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## Trinity Lutheran Church - Long Lake Journeys of Paul & The Greek Islands with Rev. Adam Butler April 22 - May 3, 2025

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### FAQs AND PACKING TIPS

#### DO I NEED A VISA?

U.S. citizens traveling to Greece do not need visas if visiting for tourism for less than 90 days. You must hold a passport that is valid for at least six months from the date you are departing Greece for your return home.

#### DO I NEED TO BRING ANY MEDICATIONS?

If you are taking prescription or over-the-counter medications, be sure to pack enough to last your entire trip, as well as a little extra in the event of unexpected delays. Carry each medication in its original container with the label and pack it in your carry-on bag. Traveler's diarrhea and/or upset stomach are the most common conditions for tourists. It is recommended to bring Imodium AD and/or chewable Pepto Bismol tablets.

#### WHAT WILL THE WEATHER BE LIKE?

Temperatures in Greece and Turkey average between 60 – 80F during the spring and fall, and 70 – 90F during the summer. As you get closer to your departure date, we recommend that you add the cities you will be visiting to your weather app to get the local forecast and current temperatures.

#### WILL I BE ABLE TO USE MY PHONE IN GREECE?

Most of the major U.S. cell phone carriers offer a TravelPass, which allows you to use your phone for \$10/day. If you do not want to get charged for using your phone, put your phone on airplane mode before you arrive in Greece. Each hotel and the tour bus will have free Wi-Fi available. We recommend using WhatsApp to stay connected while traveling overseas. Make sure the people you would like to connect with also have these apps installed on their mobile device.

#### HOW MUCH WALKING WILL I DO?

You will walk an average of two to three miles per day on your tour. This walking is done in small increments throughout the day and you will have frequent opportunities to rest if needed. If you are not accustomed to this amount of exercise, start walking a little each day to prepare yourself. We recommend properly breaking-in any shoes you plan to wear while touring.

#### WHAT TO WEAR

This is a casual tour. In some locations, you will be walking on uneven ground while sightseeing. Comfortable sneakers or walking shoes are highly recommended. We recommend layering with sweaters and jackets to avoid being overly hot or cold. Jeans and tennis shoes are acceptable everywhere. Hats and glasses are also a necessity to protect yourself from the bright sunshine. Some of our hotels will have indoor/outdoor swimming pools, so remember to pack your swimsuit!

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#### Elias Tours

Trinity Lutheran Church, Long Lake - Footsteps of Paul Tour

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## GENERAL PACKING TIPS

- **Think light and small!** Only take items you truly need. Too much stuff can be a burden on your trip. Pick out what you think you need and cut it in half.
- **Roll your clothes rather than folding them.** Many travel experts agree that rolling is superior to folding. Tightly rolled clothes take up less space and are less likely to wrinkle.
- **Let the hotel do your laundry.** The typical tour is ten days. Pack for five days and do laundry halfway through the trip. It is relatively inexpensive and can make a big difference in the number of clothes that you bring.
- **Put a dryer sheet or two in your suitcase.** Not only are they light, they will also keep your clothes smelling fresh.

## MONEY

- In Greece, the currency is the **Euro**. While in Greece, changing USD to Euros is recommended. Please plan to bring spending money for lunches, sodas, bottled water, souvenirs, and any other personal expenses (please budget \$10/\$15 per lunch x 10 tour days = \$100/\$150). Also, please plan to purchase bottled water from the fridge on the bus (½ Euro for each 0.5 L bottle).
- ATMs are available; however, you will only receive the local currency. Notify your bank or credit card company if you plan to make purchases with your debit or credit card.

## PACKING LIST

- Photo Copies of Passport and Second Form of ID
- Compression socks for the long flights (they WORK!)
- Sturdy, weather-resistant walking shoes/boots, sneakers for a change of footwear
- Slippers for evenings (tile floors can be cold!)
- Short and long sleeve shirts for layering
- Light jacket in case there is rain
- Swimsuit for the pool on the ship
- Sun protection (sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses, hat)
- Toiletries
- Medications (Mucinex, Sudafed, Day/NyQuil, things we are used to in the US)
- Plug adapter and voltage converter - The electrical current in Greece is 220 volts with a Type C power socket
- Portable USB charger (if planning to use phone, camera, etc.)

## ARRIVAL INFORMATION

- Go through customs and passport control, then collect your luggage.
- If you have missing/damaged luggage, fill out paperwork with the airline before leaving.
- Exit baggage claim area and watch for **“Elias Tours”** signs
- Follow guide instructions for transferring to the bus and loading luggage.