

North American Division Educators Tour
New Testament Alive: June 6-16, 2019
Revelation's Seven Churches (Turkey), Patmos, Greece
(Optional Rome Extension June 16-19)

Turkey/7 Churches

[Note: Prior to the New Testament Alive tour, there's an optional Israel Tour in Jesus' Steps. Info can be viewed at facebook.com/tabghatours or email andynash5@gmail.com.]

- Thur., June 6 Overnight flight to Istanbul from point of origin. (Pending airfare availability July 2018, we'll provide flight guidance for travelers.)
- Fri., June 7 Arrive afternoon in Istanbul. Transfer to hotel. Supper and vespers. Overnight in Istanbul.
- Sab., June 8 Restful morning: Breakfast and Sabbath worship. Provided vegetarian lunch. Sabbath afternoon visit to Istanbul Archaeological Museum and boat trip on the Bosphorus, connecting Europe & Asia. Supper, free time, and overnight in Istanbul.
- Sun., June 9 Load and depart. Visit Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosque. (Wear long pants/long skirt. Women should wear long-sleeved shirt with modest neckline.) Open lunch. Bus to Nicea and Akhisar. Supper and overnight in Akhisar.
- Mon., June 10 Begin tour of Revelation's Seven Churches with visits to (1) Thyatira, (2) Pergamum, and (3) Smyrna (Izmir). Supper and overnight at thermal spa hotel near Sardis.

Thyatira: Acts 16:14. Rev. 2:18-29

Pergamum: Rev. 2:12-17

Smyrna: Rev. 2:8-11

- Tues., June 11 Visit (4) Sardis, (5) Philadelphia, and (6) Laodicea. Supper and relaxing evening at five-star Doga Thermal Health & Spa near Laodicea.

Sardis: Obadiah 20 (Sepharad); Rev. 3:1-6

Philadelphia: Rev. 3:7-13

Laodicea: Col. 4:13; Rev. 3:14-22

Wed., June 12 Visit Hierapolis/Parmukkale hot springs, Colossae, and (7) Ephesus. Supper and overnight in port town of Kusadasi on Aegean Sea.

Hierapolis: Col. 4:13

Colossae: Colossians

*Ephesus: Acts 18:19-28; Acts 19:1-20; Acts 20:16; Acts 20:16-38;
Rev. 2:1-7; Ephesians*

Patmos

Thu., June 13 Take morning ferry to island of Patmos. Tour Cave of the Apocalypse, St. John's Monastery (conservative dress), and Patmos. Open supper and free time on Patmos. Take overnight Blue Star Ferry (with sleeper cabin) from Patmos to Athens.

Patmos: Revelation (Rev. 1:9)

Greece

Fri., June 14 Arrive by ferry in Athens. Buffet breakfast. Visit Parthenon, Mars Hill, and National Archaeological Museum. Supper, vespers, and overnight in Athens.

Athens/Mars Hill: 17:16-34; 1 Thess. 3:1-6

Sab., June 15 Sabbath worship and communion at Corinth. Sabbath lunch provided. Afternoon visit to Mycenae. Supper, worship, and Saturday night free time/shopping in Athens. Overnight in Athens.

Corinth: Acts 18:1-18; Acts 20:2-3; I and II Corinthians

Rome (optional extension)

Sun., June 16 Fly one-way from Athens to Rome. (Flight included.). Upon arrival in Rome, take afternoon Roma Barocca guided walk of Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, and Piazza Navona. Supper and overnight in Rome.

Mon., June 17 Visit Roman Colosseum/Flavian Amphitheater, Roman Forum, Palatine Hill, and Mamertine Prison (where Paul was held). Lunch. Visit St. Peter's Basilica and Vatican Museum, including Raphael's Rooms and the Sistine Chapel. Supper and overnight in Rome.

Rome: Acts 19:21; Romans 1:13-15; Romans 15:23-29; Acts 23:11; Acts 25:10-12; Acts 27:1-2; Acts 28:14-16; Acts 28:23-24; Acts 28:30-31; Phil. 1:12-13; John 21:18-19; Rev. 13:1-10; (Rev. 17:9;) Daniel 2:40-45; Daniel 7:7-14; 8:5-27

Tues., June 18 Visit the Catacombs and Pilate's Staircase/Scala Sancta, which pilgrims including Martin Luther climbed on their knees as an act of devotion. Lunch and afternoon free time/shopping in Trastevere district. (Optional departure for those who need to return home.) Supper and overnight in Rome.

Rome: John 21:18-19; Rev. 13:1-10; Daniel 2:40-45; Daniel 7:7-14; Daniel 8:5-27

Wed., June 19 Tour ends. You may depart for airport on hotel shuttle or stay additional nights in Rome.

June 6-16: Turkey/Patmos/Greece: \$2297/person (based on double occupancy).
June 16-19: Optional Rome Extension (including Athens-Rome flight): \$550/person.
June 6-19 Full Tour (Turkey/Patmos/Greece/Rome): \$2847.
Flight: Est. \$800-\$1500. Multi-city transatlantic flight.

Tour package includes: four-star hotels (and one five-star thermal spa hotel), transportation including air-conditioned motorcoach and all-night Patmos ferryboat in sleeper cabin, sightseeing and entrance fees, gratuities, post-departure trip insurance through ARM, two meals/day including Sabbath lunches. (Not included: one meal/day.)

Note on Flights. Our tour will begin in Istanbul and end in either Athens or Rome, depending on traveler preference. So travelers will book a “multi-city” itinerary:
June 6, 2019: Home to Istanbul, arriving June 7
June 16/19, 2019: Athens or Rome to home, arriving same day

Airfares for June 2019 won't be available until July 2018, but based on current/past fares, the price is likely to be \$800-\$1500 roundtrip. (The Rome extension includes a one-way flight from Athens to Rome.)

Tour Focus: Bringing the New Testament Alive

This tour will bring alive the experiences of the early church: from the seven young churches of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea, to Christ's giving of Revelation at Patmos, to Paul's defense of the gospel at Mars Hill, Corinth and Rome. We'll follow in the footsteps of the earliest Christians as we worship same risen Lord together—including the first Sabbath in Ephesus and the second Sabbath in Corinth. We'll also enjoy times of fellowship and fun together: relaxing in the Hierapolis hot springs, sailing on an all-night ferry from Patmos to Athens in bunk-style sleeper cabins, and walking the ancient streets of Rome. Our guide will be Dr. Greg King and/or Dr. Martin Klingbeil, professors in the School of Religion at Southern Adventist University. Local guides will also accompany us in Turkey, Patmos, Greece, and Rome.

Registration and Timeline

February 2018: Initial sign-up on a first-come basis. This tour can hold 50 people, and will likely fill quickly. To hold a spot, please email your name(s) and contact info to tabghatours@gmail.com. Within 10 days, please also send a \$250/person nonrefundable deposit; make checks payable to “Tabgha Tours” and mail to 8139 Roy Lane, Ooltewah, TN 37363. The deposit is not refundable but will be deducted from your final payment. Tour questions? Call Andy Nash at 423-298-2141.

Feb. 6, 2019: Final tour payment due: check or money order.

June 6, 2019: Depart for Istanbul (June 7 arrival.)

June 16/19, 2019: Return from Athens or Rome to home.