

**Travel with Dr. Tim & Bernice Sigler to the
"Seven Churches of Asia Minor and Patmos"
9-Day Deluxe Excursion
– October 29 to November 7, 2021 –
Register at wisdompassages.com**

Dr. Tim & Bernice Sigler and Wisdom Passages are happy to partner again with Mr. Nikos Chatzikonstantis, Owner/General Manager of Timothy's Family travel agency, to provide a deluxe educational and spiritually encouraging journey of the ancient biblical sites of the seven churches of Asia Minor and the Isle of Patmos mentioned in Revelation 1–3. Prepare to study the Scriptures and enjoy the rich cultural heritage of modern Turkey and a taste of Greece. We have worked together on numerous tours and are happy to combine our efforts to offer an amazing tour at a competitive price. You can choose your own round-trip flight to Istanbul, transfer to our hotel, and we will take care of you from there! Perhaps you will want to layover for a night in a connecting city on the flight out or the return, or perhaps you will want to extend your stay. If you would like to fly with a group, we will also offer some suggested routes. Our complete tour itinerary is found below with all the details that will assure you of an unforgettable trip. The trip is available now for the first 23 people who register at wisdompassages.com



Timothy's Family

travel agency coach company incoming tour operator

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(CHECK OUT THE ITINERARY) →

- **Departure Day / 29.10.2021 /** Choose a flight that allows you to arrive in Istanbul (airport code IST) at least in time for dinner the next evening.
- **1st Day / 30.10.2021 / Arrival ISTANBUL AIRPORT - ISTANBUL**

Arrival to the **Airport of Istanbul** (airport code IST). There may be free time to explore city center or to enjoy our comfortable accommodations. Arrival to our hotel. **Dinner and overnight stay.**



- **2nd Day / 31.10.2021 / ISTANBUL**

Our motor coach will meet us after our hotel breakfast as we start our tour with a visit to **Hagia Sophia**. Built by the Emperor Justinian when Istanbul was Constantinople, this magnificent example of Byzantine architecture boasts a massive dome, a lengthy nave, and an interior decorated with marble, precious stones, and pillars from Ephesus. We will continue to **Topkapi Palace**—a huge walled complex hugging the Bosphorus, the former palace of the Ottoman sultans which is now a museum with an extraordinary collection of Chinese porcelain, art, artifacts and jewels, including the Topkapi diamond and the dagger. We will visit the **Blue Mosque**. Six minarets adorn the mosque, one of the city's most recognizable landmarks. More than 20,000 blue Iznik tiles highlight the interior. We will see the **Hippodrome**. Its large, open square was once the site of a Roman circus that rivaled the

Colosseum and could seat a quarter of a million spectators. Monuments on the site include the Snake Column from Delphi and an Egyptian obelisk taken from the Temple of Karnak at Luxor. Later, we will be browsing the **Grand Bazaar**—the largest and the oldest covered marketplace in the world with more than 4,000 shops in the labyrinth of streets. Enjoy the colorful array of shops that offer an endless selection of goods that includes jewelry, fabrics, spices and local handicrafts. Then, we will depart for a **Bosporus cruise**. View grand Ottoman palaces including the Dolmabahce Palace as our guide narrates the city's history and points out its landmarks. At the end of the cruise, transfer to the historic old city to start our visit to **Underground Cistern**, built by Justinian in the 6th century, the Underground Cistern is supported by 336 beautiful columns. Two are incised with the head of Medusa. Then, we will be dropped off at our hotel. **Dinner and overnight stay.**



📍 **3rd Day / 01.11.2021 / ISTANBUL - IZMIR - PERGAMUM - IZMIR**

After breakfast we will be picked up from our hotel and depart for **Izmir**. Upon our arrival, we will visit the ancient **Smyrna**; poor and persecuted, the church at Smyrna suffered amidst prosperity for its refusal to worship the Roman Emperor. This proved to be the last stronghold of Christianity in Asia Minor. Home of the great second-century Bishop Polycarp of Pergamum, who was burned alive at the age of eighty-six. Continue to **Pergamum** to explore its acropolis and Great Theatre—the steepest of the ancient world. Revelation 2:12-16 describes the city as "where Satan's seat is," perhaps a reference to the altar of Zeus, where we pause for reflection on the fulfillment of Scripture. Nearby, visit the **Red Basilica**—once a pagan temple, it was later converted into a Christian church. Finally, walk through the **Asklepion**, the famous medical center of antiquity. After the tour we will arrive at our hotel in Izmir. **Dinner and overnight stay.**

📍 **4th Day / 02.11.2021 / IZMIR - THYATIRA - SARDIS - PHILADELPHIA - PAMUKKALE**



After breakfast depart for **Thyatira**, which was once a busy trading center and famous for its dyeing of purple clothes. **Thyatira** is one of the Seven Churches mentioned in Revelation that tolerated the false prophetess, Jezebel (Rev. 1:11; 2:18-29). Travel to **Sardis**, another of the Seven Churches of Revelation. Jesus told Sardis, "I know your works, that you have a name that you are

alive, but you are dead" (Rev. 3:1-6). Coins were minted and the dyeing of wool originated in Sardis. You will be impressed by the massive scale of the Temple of Artemis, by the white marble Royal Road, by the gymnasium, and by the synagogue. Visit the site of **Philadelphia**, also one of the Seven Churches (Rev. 3:7-13). Christ told those who overcame that He would write upon them "the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is the New Jerusalem" (Rev. 3:12). Today, not much is left to mark the spot. We will see an ancient wall and the remains of a Byzantine basilica. After the tour we will arrive at our hotel in **Pamukkale**. **Dinner and overnight stay.**

📍 **5th Day / 03.11.2021 / PAMUKKALE - HIERAPOLIS - LAODICEA – COLOSSAE - KUSADASI**

Our first stop is **Hierapolis**, known in antiquity as the "holy city" for its pagan cults. It was evangelized by Paul and Epaphras. The Apostle Philip lived and is said to be buried here. Pamukkale, or "cotton castle," is a spa and resort center with hot springs and cascading limestone pools (Col. 4:12-13). The ruins of Hierapolis, known by the Greeks as "the holy city," can be seen nearby. The church at Laodicea was chastised for being lukewarm, "You are neither cold nor hot" (Rev. 3:15), and for mixing paganism with biblical truth. In Revelation 3:20-21, Jesus says to the Laodicea church: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock..." Today, there are many acres of ruins to see, including the stadium and columned streets and a chance to witness the newest excavations in **Laodicea**. Then, we will visit **Colossae**, an ancient city of Phrygia in Asia Minor. The Epistle to the Colossians is addressed to the church in Colossae. A significant city from the 5th century BC onwards, it had dwindled in importance by the time of Paul but was notable for the existence of its local angel cult. After the tour we will be dropped off to our hotel in **Kusadasi**. **Dinner and overnight stay.**

📍 **6th Day / 04.11.2021 / KUSADASI - EPHESUS - KUSADASI**

Our main attraction today is **Ephesus**. Ephesus is one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 1:11). In ancient days, Ephesus was a bustling port town of 250,000, graced with wide, colonnade bordered streets. The Apostle Paul's first visit to Ephesus was brief - during his second missionary tour (Acts 18:19-21). His second visit lasted about three years - during his third missionary tour (Acts 19:1 to 20:31). Luke's account of the worship of Diana appears in Acts 19:34-35. The Great Theatre (stadium) mentioned in Acts 19:29-31 could seat 25,000 people. Continue to visit the Basilica of St. John; early tradition associated John, the disciple of Jesus, the author of the Gospel of John and the Book of Revelation with the city of Ephesus. As early as the 4th or 5th century a church was built over a simple grave, supposedly the grave of St. John. The church, known as the Church of St. John the Theologian, is located on Ayasuluk Hill. After the tour we will arrive at our hotel in Kusadasi. **Dinner and overnight stay.**



📍 **7th Day / 05.11.2021 / KUSADASI - PATMOS - KUSADASI**

After breakfast we will depart for the **Port of Kusadasi**. Embarkation to our Charter Boat for **Patmos**. Arrive at the island of **Patmos** (Rev 1:9) and ascend to the **Monastery of St. John**, where he was exiled and wrote the Book of Revelation. According to a legend in Greek mythology, the island's original name was "Letois," after the goddess and huntress of deer, Artemis, daughter of Leto. It was believed that Patmos came into existence thanks to her divine intervention. We will visit the **Grotto of the Revelation** (Cave of Apocalypse) before embarking back on the Carter Boat. After arriving at the **Port of Kusadasi** we will transfer to our hotel. **Dinner and overnight stay.**



📍 **8th Day / 06.11.2021 / KUSADASI - IZMIR - ISTANBUL**

After breakfast we will be transferred to **Izmir Airport** to take our flight to **Istanbul**. There should be free time at the city center for walking and shopping. Return to our hotel. **Dinner and overnight stay.**

📍 **9th Day / 07.11.2021 / ISTANBUL - ISTANBUL AIRPORT Departure**

After breakfast, a transfer to **Istanbul Airport** (airport code IST) will be available to take us to our return flight. Return home with the amazing memories.



Economic Proposal Tours & Accommodation

"Seven Churches of Asia Minor and Patmos" / 9-Day Excursion /		
Participation Fees per Person Accommodation on Half Board (Breakfast & Dinner) The rates are based on 20-24 participants. Full payment due October 1. Pay online at wisdompassages.com.	Type of Room	USD
	Double or Triple Room	\$3,800.00
	Single Room Supplement	\$375.00

THE ABOVE RATES/PRICES INCLUDE:

- The transfers of the participants in a luxury air-conditioned 30, 40, or 50 Seat Bus, as specified in the 9-Day Excursion Program.
- Three (3) nights' accommodation in **Istanbul** - The Marmara Taksim Hotel 5* / www.themarmarahotels.com **or** Similar (Accommodation on Half Board: Breakfast & Dinner - Drinks excluded).
- One (1) night accommodation in **Izmir** - Swissotel Buyuk Efes Hotel 5* / www.swissotel.com/hotels/izmir **or** Similar (Accommodation on Half Board: Breakfast & Dinner - Drinks excluded).
- Two (2) nights' accommodation in **Pamukkale** - Richmond Thermal Resort 5* / www.richmondhotels.com **or** Similar (Accommodation on Half Board: Breakfast & Dinner - Drinks excluded).
- Two (2) nights' accommodation in **Kusadasi** - Charisma De Luxe Hotel 5* / www.charismahotel.com **or** Similar (Accommodation on Half Board: Breakfast & Dinner - Drinks excluded).
- Tours and daily trips, as specified in the 9-Day Excursion Program.
- **Private Charter Boat** / Kusadasi - Patmos & Patmos Kusadasi.
- **Certified English - Speaking Guide**, as specified in the 9-Day Excursion Program.
- Entrance Fees, Tickets for Archaeological Sites & Museums (excluded the optional tours).
- Insurance for the participants and professional liability.

- Port & Service Charges.
- Accommodation Taxes (Overnight Taxes).
- Parking Fees - Tolls.
- City Taxes.
- Taxes/VAT.

THE ABOVE RATES/PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Air-Tickets to Turkey (Istanbul).
- Domestic Air Tickets Izmir – Istanbul (free bus ride is available).
- Tickets for local transportations.
- Extra meals, Drinks etc.
- Tips to Drivers & Guides.
- Any optional service or not mentioned in our included items.
- International Travel Insurance. Wisdom Passages recommends purchasing insurance within 10 days of initial deposit in order to protect preexisting medical conditions. Please call Chaim at 847.677.7550 or 630.961.3606 for more details.

Nikos Chatzikonstantis

Owner/General Manager

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