

AT THE
SOURCES
OF FAITH

PILGRIMAGES

GREECE

In the footsteps of saint Paul

From May 18 to 31, 2025

(14 DAYS / 12 NIGHTS)

*Tour in partnership with Novalis / Living With Christ

 **Living with Christ**


spiritours
VOYAGES DE
RESSOURCEMENT

Détenteur d'un permis du Québec



Living with Christ

***TOUR IN COLLABORATION WITH NOVALIS /
LIVING WITH CHRIST**

Living with Christ

Join us for an unforgettable pilgrimage in Greece, following in the footsteps of Saint Paul and the early Christians. This spiritual journey will take you through iconic sites of Christian faith and allow you to discover the cultural and historical heritage of Greece. You will also embark on a fascinating cruise to explore the Greek islands and the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus in Turkey. This journey is a unique opportunity to deepen your faith, an invitation to contemplation, prayer, and the discovery of the roots of Christianity.

Highlights

- Excursion to the ancient city of Ephesus, a crucial site for Christian history and the life of Saint Paul
- Exploration of the suspended monasteries of Kalambaka
- Discovery of the islands of Mykonos, Santorini, and Patmos

Additional Features

- Presence of Father Joseph de Viveiros for an enriching spiritual experience
- Visit to iconic archaeological sites offering a deep dive into history
- Free time in Athens and Mykonos to explore at your own pace





Accompanied by



Fr. Joseph de Viveiros, CR

Born in São Miguel, Azores and grew up in North Bay, ON. He has been a Resurrectionist since 1986 (presently serving at the Vicar-Provincial) and a priest since 1992. He holds several degrees in Theology. He has been a pastor, math teacher, consultant with the Archdiocese of Toronto and Director of Liturgy for World Youth Day 2002. Currently, he is the Board Chaplain for the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic School Board, North Bay. Over the years, he has accompanied many groups to the Holy Land and in the footsteps of St. Paul in Turkey.



Natalia Kononenko

Natalia Kononenko has been the Editor of “Living with Christ” for the past 10 years. Born and raised in Ukraine, Natalia has been a long-time resident in Toronto for almost three decades. Natalia obtained an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Christianity and Culture from University of St. Michael’s College, and a Master of Divinity degree from Regis College – both at the University of Toronto. Outside of work, Natalia enjoys reading, nature and all things outdoors with her husband and two boys. She is excited to meet the new “Living with Christ” pilgrims and go on this journey of faith to discover what God has planned for us!

The profile of your trip



Christian Pilgrimage

The origin of these tours is based on the Christian tradition, and they are often accompanied by a theologically trained priest or guide. The program includes the possibility of attending mass every day (free of charge).



Cultural trip

These trips will enable you to discover sites of particular cultural and historical interest (museums, archaeological sites, historic monuments, religious heritage), take part in important cultural events or meet the local population to learn more about their culture (customs and habits).

Itinerary

DAY 1 | SUNDAY MAY 18, 2025

DEPARTURE FROM TORONTO

Departure from Toronto Pearson Airport for your overnight transatlantic flight to Athens, Greece.

DAY 2 | MONDAY MAY 19, 2025

ARRIVAL AT ATHENS

Arrival at Athens Airport and transfer to the vibrant city of Athens, the cradle of Western civilization with over 3,400 years of recorded history. Upon arrival, enjoy a panoramic orientation tour of the city before checking in to our hotel. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

DAY 3 | TUESDAY MAY 20, 2025

ATHENS

Today, we explore the heart of Athens, starting with a visit to the Acropolis, home to the iconic Parthenon, the Propylaea, the Erechtheion, and the Temple of Athena Nike. Then, ascend Mars Hill (Areopagus), where the Apostle Paul addressed the Athenian council. From this vantage point, you'll have a view of the ancient Agora, the marketplace of Athens. In the afternoon, enjoy free time to explore the lively Monastiraki and Plaka districts, known for their charming streets filled with shops and traditional taverns. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

DAY 4 | WEDNESDAY MAY 21, 2025

ATHENS – CORINTH – ATHENS

This morning, we head to ancient Corinth, where Paul established a Christian community and penned his epistles. Explore the ruins, including the Bema, where Paul was judged by the tribunal. Drive by Cenchræe, one of the two ancient ports of Corinth, before stopping at the impressive Corinth Canal, which connects the Ionian and Aegean seas. Return to Athens for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 | THURSDAY MAY 22, 2025

ATHENS

Enjoy a full day at your leisure to explore Athens on your own. You can visit additional landmarks, enjoy the city's vibrant culture, or simply relax in one of its many cafés. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

DAY 6 | FRIDAY MAY 23, 2025

CRUISE EMBARKATION: PIRAEUS – MYKONOS

Today, we depart from Athens to embark on a cruise at the port of Piraeus. Our first stop is the picturesque island of Mykonos, known for its whitewashed cuboid buildings, winding streets, and iconic windmills. After exploring the island's charm, return to the ship for dinner and overnight. Lunch included onboard.

DAY 7 | SATURDAY MAY 24, 2025

CRUISE: SANTORINI

Arrive at the stunning island of Santorini, famous for its breathtaking caldera views, blue-domed churches, and the romantic village of Oia. Take a guided excursion to explore this island's most photogenic spots, followed by time to discover Fira, the bustling island center. Return to the ship by cable car for dinner and overnight. Lunch included onboard.

DAY 8 | SUNDAY MAY 25, 2025

CRUISE: KUSADASI – PATMOS

Our cruise continues with a stop in Kusadasi, Turkey, for an excursion to the ancient city of Ephesus. Walk through the marble streets, visit the Temple of Hadrian, the Celsus Library, and the site of the Temple of Artemis. In the afternoon, we arrive at the island of Patmos, where we will visit the Grotto of St. John, where the Book of Revelation was written, and the Monastery of St. John. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. Lunch included onboard.

DAY 9 | MONDAY MAY 26, 2025

CRUISE DISEMBARKATION: PIRAEUS – DELPHI – KALAMBAKA

After disembarking in Piraeus, we travel to Delphi, the site of the famous Oracle of Apollo. Explore the ancient ruins, including the Temple of Apollo, the theater, and the Castalian Spring. In the afternoon, continue to Kalambaka, nestled at the foot of the Meteora Monasteries. Dinner and overnight in Kalambaka.

DAY 10 | TUESDAY MAY 27, 2025

KALAMBAKA – VERIA – THESSALONIKI

This morning, visit the awe-inspiring Meteora monasteries, perched high on sandstone cliffs. After touring one of these spiritual sanctuaries, we travel to Veria (Berea), where Paul's teachings were warmly received. In the evening, we arrive in Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight.

DAY 11 | WEDNESDAY MAY 28, 2025

THESSALONIKI

Begin the day with a tour of Thessaloniki, visiting its famous Byzantine churches, including St. Sophia and St. Dimitrius. Drive along the city's seaside and explore landmarks such as the Rotonda, the Arch of Galerius, and the White Tower. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.

DAY 12 | THURSDAY MAY 29, 2025

THESSALONIKI – PHILIPPI – KAVALA

Today we head to Philippi, where Paul preached his first sermon on European soil. Visit the site where Lydia, the first Christian woman in Europe, was baptized, as well as the prison where Paul was held. Continue to Kavala, the ancient Neapolis, before returning to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight.

DAY 13 | FRIDAY MAY 30, 2025

THESSALONIKI – THERMOPYLAE – ATHENS

Depart Thessaloniki for Athens, with a stop at Thermopylae, the site of the famous battle between the Spartans and the Persians. Arrive in Athens in the afternoon for dinner and overnight.

DAY 14 | SATURDAY MAY 31, 2025

DEPARTURE FROM ATHENS

After breakfast, transfer to Athens Airport for your return flight to Toronto, filled with cherished memories of your journey through Greece.

***Itinéraire sujet à changement ***



Informations

Prices

Early bird discount: \$6,270 / pers. (double occupancy)
100\$ early-bird discount if you register before January 18th, 2025.

Regular price: \$6,370 / pers. (double occupancy)

- **Single room supplement: + \$1,349 / pers.**
- **Standard outside cabin supplement (cruise, limited availability): + \$125 / pers. (based on double occupancy)**

*Spiritours offers the option of room pairing; however, in the rare event that we are unable to find a suitable match, any additional costs for single occupancy will be the responsibility of the participant.

* All prices are based on the exchange rate as of June 28, 2024.

THE PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Round-trip flights Toronto-Athens with Air Canada
- 12 nights of double occupancy accommodation, including 9 nights in 3 and 4-star hotels and 3 nights on board the cruise ship (in an interior cabin, exterior cabin option available at extra cost)
- 12 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 12 dinners
- Transportation by private air-conditioned coach
- All visits included in the program
- Whispers set – headsets
- Services of an English-speaking guide, a Novalis tour leader, and a spiritual director
- All taxes

THE PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Meals not mentioned and personal expenses
- Drinks at meals
- Visits not mentioned
- ETIAS visa exemption for Canadians (approx. €7)
- Contribution to the Travel Agents Client Compensation Fund (currently free)

Registration

Deadline to register:
March 18th, 2025

(60 days before departure or when the maximum number of passengers has been reached). It is possible to register after this date, but a supplement may apply.

To register

You can register on our website (see top right of the trip web page) or download and fill in the PDF form and send it to us with your \$750 deposit. Please register as soon as possible, as places are limited. Please enclose a photocopy of your passport with your registration (international travel only).

Travel insurance

For travel insurance, contact us to find out your policy rates.

Nb of participants

Minimum 30 - Maximum 50

Required documentation

All Canadian travelers to Europe must be in possession of a passport valid for at least three months beyond the planned date of return, as well as the ETIAS visa exemption (approx. 7€).

For more information, please contact:

Shaina-Solange Louis-Jean

(514) 374-7965, ext. 200

shaina.LJ@spiritours.com

Terms & Conditions

Deposit and payment

A deposit of \$750 for air travel or 25% of the total amount for bus travel is required at the time of booking, as well as the cancellation insurance premium, if desired. The balance must be paid in full at least 60 days before departure for air travel and 45 days before departure for bus travel. In the event of late final payment, please note that the reservation will be automatically cancelled, incurring the cancellation fees mentioned above.

Important note: certain trips and special events may be subject to special booking, deposit and final payment conditions.

Cancellation fees

For air travel

Up to 60 days before departure: \$750 penalty.

Less than 60 days before departure: no refund.

Name change: \$100 to \$500 penalty, depending on carrier's conditions. Within 60 days of departure, all changes will be considered as cancellations.

For bus travel

Up to 45 days before departure: 25% of the total amount.

From 45 to 21 days before departure: 50% of the total amount.

Less than 21 days before departure: no refund.

Name change: \$100 penalty.

Important note: certain trips and special events may be subject to special booking, deposit and final payment conditions.

Spiritours reserves the right to cancel a trip if the number of participants is not reached by the deadline. A full refund will represent final settlement with the passenger. Spiritours also reserves the right to extend the deadline to 45 days prior to departure, or to change travel dates or airlines if necessary. If for reasons of force majeure the trip must be suspended by Spiritours, the latter reserves the right to postpone to later dates or to cancel, but will not be liable for non-refundable sums already paid to suppliers. Spiritours cannot be held responsible for any difficulties between the authorities of a country and a member of the group who has not complied with the laws, customs, regulations and traditions of the host country.

Insurance

Travelers are advised to take out cancellation insurance in case, for major reasons (illness, injury or death of themselves or a family member), they have to cancel their trip before departure or change the itinerary en route. We also strongly recommend that you take out medical insurance. The cost of insurance is non-refundable. Travellers should consult their insurance contract for details of the nature of the cover, the risks insured, the exclusions, limitations and reductions in cover, and the cancellation procedures contained in the insurance product.

Claims

You must notify the Spiritours representative of any claim as soon as possible. When abroad, you must immediately contact your travel companion or the hotel management so that the situation can be rectified.

Prices shown

Unless otherwise indicated, all prices are in Canadian dollars. Prices are subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure in the event of a fuel price increase imposed by the carrier or an exchange rate increase of more than 5% since the date of publication of the trip price. If the change in the price of your trip is equal to or greater than 7% of the original price, you may request a refund or exchange your trip for a similar one.

Spiritours' liability

Spiritours cannot be held responsible for acts, omissions, errors or events, losses, damage or accidents during the trip, nor for delays or cancellations due to a transportation company. Spiritours cannot be held responsible for any damage suffered by the traveller due to illness, injury, loss, inconvenience or anxiety. Spiritours also declines all responsibility for any damage resulting from government action, political unrest, strikes or acts of God. Spiritours will not make any refunds under any circumstances for premature return or non-completion of a portion of a tour, nor for services not used by travelers. Spiritours' liability for failure to provide any service or benefit described herein is limited to the cost of such service or benefit.

Traveler's liability

It is the traveler's responsibility to find out about the entry and exit requirements of the country he/she plans to visit. In the event that the traveler does not possess the required documentation, he/she may be refused passage by the authorities. The traveler agrees to accept any reasonable instructions relating to the package issued while the passenger is abroad. In the event that a passenger engages in conduct prejudicial to other travellers or service providers, and persists in such conduct despite a formal warning from the service provider or its representative, the passenger will be expelled from the group and will be liable for all costs incurred as a result of such conduct, including any additional costs the passenger may incur for accommodation, food and transportation.