THE HOLY LAND In the footsteps of Jesus

A Pilgrimage through the Biblical Lands of Israel and Palestine

Led by The Revd Vicki Burrows & Revd Canon Chris Vallins

5th - 14th October 2022







In the footsteps of Jesus

For hundreds of years Christians have set aside time to hear, and experience in a new way, the familiar stories of their faith by going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We invite you to join us walking in the steps of Jesus, in Nazareth, Bethlehem, Galilee and Jerusalem.

Our Pilgrimage will be both an opportunity to support and encourage the Christian community there and to gain a greater understanding of the three Abrahamic faiths:-Judaism, Christianity and Islam — for all of whom Jerusalem is Holy.

We will meet, and have the opportunity to worship with, members of the Palestinian Christian community in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Nazareth. In these encounters with the local community we may gain a deeper understanding of the challenges they face and the lives of the peoples who live, work and worship in the Holy Land. We know that our time spent together there will be of great help and encouragement to our sister and brother Christians who, especially at this time, face so many difficulties.

We have both found that every time we make the pilgrimage our friendships and understandings have been deepened by new and sometimes challenging experiences and insights. We have also always so enjoyed relaxing by, sailing on, swimming in and eating fish from the Sea of Galilee, just as Jesus and His disciples did.

We do hope you will join us on this pilgrimage in October 2022

Vicki

Chris

Lightline Pilgrimages support the work of Friends of The Holy Land and a contribution is made on behalf of each and every pilgrim that travels to the Holy Land with Lightline



Itinerary

Day 1, Wednesday 5th October

Journeying to the Holy Land

We gather at London Heathrow for our afternoon flight to Tel Aviv. on arrival we will be met by our guide and driver and then driven up to Jerusalem and our hotel within the Old Walled City. Overnight stay in Jerusalem.



Reputed birthplace of Christ within the Church of the Holy Nativity, Bethlehem

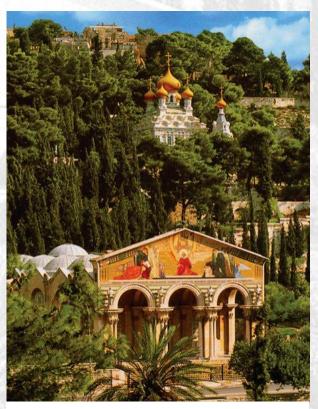
Day 2, Thursday 6th October Bethlehem & Ein Karem

After breakfast we leave Jerusalem and drive through the separation wall into the town of Bethlehem. We begin by visiting the Church of the Nativity, the site of Jesus's birth and the adjoining Catholic Church built above the caves where St Jerome. We then drive to nearby Beit Sahour to visit the Shepherds' Fields. This is the traditional site where the shepherds watched their flocks on the night of Jesus's birth. After a break for lunch we will drive over to the village of Ein Karem, believed to have been the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth and thus the site of the birth of John the Baptist and of the encounter between Elizabeth and Mary. We then return to Jerusalem and our hotel in good time for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 3, Friday 7th October

Mount Olives & Mount Zion

This morning we leave our hotel after an early breakfast and drive to the summit of the Mount of Olives for a magnificent view across the Kidron Valley to the holy places in Jerusalem and the city's beautiful medieval walls. We then begin to trace Jesus' Palm Sunday journey from Bethphage down the mountain, stopping at Dominus Flevitt, Pater Noster on the way before reaching the Garden of Gethsemane and the profoundly moving Church of the Agony. After a break for lunch we drive across the Kidron Valley to Mount Zion to visit David's Tomb, the traditional site of the Last Supper Room, the Dormition Abbey and finally to St Peter in Gallicantu recalling Peter's betrayal of Jesus. We will also view the recently excavated steps that lead to the Old City and are possibly the very steps that Jesus would have climbed. Return to our hotel in good time to freshen up before dinner. Overnight stay in Jerusalem.



The Mount of Olives

Day 4, Saturday 8th October

The Old City

We begin after an early breakfast and drive to the Dung Gate to view the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site and if permitted we will ascend the Temple Mount to view the Dome of the Mosque. We will exit the Temple Mount and continue to the beautiful Crusader church of St Anne built above the twin pools of Bethesda where Jesus cured the sick man. The church was built in 1142 by Avda the widow of Baldwin, the first king of Jerusalem is believed to be on the place where the house of Joachim and Anne, Mary's parents, once stood and is the most beautiful church in the city. We will then break for lunch. In the afternoon we will begin our walk along the Via Dolorosa from the Chapel of Condemnation to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Along the way we visit the Convent of the Sisters of Zion built on the foundations of the Roman garrison to see the pavement that is venerated as the place where Jesus stood before Pilate. We will bring our day to a close at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.



Church of the Holy Sepulchre



The Mountain-top fortress of Masada

Day 5, Sunday 9th October

St. George's Cathedral, Dead Sea, Masada & Qumran

After breakfast we begin our pilgrimage by driving to St George's Cathedral to join with the local Anglican community for Sunday worship. Late morning we leave Jerusalem and descend to the Dead Sea. On route we will visit Bethany, the home of Jesus' friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus, before following the Dead Sea south to Mount Masada the scene of heroic resistance by Jewish zealots against a Roman army during the final stage of the Jewish revolt. We visit the summit of Masada and return north to Ein Gedi for lunch and the chance to bathe in the unique mineral-laden waters of the Dead Sea. On our way back to Jerusalem we visit Qumran where Arab shepherd boys discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls and Jericho the oldest city on earth and the first conquest of the Israelites after they crossed the Jordan into Canaan. We spend time in the oasis town that was once the property of Cleopatra who leased it to Herod the Great. We will visit Qasr al Yehud, the traditional baptismal site on the River Jordan and possibly very near the site where John baptised Jesus, before we return to Jerusalem, arriving in good time for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 6, Monday 10th October

Emmaus, Nablus & Sea of Galilee

After an early breakfast we drive to the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book to see the Dead Sea Scrolls then drive on to the town of Abu Ghosh, one of the possible sites of Emmaus where we remember the beautiful story of the resurrection appearance of Jesus to his disciples. Leaving Emmaus we head north towards Galilee through the heart of the West Bank, noting as we drive some of the 'facts on the ground' about the Occupation, as we come to the city of Nablus. Here we will visit Jacob's Well, where the Fourth Gospel tells us of Jesus' encounter with the woman drawing water. We then proceed around the Sea of Galilee to our hotel situated on the shores of the lake which will be our home for the final four nights of our pilgrimage. Dinner and overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.



Jacob's Well, Nablus



The Basilica of the Annunciation

Day 7, Tuesday 11th October

Nazareth - Mt Tabor - Beit Shean

We leave Tiberias after an early breakfast and drive to Nazareth where we will join members of the local Anglican community for Sunday worship at Christ Church. We then continue to central Nazareth to visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and the Greek Church built over the ancient well. We then visit the village of Cana and the Franciscan church built on the site of the house associated with the first miracle. We then drive across the plains of Armageddon to Mount Tabor, the traditional site associated with the transfiguration of Jesus before Peter, James and John. Local taxis take us to the summit. After lunch we drive across to the Jordan Valley to visit the extensive excavations of Beit Shean. The city was a member of the Decapolis and the most important Roman commercial and military centre west of the Jordan at the time of Jesus. John the Baptist may well have preached there and it was on the walls of this city that the Philistines hung the dead body of Saul after his defeat on Mount Gilboa. Return to Tiberias in good time for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 8, Wednesday 12th October

Jesus' lakeside ministry

This morning we follow the ministry of Jesus along the shores of the Sea of Galilee and in the hills overlooking the Lake. After a Eucharist at the lakeside chapel at Peniel we continue to Tabgha to the Church of the Loaves and Fishes that commemorates the feeding of the 5,000. At Capernaum the centre of Jesus Galilean ministry we visit the first century house identified as the home of Peter where Jesus would have stayed then drive into the hills to the Mount of Beatitudes that overlooks virtually all the places where Jesus lived and worked. After lunch at Kibbutz En Gev we sail on the Sea of Galilee and return to our hotel. On route we will visit the "Jesus boat" a 1st century boat recovered from the lake. The rest of the afternoon will be free to relax. Dinner and overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.



The Mount of Beatitudes



The Caravansarai at Acre

Day 9, Thursday 13th October

Acre & relaxation by the lake

We leave Tiberias after an early breakfast and drive to Nazareth where we will join members of the local Anglican community for worship at Christ Church. Late morning we continue to Acre, the main seaport of the Crusader kingdom. It fell to the First Crusade, surrendered to Saladin, and was retaken for Christendom by Richard the Lionheart. When it finally fell to the Mameluke Sultan Ashraf in 1291 it marked the end of the Crusader adventure overseas. Within its 18th century walls we visit the now subterranean fortress and administrative centre of the knights of St John of Jerusalem, the last Crusaders to leave Acre. Afterwards we relax by the Sea of Galilee. Farewell dinner.

Day 10, Friday 14th October

Caesarea - Journey home

We leave Galilee after an early breakfast to drive south and along the coast to Caesarea Maritima to visit this beautiful Roman and Crusader port city. View the ancient harbour, fortifications, twin aqueducts and theatre. Paul was imprisoned here for almost two years before his trial in Rome. For Christians it is a place of great significance as it was here that Peter baptised the first Gentile, Cornelius the Roman Centurion. We break for lunch at the historic port before heading to Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport and our return flight to London.



The excavations at Caesarea Maritima

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Passports, Visas and Health

A full valid 10 year passport is necessary for all our tours. Check **NOW** that it is valid for the duration of your tour and validity runs for a further 6 months after your return to the UK. British passport holders will be issued a visa free of charge on arrival in the Holy Land. Holders of other passports please contact Lightline Pilgrimages for advice. At present no inoculations besides Covid 19 are required, however we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

Covid-19 and travelling on Pilgrimage with Lightline

All our pilgrims must have received their full Covid-19 vaccinations at least 14 days prior to outward travel.

Inclusive Holy Land Tour Costs:

Twin Room per person — £2249
Twin Room Share per person — £2249
Single Room per person — £2824

This tour has been carefully calculated to include all items necessary to complete your tour at the advertised price.

Scheduled flights on British Airways from London Heathrow Airport

London Heathrow - Tel Aviv BA167 16:50 / 23:30
Tel Aviv - London Heathrow BA164 16:40 / 20:05

Please note the above flight times are local and are subject to change

- ✓ All airport departure & passenger taxes (UK & Israel).
- ✓ 9 nights accommodation at following selected hotels:

All hotels are fully air-conditioned with en-suite facilities

Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel (A Christian run hotel within the Old City).

Galilee - Ron Beach Hotel (Situated by the Sea of Galilee).

- ✓ Full board basis throughout (Breakfast, Snack Lunch and Dinner)
- ✓ All entrance fees and local government taxes
- ✓ Qualified English speaking guide throughout the tour
- ✓ All touring in modern air-conditioned tourist coaches

The only items not included in the price are:

Travel insurance, Gratuities (£80) and any items of a personal nature (laundry & drinks etc).

To reserve your place on this tour

Please read the booking conditions and complete the booking form and send it with a deposit of £250 per person to:

Lightline Pilgrimages Ltd Unit 10, Coopersale Hall Farm, Fluxs Lane, Epping. CM167PE

You can also book online by visiting www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/

Tel: 01992 576065

Email: info@lightline.org.uk



Lightline Pilgrimages Covid-19 guarantee

Lightline Pilgrimages promises you a full refund of all monies paid for your pilgrimage if we have to cancel it due to Covid-19 restrictions or compulsory quarantine. All pilgrims must be vaccinated for Covid-19 prior to travel.

You can also book online by visiting www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/



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Tour Ref: VALL2HLHR

Please state your name on the transfer

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For more information about the ATOL certificate please visit: www.atol.org.uk/atolcertificate Or see our full booking conditions.

British citizens require a British passport in order to travel to the destinations we feature. This usually takes less than six weeks to obtain, unless you are over 16 and have not held a passport previously, in which case you need to allow a minimum of at least six weeks. Please ensure you have at least six months validity on your passport from the date of your return journey to the UK.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office publishes regularly updated travel information on its website: https://www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo which you are recommended to consult.

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