



# NEW TESTAMENT STUDY TOUR of the EARLY CHURCH

Two or Three Week Option: **MAY 2-18 or May 2-23, 2020**

An exploration on both land and sea; Sailing, hiking, ballooning  
Following in the steps of the Apostle Paul and John, with an overview of Early Church History

"Dr. John E. Johnson is a Professor of Leadership at Western Seminary, a writer, and a frequent study tour leader"

"Dr Ken Wilmot is a teaching instructor, participates in archeological digs, and an avid historian"

"Ms. Meltem (Mel) Çiftçi is the tour guide in Turkey"

organized by

**TUTKU**  
— EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL —



## WESTERN SEMINARY



### Tour Itinerary:

**May 02 Sat Depart from PDX-Fly to Istanbul**

**May 03 Sun Arrive Istanbul Airport – Fly to Antioch**

Arrive Hatay Airport. Your tour guide will meet you after the customs and baggage claim with a "JOHN JOHNSON" sign. Meet and drive to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (D)

**May 04 Mon Antioch**

Visit the port of Antioch Seleucid Pieria and Titus Tunnel. After lunch, visit the St.Peter's Church and Ols Bazaar. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (B,L,D)

**May 05 Tue Antioch – Tarsus – Cappadocia**

Drive to Tarsus, the home of the Apostle Paul. There you will visit the Roman baths and see the remains of the ancient bridge over the Cydnus River. You will next visit the Cardo Maximus street of Roman Tarsus and then Donuktaş, one of the largest temples of the ancient world. After lunch Continue to Cappadocia for dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

**May 06 Wed Cappadocia**

Hot Air Baloon Ride. After breakfast you will have a full day of sightseeing in Cappadocia. You will visit Göreme where you will see remains of several hundred early churches, with rooms hollowed out of the cones of volcanic ash. Some of them are decorated with scratched frescoes depicting scenes from the Bible. Drive to İhlara canyon, walking through the canyon via the Steps of Anatolia to Belisirma village, the ancient Peristrema. Set by the Melendiz River this is known as the "Valley of the Sky". Churches carved from the rocks form a gallery of early paintings that are remarkable for their accuracy. Mountain Biking and/or ATV. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

**May 07 Thu Cappadocia**

You will drive through the Zelve valley on your way to Kaymaklı, an underground city which was an early Christian center that extended downward in the earth for at least eight floors and housed several thousand people in the eighth and ninth centuries. You'll continue to Uçhisar, another of these early Christian communities, see pottery and rug making before returning to your hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

**May 08 Fri Cappadocia – Konya**

You will first visit the ancient acropolis of Iconium in Konya's city center. You then visit the archaeological museum and its important inscriptions mentioning Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. Next you will visit St. Helena's Church at Sille. In the afternoon you will visit ancient Lystra, the home of Timothy, visted by Paul on his three journeys. In Hatunsaray you will see the small open-air museum of antiquities from Lystra. Return to Konya for dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

**May 09 Sat Konya – Antioch Pisidia – Antalya**

You will depart early for Yalvaç, the site of the Roman colony of Pisidian Antioch. Paul visited this city on his three missionary journeys. His first recorded sermon in Acts 13 addressed the congregation of Jews and Godfearers in the synagogue. You will also visit the St. Paul Room in the Yalvaç Museum. Then you will make a scenic drive through Turkey's lake country before descending through the Taurus Mountains to the plain of Pamphylia. Dinner and overnight in Antalya. (B,L,D)

**May 10 Sun Antalya**

Morning visit to the St. Paul Cultural Center. Then, we will drive to Perga visited by Paul and Barnabas on their first journey (Acts 13:13-14). There you will see its well-preserved stadium and colonnaded street divided by a water channel. Returning to Antalya, you will see Hadrian's Gate and the Roman mausoleum of ancient Attalia. Dinner and overnight will be at the hotel. (B,L,D)

**May 11 Mon Antalya**

After breakfast, you will visit Antalya's renowned archaeological museum. Free afternoon. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (B,L,D)

**May 12 Tue Antalya – Myra – Patara – Fethiye Board GULET (Wooden Yacht)**

Our morning begins with a breathtaking drive along the Mediterranean coast. Visit the ancient site of Myra, with its lovely Roman theater and Lycian tombs. Today Myra is best known as the city of St. Nicholas, where he served as bishop in the fourth century A.D. After visiting Myra, continue to Patara an ancient city visited by Paul (Acts 21:2) which features a beautiful theater and lighthouse. Drive to Fethiye and embark our private GULET (wooden yacht) where we will spend 3 nights. Dinner on board. (B,L,D)

**May 13 Wed Sail by Gulet – Fethiye**

Hike St. Nicholas Island and spend the afternoon swimming in the Mediterranean. (B,L,D)

**May 14 Thu Sail by Gulet – Lydia**

Sail to Aga Limani and hike to ruins at ancient Lydia and see the Cleopatra Baths (B,L,D)

**May 15 Fri Disembark Gocek – Pamukkale**

Leave Gulet boat and drive to Pamukkale. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (B,L,D)

**May 16 Sat Laodicea – Hierapolis – Pamukkale**

First drive to Colossae (Paul's letter to the Colossians) on the foothills of Mount Honaz. You will continue to Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches of Revelation, and Hierapolis where you will visit the monuments, thermal baths and the theater with its well preserved stage and Temple of Apollo. Dinner and overnight will be in Pamukkale. (B,L,D)





Assos

#### **May 17 Sun Ephesus Tour – Izmir**

Morning drive to Ephesus, the first of the Seven Churches, for a visit. You will see the amazing ruins of this great city: the theater, the library, the Temple of Hadrian and the newly excavated Roman Terrace Houses. Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Izmir. (B,L,D)

#### **May 18 Mon Departure**

Some of the group leave from Izmir back to States. (B)

#### **EXTENSION:**

##### **May 18 Mon Pergamon – Assos**

After breakfast you will visit the acropolis of Pergamum, one of Turkey's most impressive archaeological sites with its steep theater and Altar of Zeus. You will continue your journey up the Aegean coast to stop briefly at Adramyttium, the home port of Paul's ship (Acts 27:2). Arriving in Assos, you will visit the panoramic Temple of Athena and enter the West Gate along the same road upon which Paul entered Assos at the end of his walk from Troas (Acts 20:13-14). Dinner and overnight in Assos. (B,L,D)



Pergamum

##### **May 19 Tue Assos – Troy – Canakkale**

Walk part of the Roman road between Troas and Assos. After visiting the Apollo Smintheion temple, you will continue to Alexandria Troas where Paul raised Eutychus from the dead (Acts 20:9). Troas was an important transit point for Paul, passing through its port at least three times. Then you will next visit the legendary city of Troy and see the replica of the wooden horse. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale. (B,L,D)

##### **May 20 Wed Bursa**

Drive Bursa. Visit Green Mosque & Mausoleum. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (B,L,D)

##### **May 21 Thu Bursa – Nicea – Istanbul**

Drive to Iznik (*ancient Nicaea*). Two ecumenical councils were held here: the First Ecumenical Council of 325 and the Seventh Ecumenical Council of 787. Visit the ruins of the St. Sophia Church where the Seventh Ecumenical Council was held. In the afternoon, drive to Istanbul, the only city in the world spanning on two continents; transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

##### **May 22 Fri Byzantium – Constantinople – Istanbul**

Today we explore the wonders of Istanbul. We move on to the Golden Mile of the Egnatian Way, visit the Hippodrome Square next to the Blue Mosque as well as the magnificent, 1700-year-old Hagia Sophia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and visiting the Hagia Irene Church. Afterwards, we will make our way to Istanbul's Grand Bazaar, and Spice Market. Tonight, Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

##### **May 23 Sat Istanbul Airport – Fly back to Portland**

#### **LAND & AIR:**

**OPTION 1: \$5,990** Per person in double occupancy  
**May 2-18** \$1,490 Single Room Supplement

**OPTION 2: \$7,490** Per person in double occupancy  
**May 2-23** \$1,890 Single Room Supplement

#### **TOUR INCLUDES**

- Round-trip airfare between Portland and Istanbul
- Istanbul-Hatay domestic flight
- Izmir – Istanbul domestic flight
- 2 Nights at 4 star Hilton Antakya Museum in Antakya
- 2 Nights at 4 star Yusuf Yiğitoğlu Hotel in Cappadocia
- 1 Night at 4 star Anemon Hotel in Konya
- 3 Nights at 4 star Best Western Khan Hotel in Antalya
- 3 Nights at GULET WOODEN SAIL BOAT – Tarkan V Boat or similar
- 2 Nights at 5 star Doga Thermal Hotel in Pamukkale
- 1 Night at 4 star Moevenpick Hotel in Izmir

#### **EXTENSION HOTELS :**

- 1 Night at 4 star Assos Dove Hotel in Assos
- 1 Night at 5 star Kolin Hotel in Canakkale
- 1 Night at 4 star Tiara Thermal Hotel in Bursa
- 2 nights at Arcadia Blue Hotel in Old City Istanbul
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- All escorted transfers
- Daily open buffet breakfasts at hotels
- 3 dinners at Gulet
- 17 dinners at hotels
- 3 Lunches at Gulet on board
- 15 Lunches at local restaurants
- Transportation by private, air-conditioned bus
- English-speaking, professional tour guide throughout the tour
- All entry fees to the sites & museums
- Luggage portage at hotels
- Tips for the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes
- Tips for the tour guide and driver (\$5 per person per day for the guide - \$2 for the driver)

#### **TOUR EXCLUDES**

- Drinks and lunches which are not listed above
- All personal expenses, such as souvenirs, and any other items or services that are not listed above
- Turkish visa fee (\$20 per person for US citizens) to be purchased online before arrival [www.evisa.gov.tr](http://www.evisa.gov.tr). All participants are responsible for checking their own countries' visa regulations for travel.
- **GULET TIPS:** Please do not wear street shoes on deck. Bring soft shoes or slippers. All cabins have shower and toilet but rooms are small. Water is limited on board, use it carefully. There will be free time for swimming. Do not forget to bring your swimming suits. You will have extra towels and snorkeling equipment on board.
- **Travel Insurance:** Travel insurance may be purchased as a separate package. Travel Insurance agreement is contracted directly between the traveller and the insurance company.



## PAYMENT PROCEDURE:

**I- \$300 per person Deposit : September 1, 2019**

(Refundable up to January 1, 2020)

**2- Full Payment : February 1, 2020**

### Cancellation penalty:

- 90-60 days prior to departure: No Penalty
- 59-45 days prior to departure: 10%
- 44-30 days prior to departure: 25%
- 29-15 days prior to departure: 50%
- 14 days & After No refund

**For Registration, and payment please contact:**

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