

# 15-Day Tour of the Holy Land

HOSTED BY **DRS. DAVID AND CHRISTINE PALMER**

**November 7-21, 2016**

**\$4,459.00 per person**

1 night on the Mediterranean coast, 4 nights in Galilee, 5 nights in Jerusalem,  
1 night at the Dead Sea, and 1 night in Eilat

DAY 1 (Mon. Nov 7): Today we embark on a life-changing journey to the land of the Bible.

DAY 2 (Tues. Nov 8): Upon arrival at Ben Gurion airport, we will be met by our guide and transferred to our hotel on the Mediterranean coast. Here, we will enjoy a walk along the beach and a lavish Israeli dinner buffet before getting a good night's rest.

DAY 3 (Wed. Nov 9): CAESAREA AND JEZREEL VALLEY

We begin our tour in **Caesarea**, official residence of Herodian kings and Roman procurators, and the city of Cornelius, the first Gentile convert (Acts 10). We will visit the Roman theater, the pier from which Paul embarked on his journey to Rome, and Herod's imposing aqueducts. Leaving the Mediterranean, we will travel north to **Mount Carmel**, site of Elijah's contest with the 450 prophets of Baal (I Kings 18). A memorable experience awaits us for lunch, where we will enjoy a falafel meal at the Druze village of **Daliat El-Carmel**. The afternoon will be dedicated to touring the **Jezreel Valley**. We will visit **Megiddo**, an impressive ancient city of 21 superimposed layers, including vast remains from Solomon's days (I Kings 9). At the end of the day, we will drive through **Nazareth**, making a stop at **Mount of Precipice** (Luke 4) for a panoramic view of Nazareth and the surrounding area. We will continue to our hotel in Galilee by way of **Cana**, where Jesus performed his first miracle at a wedding (John 2).

DAY 4 (Thurs. Nov 10): AREA OF THE NORTHERN KINGDOM

We will begin our journey driving through the **Hula Valley** to reach **Mount Hermon**, where Christ appeared transfigured before his disciples (Luke 9). We will continue to **Banias**, one of the headwaters of the **Jordan River** and site of **Caesarea Philippi**, where Peter confessed Christ's divinity. A hike through the **Dan Nature Reserve** will take us to the site of biblical Dan, where we will learn about Jeroboam's altar and golden calves (I Kings 12). We will see a mudbrick gate dating to the time of Abraham and learn about the significance of the city gate in the Bible. We will end our day at **Gamla**, a city conquered by the Romans and known as 'Masada of the Galilee.' After a breathtaking view of the area, we will walk through the city's synagogue and hear the story of this unique town in the words of Josephus.

DAY 5 (Fri. Nov 11): AROUND THE SEA OF GALILEE



We will begin the day with the unforgettable experience of sailing on the **Sea of Galilee** in a replica of a first century wooden fishing boat. Our first stop will be at **Capernaum**, the fishing village where Jesus began his ministry, called his disciples, and performed many of his healing miracles. We will walk through the synagogue where Jesus preached (Matthew 4), and visit what is traditionally identified as Peter's house, later converted into a public gathering place for early Christian worship. After we reflect on the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) at



the **Mount of Beatitudes**, we will continue to the city of **Korazin**, cursed by Jesus (Matthew 11:20-24) and destroyed in the 4<sup>th</sup> century never to be inhabited again. There, we will see the basalt synagogue, ritual bath, and a 'Moses seat' (Matthew 23:1-7). We will end the day driving around the lake to **Tabgha**, site of the feeding of the 5,000 (Matthew 14).

#### DAY 6 (Sat. Nov 12): CITIES OF JESUS' MINISTRY

We begin the day driving by **Mount Gilboah**, where King Saul fell on his sword and met his death. From there, we will head south to **Beth She'an** (I Samuel 31), a Decapolis capital mentioned in the Gospels. We will walk the ancient streets of one of the best-preserved Roman cities, viewing its steam baths, theater, marketplace, and temples. For lunch, we will stop at **Sachne**, a national park with warm water springs where visitors can enjoy a swim year-round. After our refreshing stop, we will continue to **Sepphoris**, capital of Galilee in the Second Temple period and largest city in proximity to Nazareth, where Jesus likely found work as a craftsman. Our day will close with a climb down **Mount Arbel** to enjoy the spectacular view of the entire Galilee area.

#### DAY 7 (Sun. Nov 13): THE WILDERNESS



We will leave the region of Galilee and head south driving through the **Jordan Valley** on the **Old Jericho Road** used by pilgrims in Jesus' day to make the ascent to Jerusalem. We will make a stop along the road to reflect on the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25) and visit the **Good Samaritan Museum**. We will then enjoy a scenic hike along a portion of the **Wadi Qelt** to reach **St. George Monastery**, a 4<sup>th</sup> century monastery built on the face of the canyon. Finally, crossing the **Wilderness of Judea**, we will begin the ascent to the City of the Great King. Tonight we will transition to our accommodations in Jerusalem.

#### DAY 8 (Mon. Nov 14): JERUSALEM: OLD & NEW

We begin our day at the **Mount of Olives** with a magnificent view of Jerusalem where we will hear an overview of its remarkable history. We will then descend the **Palm Sunday road** to the **Garden of Gethsemane**, site of Jesus' betrayal (Luke 22), followed by a visit to the **Church of All Nations** which beautifully evokes the evening landscape of Jesus' prayer before his arrest. We will then travel back in time by crossing the Kidron Valley to visit the **City of David**, walk through **Hezekiah's Tunnel**, and emerge at the newly-excavated **Pool of Siloam** where Jesus healed the blind man (John 9). After lunch, there will be an optional visit to the **Yad Vashem** Holocaust museum for an appreciation of the history of the Jewish people.

#### DAY 9 (Tues. Nov 15): THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM



We begin the day touring the Temple Mount and **Dome of the Rock**, where Solomon's Temple once stood. We will discover the area around the **Temple Mount**, viewing the remains of Herod's Temple and the steps used by Jesus when entering its courts (Luke 19, Matthew 21). We then will tour the impressive **Western Wall Tunnel**, running along the continuation of the Western Wall, to gain a better understanding of how the complex of the Temple Mount was constructed. We will continue to the **Jewish Quarter** where archaeologists have uncovered an extensive area of houses from Jesus' time. We will walk through the **Burnt House** in the Herodian Quarter, home of a priestly family which was burned down at the Roman destruction of Jerusalem. We will end with a tour of the Roman **Cardo** and **Hezekiah's Broad Wall**, built during the Assyrian invasion (Isaiah 22:9-11). We will make our way out of the Old City by way of the Arab market and bazaar.

DAY 10 (Wed. Nov 16): ISRAEL MUSEUM AND BETHLEHEM

We will spend the morning at the **Israel Museum** viewing a model of **Jerusalem** at the time of Jesus, the ossuary of Caiaphas, the Pontius Pilatus stone, and many other artifacts relating to the Bible. We will then travel to **Herodion**, the impressive fortress and site of King Herod's burial where we will have the chance to view the remains of his palace, luxurious swimming pool, private theater, and mausoleum. We will spend the afternoon in **Bethlehem**, visiting the **Church of Nativity**, traditional site of the birth place of Jesus. Our day will end at the **Shepherds' Fields**, where Ruth gleaned in Boaz's field, David pastured his sheep, and where angels announced to shepherds the Good News of the Messiah's birth (Luke 2).

DAY 11 (Thurs. Nov 17): JERUSALEM'S CHRISTIAN SITES



We will dedicate our last day in Jerusalem contemplating the crucifixion and resurrection of our Savior. We will visit the traditional site of the **Upper Room**, where Jesus celebrated the Passover with his disciples, and then walk to the **Pool of Bethesda**, site of the healing of the lame man (John 5). We will enjoy a time of singing in **St. Anne's Church**, a crusader church known for its acoustics. We will view the remains of the **Antonia Fortress**, where Jesus' trial took place (Mathew 27) and continue to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, the historical location of the Golgotha of Jesus' day. We will

follow the **Via Dolorosa** out of the **Damascus Gate** to the **Garden Tomb**, a place of contemplation reminiscent of the tomb where Christ would have been laid. There, we will celebrate communion as a group of brothers and sisters in Christ on pilgrimage together. The rest of the day will be free to stroll through Jerusalem, taking in the sights and sounds of the eternal city.



DAY 12 (Fri. Nov 18): DEAD SEA REGION



Early in the morning, we will descend towards the **Dead Sea** located in the Rift Valley, the lowest depression on the earth's surface, approximately 1300 ft. below sea level. Our first stop will be at **Qumran**, site of the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, where we will learn about

the reliability of the manuscripts of the Old Testament. We will explore **Ein Gedi**, where David hid from Saul and composed several psalms of his experience, and then hike to three levels of waterfalls to enjoy the area's natural beauty. We will continue next to **Masada**, Herod's magnificent palace-fortress and site of the Zealots' last stand against Rome. Well-preserved palaces, storehouses, cisterns and remains of the Roman camp are among the archaeological features which illuminate the compelling history of this site. The end of the day will bring us to our hotel where we can experience weightless floating on the Dead Sea.



DAY 13 (Sat. Nov 19): ARAVAH VALLEY



Our day will begin with a stop near the area of **Sodom and Gomorrah** to view its salt mines and recall its biblical history (Genesis 19). We will travel south through the **Aravah Valley** to reach **Timna National Park** and explore its spectacular landscape of sandstone rock formations. There, we will discover remnants of copper mining activities, smelting furnaces, rock carvings, **Solomon's Pillars**, and an ancient Egyptian shrine. We will visit a life-size **model of the tabernacle**, God's dwelling place in the wilderness, to learn about the centrality of sacrifice in ancient Israelite worship. Before reaching Eilat, we

will stop at **Kibbutz Yotvata**, known for its delicious dairy products produced in the middle of the desert. As the sun sets, we will arrive at the beautiful city of **Eilat**, located on the shores of the Red Sea, to take in a breathtaking view of the red mountains of Edom and the Gulf of Aqaba.

DAY 14 (Sun. Nov 20): EILAT

We will spend the morning in Eilat, known as the “city of the eternal sun.” From this southernmost tip of the land of Israel, we will have a view of Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. Some may want to snorkel in the Red Sea, visit the underwater observatory, do some hiking in the mountains surrounding Eilat, or just enjoy a restful day around the hotel’s swimming pool. In the early afternoon, we will drive the length of the country back to Ben Gurion airport, soaking in vistas of the land and rehearsing its sacred history.

DAY 15 (Mon. Nov. 21): We will arrive in the United States in time to share Thanksgiving celebrations with family. Returning home, our Bible will never be the same, for it will be alive before our eyes and in our hearts after having seen and touched the very places we had only read about until now.

**INCLUDES:** Round-trip airfare from CVG. Round-trip transfers between Airport and Hotels, Hotel Accommodations, 12-Day Tour of Israel with Guide, Breakfast and Dinner Daily, 1 Falafel Lunch. All Entrance Fees, Medical Insurance while in Israel (must be under 86 years of age and does not cover while in Bethlehem), All Hotel Taxes, Current Airport Taxes which are subject to change until ticketed, All Gratuities, Personalized Name Badge, Document Case with Luggage Tags and Baggage Strap.

**HOTELS:** 1 night Island Netanya, Netanya / 4 nights Leonardo Plaza, Tiberias / 5 nights Dan Panorama, Jerusalem / 1 night Daniel, Dead Sea / 1 night Leonardo Plaza, Eilat

**PRICE:** \$4,459.00 per person based on double occupancy from CVG. Tour is based on a minimum of 45 passengers on the bus. Single Supplement is an additional \$1084.00 and limited.

**PAYMENT:** Deposit of \$500.00 per person is due immediately to hold your space. SPACE IS LIMITED! A second payment of \$1,000.00 per person is due June 7, 2016. Final payment is due on or before September 7, 2016. Checks only please, they are also your receipt.

**CANCELLATION INSURANCE:** We strongly advise cancellation insurance. Please note that if insurance is taken out within 21 days of initial deposit, the pre-existing condition clause may be waived. Journeys will send each participant an initial letter of receipt along with a Travelex pamphlet.

**TO REGISTER:** Contact Christine Palmer at [Christine@cinci.rr.com](mailto:Christine@cinci.rr.com). **Questions:** Call Lisa Antenucci at Journeys Unlimited 1-800-876-9502 ext. 100 OR email [lisaa@journeys-unltd.com](mailto:lisaa@journeys-unltd.com).



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