

BRIAN EBEL
GUEST SPEAKER



LANDS OF THE BIBLE

Cruise

10 Nights Aboard Norwegian Viva • Istanbul, Turkiye to Athens (Pireaus), Greece

OCTOBER 8 - 20, 2025





OCTOBER 4 - 9, 2025 | FOR \$1,798*

October 4 – Depart the USA

Your pilgrimage begins as you depart the USA on your international overnight flight.

October 5 – Arrive in Istanbul

Arrive in Istanbul, Turkiye, where you will be met by our representative. Check into your hotel this evening and enjoy dinner and rest.

October 6 – Istanbul

The bejeweled capital of Istanbul sits between two continents and is home to 450 mosques. You will visit the famous Blue Mosque with its six minarets and sparkling interior. You will also visit the Topkapi Palace, once home to royal sultans. Inside, you will see the fabled jewels of the treasury, delicate displays of Chinese porcelain in the kitchen quarters, and the provocative harem quarters. Walk through Hagia Sophia, which was the largest church in Christendom for 1,000 years, built by Justinian (532-537 AD). The church has 107 columns, fossil-embedded white marble floors, and beautiful glass mosaics. Enjoy the aroma of cinnamon, cloves, thyme, and other exotic spices as you explore the Spice Bazaar. Over 4,000 shops sell everything from herbs to gold. Fly to the Cappadocia area this evening for dinner and your overnight stay.

October 7 – Cappadocia

Drive to Cappadocia and visit the Zelve Valley. As you drive through Cappadocia, enjoy some free time at various photo stops in this magnificent landscape full of fairy chimneys. Visit the Goreme Open-Air Museum before returning to your hotel.

October 8 – Cappadocia/Istanbul

You can take an optional hot air balloon ride over Cappadocia this morning for an additional fee. Fly this afternoon to Istanbul. Enjoy a cruise on the Bosphorus River, then check into your hotel for dinner and your overnight stay.

October 9 – Transfer to the ship to board your cruise.

**Hot air balloon rides are
\$250 per person additional.**



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October 8 – Depart the USA

Your pilgrimage begins as you depart the USA on your international overnight flight.

October 9 – Arrive In Istanbul & Embark

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to the port to embark on the Norwegian Viva.

October 10 – Ephesus (Kusadasi), Turkiye

Ephesus is one of the Seven Churches of Revelation and was once a bustling port town graced with wide, colonnade-bordered streets and a population of 250,000. Although spectacular excavations have revealed much of the glory of ancient Ephesus, including the huge agora and library, much has been lost. The ancient world once declared the Temple of Artemis to be one of the Seven Wonders of the World but today, only a single column remains to mark its site. You will have time to explore on your own and retrace some of the footsteps of Paul.

October 11 – Rhodes

Get the real, authentic Rhodes experience by exploring it on foot. Begin in picturesque Old Town, where you will pass through where the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem lived and worked. Marvel at the stunning churches, exquisite Jewish quarter, the Inns of Knights, and the Palace of Grand Masters. Afterward stop for a refreshment in a local café. Exploring Rhodes on foot will inevitably leave a lasting impression on you. Shore excursions today can be booked directly through Norwegian and are not included.

October 12 – Limassol, Cyprus

Go deep into Cyprus' history as you explore the island today. This beautiful port town is known for its seafood, pottery, leather goods and traditional lace works. Wander the streets and enjoy the shops on your way to the Kolossi Castle built by the Order of St. John in 1210 in the city center of Limassol. Take a trip to Paphos from Limassol to explore ancient ruins, archaeological sites and the goddess of love's mythical birthplace. Travel past the Temple of Apollo on the way to this UNESCO-recognized city and discover elaborate tombs in a 3rd-century necropolis.

October 13 – Cairo & Pyramids of Giza

Explore the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, home to an extensive collection of ancient Egyptian antiquities. It contains 120,000 artifacts! Then, head to the Pyramids of Giza, one of the only existing Wonders of the Ancient World. Nearby, view the Great Sphinx of Giza, the largest and most well-known Sphinx.

October 14 – Alexandria, Egypt

See the sights in Egypt's second-largest city, Alexandria. The large Jewish community that once called this area home wrote the Septuagint, a Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible. It was also home to the Great Library of Alexandria, which once held one of the most extensive collections of ancient texts. Make your way through Alexandria's side streets to the catacombs consisting of three burial chamber levels. Visit Pompey's Pillar, the largest triumphal column and the only known free-standing column of Roman Egypt. The amphitheater of Alexandria is one of the city's most distinguished highlights and is set within view of many modern structures. Glimpse the Citadel of Qaitbay, a 15th-century fortress situated on the northern tip of Pharos Island.

October 15 – At Sea

October 16- Heraklion, Greece

Whether you visit Heraklion, Crete, to admire the remains of the ancient civilization or simply to soak in the rays on some of the best beaches in Europe, the city is guaranteed to delight and amaze you. Don't miss one of the most popular attractions of Crete: the 3,000-year-old Palace of Knossos located south of Heraklion. The Palace of Knossos was the ceremonial and political center of the Minoan civilization. Shore excursions today can be booked directly through Norwegian and are not included.

October 17 – Santorini

Arrive in Santorini today, one of the most beautiful of the Greek islands, where picturesque, whitewashed villages topped with brilliant blue domes stand in stark contrast to the sheer drop cliffs overlooking the Aegean Sea. The island itself perches on the edges of a volcano whose eruption 3,500 years ago is thought to have led to the collapse of the Minoan civilization. Explore the island on your own or join one of the optional excursions available for purchase on board. Shore excursions today can be booked directly through Norwegian and are not included.

October 18 – Mykonos

Nestled in the heart of Greece’s Cyclades archipelago, Mykonos pulses with irrepressible energy. With its powder white houses and sparkling blue waters, the Island of the Winds is as colorful as the people who call the island home. You can walk narrow marble pathways laced with purple bougainvillea blooms or go cycling on two wheels past off-the-path Ano Mera village. Explore Greece’s maritime history at Armenistis Lighthouse and check out the Folklore Museum’s Mykonian ship models. At the end of the day, watch the sun burn out beyond an Aegean horizon from an open-air seaside taverna. Shore excursions today can be booked directly through Norwegian and are not included.

October 19 – Disembarkation, Athens & Corinth, Greece

The Apostle Paul met fellow tentmakers Aquila and Priscilla in Corinth and received a vision from the Lord saying, “I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city” (Acts 18:10). As Paul spoke, Crispus (chief ruler of the synagogue) and many others believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8), establishing the church at Corinth to whom Paul later wrote his two epistles. Tour the city of Corinth and the Museum of Corinth. Then enjoy the rich architectural splendor of the ancient city of Athens as your guide introduces you to the world-renowned Acropolis, the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erechtheum. Stand on Mars Hill as the Apostle Paul did when he proclaimed, “I found an altar with the inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom, therefore, ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you” (Acts 17:23). As you stroll the agora (ancient marketplace and center of Athenian public life), recall that this was where the Apostle Paul preached “Jesus and the resurrection” to the skeptical Athenians. Enjoy the evening on your own to shop, dine, or experience the Acropolis by night. Stay overnight in Athens.

October 20 – Return to the USA or Begin a Rome Post-Tour

ABOARD

NORWEGIAN V!VA

ALL-INCLUSIVE CRUISE PRICING*

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| IA - INTERIOR STATEROOM | \$5,198* |
| OA - OCEAN VIEW STATEROOM | \$5,598* |
| BA - STATEROOM WITH BALCONY | \$6,198* |

YOUR PRICE FROM NEW YORK INCLUDES:

- Round-trip International Airfare & Overseas Transfers
- Additional baggage & optional fees may apply; see fine print for details
- Fuel Surcharges and Government Taxes (Subject to change)
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- Most Meals • 3 Meal Specialty Dining Package • \$75 Onboard Credit per Cabin
- Shore Excursions as listed on itinerary • Wi Fi login (1 per stateroom)



Guest Speaker

Brian Ebel began his career in business before hearing and heeding the call to ministry. He and his wife, Mandy, are Michigan natives who moved to Kentucky in 2002. Their children are Sarah Margaret and Luke. Brian has a B.S.B.A. from Aquinas College, an M. Div. from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in Theology from the

London School of Theology. Brian has also served as an Adjunct Professor of Theology and Preaching at Asbury Theological since 2012. Brian and Mandy have served churches of every shape and size, and focus their ministry toward making learning enjoyable, new ministries and opportunities exciting, and transforming local churches. This is Brian and Mandy’s fourth trip with EO, and they remarked, “We love to see the truths of Scripture come alive for people as the Holy Spirit opens their eyes to the fact that real events happened in these real places, to really change the world.” Brian is currently the Senior Pastor of St. Luke Church in Lexington, Kentucky. He has been serving at St. Luke since 2019.



OCTOBER 20 - 23, 2025 | FOR \$1,498*

October 20 – Depart Athens for Rome

Disembark Norwegian Viva and transfer to the Athens airport for your flight to Rome. Arrive in Rome, Italy, where you will be met by our representative and travel along the Appian Way. Step beneath the surface into the Catacombs of Callixtus, built along the Appian Way. Here, sixteen popes from the 2nd through 4th centuries were interred, though they have been removed to various churches over the centuries. Check into your hotel this evening and enjoy dinner and rest.

October 21 – Ancient Rome

Discover the history woven throughout Rome with visits to the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Forum, Circus Maximus, the Arch of Titus, the Baths of Caracalla, and the Arch of Constantine today. After touring, return to your hotel for dinner and rest.

October 22 – Vatican City & Christian Rome

Visit the Vatican and explore its museum. Marvel at the beauty of St. Peter’s Basilica and stand in awe of Michelangelo’s frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. Next, see the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls. The present structure stands over the place where Constantine built the first church, which is over Saint Paul’s grave. The church features a portrait of every pope who has served the church. Climb the graceful Spanish Steps and stop at the famous Trevi Fountain before returning to your hotel this evening for dinner and rest.

October 23 – Return to the USA

Bid farewell to Rome as you transfer to the Rome airport this morning for your return flight to the USA.

