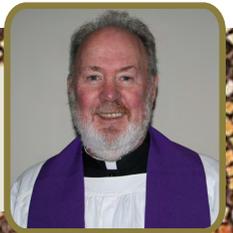




PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LANDS OF JORDAN & ISRAEL

1st – 15th May 2019



Escorted by Fr Tony Kerin

EASTER SEASON IN THE HOLY LAND!

I invite you to join our Parish Easter Pilgrimage through the sacred sites of Israel and Jordan. The Easter season is a most appropriate time to retrace the footsteps of Jesus as we relive his Post Resurrection Appearances. This itinerary encompasses all the places familiar to me from the Gospels. These Gospel stories will form the skeleton of our prayerful journey. Excellent local guides will add flesh to these bones as we experience the architecture of ancient civilizations, their culture, history and a first-hand appreciation of the present day situation with the safety and security that can only come with local wisdom. All of this with the assured comfort of great hotels, experienced coach drivers, tasty meals and with an all-inclusive price. A spiritual journey you can make with your long-time friends, and your new ones!

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 1 MAY DEPART AUSTRALIA

Depart Melbourne this evening on your Emirates EK407 flight at 10:25pm arriving into Dubai at 05:30am.

DAY 2: THURSDAY 2 MAY ARRIVE AMMAN, DEAD SEA

On arrival into Dubai this morning, transfer to your onward Emirates flight EK901 at 07:25am to Amman, Jordan. Upon arrival into Amman this morning at 08:45am, we will be met and assisted through immigration by our tour guide and driver. Enjoy a brief orientation tour of Amman including a short visit to Amman Museum. After lunch we will also celebrate Mass today at the Catholic Church in Amman. Transfer for dinner and overnight at Dead Sea Hotel.

DAY 3: FRIDAY 3 MAY MT NEBO, MADABA, DEAD SEA

We depart Dead Sea this morning and drive to the mainly Christian town of Madaba to see the famous mosaic map of the world with Jerusalem at its centre. Continue a short distance to Mt Nebo, where Moses first saw the Promised Land across the Jordan Valley. This afternoon we are free to relax at our resort hotel and perhaps take a dip in the salty waters of the Dead Sea. Dinner and overnight is at your Dead Sea hotel.

DAY 4: SATURDAY 4 MAY FULL DAY PETRA, DEAD SEA

Today we drive to Petra, the rose red city half as old as time. We commence our visit of the ancient Nabatean Capital walking through the Ciq, a long narrow fissure between two overhanging cliffs. The tour then proceeds to gradually unfold the mysteries of the red rose city with its spectacular treasury, royal tombs, burial chambers and high place of sacrifice. Return to the Dead Sea for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5: SUNDAY 5 MAY ALLENBY BRIDGE, BAPTISMAL SITE, JERICHO, TIBERIAS

After check out this morning we transfer to the nearby Allenby Bridge border crossing point to Israel. After border formalities, continue to the traditional Baptismal site for a visit and renewal of baptismal vows. Visit Jericho, one of the oldest cities in the world and see the excavations there. View the Mt of Temptation. Take the scenic drive up through the Jordan Valley to our hotel in the Galilee. Dinner and overnight is at our hotel on the shores of the Sea of Galilee near Tiberias.

DAY 6: MONDAY 6 MAY CANA, NAZARETH, MT TABOR

Drive to Cana, the site of the First Miracle of turning water into wine, time for couples to renew marriage vows. On to Nazareth, to visit the Church of the Annunciation and Mary's Well. We visit Nazareth Village, a reconstructed site, capturing life in 1st Century Nazareth. Drive to the foot of Mt Tabor, site of the Transfiguration and take taxis up to the summit to visit the Church. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. MASS in Nazareth.

DAY 7: TUESDAY 7 MAY SEA OF GALILEE

After breakfast, enjoy a morning boat ride across the Sea of Galilee. We then visit the ancient fishing boat dating from the 1st Century that was found in the seabed at Nof Ginosar Kibbutz. Driving up the Mount Of Beatitudes, we visit the beautiful church where the Sermon on the Mount is remembered. From there we continue onto Capernaum to see the Synagogue and Peter's house, center of Jesus preaching ministry. See the Church of Primacy where Jesus said to Peter "Thou art the rock". Return for dinner and overnight at our hotel in the Galilee. MASS at Mt Beatitudes

DAY 8: WEDNESDAY 8 MAY TABGHA, MT CARMEL, CAESAREA, BETHLEHEM

An early visit to the Church of Tabgha with its famous mosaic of the Loaves and Fishes and Passing by the ancient town of Megiddo and the Valley of Armageddon, we visit Mt Carmel and enjoy a wonderful view across the Mediterranean Sea, River Kishon and Haifa Harbor and see the cave where Elijah took refuge in his contest with the prophets of Baal. Time for Mass. Take the coastal highway to Caesarea once capital of the Roman province. There we will see the Roman and

Crusader remains and the harbour from which St. Paul was taken prisoner to Rome. Continue to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 9: THURSDAY 9 MAY BETHLEHEM, ISRAEL MUSEUM, EIN KAREM, EMMAUS

Drive up to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem built over the stable cave of Jesus' birth and visit the Milk Grotto. Then to the Shepherds' Fields stopping at the Church there with its blackened cave where Shepherds' watched over their flocks. This afternoon, we will have lunch at a local restaurant in Bethlehem. We visit the Shrine of the Book at the Israel Museum, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are kept. We will also visit the Model of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus and the Second Temple. Continue to the village of Ein Karem. See the Church of Visitation and the Church of St. John the Baptist. We end the day with a visit to Emmaus, the site of the meeting of the two disciples with Jesus after the Resurrection. Return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner and overnight. MASS at Church of Nativity

DAY 10: FRIDAY 10 MAY BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY, MT. OLIVES, GETHSEMANE

This morning we visit Bethlehem University, the first Catholic University in the Holy Land founded in 1973. We will have an opportunity to hear about the work of the church in sustaining the University as a beacon of hope and have the opportunity to meet present day students over lunch. Drive to the Mount of Olives for a wonderful view of the Old City of Jerusalem. See the Place of Ascension, commemorating Jesus' Ascension and the Pater Noster Church. We then follow the Palm Sunday Road stopping at Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. At the foot of the hill see the Garden of Gethsemane with its ancient olive trees and the church of All Nations. Dinner and overnight is in Jerusalem. Mass at Gethsemane

DAY 11: SATURDAY 11 MAY OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM, MT ZION

This morning we start early to enter the Old City through St Stephen's Gate and walk along the Via Dolorosa ending up at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Mass is at the Holy Sepulchre. After breakfast at our hotel we return to the Old City of Jerusalem to visit St. Anne's Church, the home of the Virgin Mary and her parents Saints Joachim and Anne. We visit the Ecce Homo where Pilate proclaimed "Behold the man" and visit the excavations; then the Wailing Wall, the most holy place for Jews. Nearby is the Dome of the Rock and the Haram al Sharif or Temple Mount. In the afternoon, we drive up to Mt Zion to see the Upper Room and the Tomb of David and the Church of Dormition. Visit the Church known as St. Peter in Gallicantu, where Peter denied Christ. See also Caiphas' House, where Jesus was held. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.



DAY 12: SUNDAY 12 MAY
DAY OF LEISURE

Enjoy a full day at leisure to relax, further explore independently or do some shopping. Meet back for dinner and overnight at our hotel. This evening after dinner there will be a meeting with Bereaved Families at the hotel.

DAY 13: MONDAY 13 MAY
MASADA, DEAD SEA, EIN GEDI, QUMRAN

Drive to Qumran to visit the remains of the Essene enclave and see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were hidden and discovered. Continue on along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth to the fortress mountain called Masada, the stronghold of Jewish resistance to the Romans in the revolt of AD 75. Ascend by cable car to see the remains of Herod's Palace and many other archeological excavations found. Stop by Ein Gedi before returning to Jerusalem for final dinner and overnight.

DAY 14: TUESDAY 14 MAY
ALLENBY BRIDGE, DEPARTURE

This morning we cross the border at the Allenby Bridge back into Jordan. After lunch at the Haret Joudna Restaurant in Madaba, we head to Amman Airport for check in for our Emirates flight to Dubai. Upon arrival into Dubai, transfer to our onward connecting Emirates flight back to Australia.

DAY 15: WEDNESDAY 15 MAY
ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

Arrive back into Melbourne in the early hours of the morning with wonderful memories of a fantastic trip!

** Itinerary subject to change**

TOTAL ESTIMATED PACKAGE PRICE:

Price per person: **AUD\$6,590*** (twin share)

Optional Single Supplement: **AUD\$1,575**

* Price is subject to change. Conditions apply. Price is based on minimum of 25 paying participants.

PROPOSED HOTELS TO BE USED (or similar):

Dead Sea (Jordan)	Holiday Inn	3 nights
Tiberias	Nof Ginosar (motel style)	3 nights
Bethlehem	St Gabriel	2 nights
Jerusalem	Olive Tree	4 nights

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return economy class airfares from Melbourne - Dubai – Amman with Emirates
- 12 nights' hotel accommodation in shared twin rooms
- Daily buffet breakfasts & dinners at hotels.
- 12 lunches in local restaurants.
- Headsets in Israel Only.
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours as outlined in the itinerary with the services of local professional English speaking guides throughout the tour
- Airport meet and assistance and transfers and transportation throughout in a luxury air-conditioned coach
- Entrance fees to all sights and museums as mentioned in the itinerary
- Tips, portorage & gratuities throughout

PRICES EXCLUDE

- Beverages with meals
- Headsets in Jordan
- Entrance/sightseeing/meals other than those in the itinerary
- Single supplement
- Travel insurance
- Incidental expenses of a personal nature such as phone calls, laundry, room service etc.
- Any services not listed in 'Price Includes' above

WHAT TO DO NEXT:

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Tony or the team at Olive Tree Travel
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$350 per person is required by 2 July 2018 (unless sold out prior)
3. Full payment is required by 1 February 2019

ATTEND AN INFORMATION MEETING:

WHEN: Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 7.00pm
WHERE: St Francis Xavier Friars Room
Corner Dorking Rd and Whitehorse Road
Box Hill Vic 3128

- * Enjoy a full briefing
- * Have your questions answered
- * Meet your fellow pilgrims



WHO TO CONTACT:



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