

Coming Fall 2023: Greek Islands and Rome (September 29 - October 12, 2023)

The islands of the Aegean are scattered in the sparkling waters of Greek mythology, legend, culture, and the biblical story from Acts to Revelation. You will be awe-struck by the incredible beauty of the waters of deep blue Aegean, as we sail in the wake of heroes, saints, sinners, crusaders, tyrants, missionaries, prisoners, pirates, and poets. We plan to visit the islands of Samos, Patmos, Kos, Rhodes with their ancient civilization and charming cobblestone streets, restaurants and shops and meet their famous citizens and travelers, like Hippocrates, Pythagoras, Epicurus, Saint Paul, and John the Revelator.

But now it is clear that the plans to use a Turkish *gulet* for the Greek islands, as we have done in the past, is no longer an option. The Mediterranean Sea, like our world and the future, is unpredictable. There have been political and economic changes in Greece and Turkey. So like Mediterranean sailors have done for thousands of years, we “tack” with an alternative for the Greek islands part of the trip.

Here is the proposal. Instead of a Turkish *gulet*, we can visit the very same islands using public ferries, staying in hotels or pensions near the harbors, eating Greek cuisine in waterfront tavernas and restaurants on the islands, and including time in Athens and Corinth!

Here is the proposed itinerary:

- Oct 1 Arrive in Athens, overnight Athens
- Oct 2 Athens, overnight Athens
- Oct 3 Corinth, overnight Athens
- Oct 4 Athens, Flight to Samos, overnight Samos
- Oct 5 Explore Samos, overnight Samos
- Oct 6 Ferry to Patmos, overnight Patmos
- Oct 7 Ferry to Kos, overnight Kos
- Oct 8 Ferry to Rhodes, overnight Rhodes
- Oct 9 Rhodes, overnight Rhodes

And then it is on to Rome! (And Italian cuisine!) The final four days you will explore the magnificent center of the Roman Empire and Church. The Coliseum, the Pantheon, catacombs, St. Peter's Square and Cathedral, the Vatican Museum, and literally hundreds of other incredible remains of human achievement, power, glory, impacted by the Good News of the Kingdom of God simply cannot be described. Options outside of

Rome will include walking the Appian Way, visiting the ancient port of Ostia, and spending a day in the walled, mediaeval town of Orvieto.

Oct 10 Fly to Rome, Overnight Rome
Oct 11 Rome, Pope's Address, St. Peter's, overnight Rome
Oct 12 Rome, overnight Rome
Oct 13 Rome (environs), overnight Rome
Oct 14 Departure

This learning tour will be led by Linford and Janet Stutzman, prior cross-cultural leaders to the Middle East, and at home on the Mediterranean for 18 sailing seasons.
Email alumni@emu.edu to be added to a list of interested people.

Cost per person: \$4,700 Per Person in Double Room, \$850 Single Room Supplement
- cost does not include airfare/trip insurance.

Payment dates: Registration fee of \$500 due when you register to hold your spot, first payment of \$2,100 due February 1, second payment of \$2,100 due June 1. If you want a single room, you also need to pay \$850 at the time of the last payment.