



EGYPT – JORDAN – Holy Land 15 days

PILGRIMAGE TOUR

Day 1 : ARRIVE – CAIRO

Fly to Cairo. On arrival in Cairo we will be met and driven to our hotel for overnight stay.

Day 2 : THE PYRAMIDS - OLD CAIRO

After breakfast we leave our hotel and drive up to the great plateau of Giza to witness the vast scale of the Pyramids and the Sphinx. If permitted, there may be an opportunity of climbing up inside one of the pyramids. We return to Cairo's Old City to visit the Church of the Holy Family. It was near this church that the Holy Family found haven for nearly four years after their flight for fear of persecution by King Herod. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Cairo.

Day 03 : THE RED SEA MONASTERIES

This morning after an early breakfast we leave for Za'faranah, a small city north of Hurghada on the Red Sea, from there you will visit a highlight of the tour - two of the oldest monasteries in the world, St. Paul's and St. Anthony's. On our return dinner will be awaiting. Overnight stay in Za'faranah.

Day 04 : INTO THE SINAI DESERT

An early start after breakfast as we drive north to cross the Suez Canal and then turn south into the Sinai Desert. We plan to arrive by Mount Sinai and our desert hotel mid-afternoon in time to enjoy the spectacular sunset over Sinai. Dinner and overnight stay by Mount Sinai.

Day 05 : ST CATHERINE'S MONASTERY - MT SINAI - THE RED SEA

For the very fit there will be an opportunity to climb to the summit of Mount Sinai and witness a breathtaking sunrise over Sinai and to visit the Chapel of Moses. After breakfast we shall visit the St. Catherine's Monastery, which is situated at the foot of Mount Sinai. This beautiful monastery was built on the site where Moses witnessed the burning bush before receiving the Ten Commandments. If permitted we will have an opportunity of viewing its priceless collection of icons. Late morning we leave Mount Sinai and the group returning to London drive west back across the Sinai Desert towards Cairo to spend their final night in Cairo.

We say goodbye to our friends and continue to the Red Sea resort of Nuweiba to spend the evening by the Red Sea. Dinner and overnight in Nuweiba

Day 06 : THE RED SEA – PETRA

Morning free to relax by the Red Sea. In the afternoon drive to the nearby ferry terminal to board a fast-ferry to cross the Red Sea to Aqaba in Jordan. On completion of border formalities we will be met and driven north to the rose-red city of Petra in the mountains of Edom and our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in Petra.

Day 07 THE ROSE-RED CITY OF PETRA

We wake to the sunrise in the mountains of Edom and after breakfast we leave our hotel and follow a narrow path through towering rock walls into ancient Petra. Here we are confronted by the stunning spectacle of temples, tombs and monuments carved by the Nabateans from the red sandstone of Petra. We plan to spend the entire day exploring this magnificent city that lay hidden from the world for centuries. Two sites worth exploring, are the Roman High Place of Sacrifice and the Monastery, the largest of these monuments, reached after a climb of over eight hundred steps - but well worth the effort. Return to hotel for overnight stay



Day 08 : KINGS' HIGHWAY - DEAD SEA

After breakfast, we leave Petra and drive north along the scenic Kings' Highway. The route runs through the ancient lands of Edom and Moab to Ammon. Our first stop is the Dead Sea, where we will have an opportunity of bathing in its unique mineral-laden waters. In the afternoon we drive to Mount Nebo, to stand where Moses stood and looked across the River Jordan to "The Promised Land. We then continue to Madaba to view the famous mosaic map of the Bible Lands at the time of the Emperor Justinian. Finally we proceed to Amman and our hotel.

Day 09 IN SIGHT OF THE HOLY LAND

This morning we drive down to Wadi Kharrar (Bethany beyond the Jordan) on the River Jordan, Where Jesus was baptised. We visit the archaeological ruins of several churches at this important location close to the Hill of Elijah, where Elijah is said to have ascended into heaven. After the visit we return to our hotel for farewell dinner & overnight in Amman.

Day 10 : BORDERS – Airport - Galilee – Nazaret

Meet and assist the then drive through the landscapes of Galilee. Visit Capernaum - The Center Of Jesus' Ministry After He Left Nazareth We Stop At Tabgha- The Church Of The Multiplication Of The Loaves And Fishes And The Expressive Church Of The Beatitudes, Where Jesus Gave The Sermon on the Mount. We Make A Brief Halt At St.Peter's House, The Church Of Primacy Of Peter And The Place Where Jesus Bestowed St. Peter With His Authority. This Is Believed To Be The Place Where Jesus Dined With His Disciples. The Flat Rock Known As Mensa Christ Or Christ's Table Commemorates This Event. Then On To Nazareth, The Boyhood Town Of Jesus And Home Of Mary And Joseph And Visit The Basilica Of The Annunciation Built Over The Grotto Where Archangel Gabriel Appeared To Announce That She Would Bear A Son, Jesus. We Also Stop By Joseph's Workshop And The Tomb Of The Just. We stop at Yardenit on the Jordan River, the traditional baptismal site.

Back to the hotel for Dinner and Overnight in Tiberias or Nazareth

Day 11 : Haifa - Caesarea - Jerusalem

Breakfast at the hotel.

We Visit Cana Where Jesus Performed His First Miracle, Changing Water into Wine at the Wedding Feast. Travel To Haifa, Israel's Largest Port City, Built On The Slopes Of Mt. Carmel. View on The Bahai Gardens. We Then Make A Brief Halt At The Springs Of Elijah And Then We Continue To Muhraqa, The Place Of Sacrifice And The Site Where Prophet Elijah Defeated The False Prophets Of Ba'al. Visit to Stella Maris/ Jaffo to See the House of Simon the Tanner and Visit St. Peter's Church and Drive to Jerusalem to the hotel for Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 12 : Bethlehem - Ein Karem

Breakfast at the hotel.

This Morning Visit Bethlehem Located In The Judah Province. It Was Here That The Angel Announced The Birth Of Jesus To The Shepherds Of Bethlehem During The Reign Of King Herod. Here David Tended His Flocks Until He Was Anointed King Of Israel. We Visit The Church Of The Nativity - The Birthplace Of Jesus and Visit to the Milk Grotto, Manger Square, Shepherds Field Crusaders Cloister Grotto Of St. Jerome And Rachel's Tomb. Time To Move On To Ein Karem - The City Of Judah And Birthplace Of John The Baptist, Son Of Elizabeth & Zechariah And The Church Of Visitation. Proceed To Mt. Zion. Visit The Cenacle - The Room Of The Last Supper And The Tomb Of King David & Dormition Abbey. We Also Visit The Church Of St. Peter Of Gallicantu Which Symbolizes Peter's Denial Of Jesus As He Had Prophesied At The Last Supper. Later We Visit The House Of The High Priest, Caiaphas, Where Jesus Was Imprisoned. Visit Wailing Wall and View to Alaksa Mosque. Back To Hotel for Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem.



Day 13 : Old City Of Jerusalem

Breakfast at the hotel.

We Drive Through The Judean Wilderness, Stopping At Bethany (if security situation permits). The House Of Mary And Martha And Lazarus' Tomb. Today We Ascend The Mt. Of Olives Overlooking the Holy City of Jerusalem. Visit The Church Of The Ascension which Commemorates The Ascent Of Jesus To Heaven. The Pater Noster Church where according To Tradition, Lies The Cave Where Jesus Brought His Disciples And Spoke To Them About The Mystery Of The End. We Will Stop At The Chapel Of Domimius Flevit, Where Jesus Wept Over The Imminent Destruction Of Jerusalem. Then Visit The Garden Of Gethsemane Where Jesus Prayed While Judas Betrayed Him To The Romans. Visit The Basilica Of The Agony (Church Of All Nations), Which Stands Out From Afar. We Pause at the Pools of Bethesda Where Jesus Healed the Crippled Man. Continue via the Via Dolorosa till the Church of Holy Sepulcher. Return to hotel for Dinner & overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 14 : Dead Sea – Qumeran - Jericho

After breakfast

Proceed to The Dead Sea, The Lowest Point On Earth (1305 Ft. Below Sea Level). We Make A Brief Stop At A Private Beach, And Take The Opportunity To Float In The Salty Buoyant Water, Rich In Minerals. Continue Along The Shores Of The Dead Sea To Qumran, The Caves Where The Dead Sea Scrolls Were Found. Visit To Jericho Believed From Carbon Tests To Be The Oldest City In The World. It Is Also The Place Where Jesus Stopped On His Way To Jerusalem On The Eve Of The Pass-Over And Where Jesus Cured The Blind Man During His Stay At Zacchaeus' House. Return to Jerusalem dinner & overnight at hotel

Day 15 : Departure – Airport / Border

Breakfast at Hotel, Drive for departure.