

# A Spiritual Pilgrimage Through Biblical Turkey

October 30 - November 12, 2026



TOUR HOST  
**Dr. Andrew Jackson**



organized by

**TUTKU**  
— EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL —



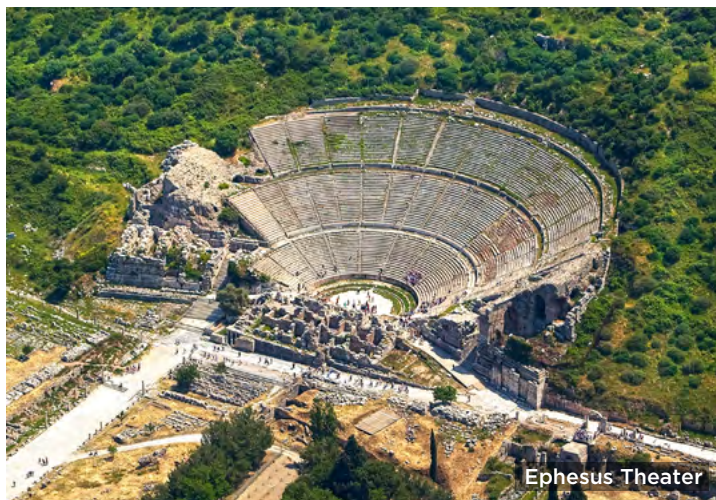




# A Spiritual Pilgrimage Through Biblical Turkey

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Ephesus Theater

## Tour Itinerary:

**Day 1 (Oct 30 Fri) Depart USA for Istanbul.** Tour participants depart on **Turkish Airlines** from the **United States to Istanbul** (non-stop) from one of the following airports: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Houston, or Atlanta. **\*\*\*Be sure to check your luggage in the U.S. all the way to the Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport (not to Istanbul).**

**Day 2 (Oct 31 Sat) - Istanbul to Ephesus.** When our overseas flight arrives in Istanbul, we go through customs and take a domestic flight to the Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport (one hour). We then drive (one hour) to our fantastic 5 star Ephesus hotel (Korumar Deluxe: [www.korumar.com.tr/en](http://www.korumar.com.tr/en))

**Day 3 (Nov 1 Sun) Ephesus Area.** After breakfast we visit the Ephesus Archaeological Museum, the archeological remains of the Basilica of Saint John, where the apostle John was buried (take communion together), and the modern Turkish towns of Selcuk and Sirince, where we meet the locals and shop. For those interested, you can visit a local Anatolian Handmade Carpet and Kilim production center, learn how world-famous Turkish carpets are made, and buy one if you want. We then drive to our hotel on the Aegean Sea (20 minutes) for dinner and overnight at our hotel (Korumar Deluxe).

**Day 4 (Nov 2 Mon) Ephesus.** After breakfast we tour the archaeological biblical city of Ephesus, a magnificent reconstructed Greco-Roman city, and the spectacular Terrace Houses. The apostle Paul lived and ministered here for three years from where he wrote 1 Corinthians. Later, he wrote Ephesus and 1-2 Timothy to the Ephesus church (Korumar Deluxe).



Laodicea Church

**Day 5 (Nov 3 Tue) Ephesus to Colossae.** After breakfast we drive (3.5 hours) to the beautiful Lycus River Valley, where we visit the archaeological site of Colossae. Paul wrote Colossians and Philemon to the Colossae church. We then drive to our 5-star spa hotel for dinner and overnight (Adempira Termal & Spa Hotel: [www.adempirahotel.com](http://www.adempirahotel.com))

**Day 6 (Nov 4 Wed) Laodicea and Hierapolis.** After breakfast we visit the massive archeological and reconstructed biblical sites of **Laodicea** (Revelation 3:14-22, Colossians 4:13) and **Hierapolis** (modern Pamukkale, Colossians 4:13). In **Hierapolis** we visit the tomb of the **apostle Philip**. After a long day, we drive to our hotel for dinner and overnight (Adempira Termal & Spa Hotel).

**Day 7 (Nov 5 Thu) Flight to Antioch.** After breakfast we fly from **Denizli to Antioch** (modern Antakya, a population of 400,000) that is located on the Orontes River. We get our luggage at the **Antakya airport** and drive (45 minutes) to our one-of-a-kind 5 star hotel (The Museum Hotel, [www.themuseumhotelantakya.com](http://www.themuseumhotelantakya.com)). **Our hotel is built over ancient Antioch mosaics** for you to see. Antioch became the major church center after Jerusalem. It was here that the followers of Jesus were first called "Christians" (Acts 11:26). It was from Antioch that Paul began his missionary journeys.

**Day 8 (Nov 6 Fri) Antioch** After breakfast we take an **overview bus tour** of the city of Antioch. On Feb. 6, 2023, an earthquake devastated Antioch, when about 80% of the buildings were destroyed. We visit **The Hatay Archaeology and Mosaic Museum and the Cave Church of Peter** (built in the late 300s or early 400s). We drive to **Samandağ (historic Seleucia Pieria)**, from where the **apostle Paul and Barnabas sailed to Cyprus on their first missionary journey and returned back to Antioch** (Acts 13:4). We then return to our amazing hotel for dinner and overnight (The Museum Hotel).

**Day 9 (Nov 7 Sat) Antioch** After breakfast we will meet with **Turkish believers** at their church camp, and spend the day with them. We will hear about their experiences after the earthquake, and their mercy ministry of outreach in providing meals and water to the people. We will also visit others in the city. After dinner at our hotel, we will join the Turkish believers again for worship and activities. (The Museum Hotel).



St. Peter Cave Church, Antioch





**Day 10 (Nov 8 Sun) Tarsus and Cappadocia.** After breakfast we drive to **Tarsus** (3 hours), *the hometown of the apostle Paul*. We walk around Tarsus and have lunch. After Tarsus we drive up (3 hours) through the historic mountain pass called the **Cilician Gates** into the spectacular landscape of the **Cappadocia** region of central Turkey. Cappadocia's volcanic landscape is sculpted by erosion to form a majestic landscape of pinnacles known as "fairy chimneys." You will feel like you're back in the Flintstone days. We arrive at the picturesque town of **Ortahisar**, which has rock-cut buildings, and is dominated by a 300 foot tall rock-castle in the center of the town. We then drive to our 4 star hotel for dinner and overnight (Dilek Kaya Hotel-Cappadocia, [www.dilekkayaotel.com](http://www.dilekkayaotel.com)).

**Day 11 (Nov 9 Mon) Cappadocia.** After breakfast (early balloon option, participants pay \$300) we visit the **Göreme Open Air Museum**, with its many cave churches established from the 900s to the 1100s. We drive through the **Zelve Valley** on our way to **Kaymakli**, *an underground city which was an early Christian center* that extended down at least eight floors and housed several thousand people between the AD 600s and 900s. We continue to **Uchisar Castle**, another of these unique early Christian communities. We then return to our hotel for dinner and overnight (Dilek Kaya Hotel-Cappadocia).

**Day 12 (Nov 10 Tue) Flight Kayseri to Istanbul** (After breakfast we fly from Kayseri to **Istanbul** (1.5 hours). We drive to our hotel in the old city of Istanbul (one hour). We drop off our luggage at our 4 star hotel (Lamartine Hotel, [www.lamartinehotel.com](http://www.lamartinehotel.com)). If we have time, we will take a **tram ride through the busy city of Istanbul**.

**Day 13 (Nov 11 Wed) Istanbul.** After breakfast we take a walking tour inside the walls of the old city of Istanbul. We visit the **Hippodrome Square**, **Blue Mosque**, the famous **Hagia Sophia Church**, **Saint Irene Church** where the Nicene Creed was written, and the beautiful **underground cistern** built by the emperor Justinian in the AD 500s. We walk through the historic **Grand Bazaar**, and then return to our hotel for dinner and overnight (Lamartine Hotel).

**Day 14 (Nov 12 Thu) Departure to USA** After breakfast we drive (one hour) to the **Istanbul Airport** where we board our international flights back to the USA. The tour and services end.



## LAND & AIR

**\$6,290** Per Person in Double Room

**\$1,250** Single Room Supplement

## TOUR INCLUDES

- Roundtrip international flights on Turkish Airlines from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Houston, or Atlanta.
- **Istanbul-Izmir domestic flight**
- **Denizli-Antioch domestic flight**
- **Cappadocia-Istanbul domestic flight**
- 3 Nights at **Korumar Hotel in Kusadasi**
- 2 Night at **Adempira Termal & Spa Hotel in Pammukale**
- 3 Nights at **The Museum Hotel in Antakya**
- 2 Nights at **Dilek Kaya Hotel in Cappadocia**
- 2 Nights at **Lamartine Hotel, Taksim in Istanbul**
- Daily breakfasts and dinners
- All Airport-Hotel-Airport transfers in private basis
- All land transportation by private fully A/C VAN with driver throughout the tour
- Tolls, parking fees, fuel, guide's and driver's expenses
- English speaking tour Professional Tour Guide
- All Entry fees to the mentioned sites & museums
- Service charges, accommodation taxes, & local taxes
- Tips to tour guide (\$60) and to the driver (\$25)

## TOUR EXCLUDES

- Lunches and drinks
- All personal expenses and any other service which are not mentioned above
- Travel and Health insurance, any kind of insurance (insurance may be given at an extra cost, please ask)
- Hot Air Balloon Trip

## PAYMENT PROCEDURE

- 1- **\$300 per person Deposit : March 23, 2026**
- 2- **Full (Balance) Payment : July 27, 2026**

### Land and Air Cancellation Policy:

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Cancellations made before August 30, 2026    | : Full refund |
| Cancellations made before September 15, 2026 | : 75% refund  |
| Cancellations made before September 30, 2026 | : 50% refund  |
| Cancellations made before October 15, 2026   | : No refund   |

**In addition** to the above cancellation policy, we charge a 5% processing fee for all refunds, regardless of the date of cancellation. This fee covers bank charges and administrative costs.

## REGISTRATION

you can fill in the secure form at TUTKU website



### OPTION 1

**REGISTER NOW**



<https://tutku.travel/tour/2610AJTR>

### OPTION 2



- 1- Open the Camera app on your device.
- 2- Move the QR code into the frame.



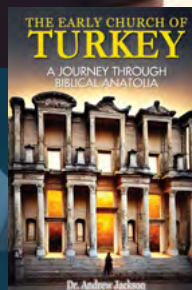
# Dr. Andrew Jackson

“ Andrew Jackson is an American teacher and writer who has traveled through Turkey for around twenty-five years. He earned his Master of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary, and his specialized Doctor of Ministry in the history of Church renewal movements from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Dr. Jackson is the founder of Biblical Turkey Tours and hosts several tours each year. He was the co-host on the travel documentary Exploring Ephesus: The City of the Apostles.



## THE EARLY CHURCH OF TURKEY

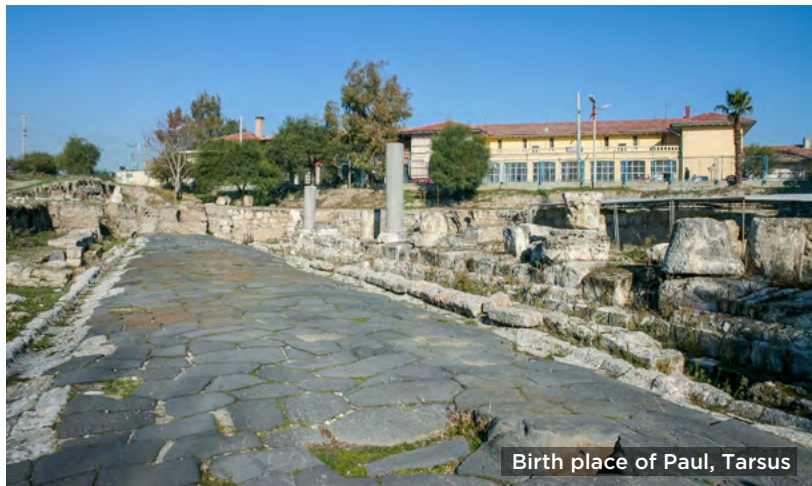
A Journey Through Biblical Anatolia  
by Dr. Andrew Jackson



Step into the forgotten world of biblical Anatolia, the very cradle of the early church where the Apostles Paul, John, and Peter established the first Christian communities. This comprehensive journey guides you through all seven regions of ancient Turkey, uncovering the rich history of the Churches of Revelation, the missionary journeys of Paul, the wisdom of the Cappadocian Fathers, and the Syriac, Armenian, and Georgian roots of the faith. You'll explore the fierce challenges of Roman emperor worship, witness the crucial theological debates that defined the Trinity and the nature of Christ at the Seven Ecumenical Councils, and understand the vital role that Christian emperors—and empresses—played in shaping doctrine. By illuminating the historical, political, and theological landscape of these foundational churches, this book provides a vital context for the New Testament and offers a profound new perspective on the global story of Christianity today.



## MAP OF ANTIOCH-TARSUS AREA



Birth place of Paul, Tarsus

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