

A special GOSPEL pilgrimage to

# TURKEY

**FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL  
& DISCOVER THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION**

*(Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea)*

**DEPARTURE DATE: OCTOBER 08 - 19, 2024**



**REV. FR. ANDY ORTEGA LIM**  
as pilgrimage chaplain  
Santo Niño de Pandacan Parish

**DAY 01 / OCT 08**

**MANILA / ISTANBUL**

**DAY 02 / OCT 09**

**ARRIVE ISTANBUL / IZNIK 'NICEA' / BURSA**

**(L/D)**

Welcome to Istanbul. Drive to Nicea for **Iznik Hagia Sophia**, the venue of the 7th Ecumenical Council in 787 AD restoring the veneration of holy images after it was suppressed by the Byzantine Emperor Constantine V. Visit **Cumalikizik Village**, one of the finest examples of Ottoman architecture. Continue to the "UNESCO World Heritage Listed" city of Bursa. Visit the **Grand Mosque**, the 5th most important mosque after those in Mecca, Medina, Jerusalem and Damascus. There are plenty of things to do as you stroll around the 700 - year old Ottoman Village. Admire the narrow, cobblestoned streets – try to picture it during the old times. Try some local delicacies like baklava, sarma or blackberry juice. Shop for some souvenirs or pose for a photo in an Ottoman attire. Such an authentic experience!

**DAY 03 / OCT 10**

**BURSA / PERGAMUM / THYATIRA / SMYRNA / IZMIR / KUSADASI (B/L/D)**

Travel to the plains and foothills along the Caicus River for the **Pergamum Red Basilica**, (Rev.2:12-17) one of the largest surviving Roman structures from the ancient Greek world. Go up to the **Acropolis Ancient City** via cable car for an amazing view of the city of Pergamum. Next is the ancient city of **Thyatira** (Rev 2:18-29) known for its textiles and dyeing trade. Continue to **Smyrna** (Rev 2:8-11), today known as Izmir, the third largest Turkish city housing the second busiest port in the country. Finish the day in Kusadasi.

**DAY 04 / OCT 11**

**KUSADASI / EPHESUS / KUSADASI (B/L/D)**

Take a day trip to this "UNESCO World Heritage site" - ancient city of Ephesus another church of revelation. Visit the **House of Virgin Mary** where it is believed that Mother Mary spent the last of her days. Pope John Paul II declared this place as a Pilgrimage Place for Christians. It is believed that the Evangelist St. John spent his last years in **Ephesus**. Three hundred years after his death, a small chapel was constructed over his grave and over the years it was converted and now known as the **Basilica of St. John**. See ancient **Library of Celsus**, a distinctive landmark considered one of the most beautiful surviving structures of the Roman times. See the remains of the ancient **Temple of Artemis**, one of the "Seven wonders of the world."

Stop at a leather jacket factory along the way. See how elegant and beautiful these jackets are, you surely would want to own one!

**DAY 05 / OCT 12**

**KUSADASI / SARDIS / PHILADELPHIA / LAODICEA / PAMUKKALE (B/L/D)**

Another church of revelation, the city of **Sardis** (Rev. 3:1-6), now housing popular ruins of decadent temples and bath house complexes. Next is **Philadelphia** (Rev 3:7-13) the city is now famous for its temples and worship centers. Drive to **Laodicea** (Rev.3:14-22) along the Lycus River Valley of western Asia Minor.

Visit **Pamukkale** – literally means "cotton castle." See two of the fantastic sights in this town. First, the remains of the ancient **Roman City of Hieropolis** with its beautiful amphitheater and multiple temples. Next, is the **UNESCO World Heritage Cotton Castle**, a limestone terraces filled with crystal blue waters – truly Instagram worthy! Be sure you are dressed up for your photo ops!

Tonight, you may opt to take a dip at thermal pools in your hotel to relax and soothe your tired muscles.

**DAY 06 / OCT 13**

**PAMUKKALE / KONYA / CAPPADOCIA (B/L/D)**

Visit an "ancient caravanserai," a roadside inn where travelers' from across the globe would stay after a day of trade and commerce during the ancient times. Set foot at **Antioch of Pisidia "Yalvac"**, the town which St. Paul visited on his first missionary journey. See the city's artifacts at the **Yalvac Museum**.

**DAY 07 / OCT 14**

**CAPPADOCIA**

**(B/L/D)**

Early morning **OPTIONAL TOUR** activity: Never leave Cappadocia without experiencing their famous **Hot Air Balloon Ride**. In the first light of the rising sun, take off with hundreds of balloons and see the first rays of sunlight turn the valleys and rock formations into gold – magical and one for the books!!!

Tour around the magical city of **Cappadocia**. Admire the whimsical rock formations and valleys with beautiful peaks in different colors surrounding the city. See the "fairy chimney rock formations" at the **Pigeon Valley**. Click and snap photos with the nice view of the fairy land **Uchisar Castle Village**. Walk into the **Goreme Open Air Museum** with the most beautiful Byzantine frescoes that has been well preserved for many years. Finally, to an **Underground city**, an impressive underground dwelling that once served as a refuge for many Christians during the 14th century from the invasion of Mongolians and in the 20th century to escape persecution during the Ottoman Empire. In between the tour, you will be given a Turkish Carpet weaving course. Stop by a Turquoise and Onyx handmade store. See local people craft their hand made potteries in a **Pottery Village and Art Center**.



**DAY 08 / OCT 15**

**CAPADOCIA / ANKARA**

**(B/L/D)**

At an **OPTIONAL COST**, you may hop on a **4x4 Jeep Safari**. A fun ride in an “off-road” vehicle offering best of the valleys, churches, hard to find places and spectacular views of Cappadocia – such a highlight! Leave Cappadocia for Ankara. On to “Tuz Golu” (Salt Lake) also called “Tata”. See the mirror-like clear waters reflecting the clouds in the tinted water as the lake seems to go into infinity. Such an amazing site. Stay overnight in Turkey’s capital - **Ankara!** Visit the **Ataturk Mausoleum** and **Museum of Ataturk**, the final resting place of the founder of Modern Turkey including exhibits of letters, personal objects, and important recordings in the creation of the New Turkish Republic.

**DAY 09 / OCT 16**

**ANKARA / ISTANBUL**

**(B/L/D)**

Say hello once more to the “magical city of Istanbul”. Home to the **Bosphorus River** that divides Istanbul into European and Asian part. Walk into the more than a thousand years old **Hagia Sofia**, originally a Christian Church, later converted into a mosque and now into a museum.

**DAY 10 / OCT 17**

**ISTANBUL**

**(B/L/D)**

A trip to Istanbul is never complete without shopping at the colorful **Grand Bazaar** – so much nice things to buy! Wander at the bustling **Taksim Square** at the heart of modern Istanbul. Eucharistic Celebration at **St. Anthony de Padua church**. Finally, Outlet shopping awaits today!

Visit **Cistern Basilica**, a famous shooting site of Hollywood movies like *Inferno* and some James Bond series. Be awed with the age-old mosaics, murals and stained glass. Drive to the majestic **Blue Mosque**, known for the impressive blue tiles lining its walls, another “UNESCO World Heritage Site”.

**DAY 11 / OCT 18**

**ISTANBUL / MANILA**

**(B/L)**

Before saying goodbye to this modern metropolis with 3,000 years of history, take an exhilarating **Bosphorus Cruise**. Enjoy the sights along the river and enjoy the beauty of Turkey from a completely different perspective. Finish your tour with a Eucharistic Celebration at **The Cathedral of Holy Spirit**, the church has been a venue for several Papal visits in Turkey. Head to the airport and come home to Manila with fascinating memories of Turkey!

**DAY 12 / OCT 19**

**ARRIVE MANILA**

**TOUR COST PER PERSON**

- 26 - 30 persons** : \$ **2,488.00**
- 20 - 25 persons** : \$ **2,588.00**
- 15 - 19 persons** : \$ **2,688.00**
- Single room ADD** : \$ **450.00**

**WHAT'S INCLUDED:**

- Roundtrip economy class airfare Manila/Istanbul/manila
- Accommodation 4- & 5-star hotels
- Meals as indicated (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)
- Sightseeing on an airconditioned coach
- Roundtrip airport transfers
- Services of an English-speaking tour guide
- Services of a professional tour coordinator from Manila
- Pre – departure briefing
- Travel Giveaways

**ADDITIONAL COSTS:**

- Tipping \$130
- Travel Insurance P1,610 (up to 70 years old)
- Airline Taxes \$140
- Turkish Visa (E-visa: P4,000 / Sticker visa: P15,000)
- Drinks during meals
- Meals not mentioned
- Optional Tours: Hot Air Balloon ride & Jeep Safari

**BOOKING & PAYMENT CONDITIONS:**

1. **Non- refundable \$1,000 non-refundable deposit to confirm reservation, deductible from the total tour cost and refundable if visa is refused**
2. **Full payment is due on or before 45 days prior departure or upon visa release whichever comes first**
3. **Cancellation Fees:**
  - 1 month before departure: deposit forfeited
  - 3 weeks before departure: 50% of the total tour cost will be forfeited
  - 2 weeks before departure: 100% of the tour cost will be forfeited

**DEADLINE PAYMENT OF RESERVATION AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS: 15 JULY 2024**

**RATES, TOUR PROGRAMS and SCHEDULES** are subject to change if conditions so demand. A-LIST Travel Solutions Corp. reserves the right to postpone departure if participants fall below the required number of persons or visas are not processed on time. Tour fare is based on group departure. Air tickets are based on group/discounted fares; hence, certain restrictions apply, i.e. non-endorsable, non-reroutable, with refunds if any and subject to cancellation and other charges

**DISCLAIMER: A-LIST TRAVEL SOLUTIONS CORP.**, it’s employees and sub-agents shall be responsible only for making your travel arrangements as your agent. It cannot be held liable for any accident, loss, injury, and damage to property in connection with any accommodation, transportation or other services resulting directly or indirectly from any occurrence or defects of vehicles, breakdown of equipment, acts of God, strikes, civil disturbances, theft, delay, or cancellation or change in the itinerary. Baggage and all personal items is at owner’s risk throughout the trip. The company shall not hold liable in any case of health problem/s that may occur during the trip. It reserves the right to terminate servicing any participant who in its opinion is prejudicing the harmony of the tour group, a burden to the group or for any reason by his/her conduct hinders the successful operation of the tour. Early return/termination of tour for any reason does not entitle a passenger for any refund, all expenses to be incurred shall be on passengers’ account. Payment of reservation fee/total tour cost constitutes to all the provisions in the tour booking, reservation, payment and cancellation policies and all other conditions indicated herein.

**STICKER VISA REQUIREMENTS:**

- Passport valid for at least 6 months from travel date. Include old passports with travel history if any
- Accomplished Visa Application form and
- A-LISTER’S DATA Sheet
- 2 pcs passport size photo with white background
- Photocopy of Latest Income Tax Returns - personal
- PSA Issued Marriage Certificate IF Married
- PSA Issued Spouse’s Death Certificate IF WIDOWED
- PSA Issued Birth Certificate

**Evidence of financial capacity**

- Original bank certificate of Savings / Time / Dollar deposits with (ADB) Average Daily Balance indicated
- Photocopy of Bank Books for the last 3 months and Time Deposit Certificate
- Bank Statements for the last 3 months for current account
- Credit Card Statements for the last 3 months if any

**IF IN BUSINESS:**

- Copy of Business Registration from SEC / DTI / Mayors Permit
- Copy of Latest Income Tax Return of the business

**IF EMPLOYED:**

- Certificate of employment indicating monthly salary, contact person with contact number including email address
- Certificate of leave of absence

**PROFESSIONALS/GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES/STUDENTS**  
Photocopy of PRC ID / IBP CARD  
**FOR PROFESSIONALS**  
Travel Authority / Clearance IF  
**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES / OFFICIALS**  
School Certification of Enrollment /  
School ID IF STUDENT

**FOR PRIESTS**

- Certificate from the Apostolic
- Nunciature from the Diocese
- Copy of the Celebret

**E-VISA REQUIREMENTS:**

**Qualification: those passengers who are holding valid multiple US VISA, SCHENGEN VISA & UK VISA**  
Clear Scanned copy of valid passport for at least 6 months from travel date  
Clear scanned copy of the valid US/SCHENGEN/UK visa  
Filled out A-Listers Data Sheet