



Cebu Heritage Tours • Itinerary



9N~10D: Seven Churches of Asia in Biblical Sequence with Apostolic Heritage

A spiritually immersive pilgrimage tracing the Seven Churches in biblical sequence, enriched by the legacy of St Paul

PRICING

Ask us for a price offer

TOTAL TOUR DAYS

10

ARRIVAL PORT

Istanbul

DEPARTURE PORT

Istanbul

Countries Covered: **Turquie**

Tour Overview

Across Anatolia in Faith: The Seven Churches and the Legacy of St Paul

- The Seven Churches of Revelation covered in a rare, continuous sequence from Church 1 to Church 7, preserving the original biblical narrative as it unfolds
- A complete pilgrimage experience enriched with key Pauline sites including Tarsus and Antioch, deepening the apostolic connection
- A thoughtfully routed journey across Türkiye from the Aegean coast to the Anatolian heartland, designed for comfort, continuity and spiritual focus
- Inclusion of Cappadocia, reflecting the hidden and resilient faith of early Christian communities, with its underground cities and monastic heritage
- Visits to iconic spiritual and historical landmarks including Ephesus, Pamukkale and Cappadocia
- Local, traditional lunches featuring regional specialties such as Pide and Lahmacun, offering a simple and authentic taste of the land

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- A balanced blend of pilgrimage, scripture, history, culture and scenic landscapes across diverse regions of Türkiye
- Accommodation plan: 2 nights Izmir, 2 nights Pamukkale, 1 night Konya, 2 nights Cappadocia, 1 night Adana and 1 night Istanbul

The Seven Churches and the Legacy of St Paul

Day Wise Program

Day 01 — Istanbul – Izmir

Accommodation: Izmir

Meals Included: Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Arrival – Istanbul Airport | Flight: Istanbul – Izmir

Arrival at Istanbul International Airport. A warm welcome upon arrival, followed by assistance and a smooth transfer to the domestic terminal for the onward flight to Izmir.

Arrival in Izmir and transfer to the hotel. The day gently winds down with time set aside for rest and quiet relaxation, allowing the body to recover from long-haul travel and prepare for the spiritually enriching journey that begins the next morning.



Izmir with Historic Elevator at Dusk



Izmir with Historic Elevator at Dusk



Clock tower, on Konak Square in Izmir, Turkey ,

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Clock tower of Izmir.



Izmir/Turkey - Foca / Fokai Bay with fishing boats on sunny day.



Scenic aerial view of modern cityscape of Izmir along shoreline of Aegean Sea on sunny winter day, Turkey

Day 02 — Ephesus – Smyrna (Churches 1 & 2)

Accommodation: Izmir

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Izmir – Ephesus (1 Hr) | Ephesus – Izmir (1 Hr)

The pilgrimage begins with a journey to Ephesus, the first of the Seven Churches of Revelation—an ancient city where the early Church took deep root under apostolic guidance.

The morning includes a visit to the House of the Virgin Mary, a serene and sacred place traditionally believed to be where the Blessed Virgin Mary spent her final years. Set amidst quiet hills, it offers a gentle and prayerful beginning to the day.

Exploration of Ephesus follows, where grand colonnaded streets and enduring ruins reveal stories of faith, devotion and the spread of early Christianity. Highlights include the Library of Celsus, the Great Theatre, the Temple of Hadrian and other remarkable remains of this once-thriving centre. A visit is also made to the Basilica of St John, associated with the beloved apostle.

Lunch featuring regional specialties, offering a simple and authentic taste of the land.

Return to Izmir, ancient Smyrna, the second of the Seven Churches—remembered as the persecuted church for its steadfast faith amidst trials. Time is spent reflecting at the historic site, along with a visit to the Church of St Polycarp.

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The House of the Virgin Mary in Turkey



The House of the Virgin Mary (Meryemana). It is believed to be the last home of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Ephesus, Izmir TURKEY



Rags of wishes attached to a wall in Virgin Mary's House in Turkey



Elements of the columns of the architectural structure against the blue sky of the Library of Celsus in Ephesus, Turkey. Bottom up view



Tomb of St. John at the Basilica of St. John at Ephesus - Selcuk, Turkey



Ruins of the Saint John's basilica in the town of Selcuk near the famous Ephesus ruins in Turkey. It is said that John the Evangelist was buried here.

Day 03 — Pergamum – Thyatira – Sardis – Philadelphia (Churches 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Accommodation: Pamukkale

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Izmir – Pergamum (1 Hr 30 Mins) | Pergamum – Thyatira (1 Hr 30 Mins) | Thyatira – Sardis (1 Hr) | Sardis – Philadelphia (45 Mins) | Philadelphia – Pamukkale (1 Hr 30 Mins)

An early start marks the beginning of a spiritually rich and logistically important day. With four churches to be covered in sequence, a sense of punctuality and discipline gently guides the day's rhythm, ensuring each sacred site is experienced meaningfully and without haste.

At Pergamum, the third church, the ascent to the Acropolis is made by cable car from the town of Bergama, offering sweeping views before arriving at this remarkable hilltop sanctuary. The ruins here—temples, terraces and the dramatic theatre—speak of a powerful city where faith endured amidst strong external influences.

The journey continues to Thyatira, the fourth church, once a thriving center of textile trade and renowned for wool dyeing. This industrious city forms the backdrop to reflections on steadfast faith and moral vigilance, as conveyed in its message in Revelation.

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A pause for a simple lunch along the way, featuring local favourites such as Pide, offers rest and refreshment before continuing the journey.

At Sardis, the fifth church, the atmosphere shifts to one of quiet introspection. The ruins echo the call to awaken and renew, standing as a reminder of both past prominence and spiritual reawakening.

Further onward to Philadelphia, the sixth church, known as the church of brotherly love, where a legacy of perseverance and unwavering faith continues to resonate.

By early evening, arrival into Pamukkale, where the day gently comes to rest after a full and fulfilling passage through scripture, history and devotion.



Ancient ruins of Pergamon (also spelled Pergamum), one of the Seven Churches of Revelation mentioned in the Bible.



Aerial drone shooting of ancient city of Pergamon acropolis. Izmir - Turkey



Red Basilica is a monumental ruined temple in the ancient city of Pergamon or Pergamum, now Bergama, Turkey



A view from the Ancient City of Thyateira in Akhisar, Manisa, Turkey



Thyatira is one of the first seven churches of Christianity founded by St. Paul in Western Anatolia. Now the modern Turkish city of Akhisar, Manisa Province



The ancient ruins of Sardis, once a thriving city and one of the Seven Churches of Revelation

Day 04 — Laodicea – Hierapolis – Pamukkale (Church 7)

Accommodation: Pamukkale

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Pamukkale – Laodicea – Hierapolis – Pamukkale (Short transfers)

The morning unfolds with a visit to Laodicea, the seventh and final of the Seven Churches of Revelation—often remembered as the “lukewarm church.” Set amidst wide open plains, the ruins carry a

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quiet, reflective atmosphere, echoing the timeless call to renewal and wholehearted faith.

The journey continues to Hierapolis, an ancient healing city closely associated with early Christian history. Its sacred significance is intertwined with the nearby thermal springs, long believed to hold restorative properties.

Lunch features simple regional preparations, rooted in the culinary traditions of the area.

Time is then set aside to experience the breathtaking beauty of Pamukkale—a landscape of cascading white travertine terraces shaped by mineral-rich waters over centuries. The gentle stillness of this natural wonder offers a moment for rest, reflection and quiet appreciation.

Return to the hotel as the day draws to a peaceful close.



*The Temple Of Artemis At Sardis.
Salihli, Manisa - TURKEY*



*The Central Propylon view in Laodicea
Ancient City of Turkey*



*The church of Laodikeia view in
Laodikeia Ancient City of Turkey*



*Ancient Roman Theater from
Hierapolis Ancient City. Pamukkale,
Denizli, Turkey*



*Beautiful sunset view of the Ancient
theater of the Roman city of
Hierapolis in Pamukkale, Turkey. The
site is a UNESCO World Heritage site
near the city of Denizli.*



*Empty Cleopatra pool with thermal
water at Pamukkale, Turkey.*

Day 05 — Pamukkale – Pisidian Antioch – Konya

Accommodation: Konya

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Pamukkale – Pisidian Antioch (3 Hrs 20 Mins) | Pisidian Antioch – Konya (2 Hrs 15 Mins)

The journey turns inland this morning, moving deeper into the heart of Anatolia toward one of the most significant early mission fields of St Paul.

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At Pisidian Antioch, the setting of St Paul's first recorded sermon, the ruins stand as a powerful reminder of the moment the message of Christ began reaching the Gentile world in a profound way. Time is spent exploring the remains of the ancient synagogue and the later church, reflecting on the birth of one of the earliest non-Jewish Christian communities.

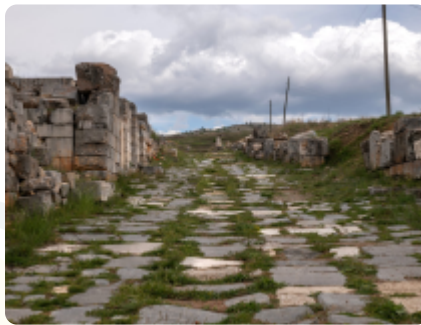
A pause for lunch along the way features simple, traditional Anatolian fare, offering both nourishment and a taste of the region's culinary heritage.

The journey continues to Konya, a city layered with spiritual legacy across centuries. It is widely associated with the travels of St Paul during his missionary journeys. A visit is made to the Mevlana Mausoleum, the resting place of Jalal ad-Din Rumi and the spiritual heart of the Whirling Dervish tradition—an evocative space that speaks of devotion, reflection and the search for divine connection.

Arrival at the hotel by evening, as the day gently settles after a journey rich in apostolic history and spiritual depth.



Pisidia Antiokheia Ancient City is located in the Lakes Region, where the Mediterranean, Aegean and Central Anatolia regions intersect, approximately 1 km away from the Yalvac district of Isparta province. It is located in the northeast.



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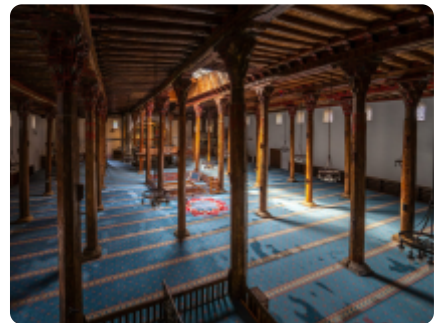
Aerial view of a Lake Meke, a volcanic crater lake At Konya, Turkey



Meke Lake in Konya Province



Street of Konya with numerous jewelry stores. Konya Province, Turkey.



The interior of Esrefoglu Mosque in Konya Beysehir with its wooden columns and carpets

Day 06 — Konya – Kaymakli – Cappadocia

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Accommodation: Cappadocia

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Konya – Kaymakli Underground City (3 Hrs 30 Mins) | Kaymakli – Cappadocia (1 Hr)

The journey continues across the wide Anatolian plains, gradually giving way to the unique landscapes of Cappadocia.

Arrival at Kaymakli, where an entire world lies hidden beneath the earth. This remarkable underground city, carved deep into soft volcanic rock, once provided refuge to early Christians during times of persecution. Narrow passageways, living quarters and communal spaces reveal a resilient way of life shaped by faith and survival.

Lunch is enjoyed en route, featuring simple regional dishes rooted in local tradition.

The onward drive leads into the heart of Cappadocia, a land of striking rock formations and ancient monastic heritage.

Arrival and check-in at the hotel, with the evening at rest after a day of travel and discovery.



Sille, Konya, Turkey, Konya's Sille village is a settlement worth seeing with its history.



Konya Mevlana city view with drone



An old church in kaymakli, derinkuyu underground city, Cave City Cappadocia Turkey



Ancient cave interior in Cappadocia, Turkey



Local characteristics of the Cappadocia Cave Suites. Kaymakli Underground City is in the Central Anatolia Region of Turkey.



Kaymakli Underground City built by the early Phrygian people is an extensive cave system over 8 levels deep and can hold over 3500 people located near Goreme, Cappadocia, Turkey.

Day 07 — Cappadocia

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Accommodation: Cappadocia

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Cappadocia - Goreme - Uchisar - Valleys - Cappadocia (Short transfers)

The day unfolds amidst the surreal landscapes of Cappadocia, where nature and early Christian heritage blend in remarkable harmony.

An optional early morning hot air balloon ride offers a gentle ascent over the valleys and rock formations, as the first light of day casts a soft glow across this extraordinary terrain.

The exploration begins at the Goreme Open Air Museum, home to rock-cut churches and monasteries adorned with ancient frescoes, reflecting the deep spiritual life of early monastic communities.

Continue to Uchisar Castle, the highest point in the region, offering sweeping panoramic views across Cappadocia's unique landscape.

At Pigeon Valley, time is set aside to take in the wide, open vistas shaped by centuries of natural forces and human presence.

Lunch features regional specialties, simple and rooted in local culinary traditions.

The journey proceeds to Devrent Valley, often called the "Imagination Valley," where naturally sculpted rock formations create striking and unusual shapes.

Return to the hotel by evening, as the day draws to a close in this land of quiet wonder and reflection.



Beautiful rocks in Goreme national park, Cappadocia, Turkey



Turkish tea house interior with traditional Turkish musical instruments and decorations in a cave, Cappadocia, Turkey



Interior of Traditional Cave House - Cappadocia, Turkey

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Urgup Evi rock house cave hotel at night in Cappadocia Turkey



Spectacular sunrise over the unique rock formations of Cappadocia, Turkey, with numerous hot air balloons filling the sky.



Day 08 — Cappadocia – Tarsus – Adana

Accommodation: Adana

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Cappadocia – Tarsus (3 Hrs 30 Mins) | Tarsus – Adana (Short transfer)

The journey continues southward, descending from the highlands of Cappadocia toward the fertile plains of Cilicia, carrying the narrative from the early churches into the life of one of Christianity's greatest apostles.

Arrival at Tarsus, the birthplace of St Paul, where the foundations of his early life and formation quietly endure. Time is spent visiting the traditional sites associated with him, including the historic well often linked to his home, offering a moment for reflection and connection to his enduring legacy.

Lunch along the way features simple regional fare, rooted in the culinary traditions of southern Türkiye.

A short onward drive leads to Adana, a vibrant city set along the Seyhan River, marking a gentle close to the day's journey.

Arrival and check-in at the hotel, with the evening at rest.



The scenic view of old houses and streets of old city from Tarsus, Turkey



The Seven Sleepers Ruins or Ashab-ı Kehf Cave located at Tarsus, Turkey, is one of the most visited places in the region.



Saint Paul's Church, Tarsus (Tarsus, Turkey)

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Saint Paul's Church Interior, Tarsus, Mersin, Turkey



Cleopatra's Gate in Tarsus , Mersin city, Turkey



The illuminated sabanci central mosque is reflecting on the water at dusk in adana, turkey

Day 09 — Adana – Antioch – Istanbul

Accommodation: Istanbul

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Transfer: Adana – Antioch on the Orontes (3 Hrs) | Antioch – Hatay Airport | Flight: Hatay – Istanbul

The day's journey leads to Antioch on the Orontes, one of the great centers of early Christianity, where the followers of Christ were first called "Christians" and where the early Church began to take shape beyond its Jewish roots.

At Antioch, time is spent at the historic Cave Church of St Peter, carved into the mountainside and regarded as one of the earliest places of Christian worship. The quiet setting offers a meaningful space for reflection on the missionary journeys of St Peter, St Paul and Barnabas, all closely associated with this city.

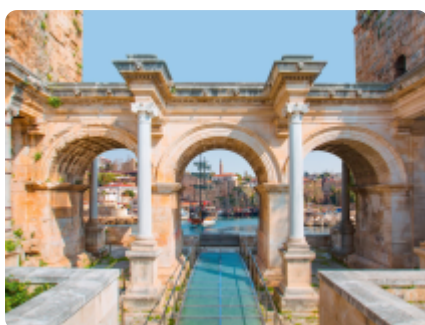
Lunch is taken en route, featuring simple regional preparations.

Transfer to Hatay Airport for the onward flight to Istanbul.

Arrival in Istanbul and transfer to the hotel, where the evening comes to rest after a day deeply rooted in apostolic history.



Adana central Sabanci Mosque with Seyhan river, city panoramic and top view, Adana - Turkey.



View of Hadrian's Gate in old city of Antalya - Old town (Kaleici) in the background Konyaalti beach and mountains - Antalya, Turkey



Hayat Saint Simon Monastery Breathtaking Picturesque View on a Blue Sky Day in Summer

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Besikli Cave tomb monument in Antakya (Hatay) Turkey. In tombs, 12 rock tombs are found which belongs to Roman.



St. Pierre, the first church in the world. Hatay - antakya



Antakya, Turkey - Old City street view in Antakya City of Turkey

Day 10 — Istanbul – Hippodrome – Blue Mosque – Hagia Sophia – Bosphorus – Departure

Accommodation: Not Applicable

Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch

Transfer: City tour – Airport

The final day unfolds in the historic heart of Istanbul, where layers of empires and faith traditions come together in a rich and enduring tapestry.

The morning begins at the ancient Hippodrome, once the vibrant social and sporting centre of the Byzantine world.

A visit follows to the Blue Mosque, admired for its graceful domes and elegant minarets, and then to the magnificent Hagia Sophia, a masterpiece that has stood as both cathedral and mosque through the centuries.

Lunch features local specialties, offering a final taste of Turkish cuisine.

The journey concludes with a serene cruise along the Bosphorus, where the meeting of Europe and Asia unfolds along the shores lined with palaces, mosques and timeless cityscapes.

Transfer to the airport for departure, carrying forward the memories of a journey woven with faith, history and reflection. (Check-in deadline 17:00)

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Grand bazaar shops in Istanbul, Turkey.



Iconic architectural marvel featuring a blend of Byzantine and Ottoman design, Hagia Sophia, Istanbul, Turkey, historic



Blue mosque in glorious sunset, Istanbul, Sultanahmet park. The biggest mosque in Istanbul of Sultan Ahmed (Ottoman Empire).



Topkapi Palace in Istanbul, Turkey



Türkiye. Istanbul. View of the Bosphorus and the Süleymaniye Mosque or Suleiman Mosque in the background



Famous Süleymaniye and Rustem Pasha Mosques and the cruise boat on the Bosphorus, popular place of Istanbul, Turkey.

Tour FAQs

Know more about this tour

What are the travel requirements?

- Passport valid for at least 6 months from the start date of the tour.
- Entry permit is required for Filipino passport holders. For other nationalities please refer to [Turkey's visa policy](#).
- Health insurance valid for the duration of the journey, preferably "cash free" policies.
-

Who can travel?

- Adult passengers from most countries.
- Minors must be accompanied by an immediate relative/guardian.

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Can cash be carried?

There is no limit on the amount of foreign currency that may be brought into Turkey, but any amount of USD 10,000 or more (or equivalent) must be declared to customs officials upon arrival. Not more than 5,000 worth of Turkish currency may be brought into or taken out of the country.

How much does this package cost?

- The cost of a tour package is a function of various parameters; viz, class of accommodation, period of travel, meal plan etc.
- Please write to us or make a booking and we will send a price offer for your consideration.



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