

# Journey to Greece

Proposed Itinerary to Greece in April 2010

19 April – 04 May 2010

Escorted by the Reverend Scott Holmes



Greece – what better place to explore the history of Western philosophy and religion. Join with me as we spend two weeks roaming the ancient temples, monasteries and cities in which the great themes of human life were articulated in debate and dogma. Along the way we will meet with many familiar names and places – St Paul at Corinth, the Oracle at Delphi, Homer, the Spartans, and the Olympians, to name just a few. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to expand our minds as we explore the beautiful vista that is Greece.

## Day 1 Mon 19 April

### Depart Melbourne

Depart Melbourne this afternoon on your Singapore Airlines flight to Athens via Singapore.

## Day 2 Tue 20 April

### Arrival Thessaloniki

Upon arrival in Athens, transfer to your domestic Olympic Airlines flight to Thessaloniki. On arrival, we will be met by our guide and transferred to the hotel. Balance of the day at leisure for rest  
Dinner & overnight in Thessaloniki

## Day 3 Wed 21 April

### Thessaloniki / Philippi / Kavala (Neapolis)

In the morning we depart Thessaloniki and drive via the Lakes Koronia and Volvi to Philippi. Here St. Paul delivered his first sermon in Europe and sowed the seeds of Christianity. It is also here that he baptized “a woman named Lydia” the first Christian convert in Europe. The Roman Forum, completely excavated, was built after Paul’s time. Among the ruins, located on the rocky ledge above the town’s main road, is the alleged “prison” where Paul and Silas were supposedly chained. It was in Philippi that Octavian and Anthony defeated Brutus and Cassius, the last defenders of the Roman Republic in 42 B.C. We follow the Via Egnatia, remnant of Rome’s highway system, viewing Roman and Greek tombstones and ruts of ancient chariot wheels. We then proceed to the modern port city of Kavala (ancient Neapolis) where Paul, accompanied by Silas, Luke and Timothy, first set foot in Europe. Aside from the great panoramas of Kavala, the city has a Byzantine castle, and aqueduct.  
Return to Thessaloniki for dinner & overnight.

## Day 3 Thu 22 April

### Thessaloniki

Today become acquainted with Thessaloniki, built about 315 B.C. by Cassander, brother-in-law of Alexander the Great. St. Paul wrote two epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. In the morning we enjoy a city tour of Thessaloniki – White Tower, Egnatia Avenue, Arch of Galerius and visit the early Byzantine Church and Crypt of St. Dimitrios, one of the oldest in the world. We then proceed to the “upper city” of Thessaloniki to see the remains of the Byzantine acropolis. Here was the house of Jason where St. Paul stayed during his visit to Thessaloniki. We then visit the Byzantine Church of St. Dimitrios (and crypt) and that of St. Sophia.  
Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.

## Day 4 Fri 23 April

### Thessaloniki / Veria / Vergina / Kalambaka

We depart Thessaloniki in the morning and drive to Veria, located on the ruins of Ancient Beroea, famous for its more than 70 Byzantine churches also known as “little Jerusalem”. Here we visit the Bema of St. Paul, the Byzantine mosaic monument commemorating his preaching.

We continue to Vergina, the first capital of the Macedonian Kingdom, where we visit the “Vergina findings”, treasures of Ancient Macedonia and the tomb of King Philip II of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great. Continue drive to Kalambaka. Dinner and overnight in Kalambaka.

## Day 5 Sat 24 April

### Meteora/ Delphi

In the morning we visit Meteora. Among striking scenery perched on top of huge rocks, which seem to be suspended in mid-air, stand ageless monasteries containing priceless Byzantine art. We will visit one or two of the monasteries here.

Depart from Kalambaka and drive via Trikala and Lamia to Delphi.

Dinner and overnight in Delphi

## Day 6 Sun 25 April

### Delphi / Olympia

In the morning we visit the museum in Delphi with its renowned bronze sculpture, “The Charioteer” and other famous pieces. At the archaeological site we visit the Temple of Apollo, the Athenian Treasury and Castalian Spring.

Depart Delphi and cross over the new bridge connecting the mainland with the Peloponnese. Once in Peloponnese, we continue the drive via Patras to Olympia.

Dinner and overnight in Olympia

## Day 7 Mon 26 April

### Olympia / Sparta

In the morning we visit the archaeological site and museum in Olympia, the cradle of the Olympic games. In the afternoon the drive takes us to Sparta. Dinner and overnight in Sparta

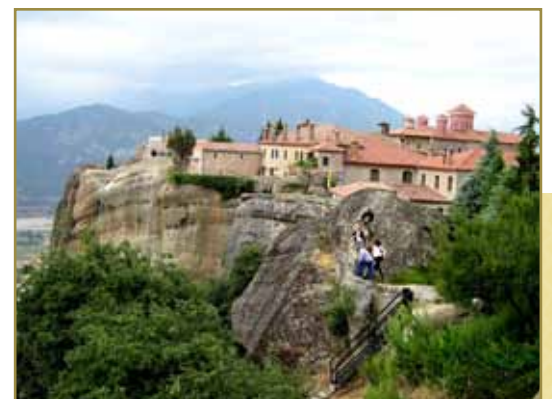
## Day 8 Tue 27 April

### Sparta / Mystras / Tolo

In the morning we visit the castle and archaeological site in Mystras

In the afternoon the drive takes us to Nafplion.

Dinner and overnight in Tolo, a small summer resort town



### Day 9 Wed 28 April

#### Tolo (Epidaurus and Mycenae)

In the morning we visit the theatre of Epidaurus famous for its astonishing acoustics. Thereafter we continue to Mycenae and visit the Lion's gate, the Cyclopean walls, the Royal Tombs etc...

Dinner and overnight in Tolo, a small summer resort town

### Day 10 Thu 29 April

#### 10 Ancient Corinth/Athens

Proceed to Ancient Corinth and visit the Archaeological Museum, the Bema of St. Paul, and the Market Place and Temples. Corinth was home to St Paul for 18 months. From the Bema at Corinth, Paul spoke to the Corinthians about Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We continue to the Corinth Canal, which separates Peloponnese from the Greek Mainland and connects the two Seas (Ionian and Aegean). After a short stop, we continue our way to Athens.

Balance of the day at leisure.

Dinner and overnight in Athens

### Day 11 Fri 30 April

#### Athens (Acropolis & Mars Hill & Archaeological Museum)

In the morning we enjoy a sightseeing city tour of Athens, the cradle of democracy. The tour includes a visit to the world renowned Acropolis, with the ruins of the Parthenon, Erectheum, Propylea. Thereafter ascend Aeropagus "Mars Hil", where Paul preached. We also visit the Agora (ancient market place) the House of Parliament, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Presidential Palace, the Panathenaic Stadium, the Temple of Olympian Zeus, Hadrian's Arch etc.

In the afternoon we visit the National archaeological museum of Athens. Dinner and overnight in Athens

### Day 12 Sat 01 May

#### Athens (Cape Sounion)

A.M. free at leisure

P.M. excursion to Cape Sounion and visit of the Temple of Poseidon

Dinner /overnight in Athens

### Day 13 Sun 02 May

#### Athens

Free day OR optional 1-day cruise to the islands of Hydra-Poros-Egina.

Dinner and overnight in Athens.

### Day 14 Mon 03 May

#### Departure

Transfer to the airport for your Singapore Airlines flight home.

### Day 15 Tue 04 May

#### Arrive Melbourne

Arrive back into Melbourne today after a wonderful trip!



**TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE ESTIMATE TO GREECE:**

AUD\$5690.00\* per person twin share

Single supplement:

AUD\$1125.00\*

Optional 3 Island Day Cruise Supplement On Day 13:

AUD\$230 per person\*

\* Price is based on a minimum of 20 full paying participants. Conditions apply. Price is subject to change

#### PRICE INCLUDES:

- Return economy airfares from Melbourne to Athens with Singapore Airlines
- One way economy class airfare from Athens to Thessaloniki with Olympic Airlines
- **Accommodation:**
  - 13 nights including breakfast & dinner (except in Athens) as follows:
  - 3 nights at hotel Capsis in Thessaloniki
  - 1 night at hotel Amalia in Kalambaka
  - 1 night at hotel Amalia in Delphi
  - 1 night at hotel Europa in Olympia
  - 1 night at hotel Maniatis in Sparta
  - 2 nights at hotel Tolon Holidays (3-star superior) in Tolo
  - 4 nights at hotel Titania in Athens (2 nights with just breakfasts and 2 nights with breakfasts and dinners)
- 1 dinner (meat menu) in Plaka
- 1 dinner (fish menu) in Fokaia (near Cape Sounion)
- Entrance fees to all archaeological sites & museums
- English speaking guide covering all sites mentioned in the program
- Air conditioned deluxe coach
- All tips, gratuities and portorage

#### PRICE EXCLUDES:

- Airport & departure taxes
- Entrance/sightseeing/meals other than those in the itinerary
- Single supplement
- Travel insurance
- Lunches
- Incidental expenses of a personal nature such as phone calls, laundry, room service etc.
- Any services not listed in 'Price Includes' above

#### PROPOSED AIRLINE ITINERARY:

Melbourne - Singapore - Athens  
SINGAPORE AIRLINES  
Athens - Thessaloniki  
OLYMPIC AIRLINES  
Athens - Singapore - Melbourne  
SINGAPORE AIRLINES

#### OPTIONAL POST TOUR 4 NIGHT GREEK ISLANDS CRUISE (SAILS ON 3RD May 2010)

Standard Inside Cabin: AUD\$1399 per person (twin share)

Standard Outside Cabin: AUD\$1599 per person (twin share)

Superior Inside Cabin: AUD\$1499 per person (twin share)

Superior Outside Cabin: AUD\$1699 per person (twin share)

Single supplement: AUD\$650

\* Price includes port taxes, private transfers from hotel to port and port to airports. Subject to change. Conditions apply.  
Payment for cruise due by 15 October 2009

#### WHAT TO DO NEXT:

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking from Reverend Scott or Steven Green at etm travel
2. To secure your place, a booking deposit of \$350 per person is required by 15th October 2009
3. The balance payment is required by 15 February 2010

#### MORE INFORMATION:

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#### Steven Green

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