

# THE HOLY LAND



## PCJH Holy Land Pilgrimage April 21, 2018 – May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Trip Leaders: Ben & Addie Pascal  
Tour Guide: Andre Moubarak of Twins Tours & Travel Ltd.



# PCJH Holy Land Pilgrimage

April 21 – May 4, 2018



*“A place of dream, the Holy Land hangs midway between earth and heaven.”*

-Harriet Elizabeth Prescott Spofford

*“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.’”*

-Genesis 12:1

The Holy Land is a land rich in history and culture. It is the place where our Savior and Lord Jesus walked. It is a place that helps us see the Bible come to life in new dimensions and in color. It is a holy place where God shows up and transforms lives. It is a place we are going on pilgrimage in 2018. We’d love for you to consider joining us and a group from PCJH as we travel to the land of the Bible. It is the trip of a lifetime!

Come journey with us to the land of Jesus!

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Licensed Israel Tour Guide: Andre Moubarak  
Twins Tours & Travel Ltd.  
Jerusalem, Israel  
www.twinstours.com

Day 1 – Saturday, April 21, 2018

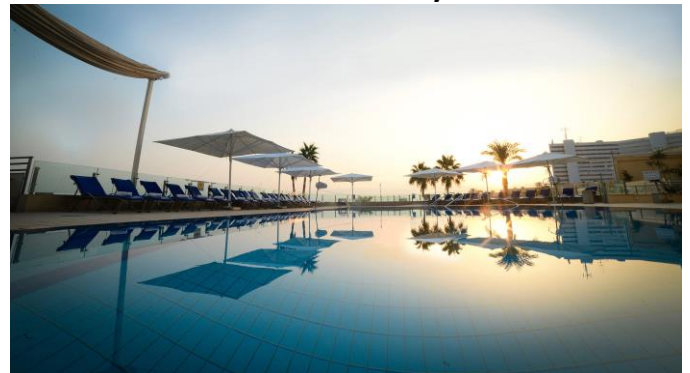
**Go to the Land I Will Show You**



Depart on flights to Israel. People are welcome to arrive earlier than April 21<sup>st</sup> if they wish to get over jet lag and spend time in Tel Aviv on the beautiful beaches of the Mediterranean Sea.

Day 2 – Sunday, April 22, 2018

**Welcome to the Holy Land!**



All travelers will meet with our tour guides, Andre Moubarak and Ben & Addie Pascal at the Ben Gurion Airport (TLV) in Tel Aviv *no later* than 4:00pm on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will then drive south through the northern Negev Desert to the southern edge of the Dead Sea. Dinner and overnight at Hod Hotel & Spa in Ein Bokek.

Day 3 – Monday, April 23, 2018

**The Desert: Place of Preparation**



God prepared Abraham, Moses, David, John the Baptist, Jesus and Paul, along with many others, for their ministries by sending them to the desert for a

season. We begin with a leisurely breakfast at the hotel overlooking the Dead Sea. We begin our day at Tel Sheva – the well of Beersheva where Abraham and Abimelech made their covenant. We will then travel into the desert for camel rides to an oasis, and experience Bedouin tent hospitality in the Negev Desert. We will return to the hotel for free time in the afternoon for floating in the Dead Sea and enjoying the hotel spa. Dinner and overnight at Hod Hotel & Spa in Ein Bokek.

Day 4 – Tuesday, April 24, 2018

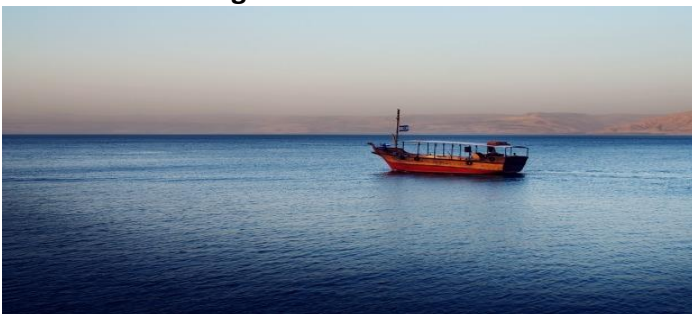
**Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve**



We will consider the different worldviews and tensions into which Jesus came. After a cable car ride to the top of Masada, Herod's palace built in Roman times, we will drive north along the sea and stop at Ein Gedi to see the waterfall, and imagine King David hiding from Saul in the caves there. Next stop is Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered, and the Essene community there, where John the Baptist may have stayed. From there we go to the Baptismal site Qasr El Yahud, where John baptized Jesus, and the Israelites crossed into the Promised Land. We will drive north through the Jordan Valley to the Galilee region, and check into a kibbutz on the shore of the Sea of Galilee for four nights. Dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Ha'onn Resort on Sea of Galilee.

Day 5 – Wednesday, April 25, 2018

**The Kingdom of God is at Hand**



We begin our day at the beautiful Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus preached the sermon on the mount. We will continue around the lake to Capernaum and Tabgha, where Jesus gathered his disciples and fed the five thousand, and the Church of the Primacy of St. Peter, the site where we remember Jesus preparing breakfast on the beach for his disciples, and telling Peter to "feed my sheep." After lunch at St. Peter's fish we will take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and end our day renewing our baptismal vows on the shores of Galilee. Dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Ha'onn Resort on Sea of Galilee.

Day 6 – Thursday, April 26, 2018

**And the Child Grew**



We begin with a morning walk on the Jesus Trail through the Valley of the Doves, where there should be beautiful wildflowers this time of year. Next we will visit the town and the synagogue of Migdal, where Jesus met Mary Magdalene. After a one-hour drive to Nazareth we will have a Biblical lunch at Nazareth Village, and tour a first century recreated Nazareth Village. The Basilica of the Annunciation is our next stop, and we will see the grotto cave where the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, and the Word became Flesh. Today we will meet friends in Nazareth, and find out what is happening with the local Christians here. Our day will end with a visit to Mount Precipice, where Jesus' neighbors threatened to throw him to his death. It is a panoramic view of Nazareth and the Jezreel Valley, where the battle of Armageddon will take place. We will take some time to pray over the region. Dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Ha'onn Resort on Sea of Galilee.

Day 7 – Friday, April 27, 2018

**Galilee of the Gentiles**



We will have a morning lecture and tour of the kibbutz. We will then drive through the Golan Heights, and pray along the borders of Israel, Lebanon, and Syria. We will visit Banias / Caesarea Philippi National Park, the region where Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say that I am?”, and the beautiful waterfall that may have inspired King David to write Psalm 42. We will conclude the day at Tel Dan National Park, with a lovely walk along the headwaters of the Jordan River, and a look at the pagan altar there. Dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Ha’onn Resort on Sea of Galilee.

Day 8 – Saturday, April 28, 2018

**Via Maris, and Drive to Bethlehem**



We will head west, toward the Mediterranean Sea, stopping at Megiddo National Park, an important gateway city situated along the Via Maris which was fortified by King Solomon and inhabited and destroyed 35 times throughout the course of history. We will have lunch in a Druze village atop Mount Carmel, then visit the Muhraka Church where Elijah had his contest with the prophets of Ba’al. We will climb to the rooftop to enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of the Jezreel Valley below. Our next stop will be the Caesarea Maritime National Park, and the ruins of the beautiful Roman city where Paul was held several years before being sent to Rome. We will then

drive two hours to Bethlehem. Dinner and overnight at St. Gabriel Hotel in Bethlehem.

Day 9 – Sunday, April 29, 2018

**Welcome to Bethlehem**



We begin the day worshipping with a local Palestinian Arab Christian church and enjoy traditional Palestinian food for lunch. We will then visit the Shepherds Field and nearby caves, where the angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. Next we will explore the ancient Church of the Nativity, which marks the traditional birthplace of Jesus. Dinner and overnight at St. Gabriel Hotel in Bethlehem.

Day 10 – Monday, April 30, 2018

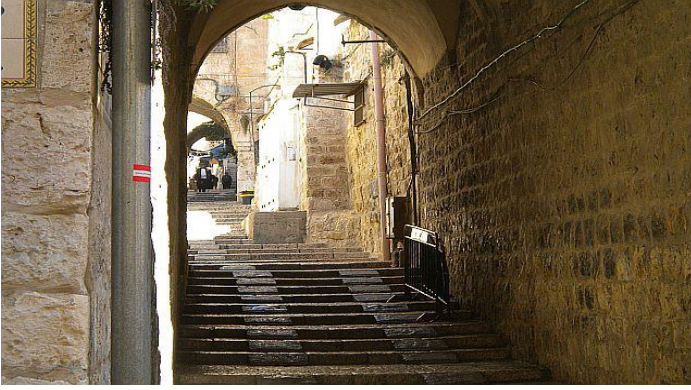
**Bethlehem Ministry Connections**



We will start the day with a memorable drive around the Security Wall, praying for God’s peace to come to all the people living here. We will tour Bethlehem Bible College and Tent of Nations to learn more about the life of Christians in the West Bank. We will go through the checkpoint and drive into Jerusalem with a possible night tour of the Old City in Jerusalem. Dinner and overnight at Dan Hotel on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem.

Day 11 – Tuesday, May 1, 2018

**Jesus' Last Week in Jerusalem**



We will begin our day on the Mount of Olives, where Jesus and his disciples spent much of their time in the Jerusalem area, and Jesus prayed the night he was arrested. On the Mount of Olives, we will take in the beautiful view of Jerusalem from the observation deck, and walk down the Palm Sunday pathway to Dominus Fleuit Church, where Jesus wept over the city. At the bottom of the hill, we will visit the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations. Crossing the Kidron Valley we will go to the traditional home of the High Priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was imprisoned while awaiting trial by the Sanhedrin and Peter denied Jesus three times. Next we drive around the gates of the city walls to St. Stephen's Gate (Lion's Gate). Inside we visit the Pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed the paralyzed man, and sing at the Church of St. Anne, which is known for its acoustics. We will finish our day walking along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. This marks the traditional site of the crucifixion of Jesus and his burial tomb. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 12 – Wednesday, May 2, 2018

**The Temple Mount: The Heart of the Conflict**



Today we explore the heart of the Holy City of Jerusalem by focusing on the area around the historic Temple. We will begin the day atop the

Temple Mount, which the Muslims call "The Noble Sanctuary" and walk around the exterior of the Muslim shrine "Dome of the Rock" and the Al Aqsa Mosque. We will exit through the Muslim market streets and walk a short distance to the Jewish Quarter. We will learn about the Jewish priests who served the Temple during the first century by visiting their luxurious homes. We will see the huge golden menorah which the religious Jews are preparing with other elements for the time when the third Temple is built. Next we will visit the Southern Steps, where pilgrims to the Temple 2,000 years ago, including Jesus and his disciples, would certainly have walked and preached, and where the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost most likely happened. We will visit the Western Wall, the holiest site to the Jewish people, and then go underground with the Kotel Tunnel Tour underneath the city. Dinner and overnight at Dan Hotel on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem.

Day 13 – Thursday, May 3, 2018

**Garden Tomb and Farewell Dinner in Joppa**



In the morning we will visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. We will then go to the Garden Tomb to remember the resurrection of Jesus and have a time of quiet reflection and sharing in the Lord's Supper together near the empty tomb. It will be a special time of prayer and worship. We will then drive through modern Tel Aviv on our way to Jaffa (Joppa), where we will visit the ancient harbor from which Jonah set sail, and Simon the Tanner's neighborhood, where Peter had the important vision mentioned in Acts 10 and 11. There will be time to explore the port town of Jaffa and we will end our time together with a special dinner before heading to the airport as we depart on redeye flights back to the United States (be sure your flight leaves at midnight or later on May 4<sup>th</sup>.)

Day 14 – Friday, May 4, 2018

**Go to the Ends of the Earth!**



Today will be a travel day as we head back to our homes across the globe. Arrive back in the United States and enjoy sleeping in your own bed!

**Trip Details**

The cost of the trip will depend on how many people go, the price of the dollar, and fuel costs. The total price of the trip will also depend on your airplane tickets as you will be responsible for purchasing your own tickets.

Our “in country” price will be approximately \$2,500. As we have a better idea of how many people are coming on the trip we will be able to give a more firm and accurate price.

This price includes:

- 11 nights lodging with double occupancy rooms (if you want your own room add \$500 to the overall trip)
- Transportation on a deluxe air-conditioned tour bus
- All entry fees to tour sites
- Licensed Israel tour guides
- All breakfasts and dinners, and four lunches.

The price does **not** include:

- Seven lunches (roughly \$15 each)
- Tips for the tour guide, driver and hotel staff (\$234 total per traveler)
- Souvenirs
- Travel medical insurance (required)
- Trip cancellation insurance (recommended)
- Airport transportation, accommodations and meals if you arrive early or stay longer
- Airplane tickets (approximately \$1,500)

In order to reserve a spot on the trip, please submit an initial deposit of \$500 to PCJH as soon as possible with a note or email to Ben. We only have 30 spots on the trip and we expect to fill them. Please put on the memo line: *Holy Land Trip*. Financial assistance may be available.

**Important Deadlines and Payment Schedule**

**September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

- \$500 initial deposit due if not already paid

**October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

- It is recommended that you have purchased your airline tickets if you haven't already, as well as travel insurance.

**January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> deposit of \$750 due

**February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> deposit to cover remaining balance due (approximately \$1,250)

**Hotel Information:**

April 22-24, 2018 (2 Nights) – Hod Hotel & Spa, Ein Bokek, Dead Sea -- Breakfast & Dinner

<http://www.hodhotel.co.il/en/>

April 24-28, 2018 (4 Nights) – Kibbutz Ha'onon Resort, Sea of Galilee -- Breakfast & Dinner

There is no website for the kibbutz resort.

April 28-30, 2018 (2 Nights) – St. Gabriel, Bethlehem – Breakfast & Dinner

<http://www.st-gabrielhotel.com/>

April 30 – May 03, 2018 (3 Nights)– Dan Hotel, Mount Scopus, Jerusalem -- Breakfast & Dinner

<https://www.danhotels.com/JerusalemHotels/DanJerusalemHotel/index.htm>

**Other Important Information:**

- There is quite a bit of walking and some optional hiking involved on this trip. It will be important for individuals to be physically fit to travel and walk for several hours a day.
- It is helpful to bring about \$50 worth in \$1 bills for tips and other random purchases. Israelis accept the American dollar and it is easier than exchanging money into shekels.

There are several books that we would recommend for reading as a way to prepare for the trip and to better understand the history of Israel and the current conflict between Israelis and Palestinians.

1. *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Tough Questions, Direct Answers*, by Dale Hanson Bourke
2. *Blood Brothers: The Unforgettable Story of a Palestinian Christian Working for Peace in Israel*, by Elias Chacour
3. *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East*, by Sandy Tolan
4. *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn*, by Daniel Gordis
5. *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels* by Kenneth E. Bailey
6. *The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land* by Dana Rosenfeld
7. *Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith* by Marvin R. Wilson
8. *Where Jesus Walked: A Spiritual Journey Through the Holy Land*, by R. Wayne Stacy
9. *The New Christian Traveler's Guide to the Holy Land*, by Charles H. Dyer and Gregory A. Hatteberg

Many people are fearful of traveling to the Middle East. This fear is very real and valid considering the world's current state of affairs. However, Israel is very safe because of its high security measures. That being said, no one can guarantee our safety in Israel, but let us remind you that no one can guarantee your safety while hiking in Grand Teton National Park or walking the streets of New York City. There is always risk involved in traveling. There is risk in following Jesus and living life to its fullness too. Here's what we *can* guarantee: we can guarantee that God will be with us and that we will be covered by God's grace in prayer. Even the Israelites were fearful of entering the Promised Land. They lived in that state of fear for 40 years, but Joshua encouraged them to finally go, and his words continue to encourage us today...

*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."* -Joshua 1:9

We look forward to our journey together to the land of the Bible: the land where our Savior and Lord Jesus was born, lived, died, and rose again!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or would like to reserve a spot on the trip! Ben can be contacted at [bpascal@pcjh.org](mailto:bpascal@pcjh.org) and Addie at [addiepascal@gmail.com](mailto:addiepascal@gmail.com). We will be praying for you as you prepare for the trip of a lifetime!

-Ben & Addie Pascal

