

AEGEAN TRADITIONS
A tour to Greece and Turkey
Hosted by Rev Carol Hebron Obl.OSB
Anglican Parish of Logan, Qld

- Day 1 Thu 25 Sep Brisbane (Aust) Dep: 1445 SQ236 Singapore Airlines
Singapore Arr: 2045
- Day 2 Fri 26 Sep **Istanbul** Dep: 2335 SQ490 Singapore Airlines
Arr: 0740
Upon arrival in Istanbul we shall be met at the airport and transferred to our city hotel for check-in. In the afternoon we shall embark on a sightseeing tour of the Old City, including visits to the Blue Mosque, the Hippodrome, centre of sporting events in ancient times, and the magnificent St Sophia, one of the greatest marvels of architecture, originally constructed as a basilica in the 6th century by Emperor Justinian. **(D)**
STAY: Nazar Hotel or similar
- Day 3 Sat 27 Sep **Istanbul**
A full day of sightseeing is planned including visits to the Spice Market, the Suleymaniye Mosque, masterpiece of famous architect Sinan, built during the 16th century, and the impressive Topkapi Palace. Lunch is at Konyali Restaurant in the Palace grounds. Afterwards we continue to the Grand Bazaar, the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops. **(B,L)**
- Day 4 Sun 28 Sep **Istanbul**
After breakfast we transfer to Christ Church for the 10am Eucharist. Afterwards we plan to visit the Church of St. Saviour in Chora, originally part of a Byzantine Monastery. Rest of the day is free. **(B,D)**
- Day 5 Mon 29 Sep **Istanbul**
A day at leisure for last minutes shopping or sightseeing. Optional tours will be offered. (see below) **(B)**
- Day 6 Tue 30 Sep **Istanbul / Gallipoli / Canakkale**
Travel south this morning, along the peninsula. After lunch we arrive at Gallipoli where we spend time visiting the sites, including the War Museum at Kabatepe, North Beach, Anzac Cove, Beach Cemetery, Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair. Continue on to Canakkale for overnight. **(B,L,D)**
STAY: Ida Kale Resort Hotel or similar
- Day 7 Wed 01 Oct **Canakkale / Pergamon / Izmir**
Our first visit this morning is to the site of ancient Troy. We then proceed to Pergamon and visit the Acropolis which has the steepest theatre of the ancient world, the ruins of the Temple of Trojan and the Library. After lunch we continue to the Asklepion, the ancient healing centre, and also the remains of the Red Basilica, which was one of the seven Churches of the Revelation. Continue on to Izmir for overnight. **(B,L,D)**
STAY: Hotel Kaya Prestige or similar
- Day 8 Thu 02 Oct **Izmir / Ephesus / Izmir**
Drive to Ephesus this morning visiting the shrine of the Virgin Mary en route. After exploring the site of Ephesus we shall have lunch and then continue to the Archaeological Museum and St John's Basilica. (*Time permitting – if we are permitted to have a Eucharist at Virgin Mary House we may not have time to include the Archaeological Museum.*) Return to Izmir for overnight. **(B,L,D)**
- Day 9 Fri 03 Oct **Izmir**
Once known as Smyrna, Izmir is today a large thriving interesting city. This morning we shall visit the ancient Agora, ascend Mount Pagus, visit Alexander the Great's castle overlooking the city and also the Archaeological and Ethnographical Museums. We will have time to visit the Bazaar and the remainder of the day will be free. **(B,D)**

- Day 10 Sat 04 Oct **Izmir / Bursa**
 We now drive north to the spa centre of Bursa, the first capital of the Ottoman Empire. We shall visit the Green Mosque, Yesil Turbe, the tomb of Memet I who died in 1421, the Ulu Cami, the first congregational mosque erected by the Ottomans and continue to the Bazaar for shopping. Bursa is renowned for the beautiful silks available in this bazaar. **(B,L,D)**
STAY: Hotel Almira or similar
- Day 11 Sun 05 Oct **Bursa / Istanbul**
 After breakfast we drive back to Istanbul in time for embarkation on *MV CRISTAL*. Ship sails in the late afternoon. **(B,D)**
- Day 12 Mon 06 Oct **Sailing – visit to Mykonos**
 Ship will arrive at the port of Mykonos in mid afternoon. Time to go ashore and explore the exciting little township before the ship sails at midnight. **(B,L,D)**
- Day 13 Tue 07 Oct **Sailing – visit to Patmos and Kusadasi**
 The ship will arrive in Patmos, site of St John's exile, early this morning. We have arranged for a private shore excursion to St John's Monastery and the Grotto of the Apocalypse. We sail at 10.30 for the Turkish resort city of Kusadasi. Time to go ashore and explore before we sail on in the evening. **(B,L,D)**
- Day 14 Wed 08 Oct **Sailing – visit to Rhodes**
 We arrive in Rhodes harbour early this morning and a private shore excursion has been arranged to show us the sights of the island including the Old City, constructed by the Knights of St John in the 13th century and the delightful village of Lindos with its impressive acropolis overlooking the Bay of St Paul. Ship sails early evening. **(B,D)**
- Day 15 Thu 09 Oct **Sailing – Visit to Heraklion and Santorini**
 This morning we drop anchor at Heraklion, capital of Crete. Join our private shore excursion *A Taste of Crete* which will include a winery visit and the quaint market town of Archanes. We set sail at midday for the short cruise to Santorini. We shall be moored here for about four hours – ample time to ride a donkey (or take the funicular) up the steep cliff-face to the down of Thira perched on top. With luck we may get to see the sunset for which the island is world-famous. **(B,L,D)**
- Day 16 Fri 10 Oct **Piraeus / Delphi**
 We arrive at Piraeus, the port of Athens, very early this morning. First we travel across southern Greece to Delphi for our overnight stay. **(B,D)**
STAY: Amalia Delphi Hotel or similar
- Day 17 Sat 11 Oct **Delphi / Kalambaka**
 This morning we visit the Archaeological Museum and explore the ancient site of Delphi. We then start the long drive to northern Greece to the town of Kalambaka. Time permitting, we may be able to visit an icon factory en route. **(B,D)**
STAY: Amalia Kalambaka Hotel or similar
- Day 18 Sun 12 Oct **Kalambaka / Meteora / Athens**
 A treat is in store this morning as we visit two of the monasteries perched on top of the monolithic rocks of Meteora. We then travel via the central plains to Athens. **(B,D)**
STAY: Amalia Athens Hotel or similar
- Day 19 Mon 13 Oct **Athens**
 City sightseeing this morning including the city centre, Olympic stadium and we then visit the Acropolis. Free time this afternoon for shopping or exploring or you may like to join an optional tour to Cape Sounion. **(B)**
- Day 20 Tue 14 Oct **Athens**
 Today has been left free. Athens has a wealth of sights to intrigue the visitor, or you may prefer to relax at a sidewalk café in Plaka and watch the Athenians (and tourists) go about their daily business. For those interested, we will be able to offer an optional sightseeing tour

to Epidaurus and Mycenae, both fascinating archaeological sites, situated on the Peloponnese. Depending on numbers and interest, a private tour to ancient Corinth is also possible today. This evening we shall all join up for a farewell dinner at a typical Greek taverna in Plaka. **(B,D)**

Day 21 Wed 15 Oct	Athens	The morning is free before we transfer to the airport for our return flight to Australia.		
	Athens	Dep: 1315	SQ 347	Singapore Airlines
Day 22 Thu 16 Oct	Singapore	Arr: 0510		
		Dep: 0955	SQ245	Singapore Airlines
	Brisbane	Arr: 1925		

TOUR COST: Land/Cruise Only: **AUD 6330** (share twin throughout)
Land/Cruise/International airfares: **AUD 7930** (share twin throughout)

INCLUSIONS:

- **Accommodation** – hotels are mainly locally graded 4/5* with private facilities. (Tour based on share twin accommodation. Ship accommodation is in inside twin-bedded cabins.) Supplement is payable for passengers requiring single rooms on land or on the cruise.
- **Meals** – breakfasts (Continental) throughout. Additional meals will be provided as detailed above: **L = Lunch, D = Dinner**. All meals are provided on the cruise component – except when passengers choose to go ashore and not return at meal times.
- **Entrances** – we have arranged for pre-payment of entrances as follows:
Istanbul – Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, S.Sophia, Topkapi Palace, Sulemaniye Mosque
Gallipoli sites; Pergamum, Asklepion, Troy, Ephesus, Green Mosque, Yesil Turbe, Ulu Cami.
Greece – Acropolis, Meteora, Delphi
- **Touring** – in air-conditioned coach or mini-bus (depending on group size) with driver and English speaking guide. This is a private tour.
- **Shore Excursions** – private excursions will be provided in Patmos, Heraklion and Rhodes.
- **Port Taxes / Fuel Surcharges** – in relation to the cruise component.
- **On board tips and gratuities** – in relation to the cruise component, as required by the cruise line. Additional private tipping is at your discretion.
- **Airfares** – Australia/ Istanbul and Athens/Australia economy class airfares with Singapore Airlines. Canterbury Tours reserves the right to change bookings to an alternative carrier if necessary, depending on costs and schedules. Upgrades to Business and/or First Class may be available – we are happy to provide details of additional costs required.

NOT INCLUDED:

- **Airline taxes / airport charges.** These taxes change daily and the payment of them is as will prevail on the date of payment. It is expected that an amount of A\$400+ should be allowed to cover these taxes – this is an approximation only.
- **Tips** – to driver and guide, and anywhere else you have received good service.
- **Insurance** – Travel Insurance is extremely important. You are at liberty to arrange this through your own insurance provider. However, Travelmarket, in association with Canterbury Tours, will be happy to arrange this on your behalf.
- **Passport and visa fees.** At time of publication an entry visa is required for Turkey – approximate cost is AUD25, payable on arrival.
- **Drinks** with meals
- **Items of a personal nature** – this goes without saying!

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS:

The following supplements are available if required, and if available:

- Single Supplement Land Only: **AUD 720** - **Please Note: limited single rooms are available in Turkey and Greece. Single rooms are on application and the numbers available are limited by local legislation. An additional surcharge may be payable if the group limit on single rooms has been reached at the time of your booking.**
- Single Supplement Cruise Only, Inside Cabin: **AUD 846**

We have a limited number of outside cabins on the ship which attract a further supplement to be paid:

- Outside cabin supplement, share twin : **AUD 982pp**
- Outside cabin supplement for single use on cruise: **AUD 1485**

Please Note: it is acceptable to pay the basic tour cost (\$7930) and include a single supplement for your hotel accommodation, without requiring a single cabin on the ship or vv. Please ask for clarification of your individual requirements.

OPTIONAL SIGHTSEEING:

Additional sightseeing tours, during this tour, will be available as follows:

- Bosphorus Cruise in Istanbul
- Istanbul by Night – dinner and show
- Cape Sounion Tour in Athens
- Epidaurus / Mycenae Tour – full day including lunch
- Visit to Ancient Corinth – *depending on numbers*

ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Travelmarket, in association with Canterbury Tours, will be happy to arrange any extensions to your tour. Hotels, touring, flight reservations, car hire, rail travel, cruising etc may be booked at the end of your tour. Your airline ticket is valid for 12 months, and you may return from alternative European cities, subject to availability. Should you require a stopover on your return journey to Australia, Singapore Airlines offers attractive stopover packages in Singapore for one day or several days.

Additional nights in Athens and extensions to the Greek Islands may be booked to allow for personal sightseeing.

IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE:

While every effort has been made to assess the cost of this tour as a whole, should there be variances to currency exchange rates and/or increases in airline fares, Canterbury Tours reserves the right to impose a surcharge to the quoted cost.

Should the tour numbers not reach the minimum required to obtain the quoted price, the tour may have to be cancelled. In this case a full refund of monies paid would be offered, or alternatively, the group as booked would be offered the option to proceed with the tour at a price to cover the reduced numbers.

Deposit

A deposit of \$500 per person is required to confirm a place on the tour. Please consider Cancellation Insurance at this time, as this deposit is non-refundable except under extreme circumstances.

Balance of Payment

Full payment of the balance of the tour cost will be due and payable by Friday 11 July 2008. After that date all unused accommodation will be released to the overseas suppliers, and late applications to join the tour will be possible only upon request and consultation with the various overseas suppliers and the airline concerned.

Airline Schedules

As the operation of airline schedules is beyond our control, should we be notified of a change to our reserved flights we will immediately advise all passengers and either (a) arrange bookings with an alternative carrier; or (b) make adjustments to the itinerary to accommodate the flight changes.

Health

This tour is not strenuous, though there are days when quite a deal of walking is required, and often on cobblestoned streets, or over ancient stoney sites – please consider your individual capabilities in this regard. The tour is not rushed and will be conducted to please all passengers if possible. The nature of the touring determines that we have a number of one-night only stopovers (Canakkale, Bursa, Kalambaka, Delphi). We are not planning very early morning starts, though there are days when several hours will of necessity need to be spent in travelling.

If you require any information regarding the performance of sightseeing etc on this tour, we would be happy to clarify.