

ISRAEL & JORDAN THE HOLY LANDS

21 May – 03 June, 2018

Hosted by Pastor Robert Parmenter
McMURRAY GOSPEL ASSEMBLY

“Moreover concerning the stranger, which is not of thy people Israel, but is come from a far country for thy great names sake, and thy mighty hand, and thy stretched out arm; If they come and pray in this house; then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for.”
(II Chronicles 6:32-33)

MON. 21 MAY: Depart for Israel

Today, we depart from Fort McMurray, then onto Toronto and our non-stop flight to Israel. Group seating will be pre-assigned by the airline for our flight. Dinner and complimentary in-flight service will be provided on board. **(D)**

TUE. 22 MAY: Israel, Tel Aviv

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, we are met by our Israeli Tour Manager, who will assist us with immigration and luggage formalities. Boarding our luxury touring coach, we relax and enjoy the short journey to our hotel in Tel Aviv.

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 and 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)

Tonight, we shall enjoy our ‘*Welcome to Israel*’ dinner at our hotel. Located by the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, the Seasons Hotel is the perfect location to start our journey! **(B, D)**

WED. 23 MAY: Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Megiddo

After our first Israeli breakfast, we head north along the ‘Via Maris’ towards the Galilee stopping at the following:

Caesarea – The ancient Roman seaport capital of Israel where Pontius Pilate had his base.

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)

Megiddo – Hebrew for **Armageddon**, Megiddo was strategically located on the main trading routes between Babylonia and Egypt. Here, King Solomon built a giant fortress and city. (Judges 1:27; 5:19; I Kings 4:12; 9:15; II Chronicles 35:22; Zechariah 12:12; Revelation 16:16)

Our final destination today is the beautiful setting of Kibbutz Ginossar. Located by the shores of the Sea of Galilee, this is a great location for our three nights’ stay. **(B, D)**

THU. 24 MAY: Caesarea Philippi, Golan Heights, Sea of Galilee

After breakfast, we begin our day by travelling north to the Upper Galilee which includes:

Tel Dan – This national park and archeological site offer a blend of Israel’s natural beauty and Biblical history.

Caesarea Philippi – Built at one of the sources of the Jordan River, the city of Pnias (named by the Greeks after the goat-footed god, Pan) was later renamed by the Romans as Caesarea Philippi. It was here that Jesus revealed to the Disciples His purpose, His Church, and where Peter identified Jesus as the Messiah. (Mark 8:27; Matthew 16:13-23)

Nimrod Castle- This stunning Crusader castle offers awe inspiring views of the plains of Lebanon and the upper Galilee.

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 – The baptismal site located on the southern shores of the Sea of Galilee where the river Jordan flows southwards.

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

FRI. 25 MAY: Galilee

After our Israeli buffet breakfast, we leave the north and head towards the Sea of Galilee. En-route, we shall visit:

Chorazin – Location of Galilee’s most intact ancient synagogues, Chorazin was a very important Jewish town. Jesus rebuked the people of Chorazin for their lack of faith and for spurning his ‘miracles’. (Matthew 11:21; Luke 10:13)

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)

Capernaum – The center 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)

Bethsaida – Also known as ‘The House of The Fisherman’, this is the home of Peter, Philip and Andrew and also the place where Jesus fed the five thousand and healed the blind man. Here, we will see recent excavations of this old city. (Matthew 11:21; Luke 10:13; John 1)

Tabgha – Located at the foot of the Mt. of Beatitudes, this is the site of the Miracle of The Loaves and the Fishes. (Mark 6:34-44; Matthew 14:14-21, 16:18-19; John 21:15-19)

Ginossar – Here, we will visit the **Jesus Boat Museum** exhibit. Discovered by accident during the drought of 1986, this fishing boat would have existed at 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 – Our time at the Sea of Galilee ends with an unforgettable sailing on the Sea of Galilee.

Dinner will be at our kibbutz. **(B, D)**

SAT. 26 MAY: Nazareth, Beth She’an,

Today, we leave the Galilee travelling southwards through the Jordan Valley to the Dead Sea. This was the route followed by Jesus and his disciples as they traversed the dusty roads towards Jerusalem for the last time. Our first stop today is:

Nazareth – Here is where Jesus spent his childhood with Mary and Joseph. Nazareth is also the site of The Annunciation and where the Nazarenes 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)

Beth She’an – The largest of Israel’s archeological digs. Even after its’ initial discovery many years ago, archeologists are today still discovering more ruins from the Roman era when Beth She’an was one of the 10 cities in The Decapolis. This ancient city, although destroyed by an earthquake in the 8th Century, offers a fabulous insight into Roman life and times. After losing the battle to the Philistines, King Saul and his sons were hung from the city walls. (Judges 4:7-8; Samuel 24: 1-23)

After Beth She’an, we head further south 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.

As our day ends, we return to our hotel in the Galilee **(B, D)**

SUN 27MAY: Cross over into Jordan

After breakfast, we cross the border into Jordan and head towards Petra (one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.) En-route to Petra we shall visit:

Bethany by the Jordan – Here, we stand by the banks of the river Jordan where John the Baptist baptizes Jesus. (Matthew 3: 13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1 29-34)

Mt. Nebo - From here we can see across into the Promised Land, just as Moses did before being laid to rest. On a clear day we can see the hills of Jerusalem with Jericho in the foreground. (Deuteronomy 34:1-8)

Later today, we arrive at the Petra Panorama hotel, in Petra. **(B,D)**

MON 28MAY: Petra

After breakfast, we begin our visit of Petra. Petra was chosen as the capital of the Nabateans because it was located in a valley surrounded by sandstone mountains. The main entrance to Petra is called the Siq, with sides as high as 200m. It was here that Christians escaped from the siege of Jerusalem by Titus in the 1st century.

This gorge and the temple at the end of it (the Kazneh) were popularized in American culture in the movie, Indiana Jones and The Last Crusade.

The Kazneh - Of the 800 carved tombs in Petra, the Kazneh is the most famous. Its name Kazneh means 'treasure' and comes from the Bedouin belief that the Pharaoh chasing the Israelites hid his treasures in the urn at the top of the Kazneh.

Main Street - As many as 30,000 people may have lived in Petra during the 1st century. It is a misconception that Petra was a city only for the dead. A large earthquake in 363 AD destroyed at least half of the city. Petra never recovered from this destruction.

Dinner and overnight stay will be at our Petra hotel. **(B,D)**

TUE 29 MAY: Wadi Run and Red Sea

From Petra, we take the short drive to the Gulf of Aquaba, where we stay for overnight and dinner.

Located on the shores of the Red Sea, it is a perfect place to spend our last night in Jordan.

This afternoon, we enjoy some free time by the Red Sea and enjoy the surroundings, including optional snorkeling, for which it is famous! **(B,D)**

WED 30 MAY. Cross over in morning into Israel

This morning, we leave Jordan and cross into Israel, by the Gulf of Aquaba, and head towards the Judean wilderness through the Negev desert.

On our way to the Dead Sea we shall visit;

Timna Valley - This unique area of geological formations is rich in copper. Experts believe that this is the area where Solomon mined for copper. Whilst here, we shall visit the **Wilderness Tabernacle Model**. This full scale reproduction, is accurate in every way to the dimensions described in the bible. Don't look for any gold, silver or bronze, as those materials are not used in this exhibit!

Dinner and overnight stay will be by the shores of the Dead Sea, at the Daniel hotel. **(B,D)**

THU. 31 MAY: Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea

Today, we will spend our time around the lowest place on earth. 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!

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)

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.

This afternoon, we travel "UP" to Jerusalem, to the Grand Court hotel. Home for the remainder of the journey. **(B, D)**

FRI. 01 JUNE: Jerusalem

After breakfast, we will spend our first full day in Jerusalem visiting:

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 shall 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, is now commemorated by the Church of All Nations – “*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) n

House of Caiaphas – Located under the current St. Peter of Gallicantu church is the traditional site where Jesus was imprisoned.

Christian Quarter- We will have time to enjoy lunch and shopping in and around the Christian Quarter of the old city.

Mount Zion – Assumed by the Byzantine pilgrims as the original City of David, this piece of land would have existed outside the original city walls. (II Kings 2:10; Matthew 26:17-35; Mark 14:12-25; Luke 22:7-38; John 13-17)

Upper Room – The traditional site where Jesus instituted a new Passover celebration and the new Covenant in His blood. (Mark 14:15)

Yad Vashem – The national museum and memorial to the holocaust.

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

SAT.02 JUNE: Jerusalem

After breakfast, we spend our last full day visiting:

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

Davidson Centre and Steps of Ascension – 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.

Western Wall Tunnels – Also called The Wailing Wall. The holiest place of pilgrimage for the Jews! Here, we can observe the Orthodox Jews as they pray relentlessly along with many Christians. (I Kings 6:14; Matthew 12:6; Luke 2:46; John 2:19)

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.

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)

This evening, we will enjoy our last evening dinner with a special in the town of Abu Gosh. A wonderful time to share and reflect on what this journey has meant to you! (B, D)

SUN. 03 JUN: Israel to Home

Early this morning, we depart from Tel Aviv on our non-stop flight back to Toronto and onto Fort McMurray. Complimentary in-flight service will be provided on board. **(B)**

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner

**ISRAEL & JORDAN
THE HOLY LANDS
21 May – 03 June, 2018
Hosted by Pastor Robert Parmenter
McMURRAY GOSPEL ASSEMBLY**

INCLUDED

Air travel: Round trip from Fort McMurray. Fares from other cities available upon request.

Hotels: First class hotels throughout.

Meals: Full breakfast and dinner daily with tea and coffee.

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: Currently \$725.

“Whisper ear headsets” to listen to the guides and leadership team

NOT INCLUDED

Lunches. (unless mentioned in the itinerary)

Gratuities: Equivalent to USD\$150

Travel Insurance:

Christian Journeys requires that you must have - ‘out of country’- emergency medical insurance, equivalent to (or greater than) \$250,000. We have many insurance policy options to offer which include cancellation and interruption coverage. Please contact our office for policy details and premiums.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Passport: Tour participants must be in possession of a valid passport which does not expire before 03 December 2018. Canadian and USA passport holders do not currently require a visa for Israel. Christian Journeys will obtain the Jordan visa.

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 \$400 is required with the registration form. Bookings within 60 days of departure require full payment. Final payment is due by 21 March 2018.

Currency surcharge: Christian Journeys reserves the right to introduce a currency surcharge. If applicable, this would be assessed 90 days prior to departure. An increase greater than 7% of the base journey cost would allow participants to cancel without a penalty.

Fuel surcharges: The air transportation costs include a 'fuel surcharge' component of \$595. This amount is subject to change and will be reviewed at time of final billing, 90 days prior to departure.

Travel Insurance: Your Comprehensive Travel Policy includes 'trip cancellation' coverage to protect you against the cancellation penalties. Conditions apply so please ask for more details.

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.

14 DAY JOURNEY PRICING

FORT McMURRAY PRICE:	\$ 4274CAD
AIR TAXES/FUEL CHARGES	\$ 725CAD
TOTAL:	\$4999CAD

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:	\$1099CAD
Based on 25 passengers	

**Please add 3% surcharge
for payment by credit card.**

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