

“IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL” PILGRIMAGE TOUR 2010



PILGRIMAGE TOUR 2010

Personally Escorted By

The Very Reverend Frank Nelson- Dean of Wellington

THURSDAY 27 MAY

WELLINGTON – CHRISTCHURCH – SINGAPORE (2 nights)

7. 10am Latest check in time at Wellington Airport

Report individually to the Air New Zealand counter and check your baggage through to Singapore.

Free baggage allowance on all flights is 20 kilos (44lbs) per person.

Please have your E. Ticket receipt and passport ready for presentation.

You will receive flight boarding passes for both the Wellington/Christchurch and Christchurch/Singapore flights at this time.

8.40am	Depart Wellington NZ433 Boeing 737
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9.25am	Arrive Christchurch Air New Zealand
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Flying time is 45 minutes

On arrival Christchurch there is no need to claim your baggage as this will be automatically through-checked to your onward flight.

An Airport departure tax of \$25.00 is payable direct by all international departing travellers.

When passing through the Customs checkpoint please have your passport and completed New Zealand passenger departure card ready for presentation.

Following this, go to the assigned departure gate lounge to await flight boarding call.

Don't forget to collect any duty free purchases!

Connect With:

10.50am	Depart Christchurch SQ298 Boeing 777
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5.45pm	Arrive Singapore	Singapore Airlines
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Flying time is 10 hours 55 mins.

On arrival Singapore after clearance of Immigration and Customs formalities, met by our Singapore Agents "RMG Tours Ltd" and transferred by private coach to the Hotel. Accommodation is reserved for two nights until Saturday 29 May.

FRIDAY 28 MAY

SINGAPORE

This morning your coach will depart the Hotel (accompanied by an English speaking guide) for a half day tour taking in the history, culture and lifestyle of multi-racial Singapore. A stop is made for morning tea with local coffee and toast (*Breakfast included*)

Afternoon and evening is free

The Hotel is located just steps away from the entertainment and dining hotspots of Clarke Quay, Boat Quay and Chinatown.

SATURDAY 29 MAY

SINGAPORE – MUNICH

Breakfast included at the Hotel

Day free with Hotel rooms held for your use until 6.00pm

Evening transfer by coach to Changi Airport in time to check in for onward "Lufthansa" flight to Munich (*Breakfast included*)

11.10pm	Depart Singapore	LH791 Airbus A343
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SUNDAY 30 MAY

5.50am	Arrive Munich	Lufthansa German Airlines
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Flying time is 12 hours 40 mins.

Arriving at Munich International Airport after clearance of Immigration and Customs formalities you'll be met by your "Euro Vista Holidays" Tour Director and transferred to your hotel for an immediate check-in. The rest of the day is yours to relax before joining your Tour Director and fellow travellers later this evening for a welcome dinner at a typical Bavarian restaurant (*Dinner included*)

MONDAY 31 MAY

MUNICH – NEUSCHWANSTEIN – OBERAMMERGAU (2 nights)

A short morning drive takes you to Neuschwanstein Castle, the creation of 'Mad' King Ludwig II of Bavaria. A horse and carriage ride brings you part of the way up to where you'll enjoy a guided tour of this 'fairytale' castle. Next you'll visit the famous Wies Church, a masterpiece of Bavarian Rococco with its air of sobriety outside and scenes of opulent magnificence inside. Later this afternoon you'll arrive in the 'Passion Play' town of Oberammergau (*breakfast and dinner included*)

TUESDAY 01 JUNE

OBERAMMERGAU – PASSION PLAY

The tradition of the Passion Play derives from a vow made by the inhabitants of Oberammergau in 1633, after a plague epidemic was miraculously cut short saving many of the townspeople from certain death the play is performed by around 1100 local residents over the summer period every ten years and today you'll attend one of the performances for 2010.

This morning you'll have leisure time before the play starts in the mid-afternoon. There is an interlude at 5:00pm for dinner and the play resumes at 8:00pm to finish at approximately 10:30pm. *(Breakfast & dinner included)*

See attached room lists for details of Oberammergau Hotel accommodation

WEDNESDAY 02 JUNE

OBERAMMERGAU – MUNICH (1 night)

This morning you'll arrive back in Munich, the capital of Bavaria. Here you'll enjoy a guided tour of the city, including the Frauenkirche, the Marienplatz with its Glockenspiel and a visit to the Olympic complex followed by an evening where you can enjoy this cosmopolitan city at your leisure *(Breakfast included)*

THURSDAY 03 JUNE

MUNICH – ATHENS (4 nights)

Today you'll be transferred to Munich International Airport for your 'Lufthansa' flight to Athens.

2.45pm	Depart Munich	LH3390 Airbus A321
6.10pm	Arrive Athens	Lufthansa German Airlines

Flying time is 2 hours 25mins

Welcome to Athens, the most important city in ancient Greece and famed for its culture, learning, and great philosophers. On arrival met by your "Euro Vista Holidays" Greek Tour Director and transferred by coach to the Hotel.

The rest of the day is yours to relax and enjoy its facilities or commence your 4-night stay in this wonderful city by exploring the environs of your hotel including the famous shopping area of the Plaka. *(Breakfast & dinner included)*

FRIDAY 04 JUNE

ATHENS – SIGHTSEEING

Join your local English speaking guide for a full day discovering the ancient and modern sights of this exhilarating city. First you'll visit the Acropolis with its imposing Parthenon plus the Areopagus where Paul delivered his famous sermon about the identity of "The Unknown God" (*Acts 17:15-34*). In the afternoon you'll visit the National Archaeological Museum where you'll see many of the treasures from one of the greatest Western civilisations *(Breakfast included)*

SATURDAY 05 JUNE

ATHENS CAPE SOUNION EXCURSION

Your drive takes you along the Attic Coast south of Athens through beaches and resort towns and past the small Temple of Apollo at Vouliagmeni to arrive at Cape Sounion and the Temple of Poseidon. This temple, built in 444BC, is set back from sheer cliffs rising from the Aegean Sea and is ideally situated for worship of the powerful god of the sea. After visiting the ruins of the temple with a local guide you'll return to Athens with time to pursue your own interests *(Breakfast included)*

SUNDAY 06 JUNE

ATHENS - ANCIENT CORINTH EXCURSION

This morning you'll drive to the north-eastern tip of the Peloponnese and cross the Corinth Canal before visiting Ancient Corinth for a guided tour of the excavations and the area where Apostle Paul worked for

18 months with the tent makers Aquila and Priscilla (*Acts 18:1-18*). On your return to Athens later this afternoon you'll have time to further explore the city at your own pace. (*Breakfast included*)

MONDAY 07 JUNE

4 NIGHT "JEWELS OF THE AEGEAN" CRUISE (Mykonos)

Your cruise ship "Aegean Pearl" beckons and this morning you drive to the port of Piraeus for embarkation. You set sail for the lovely island of Mykonos with its white-washed houses and quaint windmills glowing pink in the setting sun. On arrival you'll have the opportunity to join a shore excursion which will take you on a walking tour through the narrow streets of "Little Venice". Back on the ship you'll enjoy the first of four dinners on board followed by the evening's entertainment. Don't forget to pack your "Zorba" dancing shoes! (*Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included*)

TUESDAY 08 JUNE

4 NIGHT CRUISE (Kusadasi/Patmos)

This morning you're docked in the Turkish port of Kusadasi, from where an optional shore excursion is available to the ruins of Ephesus, to whose inhabitants Apostle Paul wrote his famous epistle (*Acts 18:19-26; EPHESIANS*) and which was once the capital of the Roman province of Asia. The excursion also visits the House of Mary, where the Virgin Mary is said to have spent her last days. Before returning to the ship there's time in Kusadasi to shop for every conceivable item from carpets and jewellery to leather goods and Turkish "delights". On board ship again you'll sail to Patmos where this afternoon you can visit the island using your free time to discover the 'Jerusalem of the Aegean'. Or you may wish to take the opportunity to join an optional shore excursion to the Monastery of St. John and tour the Cave of the Apocalypse, where John the Evangelist wrote the Book of Revelation during his exile (*Rev. 1:9-11*) (*Breakfast lunch & dinner included*)

WEDNESDAY 09 JUNE

4 NIGHT CRUISE (Rhodes)

Early this morning you arrive in the port of Rhodes, once home to the Colossus of Rhodes and the Knights of St John and where Apostle Paul landed in 51 A.D. (*Acts 21:1*). Here you can marvel at the beauty of the island and admire the medieval-walled city with its palaces and "inns", built by the Knights of St. John during the Crusades or you may wish to join an optional shore excursion to charming Lindos with its acropolis and imposing Knight's Castle. (*Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included*)

THURSDAY 10 JUNE

4 NIGHT CRUISE (Crete/Santorini)

After arriving in the port of Heraklion on the island of Crete you may wish to join a shore excursion which will take you to the amazing ruins of King Minos' Palace at Knossos, one of the centres of Minoan civilisation and believed to be the home of the legendary half-man, half-bull, Minotaur. Later you anchor in the lee of the towering volcanic cliffs of Santorini where there's time to wander among the narrow streets and rectangular white houses which make this island so famous. Tonight enjoy the festivities of a final night on board your cruise ship. (*Breakfast lunch & dinner included*)

Friday 11 June

ATHENS – DELPHI – KALAMBAKA (1 night)

You return to Athens early this morning and after disembarkation you'll first drive to the ancient city of Delphi which occupies one of the most impressive sites in Greece. It's set above the gorge of the River Pleistos and against the backdrop of Mount Parnassus. The sanctuary of Apollo, surrounded by olive, pine, cypress and lentisk trees, attracted pilgrims by the thousands and was one of the most important religious centres of the ancient world. Later you'll continue north to the village of Kalambaka, your overnight stay for tonight. *(Breakfast and Dinner included)*

SATURDAY 12 JUNE

KALAMBAKA – METEORA - VERIA – THESSALONIKI (3 nights)

Meteora (or 'soaring rocks') is on your agenda today and here you'll visit Varlaam and St. Stephen's monasteries. Situated atop natural sandstone towers, the 14th-century monasteries compose one of the most breathtaking sites in the world. Inside the monasteries you'll discover many historical and religious treasures before you leave the foothills of the Pindos Mountains and drive across the top of the Thermaic Gulf to Veria. (Beroea of the New Testament where Paul and Silas were sent by friends after being accused of treason in Thessaloniki *(Acts 17:5-15)*) You'll visit the Bema of Apostle Paul where he is said to have stood and preached the Gospel to the local community. Later this evening arrive in the bustling cosmopolitan city of Thessaloniki (also known as Salonica) and named after the sister of Alexander the Great. The city figures prominently in the New Testament at which time this provincial capital was considered a world cultural centre. This community was the centre of Paul's activities in Northern Greece as this is where he preached, founded a church, and to whose citizens he wrote two epistles *(Acts 17:1-9)*

(1) Thessalonians) and (2) Thessalonians *(Breakfast and Dinner included)*

SUNDAY 13 JUNE

THESSALONIKI – SIGHTSEEING

Thessaloniki is the second largest city in Greece and the country's busiest port. This morning, during your sightseeing tour you'll discover its ancient history and an array of splendid churches including the country's largest. The afternoon is yours to further explore at your leisure *(Breakfast included)*

MONDAY 14 JUNE

THESSALONIKI – PHILIPPI & KAVALA EXCURSION

A full day excursion takes you along the ancient route of Apostle Paul to Amphipolis *(Acts 17: 1)*. Later you'll journey to ancient Philippi which was named after the father of Alexander the Great. This busy Roman colony boasted a great library and theatre. In Philippi, Paul preached and established the first church in Europe. And it was to its inhabitants that he wrote one of his epistles while imprisoned in Rome *(Acts 16:11-40; PHILIPPIANS)*. It was in this area that Paul met Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She and her household accepted Christ and were baptised in the nearby river *(Acts 16:11-15)*. Next, you'll continue to Kavala, ancient port of Neapolis *(Acts 16:9-11)*, before returning to Thessaloniki *(Breakfast included)*

TUESDAY 15 JUNE

THESSALONIKI – ATHENS (1 night)

Today you'll drive back to Athens and en route negotiate the Pass of Thermopylae where in 480BC seven thousand Spartans held off the massive Persian Army by blocking the pass for a number of days before eventually being over-run and leaving only two Greek survivors to tell the tale of the heroic deed. On arrival in Athens in the late afternoon you'll have time to relax before enjoying your evening at leisure. *(Breakfast included)*

WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE

ATHENS – FRANKFURT –HONG KONG- AUCKLAND

This morning you'll have a couple of hours for last minute shopping or a leisurely coffee before being transferred to Athens Airport to commence your journey home, filled with wonderful memories of your time spent where western civilisation began (*Breakfast included*)

2.05pm	Depart Athens	LH3381 Airbus A321
4.05pm	Arrive Frankfurt	Lufthansa German Airlines

Flying time is 3 hours

Connect With:

6.10pm	Depart Frankfurt	LH738 Boeing 747
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THURSDAY 17 JUNE

10.50am	Arrive Hong Kong	Lufthansa German Airlines
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Flying time is 10 hours, 40minutes

Hong Kong Airport is one of the World's largest and most modern.

The "Travelers' Lounge" is located inside the Airport and offers first class lounge facilities for your time in transit. This includes all day food & beverages (excluding alcohol) showers, internet access, newspapers and magazines.

This lounge operates on a "user pays" basis & must be pre-booked in advance, cost approximately NZ\$55.00 for a 5 hour block.

Please let us know if you would like a reservation made

Connect With:

6.10pm	Depart Hong Kong	NZ080 Boeing 777
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Connect With:

FRIDAY 18 JUNE		
AUCKLAND – WELLINGTON		
9.00am	Arrive Auckland	Air New Zealand

Flying time is 10 hours, 50 minutes

On arrival Auckland after clearance of Immigration and Customs formalities cross over to the domestic Air New Zealand Terminal and check in for onward flight to Wellington

12.30pm	Depart Auckland	NZ419 Boeing 737
1.30pm	Arrive Wellington	Air New Zealand

Flying time is 1 hour

WELCOME HOME

THE TRAVELLERS 10 COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou shalt not expect to find things as thou hast them at home, for verily thou hast left home to find things different.
2. Thou shalt not take anything too seriously. For a care-free mind is essential for a care-free holiday.
3. Thou shalt not let other tourists get upon thy nerves, for thou art paying out good money to enjoy thyself.
4. Remember to take only half the clothes thou thinkest thou needest- and twice the money
5. Know at all times where thy passport is, for a person without a passport is like unto a person without a country.
6. Remember that if thou hadst been expected to stay in one place thou wouldst have been created with roots
7. Thou shalt not worry, for he that worrieth hath no pleasure, and few things are ever fatal
8. When in Rome, thou shalt be prepared to do somewhat as the Romans do
9. Thou shalt not judge the people of a country by the one person who has given thee trouble
10. Remember that thou art a guest in foreign lands, and he that treateth his host with respect shall be honoured