

2025 Journeys of Paul

A Tour of Turkey and Greece

With an Optional Extension to Rome

Key Facts

Dates: May 27–June 6, 2025; [with the optional extension to Rome: May 27–June 9](#)

Tour Leader: Gary Reimers, BJU seminary adjunct professor and pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina

Total Cost: \$4900 for the standard tour of Turkey and Greece; [for the Rome extension add \\$2300](#)

Tour Website: journeystour.bju.edu

Early Reservation: complete your application by December 1, 2024, to receive a \$100 discount

Registration: \$400 deposit per person for the tour of Turkey and Greece (this amount applies toward the total cost) [or \\$500 deposit to add the Rome extension](#). Once the registration application is accepted, \$100 of the deposit amount per person becomes non-refundable.

Components of the Tour Package

- Round-trip, economy-class air travel from JFK airport in New York City (if you purchase your own overseas flights, the *land only* cost for the Turkey/Greece tour is \$3500)
- One-way flight from Izmir to Athens; [for the extension one-way flight from Athens to Rome](#)
- All land travel by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with English-speaking local guides
- Double-occupancy hotel accommodations (private room fee: \$800; [with extension: \\$1200](#))
- Breakfast each day at the hotels, dinner 5 days in Turkey and 1 day in Greece
- Entrance fees at all itinerary sites as well as tips for tour guides, drivers and hotel staff

Not Included in the Tour Price

- Transportation between your home and JFK
- Passport fees, travel insurance, excess baggage fees, or service charges for special needs
- Lunch each day, dinner 1 day in Turkey, 2 days in Greece, [and 3 days in Rome](#)
- Bottled water, snacks, and any beverages that are not included with the hotel meals
- Souvenirs, personal items, phone calls, or laundry service

Reservation and Payment Procedures

- For all questions, contact Dr. Reimers by email (greimers@bju.edu), phone (864-907-3657), or regular mail (Seminary 217, 1700 Wade Hampton Blvd., Greenville, SC 29614).
- Submit a reservation application online on the tour website by accessing the [Registration Form](#) (a separate form for each tour participant in your family) as well as the [Credit Card Payment Form](#) (you may combine family members on one payment) to submit a deposit (American Express, Visa, MasterCard, Discover). To pay by check (payable to *Bob Jones University*), remit to Dr. Reimers at the address above.
- Download the [Tour Terms & Conditions](#), open the document to sign and date electronically ([instructions](#)), then submit by email attachment to [Dr. Reimers](#). If you prefer, you can print the form, sign and date it, and mail to Dr. Reimers at the address above (this form is also available on the tour website).
- Seating is limited (first-come basis). A reservation application is not complete until we have received your registration form, the signed Terms & Conditions form, and your deposit.
- The deposit becomes non-refundable on January 24, 2025, and the final payment is due by March 7, 2025. Please do not submit partial payments.
- Those desiring three hours of college or seminary credit must register through the BJU Registrar's Office (in April), which will charge a \$65 tuition fee to your student account.

Turkey and Greece Itinerary

Tuesday, May 27

Depart from **New York City** (JFK) on an overnight flight to **Istanbul**, Turkey.

Wednesday, May 28 (Istanbul)

Arrive in **Istanbul** and transfer to the hotel for check-in and dinner. If time permits, visit some of the Istanbul sites before dinner. *Overnight in Istanbul.*

Thursday, May 29 (Istanbul)

Ascend the **Galata Tower** for a panoramic view of the **Old City** and the **Golden Horn**. Explore **Hagia Sophia**, the largest church in Christendom for 1000 years and masterpiece of Byzantine architecture. Visit **Hagia Eirene**, site of the 2nd Church Council in AD 381. Tour **Topkapi Palace** to see treasures from the Ottoman sultans. Enter the **Blue Mosque** with its six minarets and magnificent blue-tile interior. See Constantine's **hippodrome** and descend the steps to the **Basilica Cistern**, an engineering marvel. *Overnight in Istanbul.*

Friday, May 30 (Istanbul)

Explore the **Archaeological Museum** housing important ancient artifacts. Bargain for souvenirs at the **Grand Bazaar** and in the **Spice Market** for exotic treats. Tour **Dolmabahçe Palace** on the shore of the **Bosphorus**, a monument to the extravagance of the later Ottoman Sultans. In the afternoon, drive along the **Sea of Marmara** and cross the **Dardanelles**. *Overnight in Çanakkale.*

Saturday, May 31 (Troy, Troas, Pergamum, Sardis)

See the excavations of the legendary **Troy** and a replica of the wooden horse made famous by Homer in the *Iliad*. Continue to **Troas**, where Paul saw the Macedonian Vision and set sail for Europe. In **Pergamum** explore the Temple of Trajan, the site of the famous library, and the theater carved into the hillside. If time permits, visit **Sardis** to examine the temple, the Byzantine church, and the Roman-era synagogue and gymnasium. *Overnight in Pamukkale.*

Sunday, June 1 (Pamukkale, Hieropolis, Colossae, Laodicea, Miletus)

Marvel at the stunning white travertine terraces of **Pamukkale** ("Cotton Castle"). In **Hierapolis**, view the ancient theater, the temple of Apollo, the Arch of Domitian, and the necropolis. Climb the hill of the city of **Colossae**, which is still unexcavated. Explore the colonnaded streets of **Laodicea**, whose recent excavations rival the city of Ephesus. Drive to **Miletus** to stand at the ancient harbor where Paul said farewell to the Ephesian pastors. *Overnight in Kuşadası.*

Monday, June 2 (Ephesus)

Explore **Ephesus**, one of the world's finest archaeological sites. Stroll down the **Arcadian Way** to the **Temple of Hadrian** and the **Fountain of Trajan**. Enter the **Terrace Houses** complex. View the splendid façade of the **Library of Celsus**. Sit in the **Great Theater** where a mob rioted against the gospel. See the ruins of the **Church of the Virgin Mary**, site of the notorious 3rd Church Council in AD 431, as well as the location of the great **Temple of Artemis**. If time permits, visit the **Ephesus Museum** and the **Basilica of St. John**. Transfer to the airport, where you can find dinner options as we await the flight to **Athens**. *Overnight in Athens.*

Tuesday, June 3 (Delphi)

Drive to **Delphi** to visit the **museum** and follow the **Sacred Way** leading up to the **Sanctuary of Apollo**, where the Oracle of the Pythia gave guidance in riddles. Explore the **theater**, the **stadium** at the top of the hill (site of the Pythian Games), and view the enigmatic **tholos** in the distance. Return to **Athens** for a bus tour of the old Olympic Stadium, the Presidential Palace and more. Select your own dinner at one of the traditional Greek tavernas. *Overnight in Athens.*

Wednesday, June 4 (Athens)

Tour ancient **Athens**, including the world-renowned Acropolis with the **Propylaia** entrance, the **Temple of Athena Nike**, the **Erechtheion** (with its **Porch of the Caryatids**), and of course, the **Parthenon**. Climb nearby **Mars Hill** (Areopagus), where Paul preached the gospel to pagan sceptics. Stroll through the ancient **agora** and museum located there. Visit the modern **Acropolis Museum** to examine countless fascinating artifacts from the site. Select your own dinner at one of the traditional Greek tavernas. *Overnight in Athens.*

Thursday, June 5 (Corinth, Cenchreae)

Drive along the coastal road to the city of **Corinth**. Explore the **Temple of Apollo**, the **bema**, the **Lechaion Way**, the **Erastus inscription**, and much more. Ascend to the top of the nearby **Acropolis** to enjoy the spectacular overview of the ancient city as well as learn about the pagan worship practices performed there. View the amazing **Corinth Canal** and travel to **Cenchreae**, the ancient port where the Apostle Paul stopped during his 2nd missionary journey. Return to **Athens** for a memorable farewell dinner in the historic **Plaka**. *Overnight in Athens.*

Friday, June 6 (Home)

Those concluding the tour will transfer to the airport for the flight to New York City (JFK) and your connecting flight home.

Optional Extension to Rome

Friday, June 6 (Rome)

Transfer to the airport for the flight to **Rome**. Visit the **Church of St. Paul** (San Paulo fuori le Mura), traditional burial place of the Apostle Paul. See the **Via Appia**, the road Paul followed when he arrived in Rome as a prisoner (Acts 28:15). Tour the **Catacombs** to examine ancient Christian burial practices. Select your own dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight in Rome.*

Saturday, June 7 (Rome)

Tour the ancient city, including the **Coliseum**, the **Arch of Titus**, the **Roman Forum**, and the **Palatine**. Visit the **Mamertine Prison**, where Paul and Peter may have been imprisoned before execution. Examine well-preserved **Pantheon** as well as the intriguing **Castel Sant'Angelo**. Select your own dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight in Rome.*

Sunday, June 8 (Vatican City)

Stroll through the luxurious **Vatican Museum** to see inestimable treasures. Marvel at the stunning frescos by Michelangelo in the **Sistine Chapel**. Tour the enormous **St. Peter's Basilica** to examine the exquisite architecture as well as various works of art, including Michelangelo's *Pieta* and Bernini's baldacchino and great entrance colonnade. The tour includes an opportunity to experience the amazing overview of **Rome** from the rooftop and to ascend winding steps inside the enormous dome. Select your own dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight in Rome.*

Monday, June 9 (Home)

Transfer to the airport for the flight to New York City (JFK) and your connecting flight home.