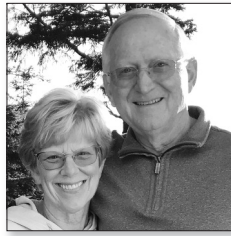
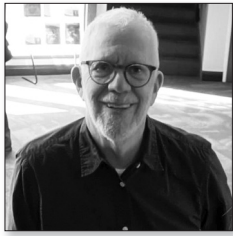


FAITH COMES ALIVE

Israel, The Holy Land Journey

08 – 20 April, 2024



Hosted by Pastor Tom Duchemin ~ Co-ordinated by Al & Sharon Gerdes and Lisa Knopf

*This is what the Lord says: “Stand at the crossroads and look; Ask for the ancient paths,
Ask where the good way is, and walk in it, And you will find rest for your souls.” (Jeremiah 6:16)*



Tel Aviv, from the ancient port of Jaffa



Sea of Galilee, viewed from the Mount of Beatitudes



Boat Ride and Fellowship on the Sea of Galilee



Temple Mount, viewed from the Mount of Olives



Travel Industry Council of Ontario
T.I.C.O. Registration # 2976741

DAY 1. MON. 08 APRIL: Departure to Israel

Today, we depart from Seattle on our flight(s) to Tel Aviv. Group seating will be pre-assigned by the airline for our flight. Dinner and complimentary in-flight service will be provided this evening. **(D)**

DAY 2. TUE. 09 APRIL: Israel, Tel Aviv

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, we are met by our Israeli Tour guide, who will assist us with luggage formalities. Boarding our luxury touring coach, we relax and enjoy the short journey to our Tel Aviv hotel, The Metropolitan. **(D)**

DAY 3. WED. 10 APRIL: Tel Aviv to Dead Sea

Our first full day in the Holy Land has us visiting:

Jaffa – One of the oldest towns in Israel and considered one of the oldest ports in the world! Cedars of Lebanon, sent by King Hiram of Tyre (destined for Solomon's Temple) were unloaded at Jaffa. It is here that Peter brought Tabitha back from the dead and, when in the home of Simon the Tanner, he prophesied the vision of the pure and impure animals. (II Chronicles 2:15; Jonah 1:3-17; Acts 9:36-42)

Valley of Elah – This is the traditional site of the encounter between David & Goliath. The Brook of Elah still exists to this day. (I Samuel 17:1-58)

Brook of Elah – The water where David picked his five stones for his sling. (I Samuel 17)

Tel Arad – Constructed during the time of King David and Solomon, this Canaanite city gives us a perfect example of a Judean Temple with inner courtyards and a place for the Holy of Holies. Archeologists have found evidence of offerings brought by the people of Judea to the temple.

From here, we travel towards our hotel, The David Resort, located on the shores of the Dead Sea. Tonight, we will have our 'welcome dinner' in anticipation of a memorable journey. **(B, D)**

DAY 4. THU. 11 APRIL: Masada, Dead Sea

After breakfast, we stay in the Judean wilderness and follow the shores of The Dead Sea to visit:

Masada – This UNESCO World Heritage site was once Herod's mountain top palace and fortress. Here, we ascend to the site by cable car and learn about the last Jewish stand against the Romans and the mass suicide of the 960 Jewish defenders.

Ein Gedi – This national park and oasis hosts the caves of David's Gorge where David hid from Saul and his army. (I Samuel 24; Song of Solomon 1:14; Ezekiel 47:10)

The remainder of the afternoon will be left open for you to enjoy the unique properties of the Dead Sea.

Dead Sea – No visit to the Dead Sea would be complete without experiencing the unique buoyancy of these waters. Cover yourself in therapeutic black mud and float your aches and pains away! The remainder of the afternoon will be left open for you to enjoy the unique properties of the Dead Sea.

Dinner will be at our hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

DAY 5. FRI. 12 APRIL: Dead Sea Scrolls, Beth She'an

This morning, we will leave the Dead Sea and head northwards to the Sea of Galilee. En route, we will visit:

Qumran – Home to the ancient Essenes. It is here that they wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls almost two thousand years ago. Here, we will visit the excavated sites of Qumran and view the location where The Scrolls were found in 1947.

After Qumran, we head further north and pass **Gilgal** where Saul was proclaimed king. Gilgal became a sacred place because the tribes of Israel first encamped and celebrated Passover there after their miraculous crossing of the Jordan River and before their conquest of the Promised Land.

Abraham's Tent – This wonderful visit includes a camel ride along the vistas of Wadi Quelt.

Jericho – We drive past Old Testament **Jericho**, home of Rahab the harlot, and where the walls came tumbling down. Jesus also healed blind Bartimaeus here shortly before his death.

Beth She'an – Here, we will walk around the largest of Israel's archeological digs, boasting over 20 layers of ancient civilizations. This ancient city, although destroyed by an earthquake in the 8th Century, offers a fabulous insight into Roman life and times. Here, too, after losing the battle to the Philistines, King Saul and his sons were hung from the city walls. (Judges 4:7-8)

After another fascinating day, we make our way to the Sea of Galilee. Our home for the next three nights! Located by the shores of the Sea of Galilee, The Leonardo Club Hotel, Tiberius is the perfect location to experience the Galilee. **(B, D)**

DAY 6: SAT. 13 APRIL: Caesarea Philippi, upper Galilee

After breakfast, we spend our day in the upper Galilee. Driving northward, our day includes the following:

Tel Dan – The northernmost city of the Kingdom of Israel, Dan is the site of the Abraham Gate. An amazing nature preserve as well as a fascinating archeological site, Tel Dan offers a blend of Israel's natural beauty and Biblical history!

Caesarea Philippi – Located at the foot of Mt. Hermon at one of the sources of the Jordan River, the City of Panias (named by the Greeks after the goat-footed god, Pan) was later renamed by the Romans as Caesarea Philippi. It was here that Peter identified Jesus as the Messiah and where Jesus declared to the disciples the foundation on which His Church would be built. (Mark 8:27; Matthew 16:13-23)

Golan Heights – Today, we have the opportunity to view Israel from both Mt. Bental and the Golan Heights. This parcel of land plays a significant role in the security of those living in the Jordan Valley and Upper Galilee.

Yardenit – In this river where Jesus was Baptized, you have the opportunity to be Baptized or have your Baptismal vows reaffirmed.

Dinner will be at our hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

DAY 7: SUN. 14 APRIL: Sea of Galilee

After another amazing Israeli buffet breakfast, our full touring day involves visits to:

Ginosar – Here, we will visit the **Jesus Boat Museum**. Discovered by accident during the drought of 1986, this fishing boat dates back to the time of Jesus. Beautifully preserved, it is a timeless reminder of life during that time. The museum has a gift shop with quality items on sale!



Sea of Galilee Boat Ride – We end our day with a memorable boat ride on the Sea of Galilee – a highlight for many!

The Mount of Beatitudes – Sit on the hill where Jesus delivered his Sermon on the Mount. Looking directly south at the Sea of Galilee, the flower-filled gardens offer peace and tranquility. (Matthew 5:1-8). We will take the scenic walk down the mount to the shores of the Galilee and to Capernaum.

Capernaum – The centre of Jesus' Galilee Ministry. Jesus lived here for a substantial period, healing the sick, preaching in the synagogue and performing miracles. The Greek Orthodox Church, Franciscan Monastery and Roman Catholic Church of St. Peter make for an interesting kaleidoscope of varying architecture. (Matthew 9:1; 4:13)

Church of the Primacy of Peter – It is here that Jesus appears to his disciples for the third time after his resurrection on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The night before, Peter and several other disciples had sailed out on the lake to fish but caught nothing. In the morning, a man appeared on the shore and called out to them to throw their net on the right side of the boat. Doing so, they caught so many fish they couldn't drag the net back into the boat. At this point, Peter recognizes Jesus and promptly jumps out of the boat to wade to shore to meet him.

Magdala – Located within a few hundred yards from our hotel, we have one of the latest Biblical excavation digs. We have the chance to visit what has been unearthed so far for the ancient seaside town of Magdala. (Luke 8:1-3)

Tonight, dinner will be at our hotel on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. **(B, D)**

DAY 8: MON. 15 APRIL: Galilee to Jerusalem

Today, we leave the Galilee and head towards the Mediterranean Sea, but not before we visit:

Nazareth – Here, Jesus spent his childhood with Mary and Joseph. Nazareth is also the site of The Annunciation. The Church of the Annunciation is a must! Here, too, the people attempted to throw Jesus over the cliff.

Now a suburb of Nazareth, **Cana** is the site where Jesus performed his first miracle when he changed water into wine at a wedding. (Luke 1:26-38; John 1:46; Matthew 2:23)

Mount Carmel – Overlooking the City of Haifa with the Mediterranean Sea and Jezreel Valley on either side, we stand where the Prophet Elijah performed his miracle and called upon the fire of God to conquer the Prophets of Baal. (I Kings 2; 15:4; 25; Isaiah 33:9; Zechariah 12:12)

Caesarea – The ancient Roman seaport capital of Israel where Pontius Pilate made his base. Here, we will tour the Roman aqueduct, restored theater and crusader city. It was here that Cornelius the Centurion called for Simon Peter and where the first Gentiles were baptized. (Acts 10:34-44)

Our day ends by travelling "up to" Jerusalem, home for the remainder of our journey at the Leonardo Hotel, Jerusalem. Dinner is at our hotel tonight. **(B, D)**

DAY 9: TUE. 16 APRIL: Bethlehem, Jerusalem Museums

This morning, we drive through the new City of Jerusalem en route to Bethlehem.

Upon arrival at **Bethlehem**, we will visit the **Church of the Nativity** and **Shepherds' Field**.

From Bethlehem, we take the short journey to the west of Jerusalem and visit:

Yad Vashem – Israel's national monument, memorial and museum to the Holocaust. A poignant and sobering experience!

Scale Model of Jerusalem – This fabulous reconstruction of the Old City of Jerusalem gives us a chance to better understand the importance of the second temple and the city during Herodian times.

Shrine of the Book Museum – Here, we can see many original fragments of the Dead Sea scrolls plus a replica of the great Isaiah scroll.

Dinner will be back at our Jerusalem hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

DAY 10: WED. 17 APRIL: Jerusalem

Our first full day in Jerusalem includes the following:

Temple Mount – Pending access to the site, we will see the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock.

Western Wall Tunnels – After dinner, we will visit the Wailing Wall, the holiest place of pilgrimage for Jews, where Orthodox Jews pray relentlessly along with many Christians. We will also take in the incredible Rabbi's Tunnel as the wall continues another half mile!

Davidson Centre – This new facility uses state-of-the-art technology to bring the Temple Mount to life. This will give us a better understanding of the magnitude of Herod's construction versus what we see today.

City of David – We will be guided through the site and new excavations of the City of David. You will have the opportunity to walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel and re-surface at the Pool of Siloam.

Pilgrim's Road – This underground excavation, allows us to walk from the Pool of Siloam up to the Temple Mount.

Dinner is at our hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

DAY 11: THU. 18 APRIL: Jerusalem, Free Time

This morning, we remain in the Old City and take the morning to meander through the Muslim, Jewish, Armenian and Christian Quarters, visiting:

Via Dolorosa – The one mile long route through the Old City of Jerusalem from the point of condemnation by Pontius Pilate to Golgotha, Calvary Hill.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre – The last five Stations of the Via Dolorosa are within the church, located where Catholic Christians believe Jesus was crucified and buried. The church is shared by Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Armenian and Coptic Christians!

This afternoon, we give you free time to enjoy the Old City. Some may wish to peruse the markets and shops. Others may wish to relax and walk through the streets steeped in centuries of history.

Dinner is at our hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

DAY 12: FRI. 19 APRIL: Jerusalem

Our last day of journeying is a truly memorable one as we visit:

Mount of Olives – We begin our day by viewing Jerusalem from the Mt. of Olives. Photo opportunities abound at this time with the Golden Dome of the Rock prominent. From here, we will walk down to The Garden of Gethsemane along the same path as that Jesus took when entering the city on Palm Sunday.



Garden of Gethsemane – The site where Jesus prayed at the Rock of Agony in the Garden. – “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done.”
(Matthew 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-50; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-14)

House of Caiaphas – Located under the current St. Peter of Gallicantu Church, this is the traditional site where Jesus was imprisoned. We will read Scripture here reflecting on Jesus’ night awaiting execution.

Church of St. Anne – Located by the pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed the cripple. (John 5:1-9)

Garden Tomb – Preserved by The Garden Tomb Association, these beautiful gardens surround the traditional site of The Garden Tomb. Many believe that this was the actual garden of Joseph of Arimathea. (John 19:41) Our group will observe communion together here in one of the quiet alcoves.

Tonight is our ‘Farewell Dinner’ – a wonderful time to share and reflect on a truly inspirational journey! **(B, D)**

DAY 13: SAT. 20 APRIL: Journey Home

This morning, we depart for Tel Aviv Airport and our flights home. Complimentary in-flight service will be provided throughout the return journey. **(B, L)**

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

INCLUDED

Air travel: Round trip from Seattle. (other cities available)

Hotels: Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv
David Resort, Dead Sea
Leonardo Club Hotel, Sea of Galilee
Leonardo Hotel, Jerusalem

Meals: Full breakfast and dinner daily, with tea and coffee (hotels may charge for beverages with dinner).

Transportation: Air-conditioned luxury coach service throughout the tour.

Sightseeing: Comprehensive program, as per itinerary, including all entrance fees.

Tour Guide: Government licensed Tour guide will accompany the group and work with the Leadership Teams to maximize the educational/spiritual benefits and enjoyment of the group.

Porterage: One large suitcase per person. Each person is responsible for his/her other luggage.

Embarkation package: An informative package will be mailed one month prior to departure.

Air Transportation Taxes: Included in group airfare rate

NOT INCLUDED

Lunches (unless mentioned in the itinerary)

Travel Insurance: Christian Journeys requires that you must have – “out of country” – emergency medical insurance. Please contact www.travelguard.com for policy details and premiums.

Gratuities: Equivalent to USD\$160 (collected at time of balance payment).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Passport: Tour participants must be in possession of a valid passport not expiring before 20 October, 2024. USA passport holders do not currently require a visa for Israel.

Reservations: Telephone and email reservation requests will be taken but only upon receipt of deposit and completed tour booking form will your place be confirmed.

Deposit and final payment: A deposit of \$500 is required along with the registration form. All cancellations charges are described on the registration form. Any cancellation prior to 09 January, 2024 incurs a \$300 cancellation fee, per person.

Fuel surcharges: The air transportation costs fluctuate. This amount is subject to change and will be reviewed at time of final billing 90 days prior to departure.

General Health: All tour members should be in sufficient good health to enjoy the tour in its entirety. Christian Journeys reserves the right to refuse participation in certain instances.

13 DAY JOURNEY PRICING

JOURNEY LAND COST:	\$ 3225USD
GROUP AIR COST:	\$ 1699USD
TOTAL COST:	\$ 4924USD

(Based on 40 paid passengers)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:	\$ 1459USD
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Please add 3% surcharge for payment by credit card.



*for more
information
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