



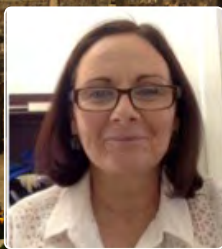
# UTC Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Escorted by Rev Dr Ian Robinson & Rev Dr Anne Wright

13 Days

Fully Escorted

3 – 15 Dec 2020



TOTAL ESTIMATED PACKAGE PRICE TO ISRAEL:

**\$5,990\*** per person (twin share)

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT ADDITIONAL **\$1,495**

\* Conditions apply. Subject to change. Price is based on minimum of 30 paying participants

We are excited to offer this opportunity to travel to Israel on a pilgrimage in December 2020. Going to Israel will change the way you see the world. We visit sites such as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and see the tomb of Jesus, and there are the places Jesus walked. We walk the heights of Masada and hear of the story of the rebel patriots for Israel and their last hold out against Rome in 72 AD. We will come to envision the biblical stories in a new way. Simultaneously we will gain insights into the religious and political dimensions of this land when we see the Golan Heights and when we travel into Palestinian territory and to Bethlehem, walk on the walls of Jerusalem or ascend to the Dome of Rock. All of this comes together so that we understand a place at the centre of Christian, Jewish and Muslim faith. There is so much to see and learn in such a concentrated place and time- a truly Chairos experience. Israel, sometimes described as the heart of the world, is calling us to come and see our faith in a whole new light.

*Rev Dr Ian Robinson* is a lecturer at the United Theological College in Sydney. He is keen on the Bible, the Gospel, prayer and leadership. He has made this journey to Israel five times.

*Rev Dr Anne Wright* is Director of Education and Formation, Principal of the Perth Theological Hall.

#### BASED ON FOLLOWING HOTELS (or similar):

**Galilee** Nof Ginosar Hotel 4 nights  
**Jerusalem** Olive Tree Hotel 6 nights

#### PRICE INCLUDES

- Return economy class fares from Sydney/Perth on Cathay Pacific or Thai/El Al Israel Airlines via Asia
- 10 nights' hotel accommodation including daily buffet breakfasts & dinners throughout, all meals in hotels unless otherwise specified
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours as outlined in the itinerary with the services of local professional English speaking guide throughout the tour
- Airport meet and assistance and transfers and transportation throughout in a luxury air-conditioned coach
- Entrance fees to museums and all sights as mentioned in the itinerary
- Tips & gratuities throughout
- Current airport & departure taxes
- Whisperer headsets

#### PRICE EXCLUDES

- Lunches
- Beverages with meals
- 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.

#### WHAT TO DO NEXT

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Ian Robinson, Anne Wright or the team at Olive Tree Travel
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$350 per person is required by the 11th November 2019 (unless sold out prior)
3. Full payment will be required by 1st October 2020



## DAY 1: THURSDAY 3 DEC

### Depart Australia

Depart from Sydney or Perth today onboard our flight to Tel Aviv via Asia.

## DAY 2: FRIDAY 4 DEC

### Arrive Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Tiberias

Arrive into Tel Aviv this morning, where we are met by our waiting tour guide and driver. We will have a tour of Old Joppa before we transfer to our hotel in Tiberias for dinner and overnight. (BD)

## DAY 3: SATURDAY 5 DEC

### Sea of Galilee

After breakfast we enjoy a morning boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, with a prayer service to be held either onboard or on shore. 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 Mt of Beatitudes, we visit the beautiful church where the Sermon on the Mount is remembered, and from there we continue onto Capernaum to see the synagogue and Peter's house, centre of Jesus preaching ministry. See the Church of Tabgha with its famous mosaic of the Loaves and Fishes and the Church of Primacy where Jesus said to Peter "Thou art the rock". Return to our hotel in the Galilee for dinner and overnight. (BD)

## DAY 4: SUNDAY 6 DEC

### Golan Heights, Banias, Kursi, Free afternoon

Today we head up to the Golan Heights to the Springs of Banias, also known as Caesarea Philippi where Peter said "Thou are Christ". Returning towards the Sea of Galilee via Kursi we will have the afternoon free to relax in Tiberias. Dinner and overnight is in Tiberias. (BD)

## DAY 5: MONDAY 7 DEC

### Sepphoris, Nazareth, Nazareth Village, Magdala

We start with a visit to Sepphoris, home-town of Anne, mother of Mary. We then travel to Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus, and the site of the annunciation to Mary. We visit the Nazareth village, a reconstructed site which, captures life as it was in 1st century Nazareth. We then go to Nazareth and see the oldest Church of the Annunciation with Mary's Well before returning to Tiberias to visit the newly opened Magdala Centre. Dinner and overnight in Tiberias. (BD)

## DAY 6: TUESDAY 8 DEC

### Meggido, Mt Carmel, Caesarea, Jerusalem

Start the day with a visit the ancient town of Megiddo and the Valley of Armageddon. We will also visit Mt Carmel and enjoy a wonderful view across the Mediterranean Sea, the River Kishon and Haifa Harbour. We see the cave where Elijah took refuge in his contest with the prophets of Baal at Muchraka. Take the coastal highway to Caesarea, which was once the 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 Jerusalem for dinner and overnight. (BD)

## DAY 7: WEDNESDAY 9 DEC

### Mt of Olives, Gethsemane, Mt Zion, Bethlehem

We drive to the Mt of Olives for a wonderful view of the Old City of Jerusalem. We see the Place of Ascension, commemorating Jesus' ascension, and the Pater Noster Church. We then follow the Palm Sunday Road stopping at Dominus Fleuit, where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. At the foot of the hill visit the Garden of Gethsemane with its ancient olive trees, and the Church of All Nations. In the afternoon we visit the church known as St. Peter in

Gallicantu, where Peter denied Christ. See also Caiphas' House, where Jesus was held. Later we drive south to Bethlehem, enjoy some time to sing an Advent Christian song. We visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem which is built over the stable cave of Jesus' birth. Then to the Shepherds' Fields stopping at the church there with its blackened cave where shepherds' watched over their flocks. We then return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight. (BD)

## DAY 8: THURSDAY 10 DEC

### Old City of Jerusalem

This morning we will have an early start to enter the Old City through St Stephen's Gate and walk along the Via Dolorosa and ending up at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Visit St. Anne's Church, the home of the Virgin Mary and her parents, Saints Joachim and Anne, and visit the Pools of Bethesda, site of the miracle of the healing. We pass the Ecce Homo where Pilate proclaimed "Behold the man"; then to the Western Wall, the most holy place for Jews. Enjoy some time for our own prayer and reflection. Nearby is the Dome of the Rock and the Haram al Sharif or Temple Mount. We will finish the day with communion at the Garden Tomb. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (BD)

## DAY 9: FRIDAY 11 DEC

### Qumran, Masada, Ein Gedi

This morning we drive to Qumran to visit the remains of the Essene enclave and see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were hidden and later discovered. Continue along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth, and to the fortress mountain called Masada, the stronghold of Jewish resistance to the Romans in the revolt of 75 AD. We ascend by cable car to see the remains of Herod's Palace and many other archaeological excavations which are found there. Enjoy a brief stop at Ein Gedi, where David hid from King Saul, before returning to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (BD)

## DAY 10: SATURDAY 12 DEC

### Free Day in Jerusalem

Today will be a free day to enjoy and explore Jerusalem at our leisure. (BD)

## DAY 11: SUNDAY 13 DEC

### New City of Jerusalem

After breakfast we enjoy a visit to the Israel Museum to see the scale model of Jerusalem and the Shrine of the Book to see where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed. Visit Yad Vashem (Israel's memorial to the holocaust) and later enjoy some time this afternoon for shopping in the Old City or wandering through the Machane Yehuda markets. (BD)

## DAY 12: MONDAY 14 DEC

### Depart Jerusalem

We check out of our hotel after breakfast and transfer to Tel Aviv airport for our departure flight home via Asia. (B)

## DAY 13: TUESDAY 15 DEC

### Arrive Australia

Arrive back into Sydney or Perth today with wonderful memories of our trip!

\*\*Itinerary subject to change\*\*



WHO TO CONTACT:



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