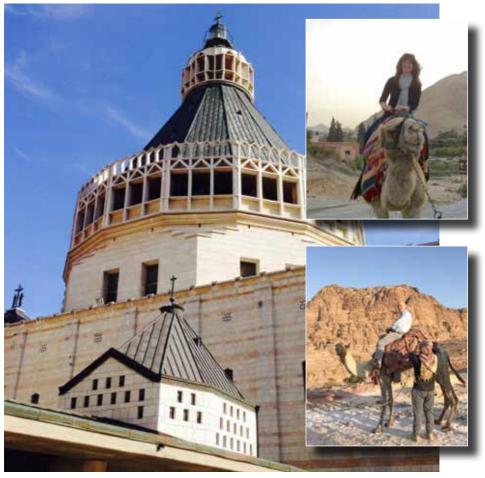
# York Minster Encounter Tour to Israel & Palestine

Thursday 9th - Monday 20th May 2019

Led by Su McClellan and The Revd. Stephen Griffith MBE



Worldwide Christian Travel

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is a very special event in the lives of many Christians. An Embrace the Middle East Encounter Tour will give you the opportunity to visit places that would have been familiar to Jesus as well as those that have developed since, as a result of His life and ministry. You will meet with the 'Living Stones' - Christians who live and work in this beautiful but divided land and learn how they act as 'salt and light' in their communities. There will also be opportunity for worship and reflection and time for fun and relaxation too.



# About the tour leaders

Su regularly leads groups visiting the Holy Land for pilgrimages, study tours, educational exchanges and olive harvesting trips, as part of her work as the Senior Regional Manager for Embrace the Middle East. She will be responsible for organising the tour, day-to-day practicalities and will be on hand to answer your questions about the current political situation, the Embrace Partners that you will meet and the impact of both on people's lives.

Stephen has lived and travelled widely in the Middle East, from Aswan to the Black Sea, first visiting the Holy Land as a teenager, studying in Jerusalem, then teaching English and being involved in archaeology there before working as Anglican Chaplain in Jordan and then Syria. He will be Chaplain to the group throughout the pilgrimage.

## Thursday

We fly from Manchester to Tel Aviv and transfer to Bethlehem for our introductory talk and evening in our hotel

## Friday

We visit the Church of the Nativity and the Milk Grotto before having some time to explore Manger Square and its surrounding streets. We'll then drive to the Shepherds' Fields where we'll have the chance to sing in its beautiful church and reflect on the wonder of the Incarnation. After lunch we'll visit Embrace the Middle East's partner the Joint Advocacy Initiative's Olive Tree Campaign. We'll have dinner in our hotel and then meet a local family who will tell us what it's actually like to live in Bethlehem.

## Saturday

This morning we will visit the cultural centre at the Dheisheh Refugee Camp in Bethlehem and learn something of the plight of Palestinian refugees. We will then travel into Jerusalem for lunch and a visit to the Israel Museum where

we will be able to view some of the Dead Sea Scrolls. We return to our hotel for the evening.

#### Sunday

We travel into Jerusalem to join the congregation at St George's Cathedral for their Sunday communion service. After church our coach will take us to the top of the Mount of Olives where we will visit the Church of the Pater Noster before moving to a viewing point for that iconic view over the Old City of Jerusalem. We'll then walk down the Mount of Olives to visit the Church of All Nations and the Garden of Gethsemane. Our coach will then take us to the Damascus Gate where we'll enter the Old City for lunch and the chance to climb the Lutheran Tower (at extra cost) before visiting the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Western Wall. We'll leave the Old City via the Dung Gate and return to Bethlehem for the evening.

## Monday

This morning we visit the Separation Barrier and some of the people affected by it. We will then

travel into Jerusalem to visit Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum. After lunch at the museum we will return to the Old City where we will visit the Pools of Bethesda, St Anne's church and the Ecce Homo convent.

## Tuesday

Today we'll have an early start to travel to Jericho where we will visit the Tel-al-Sultan (ancient Jericho) before taking a cable car ride up to the Mount of Temptation and the Qurantul Monastery. We'll then spend an hour visiting Embrace's partner the Palestinian Bible Society. After lunch we'll travel along side the Dead Sea to visit Wadi David in the Ein Gedi nature reserve. We will then return to Bethlehem and our hotel.

# Wednesday

This is our free day where you can choose what you'd like to do. You can stay in Bethlehem and explore a bit more or go back into Jerusalem – it's up to you. We will advise you on how to get to where you'd like to go and how much it will cost you.

## Thursday

We say goodbye to Bethlehem and travel up the Jordon Valley to the Galilee. En route we will stop at the village of Taybeh for a tour of the only Palestinian brewery. In the afternoon we will take a boat ride out onto the Sea of Galilee and have time to reflect and pray. We then drive onto Tiberias for dinner and an evening in our hotel.

## Friday

This morning we visit Tabgha (the church that celebrates the feeding of the five thousand), the Church of the Beatitudes and Capernaum, where we will celebrate communion together on the beach. After lunch we will drive to the spectacular Roman ruins at Beit Sha'an. We will then return to Tiberias for the evening.

# Saturday

Today we travel to the coast to visit Akko with its citadel, tunnels and souq. Later in the afternoon we'll travel to Rosh HaNikra and take the cable car to see the amazing cliffs and caves. We'll then return to Tiberias for the evening.

## Sunday

Our coach will take us to Nazareth where we will join the congregation of Christ Church for their morning communion service. After church we'll have lunch in a local community café where we'll hear from a Palestinian citizen of Israel. We'll then walk to the Church of the Annunciation and have some free time to explore the market.

## Monday

Our coach will take us on the coast road to visit the spectacular Roman Ruins at Caesarea. We will then move on to the ancient port of Jaffa where we will have some free time to explore or enjoy a lazy lunch by the sea. We will then transfer to the airport for the flight home.

## Itinerary subject to change

## Price £1590 per person

## What the price includes

- Return flights from Manchester to Tel Aviv with easyJet (Details of flight numbers and times have not yet been finalised)
- Accommodation in good quality hotels in twin bedded rooms with private facilities on half board basis
- Transfer of passengers and baggage
- Sightseeing as in itinerary
- Services of a fully qualified English speaking guide
- Travel by air-conditioned coaches
- Entrance fees, gratuities, service charges and porterage
- Airport taxes
- ATOL Protection Contribution\*

## Not included in the price

- Donations and appointments to projects
- Single supplement £473 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  $\pounds 1 = US\$1.351$  as published in the Financial Times on 2nd January 2018.

\* 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 by completing the attached booking form and sending it together with your deposit of  $\pounds 200$  (full payment if within 10 weeks of departure) to:

Worldwide Christian Travel 36 Coldharbour Road, Bristol BS6 7NA

Please make cheques payable to **'Hadler Tours Limited'** 

Worldwide Christian Travel 36 Coldharbour Road, Bristol BS6 7NA Tel: 0845 458 8308 Fax: 0845 458 8307 Email: info@christian-travel.com Website:www.christian-travel.com

Worldwide Christian Travel has been organising Christian holidays and tours, mainly to the Holy Land, for over 50 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 and exploring Jerusalem means climbing many sets of steps.

#### Your protection

Hadler Tours Limited is a member of ABTA with membership numbers 93522 & V2096. ABTA and ABTA Members help holidaymakers to get the most from their travel and assist them when things do not go according to plan. We are obliged to maintain a high standard of service to you by ABTA's Code of Conduct. For further information about ABTA, the Code of Conduct and the arbitration scheme available to you if you have a complaint, contact ABTA, 30 Park Street London SE1 9EQ Tel: 020 3117 0500 or visit www.abta.com.

All monies paid by you for the air holiday package shown are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3078. For more information see our booking terms and conditions

#### Passports, visas and vaccinations

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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