

ROPAKELE Travel *presents...*

# Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle

featuring a 3-night Greek Islands & Turkey cruise

April 11 – 21, 2018



Book Now  
& Save  
**\$150**  
Per Person

**Upgrade to Elite Airfare!** see inside for details



For more information contact

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11 Days • 20 Meals: 9 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 8 Dinners

**Book Now & Save \$150 Per Person:**

Inside Double Rate ~~\$4,349~~; **\$4,199\***

Inside Single Rate ~~\$4,849~~; **\$4,699\***

Outside Double Rate ~~\$4,499~~; **\$4,349\***

Outside Single Rate ~~\$5,149~~; **\$4,999\***

For bookings made after Oct 12, 2017 call for rates.

**Included in Price:** Cruise Taxes and Fees, Port Charges, Round Trip Air from New Orleans Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

**Not included in price:** Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$350 per person

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from MSY

**Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare**

Additional rate of: Business Class \$4,490

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS:** Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)



**Cruise-Land:** These combine the best of land and sea. These tours feature all the qualities of our traditional escorted tours, including a Tour Manager; and include high quality cruise ships that feature various amenities.

"**Religious Tours**" are competitively priced journeys that focus on the needs of our faith-based travelers. Featuring three star hotels and more modest meals, these packages are designed to capture the reflective and humble surroundings of the world-famous spiritual sites they visit. With an emphasis on religious inclusions, these tours also include other culturally appropriate attractions and the services of a professional Tour Manager.

**collette**  
faith



## Collette Experiences

- Stop at two monasteries in Meteora and learn about the resident monks.
- See Mars Hill where Paul delivered his "Men of Athens" speech.
- Visit the Museum of Byzantine Culture, one of the finest museums of Byzantine art.

## Must-See Inclusions

- Explore ancient Corinth on a guided tour featuring the Agora.
- Join a local expert exploring the monuments of ancient Athens.
- See the Bema where Paul was brought before the tribunal, as recorded in Acts.

## Culinary Inclusions

- Feast on local Greek cuisine and fine wine in a traditional taverna.

**Highlights:** Athens, Taverna Dinner Show, 3-Night Cruise, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Santorini, Thessaloniki, Kavala, Philippi, Meteora, Delphi, Corinth, Acropolis

### Day 1: Wednesday, April 11, 2018

**Overnight Flight** Paul the Apostle, the prolific writer of the New Testament letters, was one of the first Christian missionaries. Trace his journey through the ancient cities and pastoral countryside of Greece and Turkey.

### Day 2: Thursday, April 12, 2018

**Athens, Greece - Tour Begins** Your tour begins in Athens, Greece's lively capital. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner in Athens' historic district – the Plaka – a lively historic neighborhood nestled at the foot of the Acropolis. **Feast on local cuisine and enjoy fine wine in**

**a traditional taverna** while Greek entertainment creates a wonderful ambiance around you. (D)

### Day 3: Friday, April 13, 2018 Athens -

**Lavrion\* (Embarkation) - Mykonos Embark on a wonderful 3-night cruise** to the Greek Islands and Turkey. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served daily while on board. Mykonos, the whitewashed jewel of the Cyclades Islands, is your first stop. This charming, mountainous island is known for the hundreds of tiny chapels, whitewashed buildings and beautiful windmills that dot its landscape. Don't miss Mykonos



Town, where mazes of narrow streets link the whitewashed buildings and traditional life continues amidst the bustling activity. Enjoy free time to explore this island paradise. *(B, L, D)*

**Day 4: Saturday, April 14, 2018**

**Kusadasi, Turkey - Patmos, Greece**

**Visit the Turkish port of Kusadasi** for an included excursion to the ruins of Ephesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where Paul the Apostle spent three years during his ministry and where its inhabitants were the recipients of Paul's famous epistle.

**Visit the House of Mary**, where she is said to have spent her last days. A visit to the ruins includes the Agora, the great theater, and the stadium where chariot races took place and gladiatorial combats were held. It is said that Paul himself fought here against wild beasts. Continue your cruise to Patmos, the "Jerusalem of the Aegean." Visit the Monastery of John and the Cave of the Apocalypse where John the Evangelist, inspired by God, wrote the Book of Revelation during his exile. *(B, L, D)*

**Day 5: Sunday, April 15, 2018**

**Heraklion (Crete)\*\* - Santorini** Arrive

early this morning in Heraklion, Crete. Time is allowed for an optional excursion to Knossos, one of the most extraordinary archaeological sites in the western world and the center of the 4000 B.C. Minoan civilization. Explore the site and visit the world-famous Knossos Archaeological Museum. Later, arrive on the fabled island of Santorini, known as the "Black Pearl of the Aegean." Visit the breathtaking Oia Village, perched on the caldera rim. Then, enjoy free time to visit the clifftop village of Fira for one of the world's most breathtaking panoramas. *(B, L, D)*

**Day 6: Monday, April 16, 2018**

**Lavrion\* - Disembark Cruise Ship - Thessaloniki** After an early morning disembarkation, travel north. Make a picture stop at Thermopylae, famous for its heroic defense by Leonidas and his courageous Spartans against the Persian army. Your day ends in Thessaloniki, Greece's second largest city. Founded in 315 B.C., Thessaloniki was an early center for Christianity; it is where Paul visited and preached during the winters of A.D. 49-50 and wrote two epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. **Visit the**



**Museum of Byzantine Culture**, one of the finest museums in the world devoted to Byzantine art and civilization with an impressive collection of many Byzantine and early Christian frescoes, icons and artifacts. (B, D)

**Day 7: Tuesday, April 17, 2018**  
**Thessaloniki - Kavala - Philippi - Thessaloniki** Travel to the coastal town of Kavala where Paul, accompanied by Silas, Luke and Timothy, first set foot on European soil. In nearby Philippi, Paul delivered his first sermon in Europe, planting the seeds of Christianity. Join a local expert for a guided tour of this historic town featuring the archaeological site and monuments spanning the Ancient, Roman and Byzantine eras. See the dungeon where Paul was held prisoner and the site where he baptized Lydia, the first Christian in Europe. (B)

**Day 8: Wednesday, April 18, 2018**  
**Thessaloniki - Meteora - Kalambaka** Proceed through the fertile Thessalian Valley – the breadbasket of Greece – to spectacular Meteora, a UNESCO World Heritage site. These dark, sandstone pinnacles rise abruptly from

the plain of Thessaly, with six historic monasteries perched upon their peaks. Beginning in the 10th century, hermits, monks and ascetics sought solitude and spiritual solace in these dramatic crags. Visit two amazing Meteora monasteries\*\*\* which are renowned for their intricate construction and exquisite Byzantine art. Overnight in Kalambaka. (B, D)

**Day 9: Thursday, April 19, 2018**  
**Kalambaka - Delphi** Travel through scenic mountain terrain to Delphi, one of the most moving sites of the ancient world. Once considered the “navel of the world,” Delphi is nestled on the slopes of Mount Parnassus in a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty. Pilgrims once came from all over the ancient world to consult its mysterious oracle. **A guided tour takes you along the Sacred Way** to see the Doric Temple and the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Treasuries, and the intriguing Archaeological Museum with its staggering collection of ancient artifacts including the 5th-century bronzed Charioteer. (B, D)

**Day 10: Friday, April 20, 2018**  
**Delphi - Corinth - Athens** Travel to Corinth

where Paul wrote two epistles, lived and preached for two years. **Explore ancient Corinth on a guided tour** featuring the Agora, where Paul’s trial by Gallio took place, and the Bema, where Paul was brought before the tribunal, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. In Athens, **see the hill of Areopagus (Mars Hill)** – where Paul delivered his famous “Men of Athens” speech – and **visit the incomparable Acropolis**. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a marvelous trip. (B, D)

**Day 11: Saturday, April 21, 2018**

**Athens - Tour Ends** You’ve explored the ancient land where Paul the Apostle made missionary journeys. You’ve seen the places to which he sent his famous epistles – Thessalonians, Philippians and Corinthians – and seen many of the

places described in the Acts of the Apostles. Return home inspired by the incredible, soothing landscapes and the words and deeds of Paul the Apostle. (B)

#### Itinerary at a glance

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Day 2	Crowne Plaza Athens City Center, Athens
Days 3 – 5	Celestyal Cruises, Piraeus
Days 6, 7	Capsis Hotel Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki
Day 8	Hotel Famissi Downtown, Kalambaka
Day 9	Domotel Anemolia Resort & Conference, Arachova
Day 10	Holiday Inn Athens, Athens

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

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## Experience It! Philippi

Toward the end of the year 52 C.E., Paul the Apostle arrived in the ancient city of Philippi to preach the new faith. Philippi was a bustling and prosperous Roman garrison town on an important trade route between Italy and Persia. Its population’s religions reflected the diversity of such a busy settlement. Residents worshipped Greek, Roman, Phrygian and Egyptian gods and there was a small Jewish population as well. It was here that Paul met Lydia, a local woman and merchant of purple cloth, who became the first European Christian. Paul’s time in Philippi is described in the Acts of the Apostles, and his ongoing relationship with the city’s residents and growing Christian population is revealed in his Epistles to the Philippians. Philippi is considered to be the most important archaeological site of eastern Macedonia. Explore the impressive site with a local guide and see where Paul baptized Lydia and where he was held prisoner by Roman authorities.

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For important reservation information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/743652>.

You can also find this information on your tour documents.

### **Please Note:**

Your cruise ship provides a “blanket visa” when visiting Ephesus, Turkey. There is no need for you to buy a Turkish visa as long as you travel with the group to/from Ephesus.

Port taxes and fees of approximately \$109 USD (subject to change without advance notice), quoted at time of booking, per person will not be included in the land only tour cost. Single cabins, if confirmed, are higher.

Gratuities for the cruise portion of your tour are not included in the land only price. At the time of booking, \$40 USD per guest will be collected to cover service charges (gratuities). You will not be asked to pay any additional service charges (gratuities) unless you wish to do so but never directly to the crew. The only exception is the beauty parlor and health spa services. It is customary to tip these skilled workers after services are rendered.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected with observance of religious or local holidays.

Order of ports may be changed by the cruise line.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Optional shore excursions are available for purchase directly from the ship upon embarkation.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Triple accommodations are limited and will be confirmed upon request and availability from the cruise line.

\*Port of embarkation/disembarkation can be either Piraeus or Lavrion. Please check your final travel documents for the correct listing.

\*\*For sailings during Greek Easter periods (April 8, 2018) Crete may not be available as a port of call. Instead, more time is spent in Patmos and Santorini.

\*\*\*In order to enter the monasteries in Meteora, all guests must have their shoulders covered, women must wear skirts that cover the knees and men must wear long trousers.

Cruise ships have a limited quantity of cabins available in each cabin category. We will make every effort to accommodate your cabin category preference at the time of booking. If the cabin category preferred is not available at the time of booking, the next closest category available will be offered and a surcharge may apply.

Celestyal Cruise Lines cabin categories are based on the following: IB (inside superior cabin) and XB (outside cabin).

This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

Many activities in this itinerary include walking on uneven terrain, or require significant walking at times. Some of the unique experiences, such as visiting historical areas, mean accessing locations by foot because motorcoaches are restricted. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate Collette vacation. Our travel counselors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Prior to full payment for the program, the cruise line reserves the right to impose a supplemental fuel charge. Should this occur, you will be notified of the additional charges.

Due to flight schedules, a pre or post night may be required at an additional cost to you.





## Air Upgrades

Collette's Elite Airfare allows you to travel in ultimate comfort and convenience. Treat yourself to a wealth of amenities that come with a business, premium economy, or first-class ticket. Land rested, refreshed, and ready for your adventure.

## Rewards

Join Travel Loyalty by Collette (TLC) through a simple online process after booking a trip. Once you depart, receive a \$150 credit per person towards your next trip! It's our way of rewarding our loyal travelers.† Learn more at [www.gocollette.com/guided-travel#loyalty\\_program](http://www.gocollette.com/guided-travel#loyalty_program)

## You Are Protected

Travel the world, worry-free with Collette's Travel Protection Plan. If you need to cancel for any reason right up until the day prior to departure, you'll get a full refund (less the cost of the plan). Plus, you are covered on tour. If you have to stop your trip or return home early, need medical assistance or evacuation, suffer a baggage loss or delay, or are delayed on tour for 12 hours or more, you're covered. It's the kind of peace of mind you cannot put a price tag on. Learn more at [www.gocollette.com/guided-travel#no\\_worries\\_waiver](http://www.gocollette.com/guided-travel#no_worries_waiver)

## The Collette Gateway

After you make your reservation, we will email you an invitation to the Collette Gateway. This online hub allows you to track your travel experience. On your personal profile page, tell us where you've been; enjoy a countdown to your tour, see information about the destinations you'll visit, connect with fellow travelers, check out popular travel tips and sign up for Travel Loyalty by Collette (TLC). The Gateway makes your travel experience easy and fun. Learn more at [gateway.gocollette.com](http://gateway.gocollette.com)

† Full credit is valid for travel within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months and the entire credit expires after 24 months.