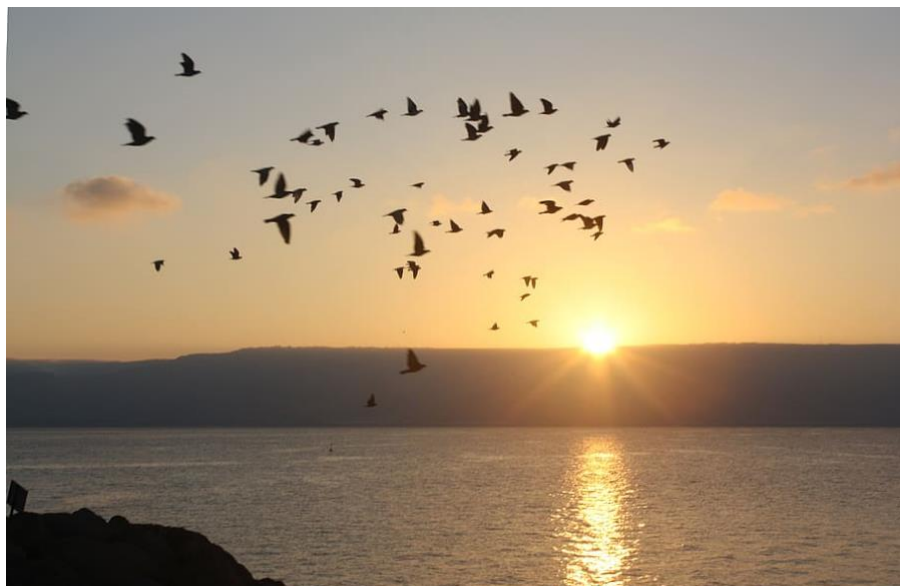


THE HOLY LAND



PCJH Holy Land Pilgrimage October 23, 2022 – November 3, 2022

Trip Leaders: Tamara Mitchell & Caryn Haman
Tour Guide: Andre Moubarak of Twins Tours & Travel Ltd.



PCJH Holy Land Pilgrimage

October 23, 2022 – November 3, 2022



“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 2022. 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!

Trip Organizers: Tamara Mitchell & Caryn Haman
The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole
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Licensed Israel Tour Guide: Andre Moubarak
Twins Tours & Travel Ltd.
Jerusalem, Israel
www.twinstours.com

Day 1 – Saturday, October 22, 2022

Go to the Land I Will Show You



Depart on flights to Israel. People are strongly encouraged to arrive in Tel Aviv **no later than October 22** to get over jet lag and spend time on the beautiful beaches of the Mediterranean Sea.

Day 2 – Sunday, October 23, 2022

Welcome to the Holy Land!



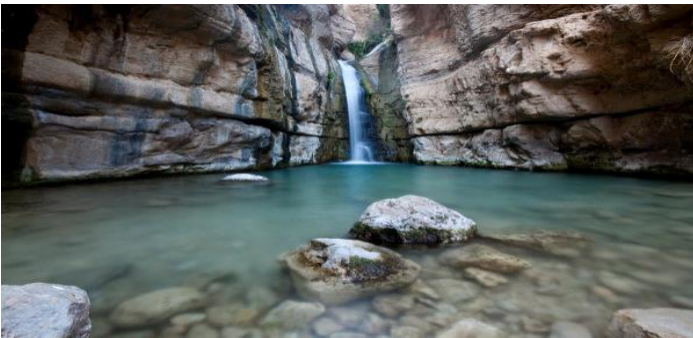
All travelers will meet with our tour guides, Andre Moubarak, Tamara Mitchell, and Caryn Haman at the Mendeli Street Hotel in Tel Aviv **no later than 2:00pm** on Sunday, October 23rd. We will then drive south through the northern Negev Desert to the southern edge of the Dead Sea. Enjoy a swim in the Dead Sea or peruse shops with specialties from the area. Dinner and overnight at Herod’s Dead Sea Hotel in Ein Bokek.

Day 3 – Monday, October 24, 2022
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 bright and early with breakfast and travel a short distance to Masada, a UNESCO world heritage site marking the last stand of the Zealots in the Jewish Revolt against Rome (66-73 CE). We will then travel into the desert for camel rides, and experience Bedouin hospitality in the Negev Desert. After lunch, we will travel to Mamshit, a Nabatean City along the famous Spice route. We will return to the hotel for free time, floating in the Dead Sea and enjoying the hotel. Dinner and overnight at Herod's Hotel in Ein Bokek.

Day 4 – Tuesday, October 25, 2022
Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve



We will consider the different worldviews and tensions into which Jesus came. After breakfast, 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 enjoy a lunch in Jericho before

driving north through the Jordan Valley to the Galilee region. We will continue to Tabgha, where Jesus gathered his disciples and fed the five thousand. We will see 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.” That evening we have dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Lavi Tiberias in Tiberias, near Lake Galilee.

Day 5 – Wednesday, October 26, 2022
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. Then we will visit Capernaum, where Jesus taught in the synagogue. After a special lunch at St. Peter's Fish, we will take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and renew our baptismal vows on the shores of Galilee. Next, we will take a short trip to the town and the synagogue of Migdal, where Jesus met Mary Magdalene. We finish the day with dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Lavi Tiberias.

Day 6 – Thursday, October 27, 2022
And the Child Grew



After breakfast, 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. Then we travel to Nazareth where we will enjoy 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. We will take some time to pray over the region. Then we will have a lovely walk on the Jesus Trail through the Valley of the Doves. Dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Lavi Tiberias.

Day 7 – Friday, October 28, 2022
Galilee of the Gentiles



We will begin the day at Tel Dan National Park, with a beautiful walk along the headwaters of the Jordan River, and a look at the pagan altar there. We will visit Banias / Caesarea Philippi National Park, the region where Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?", and the stunning waterfall that may have inspired King David to write Psalm 42. We will have lunch in a Druze village before driving through the Golan Heights. We will take time to pray along the borders of Israel, Lebanon, and Syria. Possibly a Shabbat dinner and overnight at Kibbutz Lavi Tiberias

Day 8 – Saturday, October 29, 2022
Via Maris, and Drive to Bethlehem



After checking out of the hotel, we will travel to Mount Carmel and visit the Muhraqa Church where Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Ba'al. We will climb to the rooftop to enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of the Jezreel Valley known for its beauty and fertility. Our next stop will be the Caesarea Maritime National Park, enjoy a sack lunch, and see 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, to the Shepherds Field and nearby caves, where the angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. Dinner and overnight at Manger Square Hotel in Bethlehem which is walking distance to the Church of the Nativity.

Day 9 – Sunday, October 30, 2022
Welcome to Bethlehem



We begin the day worshipping with a local Palestinian Arab Christian church and enjoy traditional Palestinian food for lunch. We will meet with local people involved in the peacemaking efforts. We will then tour the Aida Refugee Camp which was established in 1950 and still houses refugees today. We will finish the day touring the Walled Off Hotel before returning to our own hotel.

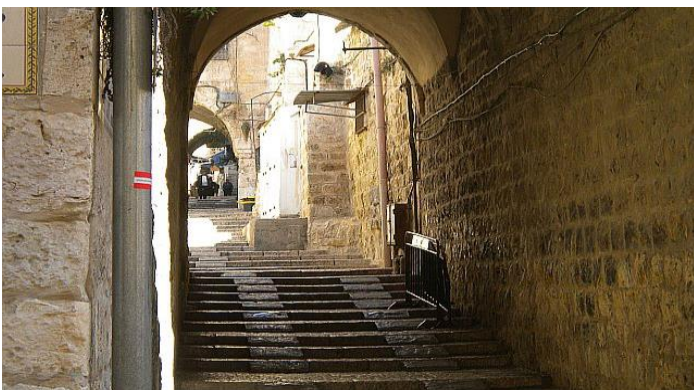
Dinner and overnight at Manger Square Hotel in Bethlehem.

Day 10 – Monday, October 31, 2022
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 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. 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. Afterward, we will return to the hotel for dinner. That evening, we will be visited by people from the Parent’s Circle, a joint Israeli-Palestinian group whose common bond is the loss of a family member to the conflict. Dinner and overnight at Ramat Rachel Hotel in Jerusalem.

Day 11 – Tuesday, November 1, 2022
Jesus’ Last Week in Jerusalem



We will begin early in the City of David where the Jerusalem all began. Then we will travel to 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 Flevit 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. Dinner and overnight Ramat Rachel Hotel in Jerusalem.

Day 12 – Wednesday, November 2
The Temple Mount: The Heart of the Conflict



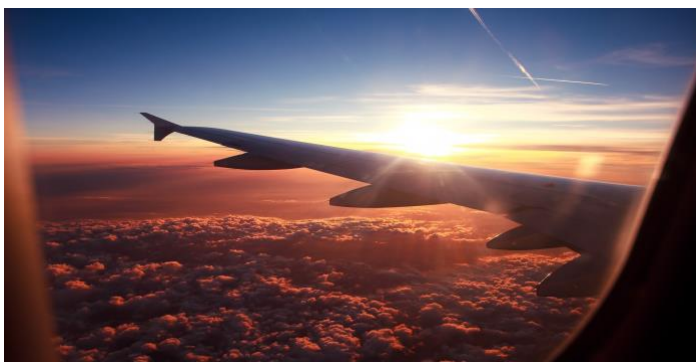
Today we explore the heart of the Holy City of Jerusalem by focusing on the area around the historic Temple. We will begin the day atop the Temple Mount, which the Muslims call “The Noble Sanctuary” and walk around the exterior of the Muslim shrine “Dome of the Rock” and the Al Aqsa Mosque. Then we will 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 then walk along the Via Dolorosa, the Way of the Cross and take a lunch break. Following lunch, we will have time to visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher which marks the traditional site of the crucifixion of Jesus and his burial tomb. People will then have the rest of the day free to walk around Jerusalem or to go to the Israel Museum, which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls. Dinner and overnight Ramat Rachel Hotel in Jerusalem.

Day 13 – Thursday, November 3, 2022
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 November 4.)

Day 14 – Friday, November 4
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!

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 the airplane tickets as you will be responsible for purchasing your own tickets.

Our “in country” price will be approximately \$3,500.

This price includes:

- 11 nights lodging with double occupancy rooms (if you want your own room add \$1475 to the overall trip)
- Transportation on a deluxe air-conditioned tour bus
- All entry fees to tour sites
- Licensed Israel tour guides
- Headsets system for all participants
- All breakfasts and dinners.

The price does *not* include:

- Any lunches (roughly \$15 – \$25 each)
- Customary tips for the tour guide, driver and hotel staff (\$237 total per traveler)
- Souvenirs
- Travel medical insurance (Mandatory for all participants)
- Trip cancellation insurance (recommended)
- Airport transportation, accommodations and meals for early/late arrivals/departures for individuals traveling separately from the group.
- Special beverages during the meals
- Bottled water (provided for sale on the tour bus)
- All mandatory COVID testing required by the Israeli government Ministry of Tourism & Ministry of Health. In case a group member has a positive PCR test result he/she must quarantine in an Israeli hotel at their own expense.
- Airplane tickets (approximately \$1,800)

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 Tammy. 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
May 20, 2022

- \$500 initial deposit due if not already paid
- It is strongly recommended that people purchase their airline tickets as soon as possible, as well as travel insurance.

July 24, 2022

- 2nd deposit of \$1250 due

August 28, 2022

- 3rd deposit to cover remaining balance due (approximately \$1750)

Hotel Information:

October 23-25 (2 Nights) – Herod’s Hotel, Ein Bokek, Dead Sea -- Breakfast & Dinner

<https://www.herods-hotels.com/herods-hotels/herods-dead-sea/>

October 25-29 (4 Nights) – Kibbutz Lavi Tiberias/Tiberias or Leonardo Plaza Tiberias - Breakfast & Dinner

<https://en-hotel.lavi.co.il/>
<https://www.leonardo-hotels.com/tiberias/leonardo-plaza-tiberias>

October 29-31 (2 Nights) – Manger Square Hotel, Bethlehem – Breakfast & Dinner

<http://mangersquarehotel.com/>

October 31- November 3 (3 Nights)– Ramat Rachel Hotel, Jerusalem -- Breakfast & Dinner

<https://ramatrachel.co.il/en/>

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, and up and down stairs and uneven steps.

Preparatory Reading

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! Tammy can be contacted at tmitchell@pcjh.org and Caryn at carynhaman@aol.com. We will be praying for you as you prepare for the trip of a lifetime!

-Tammy and Caryn

