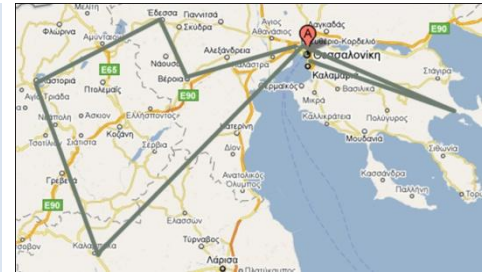


CHURCHES AND MONASTRIES OF NORTHERN GREECE

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

1st Day - Thessaloniki

Arrival in Thessaloniki. Visit to important churches of Thessaloniki : Agios Dimitrios, Agia Sophia (8th century), Gregorios Palamas and Kyrillos & Methodios, MonasterVlatadon (14th century). Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight



2nd Day – Thessaloniki/Ouranoupoli

Breakfast. Tour of Thessaloniki. Departure to Ouranoupoli passing through the picturesque traditional village of Arnea. On our way, visit to the Monastery of Agia Anastasia (30 km from Thessaloniki - built by the Byzantine queen Theophano) . Arrival at Ouranoupolis – the “Gate” to the Holy Mountain. Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

3rd Day: Different program for men and women

Breakfast at the hotel. Men will catch the boat to the Holy Mountain . Women will visit the Monastery of Panagia Ikosifinissa in eastern Macedonia – built on mountain Pangeo (the first Monastery ever built in Europe – 454 a.c.) and after the archeological site in Philippi ,with its well preserved ancient theater, two Byzantine churches and the baptistry of Lydia. Departure to Kavala, a beautiful city with important monuments of the past and contemporary life. Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.



4th Day – Back to Ouranoupoli/Kalambaka

Breakfast at the hotel. Women depart to visit the monastery of St. Prodomos (1270 a.c.) near the city of Serres. Further on to Ouranoupolis to meet the men – who are back from the Holy Mountain - and continue all together the tour. Departure to Kalambaka. On our way to the Monasteries of Meteora we will pass through green mountains, we will see Mt Olympos ,the ancient home of the Gods, and the Tempi valley , the home of the Muses . Arrival in Kalambaka. Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight

5th Day – Kalambaka/Kastoria

Breakfast At the hotel. Visit of two of the most important monasteries. Departure to Kastoria via Grevena. Hotel accommodation. Overnight.

6th Day – Kastoria/Edessa

Breakfast at the hotel. Tour of the city, including its old mansions, Byzantine churches and lake. Visit to a the Monastery of Agii Anargiri (1080 a.C.) and to the International Fur Fair of Kastoria. Departure to Edessa, to see its impressive waterfalls. Accomodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

7th Day – Edessa/veria/Vergina

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit to the Monastery of St. Triada on the east of the city. Departure to Veria, where we will see the preaching stage of St. Paul. Departure to Vergina and visit of the impressive museum containing the Royal Macedonian Tombs and other treasure of spectacular beauty. Drive to Thessaloniki. Accommodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.



8th Day – Departure Breakfast at the hotel. Departure.