



**Congregational Church  
of Shafter**

**Steps of Paul Cruise**

with an optional extension to Rome

**November 5-17, 2009**



Prices per person for the cruise are:

Inside cabin category 2    **\$ 2808.94**

Outside cabin category 3    **\$ 2908.94**

Outside cabin category 4    **\$ 3023.24**

Outside cabin category 5    **\$ 3194.69**

Price per person for the optional extension to Rome is **\$745**

**ITINERARY**

**NOV 05(Thu): DEPART USA**

Depart from the USA for a transatlantic flight to Athens.

**NOV 06(Fri): ARRIVAL ATHENS - EMBARKATION**

Arrive in Athens. Meet and greet at the airport. Drive to Piraeus Port and embark your cruise ship, enjoying the fellowship of other Christians and excellent teaching.

**NOV 07(Sat): THESSALONIKI - VERIA**

Thessaloniki-Visit the Walls, The House of Jason where Paul lived and the Agora where he preached. Continue to Veria-ancient Berea- to the memorial commemorating Paul's preaching to the local Jews in 54 AD.

**NOV 08(Sun): KAVALA - PHILIPPI**

Kavala (ancient Neapolis), the site where Paul, Timothy and Silas landed on the coast of Thrace. From there, visit Philippi where Paul lived, preached and was imprisoned and the Baptistery of Lydia, where the first baptism on European soil took place.

**NOV 09(Mon): ISTANBUL**

In the morning we arrive in Istanbul, one of the world's greatest historic cities. Formerly Byzantium, the center of the Eastern Roman Empire, this city is built on seven green hills and situated astride two continents. East meets West in every way. We visit the Topkapi Palace with its harem and fabulous treasure chambers, the Sultan Ahmed (Blue) Mosque with its six minarets, and St. Sofia, converted to a mosque from a Christian basilica after the fall of Constantinople in 1453.

**NOV 10(Tue): DIKILI - PERGAMON, SARDIS**

A tour from Dikili (our port) is to Pergamon, the great city of Bergama and a city of the Book of Revelation. It

is one of the best-preserved ancient sites in Turkey. We continue by visiting Sardis, the most picturesque of the Seven Churches.

**NOV 11(Wed): KUSADASI - EPHESUS - MILETUS**

Arrive at Kusadasi. Visit Ephesus, the most impressive archeological site in Turkey, including the Great Amphitheater where Paul spoke to the Ephesians. An afternoon tour to Miletus, where Paul delivered his touching farewell address to the elders of Ephesus and predicted his death, for those wishing to visit the place.

**NOV 12(Thu): PATMOS**

Patmos, the "Holy Island" for the Christian faith. This is the place where the apocalyptic Revelation of John was written during his exile from the Roman Empire. We visit the cave and the monastery of St. John.

**NOV 13(Fri): DISEMBARKATION - ATHENS - CORINTH**

Disembark the cruise ship and begin the tour of Athens. Visit among other masterpieces of the "Golden Age" the Acropolis, the agora and the Mars Hill where Paul taught. Continue to ancient Corinth. Visit the ruins of the ancient city where Paul worked. See the remains of first-century shops, the agora where Paul was on trial at the Bema, the Fountain of Peirene, Temple of Apollo and visit the museum. Drive to hotel for overnight in Athens.

**NOV 14(Sat): ATHENS - USA**

Transfer to the airport for departure to the USA.

**ROME EXTENSION**

**NOV 13(Fri): DISEMBARKATION - ATHENS - CORINTH**

After sightseeing in Athens and Corinth, drive to Patras to embark the overnight ferry to Italy.

**NOV 14(Sat): POMPEII - ROME**

Disembark the ferry ship and begin the tour of Pompeii, where you will visit the spectacular ruins that were covered by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 A.D. The city remained buried and undiscovered for almost 1500 years until excavation began in 1748. These excavations continue today, providing insight into life during the Roman Empire. Drive to Rome for overnight.

**NOV 15(Sun): IMPERIAL ROME**

This morning you will discover Imperial Rome. Paul wrote to the Christians of Rome and he eventually went there where his ministry continued, although he was technically a prisoner. You will experience the glory of Imperial Rome when you visit the Coliseum, famous as a place of spectacle and death. Gladiators died here as thousands looked on. See the Circus Maximus, built during the reign of Nero. This huge stadium was able to seat 250,000 spectators for chariot races and other spectacles. See the Roman Forum, an ancient meeting place, market place, religious and political centre. View the Arch of Titus that commemorates Titus' conquest of Judea. You'll visit the Mamertina Prison, where it is believed that both Peter and Paul were imprisoned.

**NOV 16(Mon): CHRISTIAN ROME**

Discover the Vatican Museum, home to many of the world's masterpieces. In the Sistine Chapel, view Michelangelo's frescoes, which have been restored to their full, colourful glory. Tour St. Peter's Basilica where Michelangelo's "Pieta" -- the only work signed by the master -- will be just one of many highlights. Travel the famous Apian Way. Walk through the Catacombs of San Sebastiano. Visit Tre Fontane, where Apostle Paul was beheaded. Walk through Via Del Corso, Piazza de Spagna, and enjoy the Trevi Fountain, Pantheon and Piazza Navona.

**NOV 17(Tue): DEPARTURE**

## INCLUDED:

1. Flight from Los Angeles to Athens and return from Athens.
2. Seven nights lodging on ship (double occupancy).
3. One night lodging in Athens on final day.
4. All meals on board ship; dinner and breakfast in Athens on final day.
5. All shore excursions from the ship.
6. Touring coach and English-speaking, government-licensed guide on sightseeing days and shore excursions.
7. Transfers to/from hotels/airport/ship in Athens.
8. Sightseeing tours per itinerary based on the time allowed.
9. Entrance fees to sites listed in itinerary
10. Porterage of 1 piece of luggage per person at Athens Airport and on arrival and departure from each hotel
11. Emergency medical insurance for the whole group.
12. Local government hotel taxes at the current prevailing rates in Greece.

## The extension to Rome includes:

1. Overnight ferry from Patras, Greece to Bari, Italy instead of one night lodging in Athens.
2. Three nights in Rome (double occupancy) in first class hotel.
3. Breakfast and dinner daily in Rome.
4. Touring coach and English-speaking guide in Italy on sightseeing days.
5. Transfers to/from hotels/ferry / airport in Italy
6. Sightseeing tours per itinerary based on the time allowed.
7. Entrances to sites listed in itinerary
8. Porterage of 1 piece of luggage per person at Ferry dock, Rome Airport and on arrival and departure from hotel.
9. Emergency medical insurance for the whole group.
10. Local government hotel taxes at the current prevailing rates in Italy.

## NOT INCLUDED

Government taxes on airline tickets, airport taxes, border taxes and fuel charges.

Tips and gratuities to drivers, guides or hotel personnel.

Meals other than those specifically mentioned

Port Charges

Personal spending money for drinks, souvenirs, laundry, etc.

Transfers to or from LAX and passenger's home or organization.

Travel insurance except for the emergency medical insurance mentioned above.

Cost of obtaining passports and visas, handling fees, excess baggage and forwarding of baggage, entrance fees not mentioned, transportation from cities other than Los Angeles CA and vice versa, tips for personal favors, and costs resulting from absence or deviation from the itinerary and any items not mentioned as being included.

A deposit is **\$500** per passenger is required to hold bookings.

Full payment is due 90 days from departure.



**Emergency Medical/Dental:** Helps provide coverage for emergency medical and dental expenses needed to treat an accidental injury or illness which occurs while traveling. This coverage is secondary to any existing health insurance the traveler may have. A one-time \$50 deductible applies to all outpatient care.

**Emergency Medical Transportation:** We will arrange and pay for travelers to be moved to a more appropriate facility or returned to their home, if medically necessary. Coordination and payment for the return of the deceased is also included. We will pay for minor dependents traveling with the traveler to return home if the traveler will be hospitalized abroad for 7 or more days.

**24-Hour Travel Assistance:** The 24-hour hotline center is staffed with multi-lingual assistance coordinators who have access to a worldwide network of assistance providers. These coordinators can provide valuable help for medical-related emergencies.

## What Is Not Covered Under The Program

While the Group Travel Assistance Program covers a wide range of circumstances, certain events and occurrences are not covered under these plans. Some examples are detailed below.

The program does not cover losses or expenses if they result from any injury occurring prior to and including the effective date of insurance, any illness occurring during the sixty days prior to and including the effective date of insurance for which treatment by a licensed physician has been sought or advised or for which symptoms exist which would cause a prudent person to seek diagnosis, care, or treatment.

However, if the condition is controlled (not exhibiting symptoms or requiring the adjustment of treatment of medication throughout the sixty-day period by taking of prescription drugs of medications and travel restrictions are not advised by a licensed physician, then the medical condition will not be considered a Pre-Existing Condition. The departure date is the effective date of coverage.

## MONEY

Withdraw cash at ATMs to save money. Take advantage of favorable exchange rates offered by ATMs. Cash is dispensed in local currency, and debited from your account in US Dollars - this eliminates additional conversion fees and commissions assessed by currency exchange bureaus.

Your PIN should be 4 digits. If your PIN is longer, contact your issuing financial institution and ask for a new PIN number. If you have an alphabetic PIN, translate the letters to numbers before leaving the US.

Test your PIN before you travel.

Financial institutions may have restrictions on daily withdrawals even when you are in another country. Check with your financial institution.

## GROUP TRAVEL ADVICE

Tranquility, harmonious relations and a successful journey can be ensured if each tour member, personally, adjusts their mode of behavior to following some simple ground rules.

Make a commitment to the concept, "If you're on time -- you're late!"

Report to the bus 30 minutes before any scheduled departure, when moving from one city to another and luggage transfer is required.

Report to the bus 15 minutes before any scheduled departure if the destination does not require luggage transfer.

Exercise discretion if engaging in unscheduled, independent activities. It is suggested that you join with four or more others in such excursions. Stand by and assist if a fellow member of your group encounters a problem.

Be aware that holding a bus beyond its scheduled departure time may be ordered only when the tour leader, in his/her discretion, determines that there is an emergency.

### SPECIAL NOTE

Because of the serious threat to members who suffer allergic reactions to cosmetic scents, we ask that you please do not use perfumes or strongly scented cosmetics on the bus.

## GREECE

Travel to Greece in November offers off-season discounts, very light crowds, good air quality in Athens, and much more. Cultural events for Greek audiences pick up in the winter months, and many of them are well worth including in your travels.

Thessaloniki's Dimitria Festival runs through the early part of November and offers a wide variety of musical events, shadow theater, and other cultural delights. Confirm the exact dates locally.

The Athens Marathon takes place in early November and follows the Olympic route, based on the ancient road run by Phidippides. You can participate, or just cheer on the survivors.

November 8th is the festival and name day for both Michael and Gabriel. Any church or monastery named for either of these angels will hold a spirited festival. Michael is often revered on high peaks or cliffs, and many of his churches enjoy splendid panoramic views.

## **TURKEY**

Turkey is the vibrant land where east meets west, and ancient ways meet the modern world. Turkey has everything to make your visit most enjoyable. In fact the country is very rich in history and natural beauty, its people are wonderful.

Turks are extremely friendly with foreign visitors, the cuisine is excellent, and the cities are dotted with majestic old buildings that blend in a modern era. Turkey has always been the meeting point for European and Middle Eastern neighbors and travelers; thereby, becoming an important bridge between East and West

In recent years Turkey has become a major tourist destination too. There are an enormous variety of things to see and do; ranging from water sports to mountain trekking, archaeology and history, sight seeing and dining, and unforgettable shopping. Whether you leave Turkey with magnificent carpets, amulets, an appreciation of its history, or just a tan, you're likely to want to go back for more.

Before traveling please consult the following website for tips re safety:

**[http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety\\_1747.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1747.html)**

## **PACKING TIPS**

- √ Plan for variations in weather from warm to cold to rain. Bring layers. Think washable, wrinkle-free, cool and compact.
- √ Comfortable shoes are a MUST! (lots of uneven walkways)
- √ Take toiletries in small containers—just the amount needed. Take disposable items that can be tossed when you are finished.
- √ Plan for medication, health and hygiene needs. You may not be able to run out and buy what you need.
- √ Ship purchases home whenever possible. Carry as few as possible.
- √ Make a list of luggage contents and approximate value in case you have to fill out a baggage claim form.
- √ Practice Pack! Lay out everything and start packing by priority. (Write it down; then pare it down!)
- √ Take 50 \$1 bills. These can get you through many situations.
- √ Carry a bag to see you through all emergencies (Kleenex, towelettes, passport, cash, ID, credit card/traveler's checks, your hotel list, local maps, something edible. Buy water after security.
- √ CLOTHING: casual clothing, walking shoes, underwear, nighties, sweater/light jacket, rain poncho, minimum jewelry.
- √ MAKE-UP ITEMS and TOILETRIES: Keep a meticulous list over a week's period of the "stuff" you cannot live without.
- √ HEALTH ITEMS – vitamins, aspirin, medications, extra pair of glasses and a copy of your Rx, contact lens stuff, laxative, diarrhea needs, decongestant.
- √ PASSPORT / CREDIT CARD/ATM CARD/TRAVELER'S CHECKS!!\* (Most items forgotten from above can be replaced with these!
- √ MISC.: Bible. Consider also the following: small sewing kit, plastic folding cup, wash cloth, mirror, shower cap, small scissors, travel alarm, curling iron, hair dryer (alt. Current), travel iron, camera, film, umbrella, voltage adaptor, outlet adaptor, watch, other books and small binoculars.

## **ADDITIONAL ADVICE**

Be aware and be careful.

Always carry small coins in local currency.

Fruit and cheese from a local vendor might be fine for lunch.

**HAVE FUN!!!**



ONE FORM PER INDIVIDUAL

**PASTOR MIKE KOTRLA AND KIMBERLY / CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH / SHAFTER CA**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name Tag** “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
*First, Middle and Last name exactly as it appears on your passport*

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **ST** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

*non smoking*

**ROOMMATE** \_\_\_\_\_ *If none indicated,  smoking*

**HOME PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **WORK PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSPORT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **ISSUE PLACE** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXP DATE** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Gender:** M F • **Date of Birth** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ • **Birthplace** \_\_\_\_\_ • **Citizenship** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_



**I HAVE ENCLOSED A DEPOSIT PAYMENT OF \$ 500.00.**

**FORM OF PAYMENT** Check # \_\_\_\_\_ payable to “**International Christian Journeys**”  
 *I have read and agree to the terms and conditions printed on the next page.*

EVERY TOUR INCLUDES EMERGENCY MEDICAL INSURANCE AND SOME ADDITIONAL COVERAGE, BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE FULL CANCELLATION INSURANCE. TO INQUIRE ABOUT FULL CANCELLATION COVERAGE PLEASE CHECK THE BOX BELOW.

*I am interested in additional cancellation insurance.*

**Passenger signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Please send form with deposit to:**  
**International Christian Journeys**  
20380 Town Center Lane, Ste 225 – Cupertino CA 95014

CST 1006380-10

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#### CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

The following fees will be assessed for all cancellations: from deposit to 90 days prior to departure \$100 per person; less than 90 days prior to departure \$300 per person plus all non-refundable expenses incurred by International Christian Journeys/Hadar Travel and Tours and its marketing representatives on the group's behalf.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

International Christian Journeys/Hadar Travel and Tours is acting as intermediary in selling services and making bookings and reservations for airlines, hotels, land and water transportation, meals, tours, etc. This agency, therefore, shall not be responsible for breach of contract or any intentional or careless action or omission on the part of such suppliers that results in any loss, damage, delay or injury to you or group members. International Christian Journeys/Hadar Travel and Tours is further not responsible for acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery, acts of governments or other authorities, acts of war whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, customs regulations, delays or cancellation or change of itinerary or schedule or for any loss beyond their control. This agency is not responsible for loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents. International Christian Journeys/Hadar Travel and Tours is not liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the client as a result of any of the foregoing clauses.

The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of any tour as circumstances may demand it. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk and baggage insurance is recommended. No refunds for tour portions or unused services can be made unless agreed to prior to departure of the tour from North America.

Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute a consent to the above and agreement on your part to the current price and exchange rates and may be subject to change without notice prior to departure. The price is a special group rate based upon all passengers following the same itinerary. There will be a \$200.00 per person charge to any individual who wishes to deviate from the tour plus any difference in the airfare. There will be a \$200 surcharge for passengers purchasing the land tour without the air transportation.

Full trip cancellation insurance is recommended. All notices of cancellation must be in writing.

#### SPECIAL NOTE:

All passports must be valid for six (6) months  
after the date of your return.

*CST 1006380-10*

LINK TO REGISTER ON WEB SITE:

Sign up form: [http://www.developmentzone.org/ICJ/enrollment\\_form.php](http://www.developmentzone.org/ICJ/enrollment_form.php)

***(note: you may register on this site but are not enrolled until we receive your deposit)***