piece of checked luggage and one (1) carry-on. All passengers should check with the airlines carriers for up to date baggage weight and dimensions.

Tips/Gratuities: This includes tour guides, drivers, hotel service staff, and wait staff.

Airport Fees: Airport Taxes, Porterage, Fuel Surcharges and Security Fees

Medical Insurance: Medical coverage for the duration of your trip.

YOUR PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE

Cancellation Insurance: We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance upon registration.

Passport Expenses: This includes any passports or additional travel documents that may be required. Passports must be valid until at least 6 months from your return date.

Personal Expenses: Laundry, beverages (including wine, liquor, mineral water, tea, coffee, etc.), meals or food items not listed on the included menu plan, and any excess or additional luggage.

Non-itinerary fees: Any sightseeing or service fees or personal items that are not specifically mentioned as being included in the itinerary.

Non-included meals: You are responsible for any meals not specified in your itinerary.

GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Group Air: Group Air differs from individually purchased airline tickets in that it is subject to the terms and conditions of the airlines. For this reason, we need to receive your registration and full payment by the payment deadline. After that date, registrations may be subject to a different air rate, ticketing method, or on a different airline. Additional fees and charges may apply. Group air flights are confirmed 60 - 90 days prior to departure.

Departure Cities: If your departure city is not listed on the brochure, indicate which airport you would like to depart from on the registration form. We will provide you with the best possible price and flight schedule in order to connect with the group. Additional fees and charges may apply.

Land-Only Option: If you would like to book your own air travel, indicate on your registration form that you want the "Land Only" option. This amount equals to the total tour price minus \$800 for all destinations except Mexico, which is minus \$350. By booking your own air, you may select your seat, airline, and travel schedule, use airline miles/points, provide airline reward program information, and make any special requests directly with the airline. No changes can be made after the final payment deadline. Land-only services begin and end at the hotels unless you are able to meet the group at the airport. Land-only travelers are responsible for their own airport transfers.

IMPORTANT POLICIES

The airline selects seat assignments for group air, not the tour operator. Seat upgrades are available for registered travelers, by request. Quoted rates for an upgrade are subject to change until payment is received. Some upgrades are not available until the group tickets are issued.

Single Room: Tour price is based on double occupancy. If you'd like a single room, there is an additional cost per person as specified on the registration form. Single rooms are limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seat Upgrades: Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives an upgrade or seat location request, we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee the acceptance of this request as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily).

Other Special Requests: Once Nativity Pilgrimage receives a special request, such as a wheelchair, food, etc., we will contact the airlines to finalize your request. We cannot guarantee acceptance of this request as it is subject to availability and pricing (which changes daily)

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Deposit: A non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 per person is required at the time of booking. No reservation will be processed without a deposit.

Payment Deadline: Full payment is due Monday, July 13, 2026. Late registrations received after the deadline require an additional \$100 (subject to availability). If payment is not made in full 50 days prior to departure, your payments are non-refundable.

Payment Methods: We accept major credit cards, checks, money orders, and Zelle payments. There is an additional 3% fee for each credit card transaction.

LATE PAYMENT POLICY

Customers will receive Late Fees if they are not paid in full:

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE	FEE
100 - 61 days	\$150
60 - 30 days	\$300
30 days - day before departure	subject to cancellation

Customers are also responsible for any difference in fare due to late payment (subject to availability). Refusal to pay will be considered a cancellation.

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

We hope that nothing will prevent you from taking your pilgrimage with Nativity Pilgrimage, however, should you need to cancel your trip, your cancellation must be in writing via email or letter. It will be effective on the date of receipt. The following cancellation fees will apply:

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE	PENALTY
100 + days	Lose deposit
99 - 50 days	50% of trip cost
49 days or less	100% of trip cost

Insurance premiums are non-refundable. We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance to avoid these cancellation fees.

PROTECT YOUR TRIP

Medical Insurance: Every pilgrim traveling with Nativity will receive complimentary medical insurance that provides coverage for the full duration of your trip.

Trip Cancellation Insurance: We also strongly recommend purchasing trip cancellation insurance (available at an additional cost) to safeguard your travel investment in case unforeseen circumstances require you to cancel. You may review our Travel insurance details at <https://nativity.trawickinternational.com>. Travelers can also reach our 24/7 customer service team via phone at 888-301-9289 or email at info@trawickinternational.com.

Important: If you plan to purchase Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR) coverage, it must be purchased within 14 days of registration.

RESPONSIBILITY

Nativity Pilgrimage, Inc. and their agents assume no liability or responsibility in regards to travel in any form for any injuries or loss of property, accidents, delays, changes in schedule or itinerary, incidental damages or any irregular circumstances. This would include, but not limited to, default or omission by any third party providing services or facilities related to and/or included in the tour or any part thereof.

The IATA carriers, steamship firms and other transportation companies, whose services are featured in these tours, are not to be held responsible or accountable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their respective conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the companies and the purchaser of these tours and/or passengers and Nativity Pilgrimage, Inc. does not assume any liability or responsibility in connection therewith. They are not responsible for any losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, guarantees, or other causes. All such losses or expenses shall be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality to those specified in the itinerary. Nativity Pilgrimage reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. Refund details vary upon each trip. No refund will be made for any used portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure from the United States. Prices and itineraries are subject to change without notice if booking conditions are not complied with.

BOOK THIS TRIP!

Register by submitting a registration form, copy of your passport, and non-refundable \$300 deposit to Nativity Pilgrimage.

To register safely online, please scan the QR code.

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