



LIGHT OF THE EAST 3
ECUMENCIAL PILGRIMAGE TO
CONSTANTINOPLE, THE HOLY LAND & ROME

Sponsored by the Orientale Lumen Foundation

July 10-25, 2019

Pilgrimage Director: Lector Jack Figel

Past pilgrimages have included private audiences with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Pope Francis. A private audience with the Patriarch has been confirmed; a private audience, or reserved seating at the General Audience, with Pope Francis is very likely.

Patriarch Emeritus Gregorios III of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church will be our spiritual leader in the Holy Land.

Day 1 - Wednesday, July 10: Depart USA

This evening we will depart the United States on our transatlantic flight for Istanbul.

Day 2 - Thursday, July 11: Arrive Istanbul

Upon arrival in Istanbul we will be met at the airport and then transfer to our hotel for check-in.



Day 3 - Friday, July 12: Istanbul

Our day will start with a visit to Hagia Sophia; a formerly Christian Basilica, conceived by Constantine and rebuilt by Justinian, then turned into a mosque in 1453 by Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror. In the 1920s Ataturk made it a museum for all regardless of creed. We will next visit the Mosque of Sultan Ahmet which is also known as the Blue Mosque. We will then visit the Church of St. Mary of Blachernae followed by a visit to the Baloukli Monastery to round out the day.



Day 4 - Saturday, July 13: Istanbul

This morning we will visit the Pammakaristos Church, also known as the Church of Theotokos Pammakariston, which is one of the most famous Greek Orthodox Byzantine churches in Istanbul. Adapted in 1591 into the Fethiye Mosque, it is today partly a museum and an excellent example of late Byzantine architecture and art. Afterward, we'll discover the Bulgarian St. Stephen Church, known as the "Iron Church." Our next visit will be to Christ the Saviour in Chora Museum which is famous for its rare

examples of mosaic works whose thematic variety and rich details are unmatched among Byzantine churches. This afternoon we will visit the Ecumenical Patriarchate and have a private audience with His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. After our audience with the Patriarch we will remain at the Cathedral for Vespers to conclude our day.

Day 5 - Sunday, July 14: Istanbul

This morning we will attend the Divine Liturgy at the Ecumenical Patriarchate. After Liturgy drive to the Asian side and stroll through the Bagdat Street and visit Camlica Hill for a panoramic view of Istanbul. Enjoy a cruise on the Bosphorus by private boat, the unique winding strait separating Europe and Asia. Its shores offer a delightful mixture of significant past and present, a view of the skyline of minarets and domes, pine-covered hills, and landmarks of Istanbul such as Dolmabahce Palace, the Tower of Leander and Ortakoy Mosque. After our cruise enjoy dinner at a local restaurant along the Bosphorus.



Day 6 - Monday, July 15: Istanbul / Tel Aviv / Tiberias

This morning we will transfer to Istanbul Airport to catch our flight to Tel Aviv. After arrival in Tel Aviv we will drive along to coast to Haifa and ascend Mt. Carmel to visit the site of Elijah's Sacrifice at a shrine called Muhraqa (1 Kings 18). We will then proceed to the town of Tiberias for check-in at our hotel overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

Day 7 - Tuesday, July 16: Tiberias

This morning we will drive to Nazareth to visit the Annunciation Church and St. Joseph's Workshop. Then proceed to Cana of Galilee where Our Lord performed the first miracle, changing water into wine at the wedding feast. Here, we'll invite couples to renew their wedding vows. In the afternoon we'll enjoy a scenic boat ride on the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, the home of Our Lord during His ministry. After visiting the synagogue where He taught, we will proceed to Tabgha, the site of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Then stop at the Church of Peter's Primacy where Peter was told: "feed my lambs, feed my

sheep.” We will conclude the day with a visit to the Mount of the Beatitudes which is the site of the Sermon on the Mount.



Day 8 - Wednesday, July 17: Tiberias / Jerusalem

This morning we will depart Tiberias and drive to Mt. Tabor to visit the traditional site of the Transfiguration of Jesus. We will proceed to Jericho and visit the oldest known city in the Western World. From the top of the ancient “tel,” we’ll have an excellent view of Elisha’s Fountain, the Mt. of Temptation and the Sycamore tree to remind us of the story of Zaccheus, the tax collector. Drive to Jerusalem and check-in at our hotel.

Day 9 - Thursday, July 18: Jerusalem

This morning we will drive to the summit of the Mt. of Olives to visit the Chapel of the Ascension and the Church of Pater Noster. Then walk along the Palm Sunday Road and visit the Chapel of Dominus Flevit (Luke 19) from where we will have a fantastic panoramic view of the city of Jerusalem. We continue down the road to the Garden of Gethsemane and visit the Basilica of the Agony. We will also visit the Grotto of the Judas’ Betrayal and Mary’s Tomb, the site of Mary’s Assumption. This afternoon we will drive to Masada and visit the site of the last stronghold of the Jewish rebels fighting in the First Jewish War against Rome.



Day 10 - Friday, July 19: Jerusalem

This morning we enter the Old City of Jerusalem at St. Stephen’s Gate where our first stop is at the Church of St. Anne and the Pools of Bethesda. Next, we make our way to the Church of the Flagellation which marks the beginning of the Way of the Cross (Via Dolorosa) ending on Calvary. We enter the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and within the church, we visit Golgotha and complete our devotions at the Sacred Tomb of Jesus. In the afternoon we go to the Western Wall or Wailing Wall, where prayers are offered up at these remaining holy stones of the glorious second temple compound. We are aware that now the only structures standing on the Temple Mount are the Moslem Shrines of the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque. We then drive along the walls of the Old City to Mt. Zion. Next, we visit the nearby traditional site of the Upper Room, remembering the Last Supper, a post-Resurrection appearance and Pentecost. Nearby we see Dormition Abbey Church that honors Mary’s “falling asleep.” We end the day with a visit to St. Peter in Gallicantu, which marks the site of Peter’s denial.



Day 11 - Saturday, July 20: Jerusalem

Traveling a short distance south of Jerusalem, we arrive in Bethlehem. We begin our visit to the countryside at Shepherds’ Field to remember the angels’ glad tidings to the shepherds. Within the town of Bethlehem, we go to venerate the Holy Grotto of the Nativity, as well as the Manger, followed by a visit to the Grotto of St. Jerome and the Franciscan parish church of St. Catherine, scene of

Bethlehem's Christmas Midnight Mass. This afternoon we travel to Ein Karem to visit the Church of St. John the Baptist, the birthplace of the Precursor of the Lord, and the Visitation Church, where we recall Mary's prayer of praise: the Magnificat.

Day 12 - Sunday, July 21: Jerusalem

This morning we will celebrate Divine Liturgy with His Beatitude Patriarch Emeritus Gregorios III at the Melkite Patriarchate Church. The remainder of the day will be free for personal activities. This evening a special "Farewell Jerusalem" dinner will be arranged in our honor at a local restaurant.

Day 13 - Monday, July 22: Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / Rome

This morning transfer to Tel Aviv to catch our flight to Rome via Istanbul. After arrival in the "Eternal City" of Rome we will be met by our local tour manager and transfer to our hotel for check-in.



Day 14 - Tuesday, July 23: Rome

A full day of exploring Rome begins with Divine Liturgy at St. Peter's Basilica. Our guide then takes us through the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel with its impressive frescoes painted by Michelangelo. In the afternoon our sightseeing includes visits to the Roman Forum, the Colosseum (outside visit), St. Peter in Chains featuring Michelangelo's "Moses" and St. Paul Outside the Walls.



Day 15 - Wednesday, July 24: Rome

This morning we will experience a highlight of our Roman stay, attendance at the Papal Audience at St. Peter's (subject to the Holy Father's schedule, or possibly a private audience in the Apostolic Palace). Join thousands of pilgrims from throughout the world to listen to the Holy Father and receive His Blessing. In the afternoon our sightseeing includes visits to St. Mary Major Basilica, St. John Lateran, the Holy Stairs, the Old Appian Way, and the St. Sebastian Catacombs. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 16 - Thursday, July 25: Rome / USA

Transfer to the airport to catch our return flight home via Istanbul.

PILGRIMAGE COST

\$4,495.00

per person/double occupancy

For single occupancy please add \$850.00.

This price includes:

- ✘ Roundtrip airfare from Washington Dulles on Turkish Airlines
- ✘ Airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- ✘ Accommodation in First Class/4 star hotels in Istanbul, Tiberias and Rome
- ✘ Accommodation at the Greek Catholic Patriarchate Guesthouse in Jerusalem
- ✘ All hotel taxes
- ✘ Breakfast and dinner daily
- ✘ Land transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- ✘ All transfers and portorage at hotels
- ✘ Sightseeing with professional licensed guides
- ✘ All entrance fees as per itinerary

Airfares from other departure cities throughout the United States are available upon request.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Reservations and Payment: Please complete the attached Reservation Application and return it with your deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 61 days prior to departure, \$250.00 will be charged. If canceled 60 - 31 days prior to departure, \$450.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 7 days prior to departure \$700.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued which may happen at any time after receipt of your full payment, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking. Additional cancellation charges may apply depending upon the cancellation terms of our suppliers.

Refunds: Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

Trust Account Disclosure: California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if the Seller of Travel was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which the Seller of Travel failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to the Seller of Travel, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Travel Documents: A passport with a minimum of 6 months validity remaining is required of all U.S. citizens. U.S. citizens do not require visas for entry to Israel or Italy, but visas are required for entry to Turkey. The fee for the Turkish visa is \$20.00 per person for U.S. citizens and the visa needs to be prearranged prior to departure from the United States. Turkey has adopted an "e-visa" which can easily be obtained online by visiting www.evisa.gov.tr. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to find out if you need a visa for Greece or Turkey. George's International is not responsible for procuring individual visas or passports.

Tour Cost: All quoted prices are based upon fares, tariffs and currency exchange rates at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. Should the minimum number of 20 tour members not be reached, the right is reserved to increase the tour cost accordingly.

Tour Documents and Tickets: Final tour documents are mailed, provided we have received full payment, within 3 weeks of departure.

Baggage: Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. You will be responsible for paying to the airline any additional charges for additional checked baggage or overweight baggage (if excess weight is permitted). George's International Tours is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

Air Transportation: Air travel is in economy class on Turkish Airlines (or any other IATA carrier). Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing. Fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice.

Hotels: Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance. Insurance may be purchased directly through George's International Tours and registration forms will be provided upon receipt of your deposit or you may purchase online at www.georgesintl.com. George's International Tours acts only as an intermediary between you and the insurance provider and in no event shall George's International Tours be liable to any person or entity whatsoever for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, compensatory, consequential, or punitive damages related to insurance coverage purchased.

Not Included: Gratuities, passport/entry visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of the included meals, additional baggage in excess of airport allowance, optional sightseeing tours, and all expenses of a purely personal nature.

Responsibility Clause: The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. George's International Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries.

Limitation of liability: The airlines, hotels, and other suppliers (jointly: "travel suppliers") providing travel or other services sold by George's International Tours are independent contractors and not agents or employees of George's International Tours. George's International Tours and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their travel suppliers offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public. To the extent permitted by law, George's International Tours does not assume liability for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay due to an act or omission of a travel supplier, including, without limitation, an act of negligence or the default of a travel supplier. To the extent permitted by law, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage and/or delay due to force majeure, sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, bankruptcy, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or any causes beyond George's International Tours' control. Further, no responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions, delays, failure to make connections, non-performance or poor performance, loss of revenue, loss of anticipated profits, any additional expenses or lost business, attributable to you yourself, acts or omissions of any third parties, or acts of any governmental authority, even if George's International Tours has been advised that such damages were possible or probable. Please refer to www.georgesintl.com for further disclosures concerning travel risks, travels with special needs or disabilities, and arbitration. Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.

For further information on this pilgrimage please contact:

Lector Jack Figel

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CST# 2035995-40

GEORGE'S

INTERNATIONAL TOURS

RESERVATION APPLICATION

Light of the East 3

Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Constantinople, the Holy Land & Rome (July 10-25, 2019)

Group Reference Number: 190710A

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please complete one application per person)

Name (as printed on your passport): First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____	
Name (as you wish it to appear on your name badge):	
Passport number:	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Passport date of issue:	Passport date of expiration:
Country of citizenship:	Date of birth:
Street address:	
City:	State: Zipcode:
Home phone:	Work phone:
Mobile phone:	Email address:

ROOM ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Please check one: Double occupancy <input type="checkbox"/> Single occupancy (\$850.00 additional) <input type="checkbox"/>
If choosing double occupancy, please indicate the name of your roommate if known at the time of booking:
If choosing single occupancy, would be willing to share a room with another person? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Please list the name, relationship and phone number for a family member/close friend who is <u>NOT</u> traveling with you:

Please enclose a deposit of **\$300.00 per person** made payable to **George's International Tours** and mail to:

George's International Tours
9265 Dowdy Drive, Suite 232
San Diego, CA 92126