



"Biblical GREECE & ITALY TRIP" 13-Day Excursion with Dr. Tim & Bernice Sigler of wisdompassages.com - June 3 to 16, 2018 -

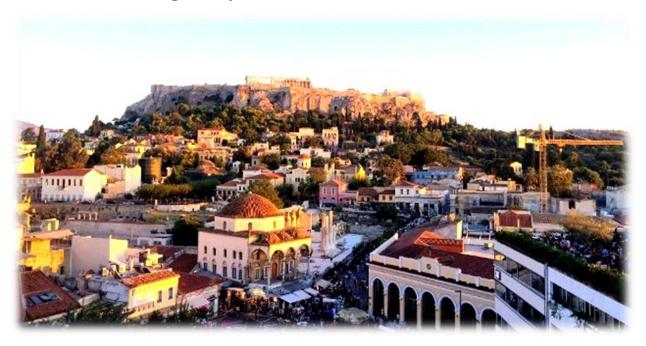


# June 3 <u>Flight Day</u>: AIRPORT (Departure) - CHICAGO

Arrive at Chicago O'Hare (ORD) Terminal 5 for our international flight to Rome three hours before departure at **12:00 noon**. We fly on Alitalia (**AZ**) flight 629G at 3:05 p.m. (15.05 military time). Meals will be served in flight.

# June 4 <u>1st Day</u>: AIRPORT (Arrival) - ATHENS

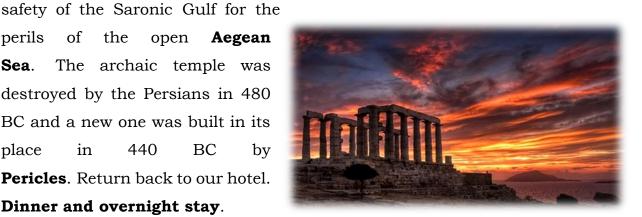
We will have a brief connection in Rome, landing at 7:30 a.m. and departing for Athens at 8:45 a.m. on Alitalia flight AZ 720G. After our scheduled arrival at 11:40 a.m., we will be welcomed to **Athens** at the airport by our hosts from Timothy's Family. Enjoy some free time at our hotel and **Dinner** at a **traditional restaurant**. **Overnight stay**.



# June 5 <u>2nd Day</u>: ATHENS - SOUNION

After breakfast we will depart for a **City Tour** starting from the **Panathenaic Stadium** known as **Kallimarmaro**. In Antiquity was used for the celebration of **Panathenea in honour** of **Goddess Athena**. You will have free time to take photos. Boarding the coach and departure to see the **Zappeion Hall**, the **Greek Parliament** and the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**, the symbolic monument in the memory of the Soldiers who died for their country. Then along Panepistimiou Street, one of the most central streets of Athens, we will see the triad of neoclassical buildings: The Library, the Academy and the University. Next most important visit is the Acropolis with magnificent monuments such as the Parthenon, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion, the Propylaea, the Ancient Agora, the theatre of Dionysus and the **Odeon of Herodes Atticus**. We will have the chance to walk around the Parthenon Monument, which was built in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC by the architects Ictinus and Kallikrates. Afterwards, we will visit the New Acropolis Museum which includes mainly findings of the archaeological site of Acropolis. The Museum started operating in 2009 and the buildings were designed by the **French-Swiss Benar Tschumi**. Then we will have free time in the traditional settlement of **Plaka**. It is a district in the centre of **Athens** just beneath the **Acropolis**. Our **Sounion Tour** begins with a wonderful drive along the scenic coastal road which allows a splendid view of the **Saronic Gulf**, passing through some of Athens' most beautiful suburbs (Glyfada, Vouliagmeni, Varkiza). **Cape Sounion** raises like a sheer cliff out of the sea as one approaches the site. At Cape Sounion we will visit the Temple of Poseidon, dated from the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, which offers one of the most breathtaking panoramic views in the world. According to legend, Cape Sounion is the spot where Aegeus, King of Athens, believing that his only son Prince **Theseas** was dead, jumped off the cliff, giving his name to the **Aegean Sea**. The wind-swept **Cape Sounion** was an obvious choice for a **sanctuary of Poseidon**, where the sailors might offer a last sacrifice to appease the mighty **God of the Sea** before leaving the comparative

of the perils open Aegean Sea. The archaic temple was destroyed by the Persians in 480 BC and a new one was built in its place in 440 BC by Pericles. Return back to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.



## June 6 <u>3rd Day:</u> PIRAEUS - SANTORINI - VOLCANO CRUISE - FIRA

After breakfast we will depart for **Piraeus port**. Boarding to the boat to travel to one of the most beautiful and famous islands in the world, **Santorini** known also as **Thira** or **Stroggyli**. Arrival at the island and depart for our hotel. Arrange at the rooms. We will use the **cable car (lift)** from **Fira** to the port and we will have an evening **Cruise** in **Volcano**. Then, we will have a **donkey ride** from the port to **Fira**. Free time for a walk in the beautiful area of **Fira** with its picturesque streets, where we can buy souvenirs. **Dinner and overnight stay**.



June 7 <u>4th Day</u>: FIRA - PYRGOS - AKROTIRI - PERIVOLOS - PERISSA -KAMARI - FIROSTEFANI - IMEROVIGLI



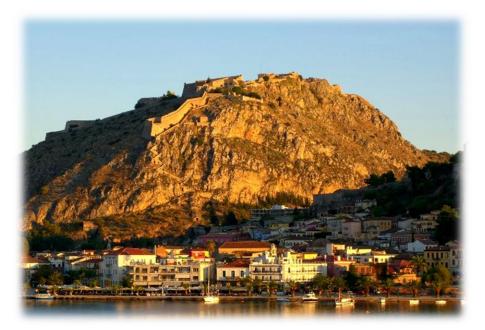
Departure after breakfast to visit the **Archaeological Museum**, which is located in the centre of **Fira** and reveals the long history of the island exposing the remarkable findings of the island. Then follows a visit at **Pyrgos** village with its houses built amphitheatrically and at

**Akrotiri**, where we can see the area of the excavations of the Minoan state. Then, we will go at the beach **Perivolos**, **Perissa** and **Kamari**, where we will use our leisure time for lunch and swim. In the afternoon we can visit **Firostefani** and enjoy our coffee in **Imerovigli**. Return back to our hotel. Free time in the centre. **Dinner and overnight stay**. June 8 <u>5th Day</u>: SANTORINI - ATHENS - ISTHMUS OF CORINTH -ANCIENT CORINTH - NAFPLION



After breakfast we will depart for the **airport of Santorini**. Boarding to the plane and flight to the **airport of Athens**. Then, we will depart for **Peloponnese**. Our first stop will be the **Isthmus of Corinth**. It is a narrow strip of land 6 kilometers in length joining **Central Greece with** 

**Peloponnese**. We will have free time to take photos and then, we will depart for **Ancient Corinth**. **Ancient Corinth** was an important city – state in **Ancient Greece** and dates back from the **Neolithic Period (5.000-3.000)**. We will visit one of the **largest museums** in Greece, in terms of the wealth and quality of the findings. We continue our trip for the capital of the prefecture **Argolis**, **Nafplion**. It is one of the most scenic cities in the country and it was the first capital of Greek state during the period 1828 - 1833. You will have free time to explore the picturesque streets of the city **\***. **Dinner at a restaurant**. Arrival at our hotel. **Overnight stay**.



\* Our Company will provide, for all travelers, a sightseeing "Train Tour" in Nafplion, <u>without any extra charge</u>.

### June 9 <u>6th Day</u>: NAFPLION - MYCENAE - NAFPAKTOS - DELPHI

After breakfast we will depart for **Mycenae**. It was an ancient city of Argolis and one of the largest Greek culture centers forming a strong military fortress. We shall visit the **Kingdom of Mythical Agamemnon** whom first Homer praised in his epics. We will have free time in Nafplion and



then, we will depart for **Nafpaktos**, where we will have free time for lunch. It is a coastal town situated in the **Corinth Gulf**, a city of great history. It appears in **1104 BC** with the **Dorians**. It is known for the naval battle that was taken place in **1571 between Christians** and the **Turks**. We will have free time to wander in the picturesque **Venetian harbour**.



Then, we will depart for **Delphi**. Arrival to our hotel. Arranging in the rooms. **Dinner and overnight stay**.



## June 10 <u>7th Day</u>: DELPHI - KALAMBAKA

After breakfast we will have a guided tour in **Delphi**. It was an ancient Greek city in which the most important Oracle of ancient Greek world was operated. Earlier myths include traditions that **Pythia**, or the Delphic oracle, already was the site of an important oracle in the pre-classical Greek world (as early as 1400 BC) and, rededicated, served as the major site during classical times for the worship of the god Apollo after he slew Python, "a dragon" who lived there and protected the navel of the Earth. We will be guided around the **archaeological site** and the **Museum**. Then, we will depart for **Kalambaka**. Arrival to our hotel. **Dinner and overnight stay**.



# June 11 <u>8th Day</u>: KALAMBAKA - METEORA - THESSALONIKI

After breakfast we will depart for **Meteora** and we will start our daily trip, visiting the prefecture built in a rare geological phenomenon of **Meteora**. It's a cluster of huge dark colored stones made of sandstone. The name **Meteora** is attributed to the monk of the monastery, **Agios Athanasius the Meteorite**. We will have the chance to enjoy the panoramic ride and to visit two of the six visited monasteries. Then, we will depart for the second largest city of Greece, **Thessaloniki**. The city was founded by the ascendant of **Alexander the Great**, **Cassander**. We will have a **city tour**, starting from **Saint Dimitrius**, where we will pilgrimage the relics of the Saint, admire the mosaics of the Church and also see the spot where the Saint martyred. Following that, we will visit the **White Tower** and the **Upper Town**, where we will have a panoramic view of **Thessaloniki**. Arrival to our hotel. **Dinner and overnight stay**.

### June 12 9th Day: THESSALONIKI - KAVALA - BAPTISTERY OF ST. LYDIA - PHILIPPI - THESSALONIKI



After breakfast we will be heading to Kavala. Synthesis of mosaic is placed in the step of Apostle Paul in the city of Kavala next to Church Agios Nikolaos, with title "The arrival of the Apostle Paul in Neapolis of Philippi". At this point then allegedly became the landing of St. Paul has created a monument honoring the first steps in the city of Kavala. Arrival to the Baptistery of St. Lydia of Filippisias. Then, we will visit the Ancient Colony of Philippi. It was built in 356 B.C. by Alexander's father, **Philip II**. We will see the Ancient Theatre, the Church of

Philippi, founded by Apostle Paul in 49 a.D. It was the first church in European territory. Return back to our hotel in Thessaloniki. Dinner and overnight stay.

#### June 13 10th Day: VERIA - THESSALONIKI - ROME - SALERNO

After breakfast we will depart for the capital of Imathia, which name is Veria. It is built at the foot of Mount Vermio. We will have free time to visit the Step of Apostle Paul. Then, we will depart for the airport of Thessaloniki. Flight depart for the airport of Rome. Depart to **Salerno.** Arrival to



our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.

### June 14 11th Day: SALERNO - POMPEII or ST. PAUL'S OUTSIDE THE WALLS - ROME

After breakfast we will depart for **Pompeii**. Alternative, we can visit St. Paul's Outside the Walls. The Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls was founded by the Roman Emperor Constantine I over the burial place of St. Paul, after the Apostle's execution. Then, we will depart for Rome. Arrival to our hotel. Arranging in the rooms. Free time in the center of Rome. Dinner and overnight stay.



June 15 12th Day: ROME - ANCIENT ROME - VATICAN MUSEUMS

After **breakfast** we will depart from the hotel to visit the **Ancient Rome**. We will start from the symbol of Roman Empire, the Colosseum, the Palatine Hill, the Ancient Market, the Imperial Forum in Piazza Venezia, with the imposing Vitoria no symbol of New Rome, the Piazza Navona, the San Paolo Fuori, the Monastery of Tre Fontana, San Clemente Church etc. Then, we will visit the autonomous state of Vatican, the Vatican Museums with the popes treasures and collections over the Etruscans, the rooms of Raffaello, Cappella Sistina, Michelangelo work of art, the impressive St. Peter's Basilica. Depending on the group's speed and energy, we may visit the **Catacombs of St. Callixtus**, which are among the greatest and most important of Rome. They originated about the

middle of the second century and are part of a cemeterial complex which occupies an area of 90 acres, with a network of galleries about 12 miles long, in four levels, more than twenty meters deep. In it were buried tens of martyrs, 16 popes and very many Christians. **Dinner and overnight stay**.



June 16 <u>13th Day</u>: AIRPORT (Departure) ROME to CHICAGO

After an early **breakfast** we will depart for the airport. Our **Alitalia flight AZ 628** departs at 9:30 a.m. with a scheduled arrival in Chicago at 1:10 p.m. (13.10 military time). You'll go from Rome to home with a direct flight flown.





| "Greece - Italy"<br>13 DAYS - 12 NIGHTS  |                    |                          |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------|
| EXCURSION - TRIP   | Type of Room       | 30 to 40<br>participants |
| Participation Fees per Person<br>Accommodation on Half Board<br>(Breakfast & Dinner) | Triple/Double Room | \$4,900.00 USD           |
|  | Single Room        | \$5,700.00 USD           |
| "The rates are based on a minimum number of 30 to 40 participants"                   |                    |                          |

### THE ABOVE PRICES INCLUDE:

- The transfers of the travellers in luxury privately owned air-conditioned bus, as specified in the 13-Day Excursion Program.
- Air tickets to/from USA.
- Boat Tickets (High Speed) Piraeus Santorini (numbered seats).
- Air tickets and taxes Santorini Athens.
- Air tickets and taxes Thessaloniki Rome.
- Tickets for local transportation, museums, historical monuments, archaeological sites etc.

 Two (2) nights' accommodation in Athens - President Hotel 4\* or similar (1st Day BB: bed & breakfast / 2nd Day HB: breakfast & dinner) www.president.gr

 Two (2) nights' accommodation in Santorini - El Greco Hotel 4\* or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - www.elgreco.com.gr

• One (1) night accommodation in **Nafplion** - **Amalia Nafplion Hotel 4\*** or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - **www.amaliahotelnafplio.com** 

 One (1) night accommodation in Delphi - Amalia Delphi Hotel 4\* or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - www.amaliahoteldelphi.com

• One (1) night accommodation in **Kalambaka** - **Divani Meteora Hotel 4**\* or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - **www.divanimeteorahotel.com** 

• Two (2) nights' accommodation in **Thessaloniki** - **Grand Hotel Palace 5\*** or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - **www.grandhotelpalace.gr** 

 One (1) night accommodation in Salerno - Hotel dei Principati 4\* or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - www.hoteldeiprincipati.it

• One (1) night accommodation in **Rome** - **Ibis Styles Hotel Roma 4**\* or similar (HB: breakfast & dinner) - **www.accorhotels.com/gb/brands/hotels-ibis.shtml** 

### Accommodation taxes (hotel taxes).

- Tours and daily trips, as specified in the 13-Day Excursion Program.
- Certified English-Speaking **Tour Guides** in Greece and Italy.
- Tickets for a **Volcano Cruise** in Santorini (4-Hour Cruise).
- Tickets for the Cable Car (Lift) in Santorini (Fira Port).
- **Donkey ride** in Santorini (Port Fira).
- Parking fees.
- Check point fees.
- City taxes.
- Tolls.
- Taxes/VAT 24%.
- Customary tips to drivers and local guides.

### THE ABOVE PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Extra Meals, Drinks, Tips etc.
- Any service or meal that is not mentioned in our included items.

 Personal trip insurance. Wisdom Passages recommends purchasing insurance within 10 days of initial deposit in order to protect preexisting medical conditions. Please call Chaim at 847.677.7550 or 630.961.3606 for more details.



\* Note: This itinerary is not a legally binding contract. It's more like a rough draft written in sand. Things can go wrong. A favorite restaurant could be closed. Lines at sites may demand a delay. Traffic detours may occur. And a priority on safety and security will be determinative of daily destinations. Nevertheless, it is valuable for educational purposes and allows you to know that lots of wonderful things await us in these beautiful lands that are rich in biblical history.

We can customize our services "depending on your needs".

Yours sincerely,

### Nikos Chatzikonstantis

Owner/General Manager



# "Dreams Give Wings Travel - Timothy's Family"

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Partnering with Dr. Tim and Bernice Sigler of WisdomPassages.com