Seven Churches of Revelation &

in the Footsteps of St. Paul & St. John

10TH - 22ND SEPTEMBER 2023 - MAIN TOUR 22ND - 25TH SEPTEMBER 2023 - OPTIONAL TOUR



GROUP ACCOMPANIED BY DR. DHANAN SENATHIRAJAH









Contact Us

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ISTANBUL - CAPPADOCIA - PAMUKKALE- KUSADASI - PATMOS - CANAKKALE - TROY - GALIPOLI -THESSALONIKI METEORA - BEREA - VERGINA - CORINTH - ATHENS



GROUP ACCOMPANIED BY DR. DHANAN SENATHIRAJAH

Dr. Dhanan Senathirajah has 38 years of experience as an expository Bible teacher and preacher both in Sri Lanka and overseas. He is a member of the International Faculty of the Haggai Institute. He has published numerous books/audio books on Christianity and Law. His other passions are history and Geography. He has accompanied many pilgrim groups to the Holy Land as a Bible teacher since 2010. He has also led many Bible teaching tours to Turkey and Greece titled "The Seven Churches of Revelation and the Isle of Patmos; In the footsteps of St Paul & St John". Dr. Dhanan Senathirajah will be responsible for Bible teaching and spiritual leadership on this tour.





INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS



	ЭΗ	GET READY YOU HAVE A LAYOVER IN DOHA!
PASSENGER NAME SOBI	DESTINATION HAMAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	Cer
DATE	DEPARTURE TIME	
SEP 10, 2023	1030	
	ARRIVAL TIME	CMB-DOH
QR 665	1245	



	ST NBUL	PACK YOUR BAGS
PASSENGER NAME SOBI	DESTINATION ISTANBUL AIRPORT	TRE
DATE	DEPARTURE TIME	
SEP 10, 2023	1400	
FLIGHT NUMBER QR 243	ARRIVAL TIME	DOH-IST

YOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 - Sunday 10TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ARRIVAL – ISTANBUL, TURKEY

The Passengers will have two options to join the tour group;

- 1 Organise their own flights from their home country to Istanbul, Turkey
- 2 Travel via Colombo Sri Lanka and join the tour leader Dr Dhanan Senathirajah and other tour members, see flight details.

Arrive in Istanbul, upon arrival, meet English speaking guide & Transfer to the hotel for dinner and overnight stay in Istanbul.





Day 2 - Monday 11TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ISTANBUL / CAPPADOCIA

Departure to the airport with breakfast boxes. Discover Cappadocia (1 Peter 1:1)!

DOMESTIC FLIGHT



Visit Carpet Weaving Center to see hand-made carpets of Cappadocia and Turkish Culture. You can also see here some items about Christian Religion and Cultures because there were early Christians in Cappadocia previously.

We depart to explore the lunar landscape of Cappadocia and we visit Göreme Open Air Museum; resembles a vast monastic complex composed of scores of refectory monasteries placed side-by-side, each with its own fantastic church.

Later, we go to Avanos Pottery Village, set on the banks of the Kizilirmak (Red River). The village is well known throughout Turkey for its production of clay products. Hundreds of the village men are skilled in making pots, plates, wine holders, and even ashtrays and chess sets. Free time at Pottery House to make your own pottery experience.

Lunch at a restaurant with a free ice-cream by Jetwing Holidays

After lunch we visit Kaymakli Underground City. These troglodyte cave cities were excavated as early as Hittite times and expanded over the centuries as various marauding armies traversed Central Anatolia in search of captives and plunder. There are 36 underground cities in Cappadocia and the widest one is Kaymakli underground city. a place of refuge for 15000 Christians. Witness the ancient bedrooms, church, meeting hall and food storage rooms on this eight story city connected by 30km of corridors.

Photo stops will be made at Uchisar "castle" village, a fantasy-land of strange structures. Finally, we have chance to view semi-precious Turkish Turquoise (the name given by Marco Polo which means colour of Turks) in the Jewellery Store.

Arrive at the hotel in Cappadocia for Dinner and overnight stay.





Day 3 - Tuesday 12TH SEPTEMBER 2023

CAPPADOCIA – LAODICEA – PAMUKKALE

Hot air balloon excursion with return transfers (**Optional at your cost**). Collect your packed breakfast from the hotel. Departure from the hotel. Drive to Pamukkale.

Lunch at a restaurant.

After lunch continue to Laodicea (**Revelation 3:14-22**) one of the Seven Churches of Revelation.

Later transfer to your hotel in Pamukkale for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 4 - Wednesday 13TH SEPTEMBER 2023

<u>PAMUKKALE – PHILEDELPHIA – SARDIS – THYATIRA – SMYRNA – KUSADASI</u>

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

Departure from hotel to visit **Pamukkale** and **Hierapolis** ancient city - the greatest necropolis in Anatolia whose name means "sacred city," was believed by the ancients to have been founded by the Greek god Apollo. The city also had a significant Jewish community and was mentioned by Paul in his Letter to the Colossians. **Pamukkale** (Cotton Castle) is a natural site in Hierapolis which contains hot springs and travertine, terraces of carbonate minerals left by the flowing water and enjoy walking on the hot spring waters on the snow white terraced ponds (**optional bath in the hot springs can be arranged at your cost**).

Later we travel to **Philadelphia** (**Revelation 3:7-13**), now called **Alasehir**. We'll see the remains of a Byzantine basilica as well as some eleventh century frescoes. Philadelphia and Smyrna were the only two churches among the Seven about which nothing bad was said by John.

Lunch at a restaurant.

Then we will leave for **Sardis** (**Revelation 3:1-6**), one of the most picturesque areas of any of the Seven Churches. Then we will move to **Thyatira** (**Revelation 2:18-29**), where there are few remains left.

On the way from **Philadelphia** to **Kuşadasi**, we are going to see **Smyrna** (**Revelation 2:8-11**) now called İzmir with its few remains left from the Roman period.

Arrive at the hotel in Kusadasi and check in for dinner and overnight.





Day 5 – Thursday 14th September 2023

KUSADASI – PATMOS – KUSADASI

An early buffet breakfast at the hotel.

Following breakfast, transfer to the pier and depart to **Patmos Island** (**Revelation 1:9**) in **Greece** from **Kusadasi**.

Apostle John received **the Revelation of Jesus Christ** while he was exiled there by Emperor Domitian. While on the island we will study parts of the Book of Revelation, explore the island and visit **St. John Monastery** and the **Grotto of Apocalypses**, the traditional place where John received the Revelation.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

After exploring the Island, Proceed to Kusadasi by ferry boat.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Kusadasi.

Day 6 – Friday 15th September 2023

KUSADASI – EPHESUS – BERGAMA – ASSOS

After breakfast at the hotel we will travel to **Ephesus (Acts of the Apostles 18:19-20:1, Paul's Epistles to the Ephesians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Revelation 2:1-9)**, the first of the Seven Churches, for a visit. You will see the amazing ruins of this great city: the **theatre**, the **library**, the **Temple of Hadrian** and the newly excavated **Roman Terrace Houses**. Then we proceed to the **Virgin Mary's House**. St John the Apostle is supposed to have brought her here, where she spent her last years. You'll see the remains of the **Temple of Artemis** as well as the **Basilica of Saint John** where his tomb is located.

Lunch at restaurant.

Then depart to **Bergama** which is the site of ancient **Pergamum** (**Revelation 2:12-17**), one of the Seven Churches of Revelation. You will visit the **acropolis** there and see the **impressive theater**, the **Temple of Athena**, and other ruins of former civilizations.

You will continue to **Odun Iskelesi** to visit the site and the **port of Alexandria Troas** where Paul raised the boy, Eutychus (**Acts 16:8**, **20:7-12**). Paul visited this area at least twice.

Later proceed to Assos for Dinner and overnight.





Day 7 – Saturday 16th September 2023

Day 8 - Sunday

17th September 2023

ASSOS – ALEKSANDRIA TROAS – ÇANAKKALE – ISTANBUL

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. After having breakfast continue journey to **Troy**, the UNESCO listed World Heritage Site, where Greek and Trojan heroes fought the Trojan War for the honour of beautiful Helen of Troy. Also visit its legendary walls, building and a replica of the famous **Wooden Horse**.

Lunch at a restaurant.

Drive to **Istanbul** and stop to visit **Gallipoli** which is historically famous for being the site of many battles-particularly involving the Allied Forces including Australians and New Zealanders during World War I.

Continue to Istanbul, Arrive at the port for Bosphorus Sea Cruise dinner.

Arrive at the hotel in **Istanbul**.

ISTANBUL (formerly CONSTANTINOPLE)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel

This morning we begin our tour by visiting, the **Topkapi Palace**, the palace and residence of the Ottoman Sultans where you will be awed by the jewels of the empire. Then we visit Sultan Ahmet's beautiful **Blue Mosque** with its beautiful Iznik tiles, the **Hippodrome Square**, the Hagia Sophia Museum/Mosque, the largest church ever built and one of the wonders of the world which alternately was a cathedral and a mosque. This was built by Emperor Justinian in 537 A.D.

Lunch at a restaurant.

After lunch we visit the famous **Grand Bazaar**, the biggest of its kind with over 4,000 shops. Haggle with the shopkeepers over an incredible variety of goods. Free time at the **Spice Market**.

Dinner at a restaurant and overnight at the hotel in Istanbul.





Day 9 – Monday 18th September 2023

<u>ISTANBUL – THESSALONIKI</u>

Departure to the airport with breakfast boxes.

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Thessaloniki, Greece.

FLIGHT FROM TURKEY TO GREECE



Arrive in Thessaloniki (Acts 17:1-9; 1 & 2 Thessalonians).

Lunch at a restaurant.

Transfer to the hotel in Thessalonikke for dinner and overnight stay.







Day 10 - Tuesday 19th September 2023

THESSALONIKI – BEREA – VERGINA – KALAMBAKA

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

The New Testament books of 1 and 2 Thessalonians will come alive to us today as we arrive in the delightful Harbor city of Thessalonica. Enjoy a sightseeing tour, view the old city ramparts; the newly excavated Forum, St. George's Church, an ancient Roman monument was transformed into a church and the Galerius Arch which rises over the famous Via Egnatia. Walk to the White Tower to the seafront. Enjoy a 30 minutes floating cruise with a soft drink/coffee/tea (at your own cost).

Lunch at a restaurant.

Depart Thessaloniki and continue driving to Meteora.

A stop will be made in **Berea** (Acts 17:10-15), now known as Veria, to view the ancient synagogue where Paul spoke and the Bema surrounded by mosaics of Paul and the plaque of scripture regarding the "more noble" church. Driving through the town, we see remnants of the original Roman road that spanned the nation during Paul's time.

We also visit **King Phillip's** (Alexander the Great's father) tomb in Vergina, one of the most outstanding finds in all of Greece.

Arrive in Kalambaka for dinner and overnight stay.

KALAMBAKA/ METEORA MONASTRY

Buffet breakfast at the hotel

Visit the world famous Byzantine monasteries that are perched precariously on summits of gray rock pinnacles of varied and beautiful shapes. Their history goes back to the 14th century when the monks sought refuge in the Cliffside caves then fled higher to build the original wooden shelters, later transformed into monasteries

Lunch at a restaurant. We continue through the mountains to Meteora to Athens our tour travels southward past **Thermopylae** where we learn of the famous Spartan battle of 300. Dinner at a restaurant in Athens Overnight at the hotel.



Day 11 - Wednesday 20th September 2023



Day 12 - Thursday 21st September 2023

ATHENS

Buffet breakfast at the hotel

This morning we begin our Athens (Acts 17:16-34) sightseeing tour visiting the foundation of democracy. We visit the Acropolis, the Parthenon, and Erechtheion before viewing Athens atop Mars Hill where Paul stood and preached the truth to the Gentile nation. Additional sites include the Agora (ancient market place and center of Athenian public life), the House of Parliament, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the 1896 Olympic Stadium, and the Presidential Palace. Lunch at a restaurant.

Later this afternoon we travel west with a rest stop and photos at the **Corinth Canal**. We then travel to the ancient city of **Corinth (Acts 18, 1 & 2 Corinthians)**, another treat for the New Testament scholar. **Corinth** is the city that inspired many of Paul's most familiar letters. We will see the **Archaeological Museum**. A **Bible study** will be held on the **Bema Seat of Christ** right near the **Corinthian Bema Seat**.

Later walk through the **Market Place**, the Bema (2 Corinthians 5:9), and the Temples. To enjoy a devotional in the midst of the ruins of the church of Corinth and see the pillars, steps, and public worship place where Paul preached will enhance your understanding and love of I & II Corinthians. The ruins of this important cultural center are fascinating as we walk along the stone path that the Apostle Paul walked. The engineering skill and intellect of these people are evident in the water systems that still flow from ancientto modern day.

Transfer back to Athens Plaka area.

This evening our group will enjoy an **Athens by night** orientation tour with a/c coach and guide.

Dinner at a traditional **Greek restaurant** followed by folklore dance show.

Overnight at the hotel in Athens.





Day 13 - Friday 22nd September 2023

ATHENS / DEPARTURE

Buffet breakfast at the hotel Check out from the hotel and transfer to Athens Plaka area for free time and shopping.

Lunch at a restaurant.

Transfer to the airport for departure flight to Colombo - see below flight details. OR for the 3 night Greek island cruise – Please refer page 12 for details.

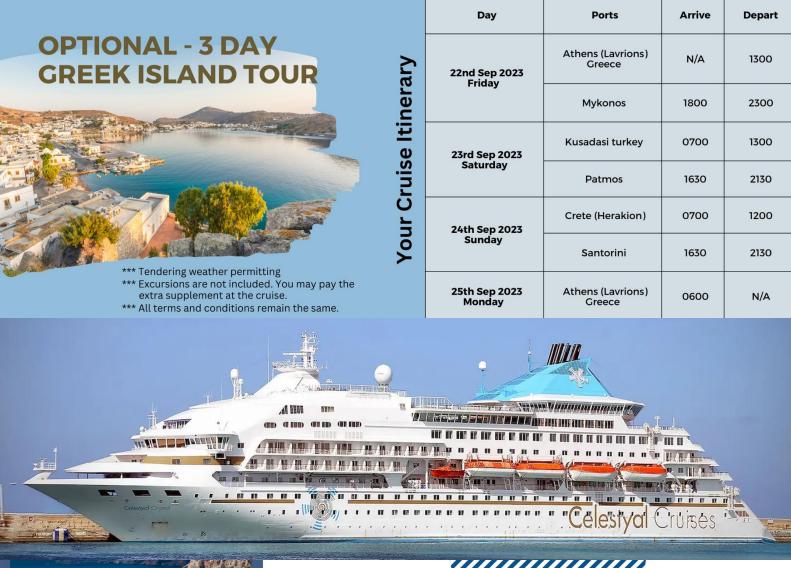
INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS



ATHENS DO PASSENGER NAME SOBI DATE SEP 22, 2023 FLIGHT NUMBER QR 208	DHA DESTINATION HAMAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEPARTURE TIME 1940 ARRIVAL TIME 0005	PACK YOUR BAGSYou Are Leaving Creece!You Creece!You Creece!You Creece!ATH-DOHYou Creece!You Creece!
	мво	PACK YOUR BAGS YOU ARE GOING TO COLOMBO!
PASSENGER NAME SOBI DATE	DESTINATION BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEPARTURE TIME	
SEP 23, 2023	0135 ARRIVAL TIME	DOH-CMB
QR 664	0900	

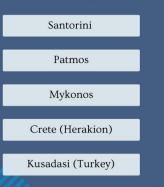








Where is this cruise going?



About the Cruise

Joining us for the three night itinerary you will be immersed in the most fabulous experiences living and breathing the myths and legends of Ancient Greece, discovering long past civilisations and following in the footsteps of great figures from history.



Rates include

- Cabin accommodation (Cabins will be allocated on a first come first served basis)
- Port charges security and other services (gratuities)
- Full board (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)
- Select drinks included with meals (Specialty Restaurant excluded)
- Entertainment and daily activities on board



INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS



ATH +DOH PACK YOUR BAGS YOU ARE LEAVING GREECE! ATHENS DOHA DESTINATION **PASSENGER NAME** HAMAD INTERNATIONAL SOBI AIRPORT DEPARTURE TIME DATE SEP 25, 2023 1940 ATH-DOH **ARRIVAL TIME** FLIGHT NUMBER QR 208 0005



PASSENGER NAME SOBI DATE

SEP 26, 2023

FLIGHT NUMBER QR 664 DESTINATION BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEPARTURE TIME 0135 ARRIVAL TIME

0900

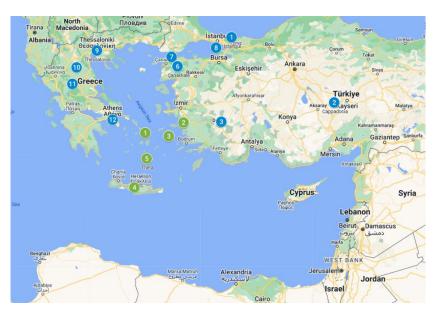


Tour Map

Click here for interactive map: <u>Google</u> <u>Map for Seven Churches Biblical Tour</u> <u>in Sep 2023</u>

Booking Form

Please click here to access our online Booking Form for this tour.







P R I C I N G

option one

Ground Handling Costs - Only flights for Istanbul to Cappadocia and Istanbul to Thessaloniki (Greece) are included

Tour Sector - Adult Twinshare	Dates	Nights	**Price (AUD)	Price (USD)
A) Main Tour Turkey and Greece	10th - 22nd Sep	12	\$5,100	\$3,225
B) Greek Islands Cruise (optional)	22nd - 26th Sep	3	\$1,350	\$850
A + B Costs	10th-26th Sep	15	\$6,450	\$4,075

Alternatives	Age Group	Nights	Price (AUD)	Price (USD)
Child sharing with parents	Age 2-11	15	\$6,150	\$3,950
Infant sharing with parents	Age below 2 years	15	\$480	\$300
Single Room Supplement (Main tour)		12	\$1,050	\$650

option two

Includes flight costs between Colombo (Sri Lanka) & Istanbul/Athens

Tour Sector - Adult Twinshare	Dates		Nights	Nights **Price (/		(AUD) Price (USD)	
A) Main Tour Turkey and Greece	10th - 22nd Sep		12	\$5,850		\$3,750	
B) Greek Islands Cruise (optional)	22nd - 26th Sep		3	\$1,350		\$850	
A + B Costs			15	\$7,200		\$4,600	
Alternatives	Age Group	Nights	Price (A	UD)	Ρ	rice (USD)	
Child sharing with parents	Age 2-11	15	\$7,00	0		\$4,435	
Infant sharing with parents	Age below 2 years	15	\$650	D		\$400	
Single Room Supplement (Main tour)		12	\$1,05	60		\$650	

**Special earlybird discount per pax may be applied for those settling in AUD and via EFT. This offer is valid subject to exchange rate fluctuations (AUD/USD)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TOUR RATES

Tour rates have been computed based on current exchange rates, negotiated airline rates as well as other factors and summarized below under 2 Options; -

Option 1 – For passengers make their own flight arrangements from their home cities in Australia / New Zealand OR any other country to Istanbul, Turkey and join the tour group other domestic and Turkey-Greece airfares are included in the price quoted).

Option 2 – for Passengers who prefer to travel via Colombo Sri Lanka and join the tour group departing from Colombo).

In addition, optional stop-over holidays can be organised in Sri Lanka and or the Maldives, please provide your requirements when you complete the online booking form.

	-	
Date	No Of Nights	Name Of The Hotel
10 – 11 September 2023	1 Night	Tryp By Wyndham, Basin Ekspres Istanbul
11 – 12 September 2023	1 Night	Dinler Urgup Hotel, Cappadocia
12 – 13 September 2023	1 Night	Colossae Themal Hotel, Pamukkale
13 – 15 September 2023	2 Nights	Ramada Hotel & Suites, Kusadasi
15 – 16 September 2023	1 Night	Assos Eden Garden Hotel, Assos
16 – 18 September 2023	2 Nights	Tryp By Wyndham, Istanbul
18 – 19 September 2023	1 Night	Capsis Hotel, Thessaloniki
19 – 20 September 2023	1 Night	Famissi Eden Hotel, Kalambaka
20 – 22 September 2023	2 Nights	Stanley Hotel, Athens

Hotel Accommodation* - 10th to 22th Sep 2023 - 4 / 5 + Star

*Proposed hotels or similar standard

TERMS & CONDITIONS - IMPORTANT NOTES:

- > Please note that the above prices are subject to change without prior notice.
- > Rates are as per current tariffs and are subject to change without prior notice.
- All rates are calculated as per current rates of exchange and will be subject to change in case of any increase.
- > Airfares and reservations are always subject to change until paid in full and ticketed.
- Cancellation charges will apply.
- Group travelers will incur different cancellation policies, please inquire at the time of confirmation.
- > Most rooms and washrooms in Turkey and Greece hotels are small.
- Breakfast would be continental and Local buffet type offering a variety of Breads, Jams, Milk, Cereals, Eggs, etc.
- > Tea/coffee making facilities are generally not available in the rooms.
- In most cities coach Parking is allocated in specific locations. Hence passengers will have to walk from the bus parking area to tour starting points and restaurants.
- > This tour is not suitable for wheelchair passengers or anyone with difficulty in walking





INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE RATES:

- ➢ Economy Class Return Air Fare (varied for options 1 & 2 − See itinerary on page 14
- > Accommodation 4 or 5 Star hotels in Greece & Turkey see table above for details
- > Breakfast & Dinner at hotels as booked and lunch in good restaurants.
- > Arrival / Departures/Transfers in Turkey & Greece by deluxe A/C Coach.
- Sightseeing will be by deluxe A/C coach
- > English speaking guide/and Spiritual Leader throughout the tour.
- > Tips for Driver/ Guide / Airport Representative/ Hotel Staff/ Receptionist etc.
- > 1L bottle of mineral water per day throughout the tour.
- > Entry fees for various attractions and sites as per this itinerary.
- > Optional Cruise if selected: Inside cabin based on twin-share

NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE RATES

- 1. Visa fees for Sri Lanka, Turkey and Greece per person subject to passport type.
- 2. Any transportation costs to and from Colombo airport Applicable for Option 2
- 3. Travel insurance Please hold a valid travel insurance policy (Compulsory)
- 4. Transportation to / from any other airports in AU / NZ and airfare to Colombo or Istanbul
- 5. Excess baggage charges.
- 6. Liquor
- 7. Expenses of a personal nature
- 8. Any other taxes that may be implemented by either the Government of Sri Lanka or by any other including Visa formalities in Sri Lanka for option 2 Country or the Airline at the time of travel.
- 9. Meals other than those mentioned in the program
- 10. Drinks with meals
- 11. Additional Tips for waiters and other staff.
- 12. Laundry services
- 13. Hot air balloon ride on (Day 3) 12th Sep 2023 (Approx.. USD 200 to 300 pp)
- 14. Bath in hot Springs at Pamukkale (Day 4) 13th Sep 2023
- 15. Floating Cruise in Thessaloniki Greece (Day 10) on 19th Sep 2023

PASSPORT & VISA REQUIREMENTS -

Passport should be valid for more than 6 months from the date of departure.

Any passengers travelling on non-Australian / New Zealand passport may require additional documentation and advance notice to process their visas. Please e-mail <u>info@sobiconsulting.com</u> for any further details

PAYMENT

Sobi Consulting will coordinate the entire travel bookings for clients travelling from Australia and New Zealand on behalf of **Jetwing Holidays** and partners with reputed agents in Australian capital cities who handle the flight bookings from any city to provide a packaged travel solution.

Flights can be arranged from any city in Australia and New Zealand to connect with tour groups departing from Colombo with the stop-over holidays in Sri Lanka / Maldives or join the group directly in Istanbul, Turkey.





An advance payment of USD 900 / AUD 1,500/-per person payable at the time of booking. Balance payment to be made in full within the agreed period set by the airlines to secure the best rates and or offer any early bird discounts.

Bank Account details for EFT - AUD Account

Name of beneficiary:- Sobi Trading & Consulting Pty LtdBank:- National Australia BankBSB:- 083-802Account Number:- 83-442 4758

Bank Account details for EFT - USD Account

Name of beneficiary:- Sobi Trading & Consulting Pty LtdBank:- National Australia BankBIC / SWIFT Code:- NATAAU3303MAccount Number:- SOBITUD01

Credit card payments

The following surcharge will be applied for any payments made by credit card:Visa and Master1.80%Amex:3.5%

CONDITIONS GOVERNING VOLUNTARY CANCELLATION OF TOUR

In the event you cancel your tour, following charges will be applicable:From the date of payment to 31st of May 2023 USD 500 / AUD 850.00 Per person1st June 2023 to 30th June 2023- USD 700 / AUD 1,200.00 Per person1st July 2023to 31st July 2023- USD 1,400 / AUD 2,400.00Per person1st August 2023 to date of departure- Non-refundable

Please e-mail <u>info@sobiconsulting.com</u> or contact on (61) 0438 900 755 for any further details.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: It is a condition for booking with us that you take out insurance at the time of or prior to making your booking. It is the responsibility of the passenger to ensure that the insurance cover they purchase is suitable and adequate for their particular needs.Please note that you would have a direct contractual relation with the insurer. You shall directly submit claims to your Insurance Company. The Insurance Company shall directly pay the entitlement amounts to you and any disputes regarding any rejection of claim or adequacy of settlement amount shall be settled by you directly with the Insurance Company.

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