

CYPRUS AND GREECE TOUR

SEPTEMBER 26–OCTOBER 8, 2023



HOPE FOR ISRAEL

SEED OF ABRAHAM MINISTRIES, INC.



Hope For Israel

CYPRUS AND GREECE TOUR

Sept 26th - October 8th, 2023

Tues Sept 26, 2022: Fly from USA to Cyprus

Wed, Sept 27: Arrive to Cyprus

Arrive to Nicosia Lefkosa Airport in Cyprus. Drive to your hotel to refresh and rest.

Overnight: Larnaka or Limasol

Thurs, Sept 28: Ancient Salamis

We will visit ancient Salamis. In what is known as the "First Missionary Journey", Paul the apostle and the Cypriot-born Barnabas made Salamis their first destination, landing there after heading out from Antioch of Syria. There they proclaimed the Messiah in the Jewish synagogues before proceeding through the rest of the island (Acts 13:1-5). Tradition says that Barnabas preached in Alexandria and Rome and was stoned to death at Salamis in about 61 AD. He is considered the founder of the Church of Cyprus. His bones are believed to be located in the nearby monastery named after him. We will see the ruins of the ancient city, including: the temple of Zeus, theatre, gymnasium and water supply system.

Overnight: Larnaka or Limasol

Fri, Sept 29: Ancient Paphos – Greece: Thessaloniki

Today, we will visit Paphos. According to the book of Acts, after landing at Salamis and proclaiming the Word of God in the synagogues, Barnabas and Saul traveled along the entire southern coast of the island of Cyprus until they reached Paphos. There, Sergius Paulus, the Roman proconsul was converted after Saul rebuked the Sorcerer Elymas. In Paphos, Acts first identifies Saul as Paul. We will see the remains of four large and elaborate Roman villas: the House of Dionysos, the House of Orpheus, the House of Aion and the House of Theseus, all with preserved mosaic floors, the Agora, Asklepion, the Basilica of Panagia Limeniotissa, an Odeon cinema, a theatre, a necropolis known as the Tombs of the Kings and St. Paul's pillar. At the end of the day, we board our short flight to Thessaloniki, Greece.

Overnight: Thessaloniki

Sat, Sept 30: Philippi-Kavala-Lydia

In the morning, we will drive to Kavala and then to Philippi. Kavala (Neapolis) was the port of Philippi. Paul passed through with Silas on his way from Asia Minor to Philippi. The city of Philippi was visited by the Apostle Paul. From the Acts of the Apostles and the letter to the Philippians, early Christians concluded that Paul had founded their community. We will explore the ruins of the ancient sites such as the forum, market, basilica and theatre. In Philippi, Paul preached his first evangelical sermon and baptized the first Christians in Europe. You will see both the "baptismal" site where Lydia was baptized as the first European woman and the crypt where Paul was imprisoned.

Overnight: Thessaloniki

Hope For Israel

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Sept 26th - October 8th, 2023

Sun, Oct 1: Thessaloniki-Veria-Vergina

Today we will tour the city of Thessaloniki. At the time of the Roman Empire, about 50 A.D., Thessaloniki was also one of the early centers of Christianity; while on his second missionary journey, Paul the Apostle visited this city's chief synagogue on three Sabbaths and sowed the seeds for Thessaloniki's first Christian church. Later, Paul wrote two letters to the new church at Thessaloniki, preserved in the Biblical canon as First and Second Thessalonians. As we walk around, we will see the White Tower, rotunda, ancient city wall, the Jewish Museum and synagogue. We then drive to Veria where you will see the church of Apostle Paul and the "Vima of Apostle Paul" mural made of marble. This church is believed to be the location in which Paul preached to the people for many days after leaving Thessaloniki. We will progress onwards to the ancient town of Vergina and to the royal tombs, one of them being the tomb of Alexander the Great's father. We will end our day by driving to our next hotel in Kalambaka.

Overnight: Kalambaka

Mon, Oct 2: Amazing Meteora Monasteries

After breakfast, we will say goodbye to Kalambaka and drive to Meteora, where we will visit the breathtaking rock tower monasteries of the 11th century! Among other monasteries that we will tour, the Great Meteoron Monastery of Varlaam was founded in the 16th century and is located on top of a 1,224-foot cliff! At the Monastery of Saint Stephen, also built on the cliffs of Meteora, we will admire a small treasure trove of Byzantine and Christian items at a museum located within the wall of the monastery. After lunch we will start our drive to Delphi, where we will check-in at our hotel.

Overnight: Delphi.

Tues, Oct 3: Delphi

After breakfast, we will start our day with a visit to Delphi, the hometown of the famous oracle. In antiquity, Delphi was one of the most important religious centers. The city was built above the gorge of the Pleistos River against the backdrop of Mount Parnassus, attracting hordes of pilgrims who once came to consult the oracle of Delphi. Our tour through Delphi will take us to the agora, or marketplace, the first stop along the Sacred Way, the main road that winds through the lavish complex of ancient ruins at Delphi. Along this path, we will see the remains of the "treasuries" of the Athenians, a bouleterion, the Tripod of Plataea, the Temple of Apollo, a stadium and the museum—all structures still standing from the time of the Romans. We will continue our tour to the amazing city of Athens. In Athens we will go along the Coast of Falirou where Paul first arrived in Athens by ship. We will have a tour of the city: view the parliament house, new stadium, Academy house and more. We will check-in to our hotel before enjoying a tasty Greek dinner.

Overnight: Athens

Wed, Oct 4: Athens-Ancient Corinth

We will start our day with a fresh Greek breakfast. Then we visit the Acropolis where we will see the Parthenon (The temple for the goddess Athena) and the "Areopagus" where Paul stood and preached to the Athenians. We will then continue to ancient Corinth. On our way we will stop at the Corinth Canal for a photo. Ancient Corinth was one of Paul's most beloved cities, the town that inspired two of his letters. As we continue to follow



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in his steps, we will arrive at the Cathedral of St. Paul, wander the nearby market and walk on the same paths that the apostle to the gentiles once walked, preaching the gospel nearly two thousand years ago.

Overnight: Athens

Thurs, Oct 5: Santorini

This morning we take a short flight to the beautiful island of Santorini. Arrival and transfer to your hotel. In the early afternoon, we will take a 3-hour Volcano cruise. The first stop is at the volcano bay, where you can follow the path to the top with active craters. Next, sail on to the island of Palea Kameni for the hot springs, the famous mud baths, in the small bay of Agios Nikolaos where the water temperature is around 35 degrees Celsius. After, we return to the old port of Fira. In the evening, we will enjoy dinner in a traditional tavern with a Greek Wedding Show.

Overnight: Santorini

Fri, Oct 6: Santorini – Optional Day

We depart for Prophitis Illias, a small church in the center of the island, to take incredible panoramic photos with views of Santorini from all points. We then drive to the famous Akrotiri site – a well-preserved archeological area that captures the moments of a volcanic eruption. We then proceed to Red Beach, which is a geological miracle. We continue to Imerovigli village, overlooking volcanic remains, and then arrive in Oia village to admire the beautiful sunset. Return to the hotel for dinner.

Overnight: Santorini

Sat, Oct 7: Marathon Bay- Cape Sounio-Athens

We fly back to Athens where we will visit the site of the most famous battle of Marathon and learn about the war between the Athenian army and the Persians in 490 BC. We will continue to Cape Sounio, visit the Temple of Poseidon, enjoy the most beautiful view of the Aegean Sea, and learn about King Aegeios who gave his name to this sea. In the afternoon, we will explore Athens' local markets through its local tastes, experiencing an amazing guided Greek street food tour and tasting! We will sample local delicacies such as the most famous Feta cheese, souvlaki, olives, loukoumades (honey dumplings) and bougatsa (a hot, sweet pie). At the end of this experience, we will rest in a traditional Kafenio (Greek coffee house) and enjoy very good Greek coffee.

Overnight: Athens

Sunday, Oct 8:

Transfer to airport for departure back to USA

A detailed map of Greece and its surrounding regions, including Macedonia, Bulgaria, Turkey, and the Aegean Islands. The map shows major cities like Athens, Thessaloniki, and various islands. The tour route is highlighted in red, starting from the north and moving south through the Aegean Islands and the Peloponnese Peninsula. The tour dates are prominently displayed at the top.

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Tour Cost:

- The tour price for Cyprus/Greece is \$4710 per person with flights from IAH
- Ground only price not including flights from IAH is \$3910
- The price is for double room occupancy. If you desire a single room for yourself, an extra \$1170 is required by the hotels

The price includes:

- Round trip flights from IAH. Other departure locations can be arranged, but the price may vary.
- 11 nights' accommodation in the 4* and 5* hotels on half board basis (Breakfast and Dinner).
- Entrance fees to sites as per the above list
- Dinners in hotels or local taverns as per program
- Street food tour ticket on Oct 7th
- Licensed Tour Guide throughout the tour
- Transportation in air-conditioned tourist bus throughout the tour
- Tips to hotel staff
- Porters' fees at hotels and at airports

Not included in the price:

- Lunches (expect about \$20-\$30/pp per day)
- Travel insurance (Mandatory)
- Travel and Cancellation Insurance (Highly recommended – approximately \$300, based on age and level of insurance)
- Any type of personal expenses
- Any expenses not mentioned in the above "included" list
- Tips to tour guide & bus Driver (\$240/cash)

Please note:

****Passports must not expire before April 8th, 2024**

****All restaurant's and hotel's kitchens used in our tours meet regular standards of food safety but are not equipped for extreme special requirements for those with severe allergies. Other services provided in our tour such as: vehicle, accommodation, etc. meet regular standards of cleanliness, but are also not equipped for extremely allergic situations.**

****Per hotel policies, food should be consumed in the dining areas and not carried into hotel rooms. All fees have already been covered under the above plan and cannot be paid directly to any hotel staff.**



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Reservation and Payment:

- Non-Refundable deposit of **\$500/per person** upon registering
- Full payment due by **June 12th, 2023**

** Payment in CC will require extra 3% processing fee

Cancellation terms:

- Cancellation before **May 20th, 2023** - Return of 100% of amount paid LESS the deposit **\$500/pax**
- Cancellation between **May 21st - June 12th, 2023** - Return of 50% of paid amount LESS deposit
- Cancellation after **June 13th, 2023** - No refund

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

To send a check with no additional fee, write check to:

Hope for Israel, 6355 N. Courtenay Pkwy, Merritt Island, FL 32953-4559

Memo Line: CYPRUS GREECE

To pay on credit card with an additional fee of ~3%:

- Hope for Israel website, www.hope4israel.org [1]
- click "Donation",
- then choose "Faithlife"
- Put in the \$\$, click the dropdown
- Click Cyprus Greece Tour
- Enter your email then click "NEXT"
- Fill in the information to pay the deposit
- Select the option to "cover fees"
- In the comments section, enter "CYPRUS GREECE"

Inquiries and information can be obtained at tours@toursofhope.net or by contacting Beverly Burton at (409) 904-1844.

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