

LEADERSHIP BEGINS AT THE FEET OF JESUS



SLU 401 2025 Greece Schedule

June 4, 2025 - SLU 401 Greece Begins! Depart from USA for an overnight flight to Thessaloniki, Greece.

June 5, 2025 - INTO THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL: Arrive in Thessaloniki. Meet with the guide and transfer to the hotel. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.

June 6, 2025 - THESSALONIKI/KAVALA/PHILIPPI: Begin the day traveling near the port of Kavala, where Paul landed with his disciples, Timothy and Silas. This port was also a destination for Luke the evangelist when he sailed from Troas. See a Byzantine castle, the Roman Aqueduct, and the ruins of an acropolis. Follow the Via Egnatia, a remnant of Rome's highway system, viewing Roman and Greek tombs. Next, stop in Philippi, where Paul preached his first evangelical sermon and sowed the seeds of Christianity. Among the ruins located on the rocky ledge above the town's main road is the prison into which Paul and Silas were thrown. Meander down the riverbank to the site of Lydia's baptism, the first baptism on European soil. Return to Thessaloniki, where Paul planted a church that would later receive two New Testament epistles. Visit one of the most beautiful basilicas in the city, St. Demetrius. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.

June 7, 2025 - THESSALONIKI/KALAMBAKA: In the morning, spend time in the ancient city of Thessaloniki. Explore the ruins of the Roman Forum and see the Rotunda. View the triumphal Arch of Galerius and continue along the waterfront to the massive White Tower. Next, travel south to view the awe-inspiring rock formations of Meteora. Dinner and overnight in Kalambaka.

June 8, 2025 - METEORA/THERMOPYLAE/ATHENS: Take in the striking monasteries of Meteora that seem to hang in the air, crowning the summits of these pinnacles with their wooden galleries and corniced rooftops. Dangerously hanging over the stunning abysses, these primitive dwellings compose one of the most fascinating sites on earth. A special treat awaits with a visit to one of these timeless monasteries to see the exquisite specimens of Byzantine art on display. Journey through the amazing countryside, taking in the beauty of Greece. Stop at the mountain pass of Thermopylae, the location where the Greeks victoriously fought for their freedom during the Greco-Persian wars in 480 BC. See the statue of Leonidas, king of the Greek city-state Sparta. Continue to Athens for dinner and overnight.

June 9, 2025 - ATHENS/LAVRIO/MYKONOS: Begin the day with a drive to the Port of Lavrio and step aboard The [Celestial Discovery](#) to start a 4-day Greek Islands cruise. All SLU cabins are outside cabins. Spend the afternoon exploring the Island of Mykonos, world-renowned for its lovely windmills, small cobblestone streets, and countryside. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. Lunch included onboard.

June 10, 2025 - EPHESUS, TURKEY/PATMOS, GREECE: Step off the ship at Kusadasi and into nearby Ephesus, Turkey, Asia Minor's greatest archeological site. This Greek and Roman city has been remarkably preserved. Step along the broad marble where Paul walked. Gaze at the Temple of Artemis (Diana), the Temple of Hadrian, and The Celsus Library. Marvel at the massive theater where Paul was opposed for speaking boldly about Christ. In the afternoon, enjoy cruising aboard The Discovery to the island of Patmos, built on a mass of volcanic rock. The island marks the site where the apostle John was exiled. Visit the Monastery of St. John and the cave where he received the vision he recorded in the book of Revelation. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. Lunch included onboard.

June 11, 2025 - RHODES: Spend a full day on the island of Rhodes, the largest of the Dodecanese islands, rich in history. Journey to Lindos, where it is believed the Apostle Paul had a short stay on his way to Jerusalem. Visit the Acropolis of Lindos, prominently displaying the Doric Temple of Athena, built in 300 BC with a stunning view of the sea below. See the Church of the Virgin Mary containing frescoes from the 15th century. Return to the capital to be immersed in the history of the occupation of the Knights of Saint John during the Crusades. Pass under the imposing Gate d'Amboise and walk along the Street of the Knights. The crests which identified their Order and living quarters are still visible today. View the awe-inspiring Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights of Rhodes, built in the Gothic style. Enjoy free time before returning to the ship for dinner and overnight.

June 12, 2025 - CRETE/SANTORINI: Arrive in Crete, the largest of the Greek Islands and the cradle of the Ancient Minoan Civilization. This island is where the Apostle Paul spent time as he was being transported to Rome as a prisoner and where Titus remained to help the churches. Take a leisure walk tour through Heraklion, the capital of Crete, and enjoy the shopping and local culture. Board The Discovery for an afternoon cruise to the famous island of Santorini, formed by the half-submerged crescent of a volcanic caldera. Perched atop high cliffs, savor the island's breathtaking views from Oia. Dinner and overnight on the ship. Lunch included onboard.

June 13, 2025 - ATHENS/CORINTH: Early morning arrival in Athens to begin the day's excursion. Proceed to Corinth through the Bay of Salamis and the Saronic Gulf. This city was home to the apostle Paul for over a year and inspired two of his most familiar letters. Spend time at the Corinthian Canal then tour the ruins of this ancient city. Return to Athens to view the world-renowned Acropolis and marvel at the ancient glory of the Parthenon, built 2400 years ago. Gather at Mars Hill, where Paul addressed the intellectual men of the most informed city of the time, pleading for the cause of Christianity. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

June 14, 2025 - ATHENS/USA: Transfer to Athens airport for your return flight to the USA with your heart full of memories from spectacular views and unforgettable experiences.

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change due to various factors and the SLU's discretion.