

Worldwide Christian Travel

# The Land of the Book

**EASTER 2023**

**Celebrating Jesus in the Holy Land, including dawn worship at the Garden Tomb**

*12 day tour of Israel & Palestine*

*Thursday 30th March – Monday 10th April 2023*

**led by Mike Fuller**



This itinerary can be viewed with pictures at [thelandofthebook.com](http://thelandofthebook.com)

**Only £2345 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. As we travel together, we will explore Bible passages where they happened; worship on the Sea of Galilee and at the Garden Tomb; and learn about both Israeli and Palestinian views on the Conflict.



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, 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.*

### **Thursday 30 March**

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).

### **Friday 31 March**

We start the day exploring Galilee, 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 **Jezebel Valley**, the Biblical location for **Armageddon**. In the evening, we have an (optional) introduction to the Arab / Israeli conflict from an Israeli perspective.

### **Saturday 1 April**

Today, we visit sites in the Galilee 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’ hometown, 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 Beatitudes** (the setting for the Sermon on the Mount).

### **Sunday 2 April - Palm 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**. 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; and on to our new hotel in **Bethlehem**.

### **Monday 3 April**

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**. After lunch, we have time to visit the shops in Manger Square, before driving to **Bethany** – where we see the tomb believed to be the place where Jesus raised **Lazarus**.

### **Tuesday 4 April**

Today, we meet local Palestinian Christians – who will help us to understand the recent history of the region. We visit **Bethlehem Bible College** (where we will hear an Arab Christian Palestinian perspective on the conflict); an **orphanage**; and the **Tent of Nations** (a Christian-owned farm, surrounded by Israeli settlements).

### **Wednesday 5 April**

We begin to explore the city of **Jerusalem**. First, we view the **Old City** from the **Mount of Olives**, and see the **Western Wall**. We visit the **Western Wall Tunnels**, and see the nearby **Jerusalem Archaeological Park** (including remains from the

time of the second Temple). 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 to Bethlehem for the night.

#### **Thursday 6 April – Maundy 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 worship together, 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. Our new hotel is close to the walls of the **Old City of Jerusalem**.

*Our evening meal will be a shortened form of the Passover seder, to help us understand what was happening at the Last Supper.*

#### **Friday 7 April – Good 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). At the Monastery of the Flagellation, we explore the **Terra Sancta Museum**, housing archaeological remains discovered by Franciscans in the Holy Land. Continuing the Via Dolorosa, we see flagstones which may be from the **Antonia Fortress** (the Roman barracks, possibly the location where Jesus was tried); on these can be seen an engraving known as the **King Game**, which may relate 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).

#### **Saturday 8 April**

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), and visit the ancient fortress of **Masada** (another of Herod's fortresses, and a famed site of Jewish resistance); **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 “swim” in the Dead Sea.

#### **Sunday 9 April – Easter Sunday**

We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at dawn at the **Garden Tomb**. The afternoon is free time – perhaps to walk the city ramparts, wander in the “souk”, enjoy a coffee in the modern city of Jerusalem ... or just chill!

#### **Monday 10 April**

Leaving our hotel, we visit the **Israel Museum** to see the “Shrine of the Book”; and **Yad Vashem** (the Holocaust Museum), just outside Jerusalem. We then travel on to Tel Aviv, and our **flight home** to London.

*Itinerary subject to change*

**Price £2345 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
- One passover meal
- Entrance fees, service charges, portorage 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 £528 per person
- Travel insurance including COVID-19 cover
- Any costs related to COVID-19 testing

## How to Book

You can book this tour by completing the attached booking form and sending it together with your deposit of £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: 0117 973 1840  
Email: [info@christian-travel.com](mailto:info@christian-travel.com)  
Website: [www.christian-travel.com](http://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 of if you have a complaint, contact ABTA, 30 Park Street London SE1 9EQ Tel: 020 3117 0500 or visit [www.abta.com](http://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](http://www.fco.gov.uk) 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](http://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.

Please note that the cost of the tour may be subject to surcharges - please see the booking conditions. Currency exchange rates used £1 = US\$1.3098 as published in the Financial Times on the 8th March 2022.

APC (ATOL Protection Contribution) provides passenger protection via the ATTF (Air Travel Trust Fund).

For further information visit [www.caa.co.uk](http://www.caa.co.uk)

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