WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

IN PAUL'S FOOTSTEPS IN TURKEY

JANUARY 5-19, 2027

DR. STEPHEN GEIGER



TOUR HOSTS



DR. JOEL PLESS



TUTKU

— EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL —



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FLIGHT SCHEDULE

TK006	05JAN	ORDIST	2015	1605 +1
TK2254	06JAN	ISTHTY	1845	2035
TK005	19JAN	ISTORD	1535	1825

TURKISH AIRLINES



Blue Mosque & Hagia Sophia, Istanbul

Tour Itinerary:

Jan 5 Tue **Depart Chicago – Fly to Istanbul**

Jan 6 Wed **Arrive Istanbul Airport - connection flight to Hatay (Antioch)**
Tutku representative will meet us at the Hatay (Antioch) Airport with a "**WLS – TUTKU**" sign. Meet and transfer to the hotel. After checking in, we will visit the Mosaic Museum under our hotel. Dinner and overnight at The Museum Hotel in Antioch. (D)

Jan 7 Thu **Antioch**
Depart to Samandağ to visit Seleucia Pieria, Antioch's port city, and the Titus Tunnels. If time permits, we will also visit the Monastery of Saint Simeon Stylites the Younger. Lunch Break. Visit the Church of Saint Peter, Antioch Hippodrome. Dinner and overnight in Antioch. (B,D)

Jan 8 Fri **Drive to Tarsus - Adana**
We begin with site visits in Tarsus, the home of the apostle Paul, and its museum. We will next visit the Cardo Maximus street of the Roman city. After lunch we 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)



Laodicea Church

Jan 9 Sat **Cilician Gates – Derbe – Lystra – Iconium – Konya**
We first pass through the Cilician Gates in the Taurus Mountains and then continue to Derbe. We then visit Lystra, the home of Timothy. After a short drive to Iconium, we will visit the ancient acropolis in Konya's city center and then the archaeological museum. We will see its important inscriptions mentioning Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. Dinner and overnight in Konya. (B,D)

Jan 10 Sun **Pisidian Antioch – Pamukkale**
We will depart early for Yalvaç, the site of the Roman colony of Pisidian Antioch. Paul's first recorded sermon in Acts 13 addressed the congregation of Jews and God-fearers in the synagogue. We will also visit the St. Paul Room in the Yalvaç Museum. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale. (B,D)

Jan 11 Mon **Colossae – Laodicea – Pamukkale**
We will visit the site of Colossae in the foothills of Mount Honaz. Paul wrote the letters of Colossians and Philemon to Christians in that community. Then we will visit nearby Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 3:14–22) and the recipient of a letter from Paul (Col. 4:16). At Hierapolis we will walk through its extensive necropolis, then viewing its well-preserved theater as well as Philip's Martyrium and basilica (Col. 4:13). Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale. (B,D)

Jan 12 Tue **Aphrodisias - Ephesus (St. John's Basilica, Artemis Temple)**
Drive to Aphrodisias and see its theater, well-preserved stadium, and more. We will stop briefly to view the remains of the Artemis Temple, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. In the afternoon we will visit the Church of St. John, where tradition holds that the apostle was buried. Dinner and overnight in Kuşadası. (B,D)

Jan 13 Wed **Ephesus – Ephesus Museum**
We will visit the impressive biblical site of Ephesus. We will take a walking tour starting in the upper city at the State Agora, proceeding downward to the iconic Library of Celsus and Tetragonos Agora. We will make a slight detour to see the exquisite Terrace Houses, where the rich and famous citizens of Ephesus lived. Our 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). Nearby is the Ephesus Museum, housing important artifacts from Ephesus. Dinner and overnight in Kuşadası. (B,D)


Assos

Jan 14 Thu **Didyma – Miletus – Izmir**
We will visit Didyma, home to the Temple of Apollo, one of Turkey's best-preserved ancient temples. We will then 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. After lunch we will drive to Izmir, where we will visit the Smyrna Agora. Dinner and overnight in Izmir. (B,D)

Jan 15 Fri **Pergamum – Assos**
We will travel to **Bergama,** which is the site of ancient **Pergamum**, one of the Seven Churches of Revelation. We will visit the **acropolis** there and see the impressive **theater**, the **Temple of Trajan**, and the **Asklepion**. We will continue to **Assos** for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

Jan 16 Sat **Assos - Alexander Troas – Troy - Bursa**
We will walk on the Roman road near Assos and then continue to Alexandrian Troas. We will see ruins and also the ancient harbor. We will then visit ancient Troy, viewing its museum as well. We will continue to Bursa for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

Jan 17 Sun **Nicaea - Istanbul**
We will visit Iznik, site of the Council of Nicaea. We will drive through ancient Chalcedon and then spend the remainder of the day in Istanbul, visiting the Topkapi Palace and the Grand Bazaar. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. (B,D)

Jan 18 Mon **Istanbul**
We 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, we will visit the magnificent **Hagia Sophia**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. From there we will visit the historic **Hagia Irene Church**. Afterward we 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. In the late afternoon we will visit one of the famous underground cisterns of the Byzantine era from the 6th century. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul. (B,D)

Jan 19 Tue **Transfer to Istanbul Airport (IST) for flight back to the USA**

LAND & AIR

$5,290 **Per Person in Double Room**

$990 **Single Room Supplement**

TOUR INCLUDES

- Roundtrip international flights between Chicago – Istanbul
- Domestic flight Istanbul – Adana
- **2** nights at **THE MUSEUM HOTEL** in Antakya or similar
- **1** night at **RAMADA HOTEL** in Adana or similar
- **1** night at **DEDEMAN KONYA HOTEL** in Konya or similar
- **2** nights at **DOGA THERMAL HEALTH & SPA** in Pamukkale or similar
- **2** nights at **KORUMAR HOTEL** in Kusadasi or similar
- **1** night at **KORDON CANKAYA HOTEL** in Izmir or similar
- **1** night at **KERVANSARAY HOTEL** in Assos or similar
- **1** night at **TIARA HOTEL** in Bursa or similar
- **2** nights at **GRAND HALIC HOTEL** in Istanbul or similar
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- Daily open buffet breakfasts at the hotels (B: Breakfast)
- 13 dinners at the hotels (D: Dinner)
- 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
- Headsets
- Tips to the tour guide and driver

TOUR EXCLUDES

- Lunches and all drinks
- Travel and health insurance, and any other item not listed above

PAYMENT PROCEDURE

- Deposit: $200 per person by September 18, 2026
- Full Payment on October 16, 2026

Cancellation Policy:
Cancellations made 120 days or more before departure: Full refund
Cancellations made 90–119 days before departure: 90% refund
Cancellations made 60–89 days before departure: 75% refund
Cancellations made 45–59 days before departure: 50% refund
Cancellations made 30–44 days before departure: 25% refund
Cancellations made 0–29 days before departure: 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.

Important Note on Airfare: Please note that the cancellation terms above apply primarily to the "land" portion of your tour. For "Land and Air" packages, flight ticket cancellations are subject to the specific rules and penalty structures of the respective airline. Any non-refundable costs or cancellation fees imposed by the airline that are beyond our control will be deducted from the refund amount, regardless of the cancellation date.

REGISTRATION

you can fill in the secure form at TUTKU website

VISA mastercard

OPTION 1

REGISTER NOW

https://tutku.travel/tour/WLSTR27

OPTION 2

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

IN PAUL'S FOOTSTEPS IN TURKEY

JANUARY 5-19, 2027 *(Tour Hosts: Dr. Stephen Geiger & Dr. Joel Pless)*



REGISTRATION FORM*

Name as it appears on the passport (First, Middle, Last)

Name : _____

Title : _____ Preferred Name: _____
Mr. Mrs. Ms. Rev. Dr. If different than above

Street Address: _____

PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____/ _____

Cell Phone: _____/ _____

Email Address: _____

Age: _____ Citizenship: _____

Birth Date: ___ /___ /___ Passport Number: _____
Month/Day/Year

Passport Expiration Date: ___/ ___/ ___

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Phone Number : _____ Relationship: _____

PLEASE CHECK ITEMS BELOW AS APPROPRIATE:

☐ I WANT 1 DOUBLE ROOM.
Name of Your Roommate (as on passport): _____

☐ Please assign me a roommate.

☐ I WANT 1 SINGLE ROOM

A Study Tour

The schedule of this Study Tour is designed for students and anticipates strenuous days. The itinerary maximizes time spent at sites, with limited shopping and free time. All applicants must be in good health and be capable of walking significant distances, sometimes on uneven and narrow trails, without assistance *(extensive stairclimbing will also be a part of the tour)*. Priority will be given to student applicants from the host institutions. Other travelers will be admitted as space is available.

* Please mail the completed registration form to Steve Geiger c/o Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, 11831 N. Seminary Drive, Mequon, WI 53092. Or you may email all of the information above to Steve.Geiger@wls.edu. **Please note that payment, along with an additional submission of registration information, is to be made directly to Tutku Tours.**

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