

Journey to Israel

Proposed Study Tour

11 - 22 January 2010

Escorted by Tony Bird



If you have ever wondered what it is like to sail on the Sea of Galilee, swim in the Dead Sea, walk around Gethsemane or look across at the old city of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives – you have the chance to experience these things for yourself and much more. You are invited to join with Tony Bird on an exciting and stimulating study tour of major New Testament sites in Israel today. See the places Jesus walked and discover some of the fascinating wonders of this ancient land.

Monday 11 January

Depart Melbourne

Depart Melbourne today on your Thai Airways flight to Bangkok departing at 1630. On arrival into Bangkok at 2140, transfer to your connecting El-Al Israel Airlines to Tel Aviv.

Tuesday 12 January

Arrival in Tel Aviv

Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv this morning at 0715, where we will meet our Israeli guide. Drive to the ancient port of Jaffa before continuing to our hotel on the coast. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure before dinner and overnight at our hotel in Tel Aviv.

Wednesday 13 January

Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Megiddo, Nazareth, Tiberias

After breakfast we head north to Caesarea. Here, Peter first presented the Gospel to the Gentiles when he preached to Cornelius with his friends and family. We continue north to Mt. Carmel. We will ascend the slopes of Mt. Carmel to see where Elijah hid from King Ahab. Enjoy a panoramic view sweeping from the Mediterranean Sea to the Valley of Megiddo. From Carmel, we descend to Megiddo. Here, the armies of the world led by kings and emperors such as David, Alexander, Pompey, Mark Anthony, Nebuchadnezzar, and Pharaoh have battled throughout the ages. Archeologists have unearthed 20 levels of civilization in the ancient city of Megiddo (Armageddon). We cross the valley to Nazareth. We will see Cana of Galilee where the first miracle of Christ was performed.

Dinner and overnight is at our hotel in Tiberias

Thursday 14 January

Lake Galilee, Capernaum, Tabgha, Mt. Beatitudes, Tiberias

Drive to the Igal Alon Center at Nof Ginosar to view the ancient 1st century fishing boat recently found on the shores of the Galilee. Enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee before continuing to Capernaum, the home base of Jesus' Galilean Ministry, we will visit an ancient synagogue and Peter's Home. Then we travel on to Tabgha, the site of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Continue to the Mount of the Beatitudes and Korazim.

Dinner and overnight is at our hotel in Tiberias.

Friday 15 January

Caesarea Philippi, Kursi, Yardenit

This morning we journey to the headwaters of the Jordan River at Caesarea Philippi and travel through the Golan Heights. Drive to Kursi and Beth Saïda on the Eastern side of Lake Galilee. Also visit the Museum at Ein Gev. End our day with a visit to Yardenit, the Jordan River Baptismal Site. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight in Tiberias.

Saturday 16 January

Beit Shean, Beit Alpha, Jericho, Jerusalem

This morning we visit the most magnificent archeological site in Israel, Beit Shean. Continue to Beit Alpha to see the lovely Zodiac. On the way to Jerusalem we will visit Jericho, considered the oldest city of the world (visit subject to security). Our tour continues as we ascend to Jerusalem.

Dinner and overnight is at our hotel in Jerusalem.

Sunday 17 January

Jerusalem – Old City

Our day begins with a panoramic view of the Old City at the Mt. of Olives. We walk to the Gardens of Gethsemane. Drive to Mt. Zion and enter the old city at Zion Gate to see the Western Wall. Walk through the Jewish Quarter and visit the Palatial Herodian Mansion and Burnt House, which form part of the Wohl Museum. Walk on the Cardo and cross into to the Christian Quarter to explore the Via Dolorosa (incl. Pools of Bethesda) ending at the Holy Sepulchre. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem.



Monday 18 January

Temple Mount, City of David, Shrine of the Book

Return to the Old City and enter at the Dung Gate. We will first visit the Temple Mount and have a close observation of the mosques. Then visit the Davidson Centre. Enjoy an interesting walk to the Siloam Pools and Hezekiah's Tunnels. Drive to the New City of Jerusalem to see the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are exhibited. Include model of Jerusalem. Subject to the security situation, enjoy a possible visit to Bethlehem and Herodium.

Return to your hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

Tuesday 19 January

Qumran, Masada, Dead Sea

Travel to the Dead Sea to visit the fortress mountain, Masada. Ascend the mountain by cable car and survey where the Jewish zealots made their last stand against the Roman 10th Legion after the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. Enjoy bathing in the Dead Sea. Continue onto Qumran to visit the caves where the Dead Sea scrolls were found. Return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight at your hotel.

Wednesday 20 January

Depart Israel

Enjoy the day at leisure to do any last minute shopping and visit the garden tomb (on your own). Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport late this afternoon for your El-Al / Thai Airways code share departure flight to Bangkok departing at 2210. On arrival into Bangkok at 1400 on 21 January, transfer to your Thai Airways flight back to Melbourne departing at 0015 on 22 January.

Friday 22 January

Arrive Australia

Arrive back to Melbourne today at 1325 with wonderful memories of a fantastic trip!

CONFIRMED AIRLINE ITINERARY:

11 Jan 2009: MELBOURNE - BANGKOK	Thai Airways
12 Jan 2009: BANGKOK - TEL AVIV	El Al Israel Airlines
20 Jan 2009: TEL AVIV - BANGKOK	El Al Israel Airlines
22 Jan 2009: BANGKOK - MELBOURNE	Thai Airways

CONFIRMED HOTELS:

1 overnights @ Grand Beach hotel in Tel Aviv
3 overnights @ Nof Ginosar - Hotel Kibbutz by the Sea of Galilee
4 overnights @ Prima Royale hotel in Jerusalem



TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE: AUD\$4490.00* per person twin share

Single supplement: AUD\$850.00*

Land only reduction: \$1600 (This is the figure that you may deduct from the total to get a land only figure)

* Price is based on a minimum of 20 full paying participants. Conditions apply. Price is subject to change

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Return economy airfares from Melbourne to Tel Aviv via Bangkok with Thai Airways and El Al Israel Airlines
- 8 nights' hotel accommodation in 4 star hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily, from dinner on first day to breakfast on last day
- Transport by deluxe motor-coach
- All guiding and entrance fees
- 8 full days of sightseeing as per our suggested itinerary
- Cable car ride at Masada
- All tips, portorage and gratuities

PRICE EXCLUDES:

- Airport & departure taxes & fuel surcharges (approximately AUD\$750 per person)
- Entrance/sightseeing/meals other than those in the itinerary
- Single supplement
- Travel insurance (An essential requirement. Please contact Steven at etm Travel for an enrolment form)
- Lunches
- 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 Tony Bird or Steven Green at ETM Travel
2. Secure your place on tour by paying a deposit of \$350 per person (no later than Friday 31st July 2009)
3. The balance payment is required by Monday 30th November 2009.

MORE INFORMATION:

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