

IN PAUL'S FOOTSTEPS IN TURKEY

June 15 - 29, 2024



TOUR HOST

DR. ALAN S. BANDY

Professor of NT and Greek



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— EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL —



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Dr. Alan S. Bandy

*Professor of NT and Greek
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“The apostle Paul is considered the second-most influential figure in Christian history after Jesus himself. Asia Minor, or Anatolia, is where many of the events associated with Paul's life and ministry took place. Paul was a native of Tarsus in Cilicia, one of our stops. From Antioch to Miletus we will follow the routes traveled during his journeys by land and sea. We will see some of the Roman roads upon which he walked. At each site we will explore the archaeological realia still remaining. In museums we will encounter the artifacts that the apostle saw and touched. Unique to this tour is that for the first time we will stay at the new archaeology hotels recently opened in Antakya and Antalya. Please join me for this exciting two-week adventure tracing the footsteps of Paul in Turkey.”



Hagia Sophia, Istanbul

Tour Itinerary:

Jun 15 Sat Depart from the USA – Fly to Istanbul

Jun 16 Sun Arrive Istanbul Airport
Your tour guide will meet you at the Istanbul Airport with a “Dr. Alan Bandy – TUTKU” sign. Meet and transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight. The next day you will explore the wonders of Istanbul. (D)

Jun 17 Mon Istanbul
You will start at the **Hippodrome** and see the monuments on its spina. Nearby is the historic **Blue Mosque**. After briefly stopping at the Golden Mile of the Egnatian Way, you will visit the magnificent **Hagia Sophia**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. From there you will visit the historic **Hagia Irene Church**. Afterwards you will walk to Istanbul's **Archaeological Museum**—one of the most celebrated collections in the world. Among its treasures are the Siloam inscription, the Gezer calendar, and the Thanatos inscription from Jerusalem's temple mount. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. (B,D)

Jun 18 Tue Transfer for flight to Hatay – Tel Tayinat/Atchana – Antioch Hippodrome – Antakya
Early Morning flight to Hatay airport; we begin with site visits at Tel Tayinat and Tel Atchana; after lunch where you will taste Antakya's famous dessert, künefe, we will visit the hippodrome and temple site with a local archaeologist; finally, we tour the museum and the archaeology hotel in Antakya for dinner and overnight. (D)



St. Peter Church, Antioch

Jun 19 Wed Antioch – Seleucia – Antakya
First you will visit the grotto Church of St. Peter where Jesus followers were first called Christians (Acts 11:26). At the new Antakya Archaeological Museum you will see one of the richest collections of mosaics in the world. Drive to After lunch, you will go to the Seleucia Pieria, the port town from which Paul and Barnabas departed and returned on their first journey (Acts 13:4). There we will see the Titus, one of Rome's engineering wonders. If time allows, we will visit the monastery complex of Simon Stylites. Dinner and overnight at archaeology hotel in Antakya. (B,D)

Jun 20 Thu Tarsus – Adana Museum – Adana
Drive through Cilicia to Tarsus, the home of the Apostle Paul. There you will visit the Roman baths and see the ancient bridge over the Cydnus River. You will next visit the Cardo Maximus street of the Roman city and then Donuktaş, one of the largest temples of the ancient world. After lunch you will drive to Adana to walk across the Sarus River on the Roman bridge and visit the Adana Archaeology Museum. Dinner and overnight in Adana. (B,D)

Jun 21 Fri Cilician Gates – Derbe – Lystra – Iconium – Konya
We first pass through the Cilician Gates in the Taurus Mountains and then continue to Derbe visited three times by Paul visited (Acts 14:20). We continue to Lystra, the home of Timothy, visited by Paul on his three journeys. After a short drive to Iconium, we will first visit the ancient acropolis in Konya's city center and then visit the archaeological museum and its important inscriptions mentioning Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. Dinner and overnight in Konya. (B,D)

Jun 22 Sat Pisidian Antioch – Antalya
You will depart early for Yalvaç, the site of the Roman colony of Pisidian Antioch. Paul visited this city on his three missionary journeys. His first recorded sermon in Acts 13 addressed the congregation of Jews and Godfearers in the synagogue. You will also visit the St. Paul Room in the Yalvaç Museum. Then you will make a scenic drive through the Pisidian lake country before descending through the Taurus Mountains to the plain of Pamphylia. Dinner and overnight in Antalya. (B,D)

Jun 23 Sun Perga – Attalia – Antalya
You will begin with a visit to Perga visited by Paul and Barnabas on their first journey (Acts 13:13-14). There you will see its well-preserved stadium and colonnaded street divided by a water channel. Returning to Antalya, you will see Hadrian's Gate and the Roman mausoleum of ancient Attalia. After lunch at the St. Paul Cultural Center, you will visit Antalya's renowned archaeological museum. Later in the afternoon you will take a boat ride from the port that Paul and Barnabas sailed from at the end of the first journey (Acts 14:25). Dinner and overnight in Antalya. (B,D)

Jun 24 Mon Apamea – Colossae – Laodicea – Pamukkale
You will then drive inland again over the Taurus Mountains to Apamea and follow Paul's route to Colossae. Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 3:14-22) and addressed by Paul (Col. 4:13-16). Then you will drive to the unexcavated site of Colossae on the foothills of Mount Honaz, to which Paul wrote the letters to the Colossians and Philemon. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale. (B,D)

Jun 25 Tues Hierapolis – Tralles – Magnesia – Kuşadası
At Hierapolis you will walk through its extensive necropolis, then see its well-preserved theater as well as Philip's Martyrium and basilica (Col. 4:13). Later traveling westward down the fertile Meander valley, you will visit the archaeological museum at Aydın, ancient Tralles, and later visit Magnesia on the Meander. These cities had churches, later addressed by Ignatius in the early second century A.D., that were probably started during Paul's time in Ephesus. Dinner and overnight in Kuşadası. (B,D)



Temple of Apollo, Didyma

Jun 26 Weds Miletus - Didyma - Priene - Kuşadası

You will first visit Miletus with its four harbors and well-preserved theater originally built in the Hellenistic period and expanded in Roman times. Paul made a farewell speech here to the elders of Ephesus on the return leg of his third missionary journey (Acts 20:17-35). We will also visit briefly its small but informative archaeological museum. You will then visit Didyma, home to the Temple of Apollo, one of Turkey's best-preserved ancient temples. After lunch you will drive to Priene, the best-preserved Hellenistic city in Turkey. We will visit the Jewish synagogue, whose excavation was funded by the Biblical Archaeology Society and Dr. Wilson was a member of the excavation team. Return to Kuşadası for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

Jun 27 Thu Ephesus - Ephesus Museum - St. John's Basilica - Izmir

Today will likely be the high point of the tour for most of the group, as we visit the impressive biblical site of Ephesus. You will take a walking tour starting in the upper city at the State Agora, then walking downward to the iconic Library of Celsus and Tetrakionos Agora. You will make a slight detour to see the exquisite terrace houses where the rich and famous citizens of Ephesus lived. Your city tour ends at the theater where 24,000 citizens shouted "Great is Artemis!" in a riot started in response to Paul's ministry there (Acts 19:1-20:1). We will stop briefly to view the remains of the Artemis Temple, formerly one of seven wonders of the ancient world. In the afternoon you will visit the Church of St. John, where tradition holds that the apostle and revelator was buried. Nearby is the Ephesus Museum housing important artefacts from Ephesus. Dinner and overnight in Izmir. (B,D)

Jun 28 Fri Smyrna - Izmir

Ancient Smyrna is the second of the seven churches (Rev. 2:8-11). We will first visit archaic Smyrna located at Bayraklı. Then we will visit the Agora and its important collection of Greek graffiti, the largest from the ancient Greek East. We conclude with a brief visit to the archaeology museum in the fairgrounds. Lunch on your own with free time in the afternoon. You may wish to visit St Polycarp Church or wander around the Kemeraltı Bazaar. Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant with overnight in Izmir (B,D)

Jun 29 Sat Transfer to Izmir Airport (ADB) for flight back to the USA



Agora, Smyrna

TOUR MAP



LAND & AIR

\$4,990 Per Person in Double Occupancy
\$1,240 Single Room Supplement

INCLUDING

- Roundtrip international flights between USA (New York, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Atlanta) - Istanbul
- Domestic flight Istanbul - Hatay (HTY)
- Domestic flight Izmir (ADB) - Istanbul (IST)
- 2 nights at 4 star **RADISSON OLD CITY** in Istanbul or similar
- 2 nights at 4 star **ANTAKYA MUSEUM HOTEL** in Antakya
- 1 night at 3 star **RAMADA HOTEL** in Adana or similar
- 1 night at 5 star **DEDEMAN KONYA HOTEL** in Konya or similar
- 2 nights at **RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL** in Antalya
- 1 night at 5 star **DOGA THERMAL HEALTH & SPA** in Pamukkale or similar
- 2 nights at 5 star **KORUMAR HOTEL DELUXE** in Kusadasi or similar
- 2 nights at 4 star **MOVENPICK HOTEL** in Izmir or similar
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- Daily open buffet breakfasts at the hotels (B:breakfast)
- 12 Dinners at the hotels (D:Dinner)
- 1 Farewell Dinner at local restaurant in Izmir
- All Transfers and Transportation by private bus with A/C
- English-speaking, government-licensed, Bible-oriented professional tour guide throughout
- All Entry fees to the sites & museums
- Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes
- Tips to the tour guide and driver

EXCLUDING

- Lunches and all drinks
- Turkish Visa Fee to be obtained online before the arrival www.evisa.gov.tr
- Travel and Health Insurance, any other item not listed above



DR. ALAN BANDY

PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT & GREEK

ASSOCIATE DEAN, RESEARCH DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

Robert L. Hamblin Chair of New Testament Exposition

Alan S. Bandy is the Director of PhD Studies and Professor of New Testament and Greek at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. His area of expertise is the New Testament with a specialization in the Apocalypse of John. He has recently written *An Illustrated Guide to the Apostle Paul: His Life, Ministry, and Missionary Journeys* (Baker, 2021). In addition he has written, co-written, or contributed to several other books and journals including: *A Greek Reader's Apostolic Fathers, Understanding Prophecy: A Biblical-Theological Approach, The Prophetic Lawsuit in the Book of Revelation, The Baker Illustrated Biblical Background Commentary, Devotions on the Greek New Testament, Holy War in the Old Testament*. He is currently writing a history of interpretation of the Book of Revelation and also *An Illustrated Guide to the Seven Cities of the Book of Revelation*. He resides in New Orleans with his wife, Necoe and their five children.

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OPTION 3

*Please email to info@tutkutours.com and ask for TUTKU' bank account details if you wish to pay with bank wire transfer.



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