

Turkey: In the Footsteps of St. Paul

Travel Dates: April 7 - 20, 2024

Logos
BIBLE STUDY

Led by Dr. Bill Creasy

Devotion *Travel*
A Division of Excitours



\$6,995.00 from Los Angeles, CA

(Includes: Roundtrip flights from Los Angeles, Intl. departure taxes, Turkey domestic flight, taxes, standard gratuities, and visas for U.S. citizens)

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**Day 1: Sunday,
April 7: Los
Angeles/ Istanbul**

We depart Los Angeles International Airport on our flight to Istanbul, Turkey.

**Day 2: Monday,
April 8: Istanbul**

This afternoon we arrive in Istanbul and transfer to our hotel where we relax after our long flight. Tonight, we have **dinner at a lovely restaurant**, our first experience of **delicious Turkish food**! Overnight at our hotel. (D)



**Day 3: Tuesday, April 9: Istanbul / Dardanelle Straits/
Canakkale**

This morning we depart Istanbul for the **ancient city of Troy**, driving along the north shore of the Sea of Marmara and **sailing across the Dardanelle straits**. Here “on the windy plains of Troy,” we visit the archaeological remains for an in-depth tour of the **city immortalized by Homer in the Iliad**. As a special treat, Dr. C. will teach Book 6 of the Iliad, onsite! **Countless others have visited the archaeological site of Troy**, including **Alexander the Great** and **Lord Byron**. Late this afternoon, we arrive in **Canakkale** at our hotel for dinner and an overnight. (B, D)

**Day 4: Wednesday, April 10: Canakkale / Pergamum/
Izmir**

Today, we head for **Izmir**, along the way visiting **Alexandria Troas**, **Dr. Luke’s home**, and then **Pergamum**, the **third of seven churches** that the risen and glorified Christ commands John to write to **in the Book of Revelation**. Here, the Lord says, “I know where you live—where Satan has his throne” (2:13). We visit the archaeological remains of this once-great city, including the **Great Altar of Zeus**, probably the target of the reference in Revelation. During our explorations, we will also visit the **Asclepieum**, the **great medical and healing center of the ancient world**. After lunch in Pergamum we continue to **Izmir**, where we check into the hotel for dinner and an overnight. (B, D)

**Day 5: Thursday, April 11: Izmir: Sardis, Philadelphia and
Thyatira**

Today, we make a daytrip to **Sardis**, **Philadelphia** and **Thyatira**—three more of the **seven churches in Revelation**. The Lord says of **Sardis**, “You have a reputation of being alive; but you are dead” (3:1); of **Philadelphia**, “I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan ... acknowledge that I have loved you” (3:9); and of **Thyatira**, “I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess” (2:20). Few people have seen the **archaeological remains** of these communities, and today we join their ranks! We return to our hotel, where we will have **dinner at a local restaurant**. (B, D)

Day 6: Friday, April 12: Izmir/ Kusadasi: Ephesus

Izmir is a modern city built on the remains of **ancient Smyrna**, the **second** among the **seven churches mentioned in Revelation**. We begin our day with a visit to the **Izmir Agora Open Air Museum**. We depart for **Kusadasi**, arriving at the traditional “**House of the Virgin Mary**,” where we will celebrate a **public Mass** with the **Franciscans** (*pending confirmation*). Next, we move on to the **stunning archaeological remains of Ephesus**. The largest and most complete archaeological site in Turkey—and one of the most spectacular archaeological sites in the world—**Paul** spent two years here, having “discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus” (Acts 19:9), at the end of which he said, “all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord” (Acts 19:10). We will visit the **great theater of Ephesus**, where a riot breaks out and Paul is nearly killed, and later in the afternoon we will visit the **site of Mary’s House**, where tradition holds that Jesus’ mother spent her last days. The **Apostle John** served as **leader of the church in Ephesus**, and it is the **first of the seven churches** that the Lord addresses in **Revelation**. Dinner and overnight in **Kusadasi**. (B, D)



**Day 7: Saturday, April 13: Kusadasi /Colossae/ Laodicea/
Pamukkale**

This morning we depart **Kusadasi** for **Pamukkale**, driving through the **valley of the Meander River**. The word “meander” is used to describe a winding pattern, after the river. Along the way we visit **Colossae**, where **Paul** founded a church by “remote control” and where a man named **Philemon** lived, along with his slave, **Onesimus**. Although Paul never visited Colossae, he wrote an epistle to the church here and a personal letter to **Philemon**. Next, we make our way to **Laodicea**, the **last of the seven churches in Revelation** and the church about which Jesus says, “You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked” (3:17). Arriving in **Pamukkale**, we visit the **site of ancient Hierapolis**, and then we check into our **thermal spa** hotel. We can **swim in the warm thermal pools** before sleeping soundly for the night! Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Day 8: Sunday, April 14: Pumakkale / Antalya

We begin this morning with a visit to the recently discovered **tomb of St. Philip the Apostle**. From there we make the long drive to Pisidian Antioch. In the afternoon, we tour the **archaeological site where Paul preached** his first recorded sermon, and we study this sermon in the remains of the synagogue where Paul preached it! After our study, we head south to Antalya, with a late arrival at our hotel. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Day 9: Monday April 15: Antalya: Perge

This morning we take a **short drive north to Perge**, where **Mark deserted Paul and Barnabas** on the **first missionary journey**. After touring this beautiful site, we return to Antalya for self-hosted lunch and an afternoon at leisure. We have dinner tonight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 10: Tuesday, April 16: Antalya /Konya/ Cappadocia

This morning, we begin a **daylong scenic drive** through the **Taurus Mountains to Cappadocia**. It is a day “in transit,” driving through **beautiful mountains and stunning scenery**. On our way, we will stop for self-hosted lunch and following with a visit the **Mausoleum of Mevlana**, located in Konya, of Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi, the **Persian Sufi mystic and founder of the Whirling Dervishes**. By day’s end we arrive in the **fantasy land** of Cappadocia, with its **curious rock formations** and “**faerie chimneys**.” Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 11: Wednesday, April 17: Cappadocia: Monastic Center of Goreme, Weaving Center and Whirling Dervishes

If the weather conditions permit, we begin our day at “0-dark-30” with an **optional hot air balloon ride** (*at an additional cost*) over the **stunning landscape of Cappadocia**. This is a **FABULOUS** experience, and highly recommended! After breakfast, we tour Cappadocia and visit the **Monastic Center of Goreme**, famous for its **churches hewn into the rocks** and the **underground city of Kaymakli**.

This afternoon, we visit a **weaving center** and have an opportunity to buy some of the most beautiful hand-woven carpets in the world. Here, we will learn the process of “**woven poetry**,” from the silkworm to the final product.

Later in the evening, we will **attend a religious ceremony of the Whirling Dervishes**. This is **NOT TO BE MISSED!** It is stunning, spectacular—and a profoundly spiritual experience. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 12: Thursday, April 18: Cappadocia / Istanbul: Blue



Mosque and Hagia Sophia

After breakfast, we depart this morning for our flight to Istanbul. After arriving, we will enjoy exploring the **Old City** by visiting the **famed Blue Mosque** and the **legendary Hagia Sophia**. In the afternoon, check in our hotel to relax before dining out at a **local restaurant**. Overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 13: Friday, April 19: Istanbul: Topkapi Palace, Museum of the Ancient Orient and Grand Bazaar and Bosphorus Cruise

On our last day in Turkey, we begin with a visit to the famous **Topkapi Palace**, the seat of the Ottoman Empire for 500 years and home of the Sultans. Our next visit is to the **Museum of the Ancient Orient** famed for relics unearthed from Holy Land and Old Testament sites. After our self-hosted lunch, this afternoon we enjoy a **tour** of the **Grand Bazaar** to hunt for bargains in the world of uncountable souvenirs. We return to hotel for some rest before your **private cruise** on the **Bosphorus**, for a beautiful panoramic view of exotic Istanbul, seeing the minarets of the Blue Mosque and the stunning dome of Hagia Sophia. Tonight, we conclude with an **amazing farewell dinner** at a **local restaurant**. This will be a time to share our many joys and memories and to bid farewell to our Turkish hosts and friends. Overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 14: Saturday, April 20: Istanbul/ Los Angeles

After breakfast, we depart for the airport and board our flight home, cherishing our memories of a beautiful country, the sites we have seen that make Scripture come alive, and our wonderful Turkish friends and colleagues. (B)

Note:

- This is a moderately strenuous tour, walking on archaeological sites, cobblestone streets and hills. For your safety and enjoyment, you should be able to walk a mile briskly and climb 100 stairs. Most sites are not handicapped accessible.
- While we do our very best to make sure all items listed in your itinerary are included, there are times when conditions beyond our control affect your program/itinerary, including but not limited to air carrier changes, delays, weather, political climate, time constraints, or changes by your group leader and tour guide.

Trip Price From —\$6,995.00

Trip price includes: round trip group coach air from Los Angeles; US and Intl. departure taxes; local group air fare— Cappadocia to Istanbul; visa for U.S. citizens; group transfers from group flights to group lodgings; accommodation and sightseeing per itinerary; certain meals per itinerary (listed as “B”, “L” or “D” in the daily itinerary); entrance fees to sights visited as noted in the itinerary; destination group ground transportation; local guide(s); and all standard taxes and gratuities. Prices based on a **minimum group size of 30**.

Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy. A deposit of \$750.00 per traveler based on double occupancy is due at registration. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. Full payment must be received by **December 15, 2023**. All offers are subject to availability, are capacity controlled and may be withdrawn at any time without prior notice. Trip price does not include airline baggage charges, travel insurance cost, individual transfers, optional items or personal expenses, or other items not listed as included in the itinerary. Lunches, meals/dinners not listed on the itinerary as included, and beverages at all meals are not included.

Devotion Travel reserves the right to add a surcharge if the dollar declines by more than 2% against the Euro on foreign exchange rates.

Post-booking changes in fees, fuel surcharges, and taxes may result in surcharges to each traveler. By taking this Trip, each traveler agrees that Devotion Travel (a division of Executours Travel Service "Executours") may pass along such increases to the Trip member to offset increased taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges and agrees to pay the additional charges to offset them.

Devotion Travel and/or Dr. Bill Creasy reserve the right to cancel this trip for any reason in their sole judgment, including insufficient minimum number of participants. Dr. Creasy and Devotion Travel may reschedule Trip dates; adjust, omit or limit itineraries or scheduled stops or activities; and/or substitute hotels or flight arrangements as circumstances warrant in their sole judgment.

Information and pricing are subject to change without notice. Additional restrictions, terms and conditions apply. We cannot be responsible for incomplete or inaccurate representations, which may not be under our control. In the event of a pricing error, misrepresentation, or omission, we reserve the right to adjust pricing or make other corrections.

Payment Schedule & Refund and Cancellation Fees Per Person

Cancellations must be received in writing to be effective. Fees are based on the date written notice of cancellation is received by Devotion Travel.

From registration until November 30, 2023, fee is \$500.00.

From December 1 - 14, 2023, fee is 100% of deposit.

Final payment due: December 15, 2023.

From December 16, 2023 - January 5, 2024 – cancellation fee is 50% of Trip price.

From January 6 - February 1, 2024 – cancellation fee is 75% of Trip price.

On/after February 2, 2024 -- 100% cancellation fee (no refund).

If final payment is not received by **December 15, 2023**: a late payment fee of \$250 will be assessed or we may cancel your registration and refund your payment, less applicable cancellation fee.

Health/Mobility

This trip requires walking (including on rough and uneven surfaces), climbing stairs and inclines, and at times significant exertion in order to see and experience all aspects of the itinerary.

The itinerary is not suitable for and cannot be fully accessed by persons with limited mobility, including persons who use a wheelchair or walker. Trip members should consult their personal physician for individual assessments and recommendations. Any needed assistance must be provided by the traveler at his/her expense and cannot be provided by Devotion Travel or Logos Bible Study.

Optional Travel Insurance

For your convenience we offer a travel protection plan provided by Allianz Global Assistance (DBA Allianz Travel Insurance).

The full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, are contained in the [Description of Coverage](#) or call Allianz at (866) 884-3556 for any specific travel insurance questions you may have, reference **Plan Code: ACCAM F204731**.

This trip includes an optional hot air balloon ride (at an additional cost). **Please note activities such as hot air ballooning may be excluded from coverage on the offered travel insurance plan.** To learn more or **should you have any questions, please contact Allianz at (866) 884-3556 and reference Plan Code: ACCAM F204731.**

Travel insurance is offered through Devotion Travel. Devotion Travel is not an insurance agent or broker and cannot answer questions or provide advice concerning coverage or technical questions about the travel insurance.

Terms, exclusions, and limits are governed by the coverage documents (available on request). **Travel insurance payment is non-refundable.** Estimated Trip insurance cost is \$516.00 insures up to \$7,000.00 Trip cost.

Registration Form

A signed registration form (Seller of Travel disclosures available online) is required from each traveler agreeing to the terms and conditions for the Trip.

Space is Limited to 1 motorcoach!

To Book or For More Information

E-mail us at groups@devotiontravel.com

Call us at (310) 857-5000, or

Fax (310) 552-2622

Website: [Logos Bible Study - Devotion Travel](#)

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