



# PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND



08 DAYS

£895

07TH - 14TH SEPTEMBER 2017

LED BY REVEREND TREVOR CRITCHLOW

*Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord.....He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." Isaiah 2:3*



You can contact your tour leader, Reverend Trevor Critchlow on 07850 578 193 should you have any queries about the pilgrimage.

Operated by

**SPECIAL PILGRIMAGES 'Christian Tours'**

55-57 Queens Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 1LT

[www.special-pilgrimages.co.uk](http://www.special-pilgrimages.co.uk) [info@special-pilgrimages.co.uk](mailto:info@special-pilgrimages.co.uk)

Tel. 01702 394000

**Established 1983**



# ITINERARY

## Thursday 07th September

### LONDON LUTON / TEL AVIV / BETHLEHEM

Fly from London Luton to Tel Aviv on a direct Easy Jet service; flight EZ2085 departing at 11:10 hours and arriving at 18:10 hours.. You will have one hand luggage and one check in luggage per person. Please note that a meal is not included / served on the flight. Meeting and assistance upon arrival and transfer to your hotel in Bethlehem for check in, dinner\* and overnight stay. *A hot buffet is served until 21:00 hours. After this time a cold platter is provided.*

## Friday 08th September

### BETHLEHEM / EIN KAREM

In the morning, we will visit the Basilica of the Nativity and the Grotto, venerated as the Birthplace of Jesus. Also visit the Church of St. Catherine, the Crusader's Cloister, the Chapel of St. Jerome and the Grotto of the Holy Innocents. We then continue to the Shepherds Fields for a visit. **Lunch in Bethlehem at Caritas children's relief 12:30 hours and a tour (included).** In the afternoon, we continue to the village of Ein Karem, the home of Zachary and Elizabeth, the parents of St. John the Baptist and where Mary visited her cousin. Here we will visit the Church of the Visitation and the Church of St. John the Baptist. We will then return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

## Saturday 09th September

### BETHFAGE / Mt. OF OLIVES / MOUNT SION

In the morning we leave our hotel early and drive to the Chapel at Bethfage. It is from here that the Lord started His triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Continue to the Mt. Of Olives to visit the Place of the Ascension and the Pater Noster, where the Lord's Prayer is written in more than 65 languages. Continue to *the Garden of Gethsemane to visit the Garden and celebrate Communion at 11:00 hours* and visit the Church of All Nations. **Lunch in Jerusalem at 13:00 hours. (not included).** In the afternoon we proceed to Mt. Sion to visit the Upper Room, also known as the Cenacle. This room is venerated in memory of the Institution of the Eucharist. This was the site of the High Priest Caiaphas' house and the dungeon where the Lord was imprisoned before his trial. It was also here that Peter denied Jesus. We will also visit the church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. Return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

## Sunday 10th September

### BETHANY / WADI QELT / JERICHO / DEAD SEA

In the morning we will proceed to Bethany, where Jesus rose Lazarus from the dead. We will visit the tomb before we continue on our way passing Wadi Qelt and stopping at St. George's Monastery, the spectacular 6th century cliff hanging complex, with its ancient chapels and gardens still active and inhabited to this day. The valley parallels the Old



The Old City, Jerusalem

Roman road to Jericho, the backdrop for the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37). We will then continue to Jericho, the oldest continually inhabited city in the world. Here we will view the Mount of Temptation. We will then continue to the Dead Sea. **Lunch at Kalia beach self service restaurant at 13:00 hours (not included).** In the afternoon we will have some time to 'float' in the Dead Sea. We will then return to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

## Monday 11th September

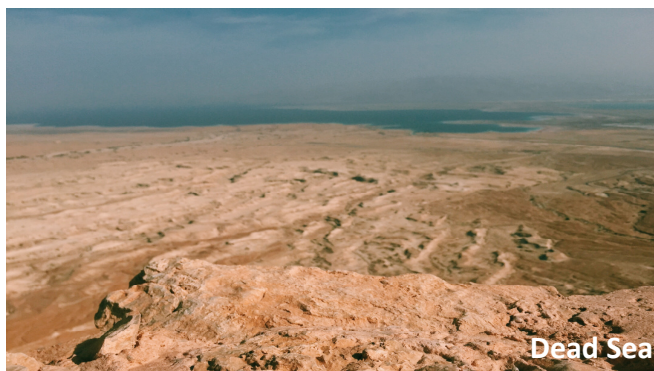
### GARDEN TOMB / WAY OF THE CROSS / FREE AFTERNOON IN JERUSALEM

*In the morning we will proceed to the Garden Tomb for a visit and Communion 09:00 hours.* Continue to the Western Wall for a visit before continuing to the Church of St. Anne and the Pool of Bethesda. Continue to the Tower of Antonia where Jesus was tried and the Church and Monastery of the Flagellation where we will also watch the installation of the history of Jerusalem from the times of Jesus' at 11:00 hours. We will then walk the stations of the cross ending inside the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre enshrining Calvary and the Holy Tomb. **Lunch (not included)** and the rest of the afternoon are free for your own activities. We will meet our guide at a designated place at 17:30 hours to return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

## Tuesday 12th September

### NAZARETH / CANA / MT TABOR

After breakfast we will leave our hotel early and drive to Nazareth where the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was to bear the Son of God (Luke 1:26-38). It was also here that Jesus grew up. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation. We shall also visit the Grotto, the Chapel of St. Joseph and the Old Synagogue which tradition holds that this simple building stands on the site of the synagogue of Jesus' time (Luke 4: 16-21).



Dead Sea



Also visit the Church of St. Gabriel (Mary's Well), which is built over the only freshwater spring in Nazareth, a place where Mary and Jesus must have visited daily to draw from their daily water supply. **Lunch in Fontana de Nazareth at 13:00 hours (not included).** In the afternoon, we will continue to Cana of Galilee where since early Christian times many have believed that this is where Jesus performed His first miracle by turning water into wine at a wedding feast (John 2:1-11). Here we will visit the Franciscan Church of the Wedding Feast. We then drive to Mount Tabor, which according to tradition is the place where Jesus Christ was "Transfigured". *We will celebrate Communion at 16:00 hours.* We ascend by taxi (included) to the summit to visit the Basilica and to see the magnificent view across the plain of Jezreel. We descend by taxi to the coach and continue to our hotel in Tiberias for check in, dinner and overnight stay.

#### **Wednesday 13th September**

##### **SEA OF GALILEE / RIVER JORDAN**

Leave the hotel at 08:30 hours to take a cruise across the Sea of Galilee from Tiberias to Ginosar. We will have a pause on the water for prayer and reflection. We shall then visit Mount of Beatitudes which commemorates the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12.) *View the site Magdala before we proceed to Tabgha, the site where the Lord fed the 5,000 with five loaves and two fish (John 6:1-13) and where we will celebrate Communion at 11:00 hours.* **We will have a St. Peters fish lunch at the Pagoda next to the Sea of Galilee at 12:30 hours (included).** In the afternoon visit Capernaum "The Town of Jesus" where He carried out the major part of His Ministry. Jesus told



Peter and Andrew "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:12-22), He cured the Demoniac (Mark 1:21-28), He cured Peter's mother in law (Mark 1:21). He cured the Roman Centurion's servant (Luke 1:1-10) and here Jesus made the promise of the Eucharist (John 6:22-71). We will visit the excavations and St. Peter's Church. We will then continue to the River Jordan where you will have the opportunity to renew your Baptismal vows. Dinner and overnight stay in Galilee.

#### **Thursday 14th September**

##### **MOUNT CARMEL / TEL AVIV / LONDON LUTON**

In the morning we will check out of our hotel in Tiberias and proceed to Mount Carmel, where we will view the Baha'i shrine and gardens. Continue to Mount Carmel where the Prophet Elijah's fire lighting challenge took place. We will visit Elijah's cave, where the Prophet is said to have meditated before his encounter with the priests of Baal and Muhraka. **Lunch in the vicinity (not included).** Later in the afternoon we will make our way to the airport for our return flight to London Luton on Easyjet flight EZ2086 departing at and arriving at 19:05 hours and arriving at 22:30 hours.

**\*\*last days activities are subject to flight times\*\***

**THE DEPOSIT & BOOKING FORMS FOR THIS TOUR ARE DUE BY FRIDAY 07th OCTOBER 2016**

**EASYJET IS A LOW COST AIRLINE. THE AIRFARE THEY DEMAND ONLINE, AT THE TIME OF BOOKING, IS SUBJECT TO OCCUPANCY AND PROXIMITY TO DEPARTURE DATE. TO GUARANTEE A PLACE ON THIS DEPARTURE, BASED ON THE TOUR PRICE ADVERTISED, WE STRONGLY ADVISE YOU TO BOOK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LATE BOOKINGS MAY ATTRACT A FLIGHT SURCHARGE. ANY INCREASE IN AIRFARE ABOVE OUR BUDGET, WILL BE PASSED ON TO YOU. IN SUCH AN EVENT YOU WILL BE OFFERED A CHOICE EITHER TO PAY THE SURCHARGE AND PROCEED WITH YOUR BOOKING OR WITHDRAW.**

**The flights and accommodation information in this brochure are provisional and should be treated as such. Hotels, carriers, airports and flights schedule can change with out prior notice. We cannot be held responsible for any travel or transportation arrangements you personally undertake with a third party in conjunction with the flights & accommodation details provided in this brochure. Flight & accommodation details will be supplied 3 weeks before**

**Some or part of the excursions in this pilgrimage are not suitable for people in wheelchairs or with walking difficulties. In such cases your guide or Tour Leader will help you decide on which excursions you can join.**

# TRAVEL INFORMATION

## THE TOUR PRICE OF £895 INCLUDES:

- ◇ Flights with Easyjet from London Luton. One hand luggage & one check in luggage per person included.
- ◇ Hotel accommodation on half board basis; In Tiberias at the Casa Nova guest house or similar for 2 nights and in Bethlehem based at the Bethlehem Hotel or similar for 5 nights. Rates based on sharing a double / twin room. All rooms with private facilities.
- ◇ One lunch in Galilee & one lunch in Bethlehem
- ◇ The services of an official fully licensed local excellent English speaking guide for the duration of your pilgrimage
- ◇ All transfers and transportation in deluxe and air-conditioned tourist motor coaches as per your itinerary.
- ◇ All the entrance fees as outlined in your itinerary.
- ◇ The advance booking of all the services relevant to your tour including Communion services.
- ◇ Airline fuel surcharge up to 05th May 2016
- ◇ Tips for guide, driver and hotel staff in the Holy Land
- ◇

## NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:

- ◇ Travel Insurance; **£50.00** per person for those under the age of 65 & **£75.00** for those over the age of 65 at the end of the tour.
- ◇ Single room supplement **£215.00**
- ◇ Lunches unless specified under included
- ◇ Transfers to and from UK airports
- ◇ Beverages and refreshments
- ◇ Items of a personal nature, e.g. phone, bar bills etc
- ◇ All Passport and Visa Costs

## HOW TO BOOK

Please complete the enclosed booking form in BLOCK CAPITALS, which should be returned together with a deposit of **£350.00 per person** and the appropriate travel insurance premium, if our travel insurance is required **£50.00 / £75.00** per person payable to Special Pilgrimages Ltd, 55-57 Queens Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 1LT. Please make your cheques payable to: - **"Special Pilgrimages Ltd."** **We have no third party acting on our behalf as sub agent for this tour. You should personally sign your booking form and return to us with your cheque made to "Special Pilgrimages Ltd".**

## SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms are available at an extra cost of **£215.00** per person for the duration of your pilgrimage and are subject to availability and to our confirmation. If you are booking on your own and request to share a twin room, we will do our best to find you a suitable person to share with. **In the event that we fail to do so by 3 weeks before your departure, we will charge you the single room supplement and allocate you a single room.**

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

You will find our travel insurance benefits, conditions and exclusions, together with our booking conditions and cancellation charges enclosed with this brochure. They are applicable to all our pilgrimages. ***If you have your own travel insurance and do not require ours, we need sight a copy of your valid policy showing the date from which it is valid, its expiry date and the premium paid (which we will return to you) at the time of booking, together with the insurance company's emergency contact number.***

If you are not taking our insurance you must please send in with your booking form and deposit a copy of your travel insurance for our records. This is in line with our obligations as the tour operator under the package travel regulations 1992. If you have bank / credit card insurance or annual travel insurance that expires before departure please fill in the travel insurance policy request form as directed.

## PASSPORTS

You will require a full ten-year international passport for your pilgrimage. **The passport must be valid for a further 6 months at the date of travel.** If you do not hold a European Community passport you must inform us in writing immediately. Visas for Israel may be required for non E.C. passport holders.

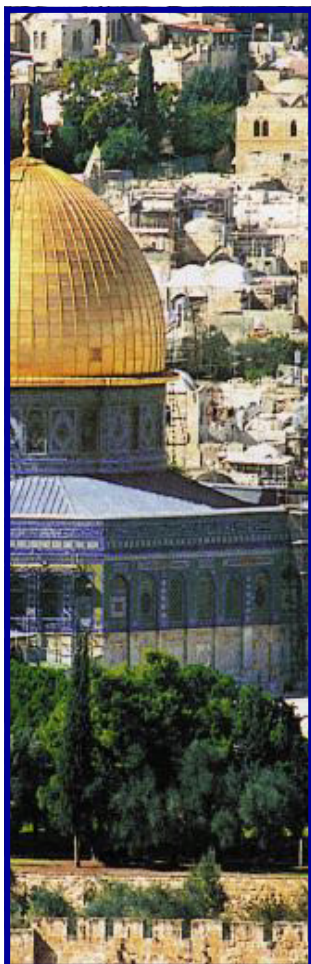
## FINAL BALANCE

Final payment is due **TEN weeks** before you travel. If we do not receive your full payment by the date shown on your remittance slip we shall assume that you are no longer travelling and we shall cancel your place with loss of your deposit. **A reminder will not be issued.**

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL Protected, since we own an Air Travel Organisers Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is 2963. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid to us for an advance booking.

For further information, visit the ATOL website at

**[www.atol.org.uk](http://www.atol.org.uk)**



**Bookings made within 12 weeks from departure will incur an extra administrative charge of at least £50 per person**

**Departure based on a minimum of 20 pilgrims  
Exchange rate £1 = \$1.5**

**At the time of print we are unable to disclose the type of aircraft**

**Please note that this tour will not be cancelled unless the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office bans all travel to / from Israel and / or BA, El Al Easyjet or other airlines stop flying to and from Tel Aviv to the United Kingdom for political or security reasons**

