

BAYLOR in Turkey and Greece

May 17- June 12, 2020

May 17 Sun Departure from US

May 18 Mon ARRIVE ATHENS

Upon arrival in Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" our representative will meet, welcome and assist in your transfer to the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Athens. (B, D)

May 19 Tue ATHENS (ACROPOLIS - MARS HILL – ACROPOLIS MUSEUM - PLAKA)

At 9:00a.m. we enjoy our full-day sightseeing tour of *Athens*. We will walk to the *Acropolis Hill* the sacred rock of Athens, the citadel and the sanctuary of the city in antiquity. We visit the famous *Parthenon* and the *Erechtheion*. (B,D)

May 20 Wed ATHENS (ANCIENT AGORA – NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM)

At 9a.m. we will start our sightseeing tour with a panoramic bus tour to see the highlights of Athens: we pass by the *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*, *Parliament House*, *the Academy*, *the University of Athens*, *the National Library*, *Panathenaic Stadium*, *Temple of Olympian Zeus*, and *Hadrian's Arch*. (B, D)

May 21 Thur ATHENS - CORINTH CANAL - CORINTH - NAFPLION (B,D)

At 8:30a.m. depart from Athens and drive along the coastal highway of Saronic Gulf. Arrive at the Corinth Canal for a brief stop and then continue on to the *Ancient city of Corinth*. (B,D)

May 22 Fri EPIDAURUS - MYCENAE - NAFPLION

Morning visit to *Mycenae* where we see the remains of the prehistoric citadel fortified with the *Cyclopean Walls*, the *Lionesses' Gate*, the remains of the *Mycenaean Palace* and the *Tomb of King Agamemnon* in which we will actually enter. After lunch we continue on to visit *Epidauros*: the *Sanctuary of Asclepius*, ancient god of healing. (B,D)

May 23 Sat NAFPLION - OLYMPIA

Morning drive through the Central Peloponnese area passing the commercial provincial towns of Tripoli and Megalopolis through the mountains of Arcadia, home of Pan and the Nymphs, onwards to *Ancient Olympia*. Here, we will visit *Ancient Olympia*, the birthplace of the Olympic Games and the most important sanctuary of Zeus. (B,D)

May 24 Sun OLYMPIA – PATRAS - DELPHI

Morning drive to *Patras*, and then on to Rion where we cross the new suspended bridge considered to be the longest in Europe. We drive from Antirion through Nafpaktos and we arrive in *Delphi*, the site of the Oracle. (B,D)

May 25 Mon DELPHI TOUR

Morning visit to the archaeological site of *Delphi*, where we see the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Athenian Treasury and Tholos. Rest of the day at leisure in Delphi to explore the town on your own. (B,D)

May 26 Tue DELPHI - ATHENS AIRPORT - FLY TO CHANIA, CRETE (with Nick Lanser)

Early morning departure from Delphi and drive to Athens Airport for mid-morning flight to *Chania*, Crete. (B,D)

May 27 Wed CHANIA PRIVATE GLASS BOTTOM BOAT TOUR TO LAZARETTA & AG. THEODORI

Private glass bottom boat cruise.(B,D)

May 28 Thur CHANIA – KNOSSOS & HERAKLION CITY & ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Today we will drive to Heraklion to visit *Knossos*, the capital of Minoan Crete and the centre of the first European Civilization. Here we will learn about the peak of the Minoan culture in 2000 B.C. We will see the mythological Labyrinth and the remains of the Palace and the courtyards with the most prominent features. (B,D)

May 29 Fri CHANIA

Free day to enjoy the hotel and the beach. (B,D)

May 30 Sat Fly from Crete to Istanbul via Athens

Morning group transfer to Chania Airport for departure flight to Athens and connection flight to Istanbul. Arrival to Istanbul (New Airport). Meet and greet. Transfer to the hotel. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.(B,D)

May 31 Sun Istanbul

Full day Istanbul tour; visit the Roman Hippodrome, the Blue Mosque –from the outside, the Hagia Sophia, one of the world's greatest architectural marvels and a designated World Heritage site. Then visit the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. Finish the day at the colorful Grand Bazaar. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.(B,D)

June 1 Mon Istanbul

Continue to discover Istanbul. Visit the Galata Tower, the famous Istiklal street, and visit the Jewish Museum. (B,D)

Jun 2 Tue Istanbul

Visit the fragrant Spice Market and then enjoy a Bosphorus boat tour, seeing both European and Asian shores of Istanbul. Then visit Sveti Stephan Church and Chora Church. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. **(B,D)**

June 3 Wed Istanbul - Troy- Alexander Troas- Assos

Drive to Çanakkale. Cross the Dardanelles Strait by car ferry. Proceed to Troy to see the legendary city of Homer's Iliad. Continue to Alexandria Troas, the important port founded after Alexander the Great. Dinner and overnight in Assos. **(B,D)**

June 4 Thur Assos

We enjoy a morning visit to Assos acropolis and harbor. Free afternoon. Overnight in Assos. **(B,D)**

June 5 Fri Pergamum – Kuşadası

Morning departure for Pergamon where we will visit the Acropolis with the steepest theater of the ancient world. and the Temple of Trajan. Continue to Kuşadası for dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

June 6 Sat Ephesus

Visit the famous ancient city of Ephesus with its spectacular Terrace Houses, Basilica of John, the Ephesus Archaeological Museum and the ancient Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Dinner and overnight. Lunch at the carpet school. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi. **(B,D)**

June 7 Sun Miletus – Didyma – Priene

Drive to Miletos, visit the famous theater and the remains of the site. Continue to Didyma to visit the well preserved Temple of Apollo. Afternoon proceed to Priene, a Greco-Roman city visited by Alexander the Great and is located near the Mykale mountains. Back to Kuşadası for Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

June 8 Mon Pamukkale- Hieropolis- Pamukkale

Then on to Hierapolis that is blessed by hot mineral springs and some of the best-preserved Roman ruins in Asia Minor. Today, the area is known as Pamukkale, meaning "Cotton Castle." It is named for the limestone-laden hot springs that cascade from one white-edged terrace pool to the next. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale. **(B,D)**

June 9 Tue Laodicea – Sardis - Izmir

Morning visit to Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches. Visit the theater, temple, nymphaeum and columned streets. Then visit Sardis, the site of ancient Lydian capital and where the first coins were minted. Drive to Izmir for dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

June 10 Wed Izmir

Morning visit the ancient Agora of Smyrna, then the museum of History. Afternoon visit the church of St. Polycarp. Dinner and overnight in Izmir. **(B,D)**

June 11 Thu Izmir – Final exams

Dinner and overnight in Izmir. **(B,D)**

June 12 Fri Izmir Departure

Morning transfer to airport for departure home.

INCLUDED:

- Athens- Heraklion flight
- Heraklion- Istanbul flight
- En suite lodging throughout
- Daily breakfasts and dinner at the hotels and at selected restaurants
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- All land transportation by private fully A/C bus with experienced driver throughout the tour
- Local English speaking professional licensed tour guides during all sightseeing
- Reduced entrance fees to the sites and museums for students. All students must present a valid Student ID card to get benefit of the discount.
- English speaking escorted group transfers between ports/airport and hotels in mainland and on the island.
- All local service charges & local taxes & VAT

EXCLUDED:

- Baylor tuition
- International flights - You need to arrange your international flights arriving **Athens on May 18 & departing IZMIR June 12.**

- All lunches and drinks at meals.
- All personal expenses, any other service which are not mentioned above
- Turkish Visa Fee to be obtained online before arrival www.evisa.gov.tr