



**National
Community
Church**

NATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH GREECE - IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL MARCH 4-14, 2022

Friday March 4, 2022

Depart U.S.A.

Saturday March 5, 2022

Arrive Athens. Fly to Thessaloniki. Overnight Thessaloniki.

Sunday March 6, 2022

We begin our morning driving out of *Thessaloniki* journeying east towards *Philippi* (Acts 16:11-40; Philippians). Our first stop is the site of *Amphipolis* (Acts 17:1) where one of the things we will see is the Lion of Amphipolis. We will also visit the small, but important museum at Amphipolis, which contains artifacts from the Roman period. We continue on to the modern city of *Kavala*, ancient *Neapolis* (Acts 16:11), where Paul first came onto the European continent. After visiting *Kavala* and eating our lunch there, we visit *Philippi* where Paul encountered Lydia (Acts 16:11-15) and established a community, to which he wrote one of his letters. At *Philippi*, we see the theater, the Agora, as well as the Byzantine Basilica. After visiting the small museum of *Philippi*, we will see a stretch of the ancient Roman road, the *Via Egnatia*, which stretched across northern Greece, and was utilized by Paul as he journeyed through the region. We return to our *Thessaloniki* for dinner and overnight.

Monday March 7, 2022

Our first stop this morning is the ancient site of *Pella*, the capital of the glorious kingdom of ancient Macedonia and the birthplace of Alexander the Great. In addition to visiting the ancient site, we tour the museum at *Pella*, which speaks to the wealth and grandeur of the Macedonian kingdom. From *Pella*, we travel to *Vergina* where we visit the royal tombs of Philip II, the father of Alexander the Great. After lunch in *Vergina*, we drive to *Berea*, where the Apostle Paul arrived and according to custom went to the synagogue. We will see the Byzantine mosaic in the monument commemorating Paul's visit to *Berea* (Acts 17:10-11). We return to *Thessaloniki* for dinner and overnight.

Tuesday March 8, 2022

The focus of our tour today is the city of *Thessaloniki*. Amid the bustling modern city, we will explore the remains of the ancient city of *Thessaloniki* (Acts 17:1-9; 1 and 2 Thessalonians). We begin our morning visiting the *Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki*, where we will learn about the history of the city, especially in the Hellenistic and Roman periods. Our journey today takes us to a panoramic lookout of the city from the upper Old City walls. We visit the *Roman Agora* in the center of the city, as well as, drive along *Egnatian Way* to the *Arch of Galerius* and the *Rotunda*. After our touring day, we travel to the airport to fly to *Athens* where we will be met by a local representative and transferred to our hotel. Overnight *Athens*.

Wednesday March 9, 2022

We begin our morning visiting the *National Archaeological Museum* where we will see artifacts from Greece's magnificent ancient history. From the museum, we continue on a city tour that introduces us to the highlights of the city of *Athens*. Much of the afternoon will be free for people to explore the marvelous city of *Athens* and shop in its markets. Overnight in *Athens*.

Thursday March 10, 2022

Today our tour travels outside of *Athens* to the ancient site of *Delphi*. The Oracle of Delphi was the most important and well-known oracle in the ancient world. In addition to the site, we visit the museum at *Delphi*, which contains artifacts from the site and illustrates the importance of this mountainous settlement. After our day, we return to *Athens* for dinner and overnight.

Friday March 11, 2022

Today our touring explores the ancient city of *Athens*, the birthplace of democracy. Our morning begins at the *New Acropolis Museum*. This beautiful, state-of-the-art museum is dedicated to the artifacts and excavations of the *Acropolis*. After gaining an appreciation for the ancient site, we walk up the *Acropolis*, and visit the *Parthenon*, the temple dedicated to the Greek goddess Athena. We then walk down to visit the *Areopagus, Mars Hill* where Paul encountered the council of *Athens* (Acts 17:16-34). Continuing down the hill, we come to the *Agora of Athens* and the *Stoa of Attalos*. Overnight *Athens*.

Saturday March 12, 2022

We leave *Athens* today and drive south into the *Peloponnese*, the peninsula of southern Greece. We stop to visit the ancient, Bronze Age site of *Mycenae*, the home of Agamemnon, the leader of the Greek forces in the Trojan War. First excavated by Henrich Schliemann, the site of *Mycenae* provides an excellent view into the world of the Greek age of heroes. From *Mycenae*, we drive to the ancient site of *Epidaurus*, which boasts the best preserved ancient Greek theater, still used for productions. *Epidaurus* was also one of the important centers attached to the Greek god Asclepius, the god of healing. We will visit the small museum and Asclepion at the site. From *Epidaurus*, we travel to the modern, beautiful, seaside city of *Nafplion* for dinner and overnight.

Sunday March 13, 2022

We depart *Nafplion* this morning and drive to *Corinth* (Acts 18:1-17; 1 and 2 Corinthians). Our visit includes the small, but important museum of *Corinth*, visiting

the theater and the inscription of Erastus, the city treasurer (Romans 16:23), as well as the Bema of Gallio and the agora of *Corinth*. After lunch, we visit the upper city of *Corinth*, the *Acro Corinth*, and the ancient harbor of *Cenchrea* (Acts 18:18). On our way back to *Athens*, we stop to see the *Corinthian Canal*. Overnight *Athens*.

Monday March 14, 2022

Today we depart *Athens* returning home challenged and encouraged in your faith.