



# Churches of Revelation and Istanbul Itinerary

ISTANBUL | PERGAMUM | THYATIRA
SMYRNA | SARDIS | PHILADELPHIA
LAODICEA | EPHESUS

#### AT A GLANCE



Days



**Group Tour** 



All Breakfast & Dinner



Fully Guided Excursions

**FAMILY FRIENDLY** 

CALM & CULTURED

4 STAR ACCOMMODATION

**GUIDED TOURS** 

SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

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## TOUR DETAILS

#### **INCLUDED**

- All sightseeing as per the itinerary.
- All guiding by licensed English speaking tour guide.
- All entry fees to the sites and museums as listed.
- Hotel Accommodation.
- Travel Insurance
- Daily Breakfasts.
- Daily Dinner.
- All Flights International and Internal.
- All airport transfers.
- All service charges and local taxes.
- All transportation by private vehicle with driver.
- Daily bottle of water.
- Whisper Sets.
- Information Booklet.

#### **EXCLUDED**

- Additional Services.
- Food & Drinks lunches.
- Visa Expenses.
- Tipping.



#### PHYSICAL RATING - LEVEL 3

We encourage a decent level of fitness as there is a fair amount of walking, somedays it will be 2-3 hours.







## **ITINERARY**

## DAY 1: DEPART OR TAMBO AIRPORT - MEALS ON BOARD - DINNER AND BREAKFST

The group will meet at the International departures at the Turkish Air counter 3 hours prior to departure for formalities and checking in.

## DAY 2: ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL, TRANSFER TO HOTEL

Upon arrival at Istanbul Airport, we will be greeted by our tour guide after passing through customs. We will enjoy a private transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay in Istanbul.

#### DAY 3: FULL DAY ISTANBUL TOUR

Following breakfast, we will be picked up from the hotel to explore Istanbul, a city uniquely positioned on two continents. Our itinerary includes visits to the **Topkapi Palace**, **Hagia Sophia**, **Blue Mosque**, **and Hippodrome**, the site of chariot races and Byzantine unrest. We will explore the **Spice Bazaar (Egyptian Bazaar)**, where the air carries the delightful scents of various herbs and spices like cinnamon, caraway, saffron, mint, and thyme. The day concludes with an overnight stay in Istanbul.

We will enjoy a 3-course dinner, dance and show on the Bosphorus.

## DAY 4: FULL DAY ISTANBUL TOUR – IZMIR (BREAKFAST – DINNER)

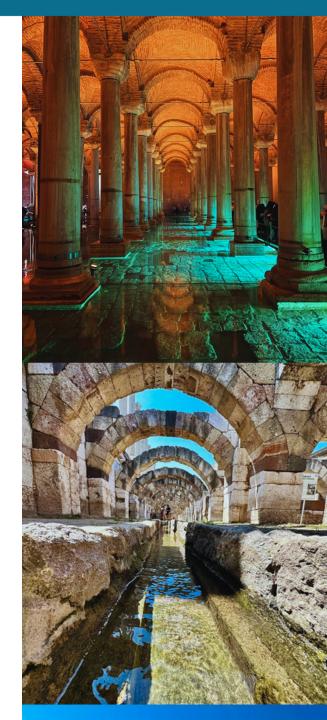
We will be picked up from our hotel after breakfast. We begin at the **Grand Bazaa**r, then head to the port for a boat trip on the **Bosphorus**. Enjoy a traditional boat excursion along the waterway that divides Europe and Asia. Admire the old wooden villas, marble palaces, fortresses, and quaint fishing villages along the shore. In the afternoon, explore the **Underground Cistern** before transferring to the airport for our flight to Izmir. Upon arrival, we will be transferred to your hotel for an overnight stay in Izmir.

#### DAY 5: PERGAMUM – THYATIRA – IZMIR (BREAKFAST – DINNER)

After enjoying breakfast, we head to Pergamum, also known as Bergama, which is one of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 2:12]. There, we get to explore the remarkable Acropolis, the world's steepest theatre, the renowned Asklepion medical centre from classical times, witness the Altar of Zeus referred to as the "Throne of Satan" in the book of Revelation, admire the marble columns of the Temple of Trajan, and visit the Library – a prominent rival of the Library of Alexandria in Egypt, holding an impressive collection of over 200,000 volumes and credited with inspiring the invention of parchment.

Next, we proceed to Thyatira, now Akhisar, another of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 2:18–24; Acts 16:14], renowned for its purple dyes. Here, we explore the remains of a basilica and some architectural fragments dating back to the Roman period. Notably, Lydia, the purple cloth merchant from Philippi, hailed from Thyatira.

We then return to Izmir, where we check into the hotel for dinner and spend the night.







## **ITINERARY**

## DAY 6: IZMIR – SARDIS – PHILADELPHIA – LAODICEA – HIERAPOLIS (BREAKFAST – DINNER)

Today, we embarked on an early morning journey to Sardis, now known as Sart, one of the Seven Churches of Asia. This historical city served as the capital of the ancient Lydian kingdom, featuring notable sites like the Temple of Artemis, a restored gymnasium, and a reconstructed synagogue. We will also explore remnants of the royal Persian Road and the famous Pactolus River.

Our travels will then take us to Philadelphia, or Alasehir, another of the Seven Churches of Asia, praised for its lack of criticism. We observed the remains of a Byzantine basilica with distinctive architecture and 11th-century frescoes. The journey continued to Laodicea, founded by Seleucid Antiochus II, marking the final stop among the seven churches.

Lastly, we visit Hierapolis, now Pamukkale, renowned for its hot mineral springs creating stunning natural formations, before settling in at a Thermal Hotel for the night.

## DAY 7: EPHESUS – KUSADASI (BREAKFAST – DINNER)

Embark on a journey to Ephesus to explore the ancient city, including the Basilica of St. John, where the Apostle Paul once preached and resided for three years. Uncover the historical significance of this city founded in the 10th century BC as we tour the ongoing excavations of its remarkable ruins.

Stroll through marble-paved streets adorned with impressive public structures such as the Baths of Scholastica, the Library of Celsus, the Temple of Hadrian, and the Theatre. Discover the Temple of Diana of the Ephesians, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Our visit includes the Basilica of St. John and a pilgrimage to the House of the Virgin Mary before heading to Kusadasi for the night.

#### DAY 8: IZMIR - AIRPORT (BREAKFAST)

This morning after breakfast, with packed bags, we will be transferred to the airport for our flight home.

As we prepare to head back home, we take some time to reflect on all the amazing memories we've made.

Whether it's the stunning scenery we have witnessed, the delicious local cuisine we tried, or the new friends we made along the way, these experiences will stay with us for a lifetime.

Sadly, all good things must come to an end. Be sure to book your next tour soon.

#### DAY 9: OR TAMBO AIRPORT (DINNER, BREAKFAST)

Today, after our overnight flight, we land back home with happy hearts, feeling spiritually renewed and refreshed looking forward to our next tour.









### WHY CHOOSE TRAVEL DAZE

Since 2007, we have been fortunate enough to participate in successful pilgrimage travels to the Holy Land and Footsteps of Paul journeys. We consider it a privilege to share our passion for this ministry with others, and would be honoured to introduce you to the 7 Churches of the Book of Revelation. Over the years, we have sourced the best possible value for money and affordable trips without compromising any of the experiences. Our goal is to not only meet but exceed expectations as we journey through Turkiye in Asia Minor. By the Grace of God, these pilgrimages have always been successful, and we have cultivated positive relationships in these foreign lands, where locals are always happy to welcome us.

Our extensive trips through Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Turkey, Greece, and Italy have brought about abundant spiritual growth. Witnessing the sites mentioned in the Bible has enriched us, and we strive to share this experience with all who embark on these journeys. As a company that began as Bible Land Travels and has now expanded into Travel Daze Ltd, we are blessed to have many contactable references with repeat travellers.

We also enjoy a 4.7 rating on Trust Pilot.

On every trip, you will be accompanied by a Tour Co-ordinator and an English-speaking Tour Guide. This ensures that all your needs are taken care of and that your stay during the tour will be effortless, giving you the opportunity to experience the fullness and richness of these Biblical Lands.

Join us on this spiritual journey as we embark on a life-changing experience.

Mission Statement: Heed the Call and Stay connected to the Vine

# READY TO EXPLORE?







