

2008 Intercultural Study Tour Itinerary

In the Footsteps of St Paul – Discovering Early Christianity & Sacred Places



AIS Intercultural Study Tour to Turkey
9 - 24 October 2008



An Initiative of the



In cooperation with

PASIAD

(Asia-Pacific Social and Economic Solidarity Forum)

Selimiye Foundation Ltd

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Draft Itinerary

The Australian Intercultural Society's In the Footsteps of St Paul – Discovering Early Christianity & Sacred Places Study Tour to Turkey will take place during **9-24 October 2008**.

Please note, dinner on each day of the tour will be held with local businessmen, branches of civil society, religious bodies or educational institutions. LUNCH will be left at the discretion of the participants.

(Subject to Change)

1st Day Melbourne / Istanbul

Departure from Melbourne en route to Adana, Turkey

2nd Day Istanbul / Adana

Early morning breakfast in Adana

Hotel check-in

Rest

Dinner

Overnight in Adana

3rd Day Adana / Antakya (Antioch)

Hotel breakfast

Visit Tarsus (40 km), birthplace of St Paul, St Paul's Well, Cleopatra's Gate and the ancient city
Travel to Antakya (139km), headquarters of St. Paul's Missionary Journeys (It was here, where the followers of Jesus were first called 'Christians')

St. Peter's Grotto, the cave church came to be known as the meeting place of the early Christians and where St. Peter first celebrated Mass

Visit the incredible sculpture making work shop of the Hittites

Hatay Archaeological Museum

Dinner

Overnight in Antakya

4th Day Antakya / Kayseri (Caesarea)

Hotel breakfast

Visit old city mosques

Travel to Kayseri (288km), where St Paul visited in his 1st Missionary Journey

Çifte Medrese, the first Seljuk school of anatomy, now known as *Gevher Nesibe* Medical History Museum

Visit to the 13th century *Huant Hatun* Mosque which comprises the first Seljuk complex

Dinner

Overnight in Kayseri

5th Day Kayseri / Nevsehir

Hotel breakfast

Visit Kültepe (Kanesh or Karum) one of the world's first cities of free trade

Visit Sultanhan a caravanserai built by the Seljuk Sultan Alaeddin Keykubat in the early 13th century

Visit Seyid-i Serif Tomb and the Develi Tomb in Dereli

Bus travel to Nevsehir (68km)


Dinner

Overnight in Nevsehir

6th Day Cappadocia

Hotel breakfast

Uchisar



Göreme Open Air Museum
Avanos
Kaymakli
Dinner
Overnight in Nevsehir

7th Day Nevsehir / Isparta

Breakfast

Bus travel to Isparta, the City of Roses

Stop at Ihlara Valley to see the impressive, Byzantine rock carvings and frescoes including painted cave churches

Arrive in Isparta, where St. Paul, together with Saint Barnabas, had come and gave his first official sermon in a synagogue in this city

Visit St. Paul Church (Yalvaç), within the Old City, the first big church of the city, and adjacent to the ancient city walls

Hizirbey Mosque (14th century) with its unique minaret

Seljuk fortress

Dinner

Overnight in Isparta

8th Day Isparta / Pamukkale (Hierapolis)

Breakfast

Travel to Pamukkale (Hierapolis) – St Philip was martyred here

Walk the Necropolis and famous Avenue of Tombs

See the formation of stalactites in Pamukkale (Cotton Castle)

Visits to two biblical towns, Laodicea (Eskihisar - played host to an important Ecumenical Council in the fourth century AD and named in the Revelations as one of the Seven Churches of the Apocalypse) and Colossae (Karahayit)

Dinner

Overnight in Pamukkale

9th Day Pamukkale / Alasehir / Izmir

Early breakfast

Depart for Izmir

Stop over in the town of Buldan (40 kms) well known for its natural fabric woven on hand looms

Visit Alasehir (Philadelphia) one of the biblical cities among the seven churches of Revelation

Philadelphia Church

Arrive in Izmir

Dinner

Overnight in Izmir

10th Day Izmir (Smyrna)

Breakfast

Drive to Selcuk (Ephesus), Paul's home base for several years, and the most impressive archaeological site in Turkey

Visit the monastery of St John

A full day at this major site, Ephesus, the best preserved ancient city in the world

Library of Celsus, a Stadium where Paul Preached (Acts 19), and the Theatre

The Church of Saint John, the traditional site of his burial

Isabey Mosque, one of the best examples of Seljukian architecture

Dinner

Overnight in Izmir

11th Day Izmir (Smyrna)

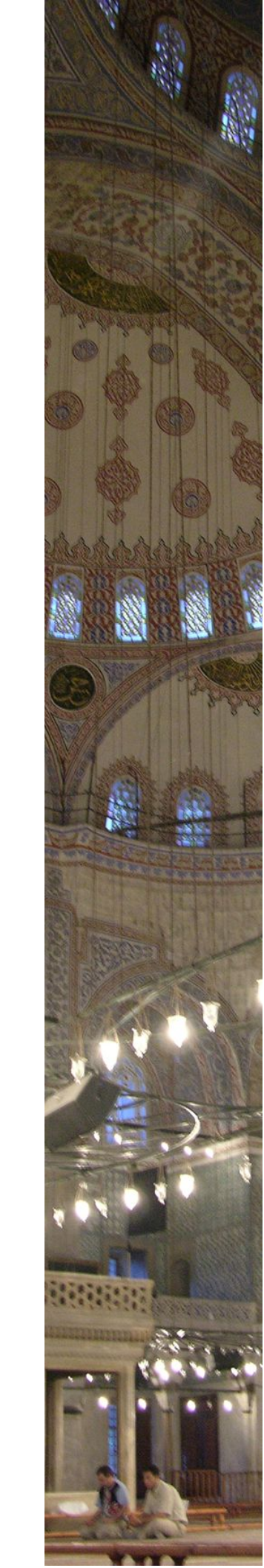
Breakfast

Drive to Bergama (Pergamum), the location of one of the seven churches mentioned in Revelation

The Acropolis

The world's steepest amphitheatre

Asclepion, an ancient medical centre



Back to Izmir
Dinner
Overnight in Izmir

12th Day Izmir / Istanbul

Breakfast
Kemeralti
Lunch at Korfez Private Tutorial Centre
Visit Izmir 'old city' and castle
Dinner at Yamanlar Private College
Overnight in Izmir

13th Day Istanbul

Breakfast
Flight to Istanbul
Hotel check-in
St. Sophia Museum built by Constantine the Great and reconstructed by Justinian in the 6th century
Blue Mosque
Roman Hippodrome: center of sportive (chariot races, athletics) events and political activities of the old city of Obelisk of Theodosius
Serpentine Column and German Fountain of Wilhelm II
Visit the fabled Topkapi Museum, the imperial residential palace of the Ottoman Sultans
Dinner at PASIAD – Asia-Pacific Social & Economic Solidarity Foundation
Overnight in Istanbul

14th Day Istanbul

Hotel breakfast
Dolmabahce Palace
Yacht tour of the Bosphorus and lunch in the yacht
Uskudar Kizkulesi
Dinner
Overnight in Istanbul

15th Day Istanbul / Melbourne

Hotel breakfast
Grand Covered Bazaar, Spice Bazaar
Lunch at Zaman Newspaper
Departure from Istanbul en route to Melbourne, Australia

The Australian Intercultural Society wishes you an enjoyable and enriching Intercultural Study Tour of Turkey.

Istanbul	Adana
939 km	

Adana	Antakya
116 km	

Antakya	Kayseri
288 km	

Kayseri	Nevsehir
68 km	

Nevsehir	Isparta
376 km	

Isparta	Pamukkale
128 km	

Pamukkale	Alasehir
71 km	

Alasehir	Izmir
120 km	

Izmir	Istanbul
328 km	



Key	
Plane:	↔
Bus:	↔