

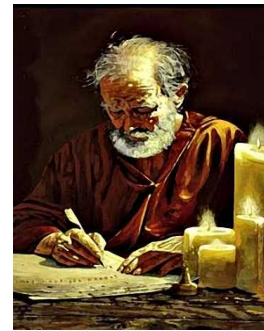
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL



11-21 APRIL 2018

THE 2018 TOUR

It's time for another choir trip. We've been to England and France, Scotland, Canada, and Bermuda, and in 2018 we'll travel to Greece and Turkey, following "in the footsteps of Paul," for whom our church is named. The beautiful Electra Palace Hotel in the historic Plaka district of Athens will be our base for 5 nights. From Athens we'll take guided day trips to Delphi, Corinth, Mycenae, Kenchreai, and Epidauros. The Saint Paul's Choir will sing the Sunday morning service at the Anglican Church of Saint Paul in Athens on April 15 and at some of the ancient amphitheaters we'll visit. A 5 day 4 night cruise on the *Celestyal Crystal* sails to Kusadasi on the coast of Turkey where we'll visit the ancient city of Ephesus. Islands to be visited on the cruise include Mykonos, Rhodes, Patmos, Crete, and Santorini. Our Greek guide, Diana Stefanou, will share her knowledge of Greek history and be with us for all of our Athens-based touring. Space on the trip is limited to 50 persons. First priority is the choir who may bring 1 additional person. Exceptions may be made if space is available. Our travel agent is Amanda Slattery of Travel Emporium in New York. She managed our 2015 Canada trip and is looking forward to assisting us with our 2018 tour.



SAFE TRAVEL?



"With all of the terrorism in the world today is it safe to travel to Greece?" This is a reasonable question. We need full participation to make next year's trip possible. If members of the choir and their families lack confidence in overseas travel in general or to Greece in particular that situation must be addressed. Actually, Greece is one of the safest places to visit due to its status as being one of the poorest countries in Europe. This also works in our favor as costs are favorable. London and Paris have experienced attacks because they are icons of the west. Greece is not, and, while no one can guarantee 100% safety the record speaks for itself. A group from Saint Paul's took this same trip ten years ago and everyone felt completely safe the entire time. Half of the tour is spent on a cruise ship which screens all passengers. Our itinerary is one enjoyed by many others without incident. We hope you will look forward to visiting a country whose people love welcoming Americans. With so many of the world's greatest antiquities located in places where safety is a concern Greece is a place where you can enjoy these treasures in reasonable safety. If we fear travel the bad guys have won.

THE SCHEDULE

Wednesday April 11, 2018: USA

Today we leave Augusta by charter bus for the Atlanta Airport where we will depart for our overnight flight to Athens. Breakfast and dinner will be served on board.

Thursday April 12: ATHENS

After clearing customs control we are greeted by our special representative and transfer by private air-conditioned motor coach to the Electra Palace Hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to help you adjust to your new time zone.

Friday April 13: ATHENS – DELPHI – ATHENS

After our daily included breakfast we begin our full day Delphi excursion tour. Between the sixth and fourth centuries BC, the Delphic oracle, which was regarded as the most trustworthy, was at its peak. It was delivered by the Pythia, the priestess, and interpreted by the priests of Apollo. Cities, rulers and ordinary individuals alike consulted the oracle, expressing their gratitude with great gifts and spreading its fame around the world. The oracle was thought to have existed since the dawn of time. Indeed, it was believed to have successfully predicted events related to the cataclysm of Deukalion, the Argonaut's expedition and the Trojan War. Visit of the archaeological site and the Museum where one can see among other archeological treasures, the unique bronze statue of the *Charioteer* dedicated to **Apollo by Polykalos**, the tyrant of Gela, in 478 B.C. when he won the chariot-race at the *Pythian Games*. This incomparable statue is a representative example of the "severe" Attic style, certainly the work of a major artist.

Saturday April 14: CORINTH, KENCHREAI, MYCENAE, AND EPIDAUROS

In ancient times, Kenchreai was one of the two ports of the inland city-state of Corinth. While Kenchreai served the eastern trade routes via the Saronic Gulf, Lechaion on the Corinthian Gulf served the trade routes leading west to Italy and the rest of Europe. Situated on the eastern side of the Isthmus of Corinth, We will drive along the coastal road of the Soronic gulf to Mycenae, visit the remains of the ancient city, including the Lionesses Gate. The Tomb of the Agamemnon and the Palace. Then through ARGOS onto NAUPLIA. After our stop (optional Lunch) visit EPIDAUROS and its theater, famous for its remarkable acoustics where we have requested a place to be arranged for the choir to sing. Return to Athens via the Epidaurus and Corinth road.

Sunday April 15: ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

Breakfast, then free time. Transfer to the Anglican Church of ST. Paul for Choir singing. Return to your hotel for your overnight accommodation.

Monday April 16: ATHENS - MYKONOS

After breakfast at the hotel, we will be transferred to the port city of Piraeus. Here we will board our ship and prepare to sail the Greek Islands and Turkey. All meals and entertainment

will be included while onboard. Our first port of call will be the island of Mykonos. Here, on this jet-set island, beautiful beaches, chic boutiques and elegant nightclubs all vie for the tourist's attention. Beneath its sophisticated surface, however, lies a quintessential Greek island. Hundreds of tiny chapels dot the island and sheep graze in the shadow of whitewashed windmills. Find a table on the waterfront and bask in the serenity of sunset over the picturesque harbor. Be sure to send your regards to Pete the Pelican and then board the ship to sail through the night.

Tuesday April 17: PATMOS – KUSADASI (EPHESUS)

After breakfast onboard the ship, we will arrive on the island of Patmos. This serene island is known as the site of the apocalyptic revelations of St. John the Divine, written here during his exile from the Roman Empire and an **included shore excursion** allows one to see everything that the island has to offer. The cave where he is said to have lived is now the site of the Monastery of the Apocalypse. In the 11th century, the Abbot Christodoulos founded the Monastery of St. John on one of the island's highest points. Here, priceless icons and manuscripts are on display for all to see. This afternoon, we will arrive into Kusadasi. A shore excursion of nearby Ephesus is included and here, history truly comes to life. Walking towards the ancient harbor, down a marble road rutted by the wheels of countless chariots, you pass architectural masterpieces like the Magnesia Gate and the Library of Celsus before arriving at the Great Amphitheater where St. Paul was arrested and cast out of the city. We will stay at the amphitheater where we have requested a place to be arranged for the choir to sing before returning to the ship and sailing through the night.

Wednesday, April 18: RHODES

After Breakfast your **included shore excursion** to the beautiful "Island of Roses" with a rich and varied history. On a hill above the charming town of Lindos rises an ancient acropolis dedicated to the goddess Athena. Below lies the bay of St. Paul, where the apostle landed during his voyages. The crusading Knights of St. John left the magnificent medieval city of Rhodes behind when they were defeated by Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent. The Turks then occupied Rhodes for almost 400 years, leaving mosques, minarets and a Turkish bath to mark their presence.

Thursday April 19: CRETE (HERAKLION) – SANTORINI – SAILING

Welcome to Crete. After breakfast onboard the ship, **your included excursion** to visit Heraklion, the capital city of Crete and its main commercial port. Just 3-miles away are the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos; discovered in 1899 by Sir Arthur Evans and partially reconstructed, the elaborate palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of Ancient Minoan culture. We will then return to the ship and set sail for our next port-of-call. In the afternoon, we will arrive on the island of Santorini, perhaps the most breathtaking of all Greek islands. Around 1500 B.C., a volcanic eruption destroyed the center of the island, leaving a crescent shaped rim of cliffs around a harbor formed in the volcano's caldera. The town of Fira, and its whitewashed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes and glittering boutiques, clings to these cliffs, accessible mostly by cable car or donkey. To the south is Akrotiri, where recent Minoan excavations support the theories that Santorini might be the fabled lost continent of Atlantis. We will then return to the ship for our final night, sailing to the port of Lavrion.

Friday April 20: ATHENS CITY TOUR - ANCIENT CORINTH - ATHENS

After Breakfast on board, we disembark for our full day Athens City tour and Ancient Corinth excursion. View the Dipylon Gate near the ancient Roman Market and then visit the Temple of Hephaistos, spending time exploring the Ancient Agora and the rebuilt Stoa of Attalus and its museum, visiting the water-clock of Andronicos and Hadrian's Library. We will then climb Mars Hill, associated with Paul's address to the councilors and philosophers of the Areopagus, view St. Paul's Well and the foundations of the church dedicated to Dionysius the Areopagite, one of St. Paul's converts (Acts 17:16-34). After visiting the famous Acropolis and the Parthenon, we will continue the tour by visiting the Acropolis Museum and its many artifacts, then continuing on to view the Filopapou Monument, Hadrian's Arch and the Olympic Stadium. After lunch (on your own), we will travel to Ancient Corinth (Acts 18:1-18), where St. Paul arrived in A.D. 50-51 to preach the teachings of Christ. Stop at the archeological site housing many statues and artifacts, such as the Temple of Apollo, the Roman Agora, the Bema Courthouse, where St. Paul's enemies brought him before Gallio, the pavement inscription of Erastus, the Roman Lechaion Road and the Lower Fountain of Peirene. It was here in Corinth that St. Paul wrote First Thessalonians and also, most likely, his Epistle to the Romans. Continue to Athens and back to our hotel for the **Tour Banquet**.

Saturday April 21: DEPARTURE

After breakfast, we depart for our flight home.

OUR ATHENS HOTEL



The Electra Palace

<http://electrahotels.gr/en/athens/electra-palace-athens> Hotel website

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TikSkXjQAB0> Hotel video

OUR CRUISE SHIP



The Celestyal Crystal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIFwG05n2-k> Ship
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sO03n149A1U> Cruise

With a capacity of 960 passengers the Crystal sails from Athens to the west coast of Turkey and to the Greek isles. Cabin upgrades are available for those registering early.

ATHENS



Athens

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbvHWFqR3xLgp8elf2bMf6Q?v=vDTZR0G429k>



The Acropolis, Athens

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xP-FsX0QW88>



New Acropolis Museum, Athens

<http://www.theacropolismuseum.gr/en>



Central Market, Athens
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbG8kJgClmo>



Ancient Market (Agora), Athens

THE TOUR BANQUET



The Tour Banquet at the Electra Palace Hotel



St. Paul's Anglican Church, Athens
<http://anglicanchurchathens.gr>



The Amphitheater at Ephesus



The Amphitheater at Epidaurus



Santorini



Crete



Minoan Temple, Crete



Patmos, where St. John wrote the book of Revelation



Rhodes



Ephesus



Corinth



Mycenae



The Golden Mask of Agamemnon, Temple of Mycenae



Acropolis, Athens



Mykonos



Kusadasi, Turkey

TOUR COSTS

- Optional round-trip air with Delta Airlines ATL-JFK-ATH-JFK-ATL. (For those traveling from other airports and meeting us at JFK).
- Meet and Assist upon arrival by your special representative
- Private air-conditioned motor coach with an English speaking guide
- 5-Night accommodations at the 5 star deluxe Electra Palace hotel with breakfast daily
- Sightseeing tours as described in your day-by-day itinerary by private buses
- Hotel taxes and service charges
- All transfers by private air conditioned motor coach
- All entrance fees included as per your itinerary
- 4-Day cruise to the Greek islands and Turkey with Celestyal cruise with **inside** (category IB)
Cabins with all meals included on board.

- Included Shore Excursions: **KUSADASI**: (Ancient Ephesus & the Terrace Houses, KUS-07), **PATMOS**: (Visit to St. John's Grotto PAT-01), **RHODES**: (Medieval tour RHO-01), **HERAKLION**: (Palace of Knossos HER-02)
- **ADDED VALUE**: Port and fuel surcharges as well as on board personnel gratuities currently **totaling \$189.00** per person **are included**
- **Silver Drink package Alcohol and non-Alcohol unlimited drinks included**
- **ADDED VALUE**: complimentary Mykonos shuttle to little Venice is included
- Portage of 1 suitcase per person at the hotels
- **ADDED VALUE**: (no additional charge) Keepsake DVD of your group's digital photos w/music
- 24/7 Hour emergency hotline



- USTOA 1 Million Travelers Assistance Program, at no additional charge

40 Triangle Center, Yorktown Heights NY 10598
(914) 245-8825; fax (914) 962-3320

e-mail: amanda@tvlemporium.com

SAINT PAUL'S CHOIR IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL

11 – 21 APRIL, 2018

Registration Form

**Based on double occupancy: \$3,990 (non-choir) \$2,500 (choir members only)
Single supplement: \$950**

Optional Cabin upgrade supplement:

Outside Cabin (category XB) \$158 per person	Single \$237
Junior Balcony Suite (category SJ) \$488 per person	Single \$732

Balcony Suite (category SB) \$618 per person	Single \$927
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____ Single ____ Double ____ Rooming with _____

Deposit: \$200 per person payable to Travel Emporium Inc by September 4, 2017

Final payment is due by January 4, 2018

Please print name exactly as it appears on your passport and please print or type

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Telephone
Home _____ Cell _____

Passport Number _____ Date of Birth _____

Contact Person and phone number in case of emergency while you are traveling

Important! Please attach a photocopy of your passport to this registration form.

Be sure that your passport is good for **6 months beyond the last day** of the tour

Cancellation Schedule

\$200 deposit is refundable until December 4, 2017

From December 5, 2017 – January 4, 2018 deposit is nonrefundable

From January 5 – March 4, 2018 cancellation penalty is 50% of total cost + insurance + any applicable airline fees

From March 4, 2018 cancellation penalty is 100% of total cost + insurance

Air tickets are nonrefundable once issued.

We recommend the purchase of travel insurance. Please request a quote from Travel Emporium Inc.

Arrangements made through Homeric Tours Inc.

Disclaimer of responsibility:

Travel Emporium, Inc (“Travel Emporium”), is only acting as intermediary and agent for the suppliers identified on this, or any accompanying documents in selling services, or in accepting reservations or bookings for services that are not directly supplied by Travel Emporium (such as air carriage, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, meals, tours, etc). Travel Emporium shall not be responsible for breach of contract, bankruptcy or any intentional or careless actions or omissions on the part of such suppliers, which result in loss, damage, delay or injury to any traveler, travel companions or group members.

I have read and understood all terms and conditions as noted in this registration form

Signature _____

Return this Registration form, copy of your passport, plus the deposit for the tour to:

Amanda Slattery, Travel Emporium, Inc.

40 Triangle Center, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

email: amanda@tvtemporium.com

email: info@tvtemporium.com

website: www.tvtemporium.com Tel: [\(914\) 245-8825](tel:(914)245-8825) Fax: [\(914\) 962-3320](tel:(914)962-3320)