Worldwide Christian Travel

The Land of the Book

Easter 2018

10 day tour of Israel & Palestine

during Holy Week, celebrating Easter at the Garden Tomb

Friday 23rd March - Sunday 1st April 2018

led by Mike Fuller

This itinerary can be viewed with pictures at mikefuller.org.uk

Only £1695 per person

Welcome to the "**Land of the Book**" tour – visiting intriguing sites in Israel and Palestine that make the story of the Bible come alive.

The tour is led by **Revd Mike Fuller** – international Bible teacher, and retired Baptist minister and teacher of Religious Studies and Philosophy. Mike is a regular speaker at New Wine; Tutor in Theology at Trinity Church, Cheltenham; and author of the acclaimed "Entire Story of the Bible in Fifty Minutes" teaching material, "A Fool's Guide to Following Jesus", and "A Fool's Guide to the Land of the Book".

Alongside our visits to holy sites, and our worship together, we will also have time to hear both Israeli and Palestinian perspectives on the current Middle Eastern conflict.

Friday
We leave London on a direct morning flight to Tel Aviv, where we will be met on arrival for transfer to our hotel in **Tiberias** (by the Sea of Galilee).

Saturday
We start the day with an audio-visual introduction to the region at "**The Galilee Experience**". Then, passing **Mount Tabor** (a possible site of the Transfiguration) we visit **Cana** (where Jesus turned water into wine), and continue to **Nazareth** - where we see a church built around **Mary's Well**, and Jesus' reputed childhood home (at the **Church of the Annunciation**). We visit **Nazareth Village** (depicting life in the time of Jesus), and the **Mount of the Precipice** (believed by some to be where Jesus was taken by the angry crowd after preaching at the Nazareth Synagogue) – from which we view the **Jezreel Valley**, the Biblical location for **Armageddon**.

Sunday
We visit the 2000 year old "**Jesus Boat**" at a nearby kibbutz, and then sail across the **Sea of Galilee** on a replica of this boat - pausing during this for our **Sunday worship**. We visit sites associated with Jesus' ministry: **Migdal** (the home of Mary Magdalene, with a synagogue from the time of Jesus); **Kursi** (a possible location for the Gadarene swine); **Capernaum** (Jesus' home town, with its ancient synagogue and **Peter's house**); and **Tabgha** (a possible site of the feeding of the 5000, and of a lakeside resurrection appearance of Jesus). We finish the day celebrating communion on the hillside of the **Mount of Beatitude**s (the setting for the Sermon on the Mount).

Monday
Leaving the Galilee, we travel south to **Jericho** - where we see the ruins of the **ancient city** captured by Joshua, recall the **temptation of Jesus**, and reflect on Jesus' encounters with Bartimaeus and Zacchaeus. We see the **river Jordan**, where Jesus was baptised (it may be possible for members of the group to be baptised here). We continue through the **Wadi Kelt** (possibly the inspiration for the "Valley of the Shadow of Death") where we see **St George's Monastery** across the valley. As we draw close to Jerusalem, we visit **Bethany**, the site of **Lazarus' tomb**. We continue to our new hotel in **Bethlehem**.

Tuesday
In the morning, we visit nearby **Herodion** (one of Herod's many palaces, believed to have contained Herod's tomb); the **Shepherds' Fields**; and the **Church of the Nativity**. During the afternoon, we meet local Christians – who will help us to understand the recent history of the region - including a visit to **Bethlehem Bible College** (where we will hear an Arab Christian Palestinian perspective on the conflict), and the **Tent of Nations** (a Christian-owned farm surrounded by Israeli settlements).

Wednesday
Today we explore the city of **Jerusalem** in the Old Testament, and in the time of Jesus. First, we view the **Old City** from the **Mount of Olives**, then see the **Western Wall**, and the **Western Wall Excavations** (some remains from the time of the second Temple), and the Western Wall tunnels. To conclude the day, we see **David's City**; walk through **Hezekiah's Tunnel** (constructed in the

8th century BCE to ensure a safe water supply); and see the recently uncovered **Pool of Siloam**, and a recently discovered paved street from the Pool to the Temple. We return for the night to Bethlehem.

Thursday
At the start of the day we return to the **Western Wall**, where we will hope to witness a **Bar Mitzvah**; and we visit the **Temple Mount**. We then trace the **Palm Sunday path** down from the **Mount of Olives** into the city, pausing at the **Dominus Flavit** church (recalling Jesus weeping over Jerusalem). We see **Gethsemane**, where we will celebrate communion, and have time for quiet reflection. We walk part of the "**Last Path**" (through the Kidron valley), and visit the church of **St Peter in Gallicantu** (reputedly where Peter denied Jesus, the site of **Caiaphas' House**). We look across the **Gehinnom valley**, and reflect on the implications of this for Jesus' teaching on judgement. Entering the old city again, we see a possible location of the **Upper Room** at St Mark's Syrian Church, and visit the **Burnt House** - an ancient priestly house from the time of Jesus. Overnight in Bethlehem.
Our evening meal will be a shortened form of the Passover seder, to help us understand what was happening at the Last Supper.

Friday
Returning to the **Old City**, we first visit the **Pool of Bethesda** (where Jesus healed a crippled man). We then follow part of the **Via Dolorosa** (the approximate route Jesus took to his death on the cross). We see flagstones which may be from the **Antonia Fortress** (the Roman barracks, where Jesus was tried); on these can be seen an engraving known as the **King Game**, perhaps related to the mocking of Jesus. At the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** we see the traditional site of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. We end the afternoon viewing **Gordon's Calvary**, and with quiet reflection and worship at the **Garden Tomb** (possible alternative locations for Jesus' death and resurrection). Our new hotel is close to the walls of the **old city** of **Jerusalem**.

Saturday
We take a "day out" to visit the **desert area** south-east of Jerusalem. We drive along the shore of the **Dead Sea** (the lowest place on the earth's surface), **Qumran**, where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were found, possibly associated with **John the Baptist**; and **Ein Gedi**, scene of David's pursuit by Saul. Finally, we have the opportunity to "**float**" in the Dead Sea.

Sunday
Early in the morning, we celebrate Easter – **worshipping** with local Christians in Jerusalem at the **Garden Tomb**. After breakfast, we leave our hotel, and visit the **Israel Museum** to see the "Shrine of the Book"; and then **Yad Vashem** (the Holocaust Museum), just outside Jerusalem. We travel on to Tel Aviv, and our **flight home** to London Luton.

Itinerary subject to change

Price £1695 per person

What the price includes

- Return flights from London Luton to Tel
- Aviv
- Accommodation in good hotels in twin bedded rooms with private facilities on half board basis
- Services of a fully qualified English speaking
- guide throughout
- Use of headsets
- Seder meal
- Bethlehem Bible College visit
- Entrance fees, service charges, porterage and gratuities
- Tours and transfers in deluxe air-conditioned coaches
- Airport taxes
- ATOL Protection Contribution*

Not included in the price

- Items of a personal nature, drinks & lunches
- Travel from home to UK airport
- Single supplement £342 per person
- Travel insurance (see back page)

Please note that the cost of the tour may be subject to surcharges - please see the booking conditions. Currency exchange rates used £1 = US$1.3019 as published in the Financial Times on 28th September 2016.

* APC (ATOL Protection Contribution) provides passenger protection via the ATTF (Air Travel Trust Fund). For further information visit www.caa.co.uk

How to Book
You can book this tour online at:
www.christian-travel.com or by completing the attached booking form and sending it together with your deposit of £200 (full payment if within 10 weeks of departure) to:

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Please make cheques payable to
'Hadler Tours Limited'

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Website:www.christian-travel.com
Worldwide Christian Travel has been organising Christian holidays and tours, mainly to the Holy Land, for over 40 years. We cover all aspects of travel and are one of the most comprehensive Christian travel organisers in the country. Worldwide Christian Travel is a trading name of Hadler Tours Limited.

General Information
Fitness
People of all ages are welcome, but, whatever your age, we must insist on a reasonable level of fitness. A number of sites involve rough walking.
Your protection
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Travellers are responsible for ensuring that they have a valid passport for travel to the relevant countries and that it is valid for at least 6 months after the date of travel. Visas are not required for British passport holders visiting Israel. At the time this brochure went to press no vaccinations or inoculations are required for travel but you may wish to consult your own doctor for advice concerning this. If you have any queries regarding the above, we will be happy to help.
Travel advice
For the latest travel advice please visit www.fco.gov.uk, see BBC Ceefax page 470 onwards or call 0870 606 0290.
Further information and paying the balance
Further information will be sent to you regarding any action that may be required approximately 12 weeks before departure.
A final invoice will also be sent at this time and the balance for the tour must be paid at least 10 weeks before departure.
Travel information
Full travel information, including details of meeting points, flight times, accommodation and travel information, will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks before departure. Normally, tickets are not issued but are handed to you at the airport or departure point by our representative who will be there to ensure that you depart without a hitch and to deal with any last minute difficulties.
Travel insurance
It is compulsory to have travel insurance for your booking. Holiday Extras have a range of policies available at very competitive prices.
You can obtain a quote online by visiting www.christian-travel.com or alternatively you can call 0871 360 2742 and quote ABTA number 93522.
Gratuities
Our normal procedure is to deal with tips on a group basis and these are included in the price. The tour leader will distribute them to the guide, driver and hotels on your behalf. Individual tipping is not recommended unless the circumstances are exceptional.
Room check in and check out times
The standard international practice is to let rooms from midday to midday. However times do vary. Check-in times are usually between 2pm and 3pm, check-out times between 11am and 12 noon on the day of departure. Therefore, if you check-in immediately after a night flight this would normally count as one night's accommodation. Similarly if your return flight is at night you will normally be required to vacate your room at 12 noon prior to leaving for the airport. Day rooms are subject to availability/cost and should be arranged locally with the accommodation management.

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