Algonquin Travel
& Cruise Centre travelplus

Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

It is with great excitement that we invite you to join us on our next very special journey of faith: **"The Footsteps of the Apostle Paul"**, travelling through **Greece and Turkey from September 24 to October 5, 2027, jointly arranged with Globus Tours and Algonquin Travel & Cruise Centre**.

For many of you, this will not be your first pilgrimage with us, and you already know that these journeys become so much more than simply visiting remarkable places. There is something very special about travelling together in faith; sharing Mass, prayer, fellowship, laughter and unforgettable experiences along the way. And for those joining us for the first time, we would be delighted to welcome you into our pilgrimage family.

This time, we will be following in the footsteps of **St. Paul**, travelling through the lands where he preached, established some of the earliest Christian communities, and wrote letters that continue to speak to us nearly 2,000 years later.

Our journey begins in **Athens**, where we have added an extra pre-tour night so that everyone can arrive, settle in and begin the pilgrimage at a comfortable pace. From there, we travel north to the breathtaking monasteries of **Meteora**, and then continue through **Berea, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Kavala**, places deeply connected to Paul's missionary journeys and the growth of the early Church.

The second part of our pilgrimage takes us to sea for a **3-night Aegean cruise in oceanview staterooms**, visiting **Mykonos, Ephesus in Turkey, Patmos, Crete and Santorini**, before returning to Athens and visiting **ancient Corinth**, where Paul's ministry left such an important legacy. It is a wonderful combination of **faith, Scripture, history and some of the most beautiful scenery in the Mediterranean**. Places and names we have heard in Scripture all our lives suddenly become very real when we are actually standing where these events took place.

And we are especially blessed that **Father John Likozar, CC** will once again accompany us as our spiritual leader. Father John will celebrate daily Mass and provide spiritual guidance throughout our journey, helping us connect the places we visit with their meaning in our own lives and faith.

We have tweaked the original tour/cruise combo to include all costs upfront and our specially arranged **1 + 10 day pilgrimage** now includes the 7-night land portion, (Day #1 is now an **extra** pre-tour day to relax and unwind from the trip before the journey officially starts) plus a 3-night cruise on the **Celestyal Discovery** in an upgraded **Oceanview Stateroom**, with all applicable taxes and port charges, **airport transfers, and land and cruise gratuities included.**

- **Double Occupancy: $6,929 CAD per person**
  **Single Occupancy: $8,399 CAD per person – (limited space; please inquire early!)**

Lower cost Inside Staterooms and upgraded Balcony Staterooms on board the ship are also available upon request.

**Airfare is additional** and will be arranged from Ottawa, with connecting service to Athens, or possibly from Montreal with **coach transportation from Ottawa included**. We expect the airline schedule and group airfare to be available in late **October or early November 2026**. Our anticipated travel dates are **departing September 24 and returning October 5, 2027**. Airfare rates are expected to be in the range of $1400 - $1700 CAD per person including taxes, and hopefully on the lower end!

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!** We wanted to wait until the airlines came out with their 2027 schedules and pricing first, but happy to announce that we are planning a **Pilgrimage Information Session for Sunday, January 24th at 2 pm at Algonquin Travel & Cruise Centre (5330 Canotek Rd, Unit 2)** . It will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the journey, meet fellow pilgrims, ask questions and, of course, start getting excited about Greece!

In the meantime, you don't need to wait for the information session if you already know that this pilgrimage is calling you. **Space is limited**, and we would encourage anyone who is seriously interested to contact us early. The $250 CAD deposit is NOT required at this time, **but to hold a spot at no obligation**, please complete the attached booking form to confirm your interest and I will come back to you prior to the Information Session with further details.

Attached you will find further information about the pilgrimage and the itinerary; don't hesitate to share with your family and friends!

To learn more or to reserve your place, simply reply to this email or contact **Elaine Simpson at Algonquin Travel & Cruise** at **613-748-3600** or **elaine@travia.ca**. We would be very happy to answer your questions and assist with your booking.

From the monasteries of Meteora to the ancient streets of Ephesus, from the shores of the Aegean to the places where St. Paul preached and the early Church took root, we believe this will be an extraordinary pilgrimage — one filled with **faith, friendship, discovery and memories that will stay with us long after we return home.**

We would be honoured to have you journey with us as we **Follow in the Footsteps of the Apostle Paul**.

With blessings,

**Elaine Simpson**
Algonquin Travel & Cruise Centre
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