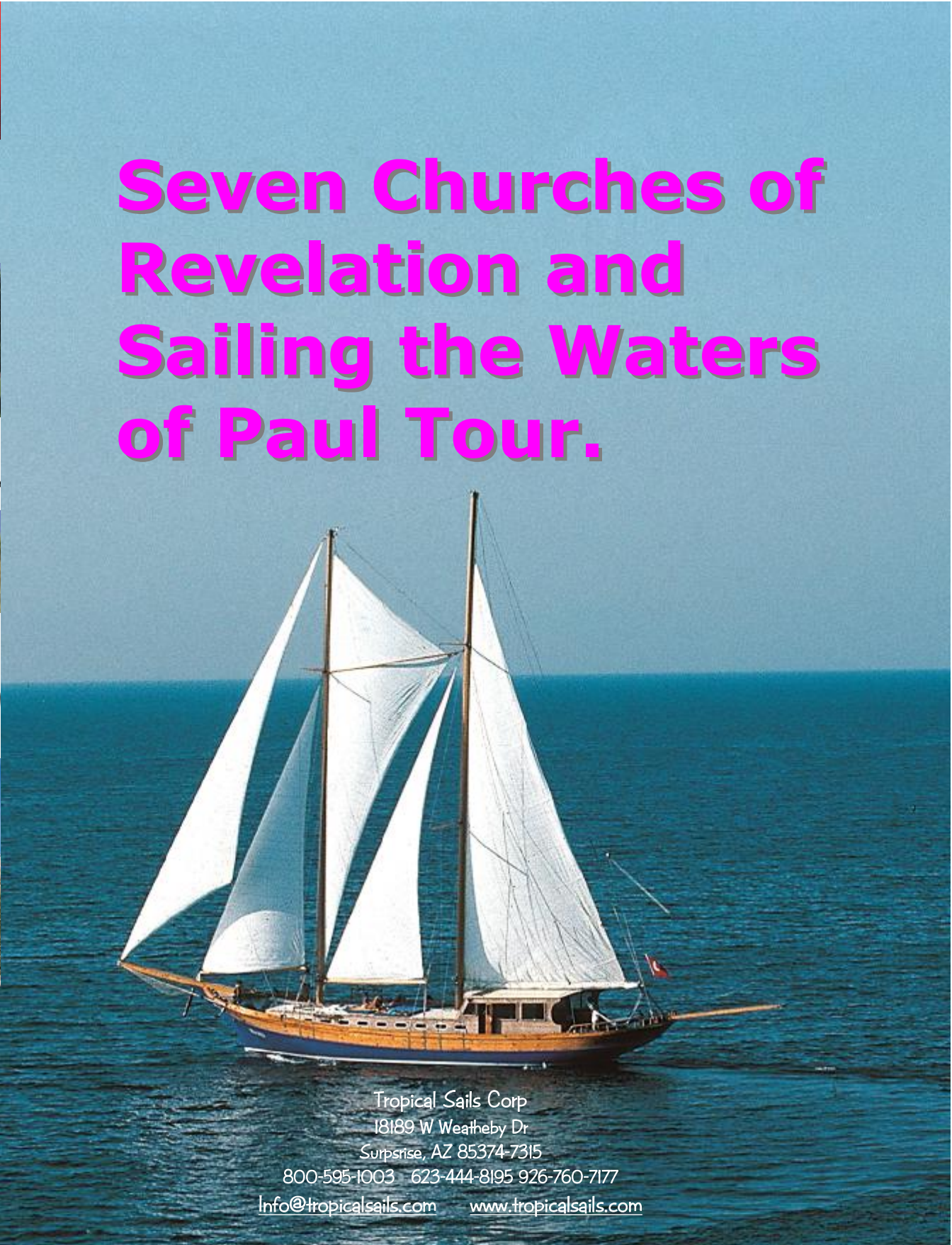


Seven Churches of Revelation and Sailing the Waters of Paul Tour.



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Seven Churches of Asia Minor and Water of Paul

Duration 15 days - 14 nights

Standards 4 star and 5 star hotels with breakfast and 11 dinners, 7 lunches, fully guided by Bible oriented tour guide

Highlights Istanbul, Izmir, Pergamon, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, Hierapolis, Ephesus, Istanbul

Departs on Saturdays

Turkey, the second holy land. Follow in the footsteps of St. Paul's journeys in Turkey and the Seven Churches of Asia Minor. It includes the religious sites and places such as Tarsus, Antioch, Iconium, Laodicea, Hierapolis, Ephesus, Smyrna, Thyatira, Sardis and Nicea. A must pilgrimage for all the Christians and true believers.



ITINERARY ;

DAY 1 : Arrival to Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. Arrive in Istanbul Airport, Our representative will meet you at the airport with your name sign and private transfer to the hotel for overnight stay in Istanbul.

DAY 2 : Full Day Istanbul Tour (B)

09.00 a.m. After breakfast, pick up from hotel and Our journey begins in Istanbul, the only city in the world situated on two continents. Byzantium, Constantinople, Istanbul - its three names span more than 2600 years, nearly 1600

of them as the capital of two of the greatest empires the world has known, Byzantine and Ottoman. We visit the **Topkapi Palace including Harem, Hagia Sophia, The Blue Mosque and Hippodrome**, where chariot races and the Byzantine riots took place. Visit **Spice Bazaar (Egyptian Bazaar)**: The air here is filled with the enticing aromas of cinnamon, caraway, saffron, mint, thyme and every other conceivable herb and spice. Overnight in Istanbul.

DAY 3 : Full Day Istanbul Tour - Izmir (B)

08.30 a.m. After breakfast, pick up from hotel . First visit **Grand Bazaar** and then transfer to port for **Boat trip on the bosphorus** A traditional excursion by boat along the waterway separating Europe and Asia. The shore is lined with old wooden villas, palaces of marble, fortresses, and small fishing villages. Afternoon visit **Underground cistern** and transfer to airport for flight to Izmir. Arrival and transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Izmir.

DAY 4 : PERGAMON - THYATIRA - IZMIR (BD)

After breakfast we drive to Pergamum, actually called Bergama. It is one of the sites of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 2:12]. Here we explore the impressive Acropolis, the steepest theatre in the world, the Asklepieion, famous medical centre of classical times, see the Altar of Zeus which is mentioned as the «Throne of Satan» in the book of Revelation, the marble columns of the Temple of Trajan and the Library which was foremost in the world and was long a rival of the equally famous Library of Alexandria in Egypt. Its wealth of volumes was estimated at over 200,000. It inspired the invention of parchment.

We also visit the Red Basilica (St. John's Church). Then we continue our visit to Thyatira, now called Akhisar, another one of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 2:18-24; Acts 16:14]. It was a city famous for purple dyes. We visit the remains of a basilica and some architectural fragments from the Roman period. Lydia, the seller of purple in Philippi, was from Thyatira.

Before we check in at the hotel in Izmir, we enjoy a panoramic ride of Smyrna, the third larg-

est city in Turkey and one of the sites of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 2:12-17]. Smyrnas is a city scarred with a bloody history of trade and warfare. We ascend to Mount Pagus where we visit the Citadel of Lysimachos, commander of Alexander the Great, erected in the 4th century BC. We will also see the Clock Tower. Check in at the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 : IZMIR – SARDIS – PHILADELPHIA – LAODICEA – HIERAPOLIS(BD)

Today we depart early in the morning to one of the most picturesque areas of any of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 3:1-4], Sardis, presently Sart. This was the capital of the ancient Lydian kingdom of the 6th century BC, portrayed as a dying church. We visit the great Temple of Artemis and the Temple of Cybele, which became a Byzantine Church. We will also visit some ancient Lydian houses, and the restored gymnasium and reconstructed Synagogue. We also see the last several meters of the royal Persian Road from Susa to Sardis built by Cyrus the Great and the «golden» river Pactolos. Lunch en route.

Then we continue our journey to Philadelphia, nowadays called Alasehir, another church of the Seven Churches of Asia [Rev. 1:11; 3:7], and the only church not censured. There we see the remains of a Byzantine basilica built of brick, with a bit of high arch and some 11th century frescoes. We drive to the healing city of Hierapolis, actually Pamukkale, the white «cotton fortress» where hot mineral water bursts from the earth and cascades over steep cliffs forming pools, channels and stalactites. The therapeutic waters were known to the founders of Hierapolis and of Laodicea in 190 BC. In Hierapolis [Col. 4:13] we visit the Martyrium of the Apostle Philip where he was martyred during the persecutions ordered by Domitian. Proceed to Laodicea (present name Denizli) yet another of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor [Rev. 1:11; 3:14; Col. 2:1; 4:13-16]. We see the ancient theatre, the remains of basilica and ancient stone water pipes.

We visit the Gate of Domitian, the Arcadian Way, the 2nd century AD Theatre, the Nymphaion, the Temple of Apollo, the Plutonium and the Ne-cropolis. Check in at hotel for dinner and overnight in a Thermal Hotel.

DAY 6 : EPHEBUS - KUSADASI (BD)

Drive to Ephesus visit to the ancient city of Ephe-



sus including the Basilica of St. John and the Ephesus archaeological museum. The Apostle Paul preached to the Ephesians and lived here for three years. This church also received an epistle from him. We tour the spectacular ruins where excavations still continue in this once great and important city, which was founded in the 10th century BC.

Walk through history along marble streets lined with wonderful public buildings, among them the Baths of Scholastica, the Library of Celsus, the Temple of Hadrian and the Theatre. The Temple of Diana of the Ephesians, another of the seven wonders of the ancient world, was built in this city. We visit the Basilica of St. John and the Ephesus archaeological museum. Visit The House of Virgin Mary before drive to Kusadasi . Overnight in Kusadasi

DAY 7 : IZMIR –BODRUM OR PORT

Eight Day, seven night Blue Voyage in yachts with private w/c and A/C. All meals, tea time and limited drinks included. See website for possible itineraries. (BLD)

DAY 14 : ISTANBUL (B) After breakfast and transfer to airport for noon flight to Istanbul. Arrival and our representative will transfer to your hotel. Afternoon Free in Istanbul to explore the city on your own. Overnight in Istanbul. Options see next page.

DAY 15: ISTANBUL (B) Transfer to Airport.

Options for groups in Istanbul.

- Dinner at terrace of 6th C Byzantium underground water Cistern and Nakkas Rug & Hand Art shopping center [**open buffet traditional barbeque dinner& unlimited drink**]
- Dinner cruise at Bosphorus Strait of Istanbul [**Open buffet & unlimited drink**]
- Dinner and Traditional entertaining at one of the most popular Night Club of Istanbul [**set menu & limited drink**]
- All transportation during land tour in Turkey by private A/C, licensed tour coach and tourism driver,
- English speaking guide during the land program
- Bodrum - Istanbul Economy class flight ticket,
- All entrance fees to the sites and to the museums mentioned on the above program,
- Arrival and departure airport transfers,
- Welcome cocktail in Istanbul,
- Porterage service at the hotels
- Mandatory limited travel insurance

Cost Excluding

- International flight tickets
- Anything is not mentioned in including list
- All beverages
- All personal expenses
- Gratuities for drivers and guide and airport porters

Cancellation or/and no show insurance

Estimated Pricing for Groups:

Is based on the number of participants.

10-14 \$2999 per person

15-22 \$2899 per person

22-30 \$2799 per person

Single Supplement \$800

Pricing varies with Options. Greek Itineraries add \$100 pp for Greek Taxes and \$400 for empty berths as 12 is the max for Greece. Pricing varies with month chosen. July and August add \$200. Varies with "free" pastors, leaders included.

Exact quotes provided upon request.



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