# Journey to Israel The Land of the Bible 10-day Holy Land Tour



with Tour Host



Rev. Ezequiel & Carolyn Pecina District Superintendent West Texas and Plains District

October 21-30, 2013



<u>Day 1, Monday, Oct 21</u>—Depart from Dallas for your overnight flight to Tel Aviv.

Day 2. Tuesday, Oct 22 — We arrive at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv in the late afternoon where we will be met by our representative. Time permitting, we visit Jaffa, one of the oldest cities in the world and the port where the prophet Jonah set sail for Tar Shish. Then we drive to our hotel in Netanya. After a delicious buffet dinner you can enjoy a walk along the Mediterranean Sea.

Day 3, Wednesday, Oct 23—We begin our day at Caesarea Maritima. We will see a well-preserved Roman Amphitheater, still used for concerts today, remains from Herods Palace and a Hippodrome that seated 10,000 spectators where horse races, special events and games took place. See the aqueducts built by Herod that brought ample water from several miles away to supply thousands of Caesarea citizens. We will visit Mt.Carmel, where Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Baal and as fire consumed the altar the people declared that the Lord is God. We continue to Megiddo, visit the site of 26 superimposed cities, and view the Jezreel Valley where the final Armageddon will be fought. We will drive to Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus, and visit a replica village built on remains from 2,000 years ago. A winding path will take you through a working farm, ancient winepress and stone quarries. As you walk back in time you will visit homes where you see ancient crafts such as carpentry and yarn weaving. Continue to our hotel in Tiberias on the shores of the Galilee.

Day 4, Thursday, Oct 24—Start today with a special time of worship as we sail across the Sea of Galilee in a replica boat of 2,000 years. We visit the ancient boat discovered by two fishermen in 1986. The construction of the boat is consistent with boats built from 100 BC to 200 AD. Next we travel to Capernaum, the center of Jesus activities in the Galilee and home to Peter, Andrew, James and John. We see the ancient synagogue where Jesus taught and explore the archeological gardens. We will walk on the Mount of Beatitudes, the traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount. We drive to Banias, the site of the biblical Caesarea Philippi. Before returning to our hotel in Tiberias, we will have an opportunity for water baptism in the Jordan River.

Day 5, Friday, Oct 25—Leaving the Galilee area, we will drive down the Jordan Valley to explore the latest excavations at Beit Shean, Israel's largest excavation. At this amazing archeological site you will see a city that included public areas, agora, theaters, bathhouses, markets, massive columns that line the main street, reflecting pools and residential homes. It was on the walls of Beit Shean that the Philistines hung the bodies of King Saul and his sons after the crushing defeat on Mt. Gilboa. We will drive by Mt. Gilboa, site of Saul's death, and visit the natural springs where Gideon brought ten thousand to be tested. We continue down the Jordan Valley, driving by Jericho and the Mount of Temptations, and arrive in Jerusalem on Mt. Scopus for a magnificent view of the Golden City from Mt Scopus. We will offer a traditional blessing as was done during the time of Christ then arrive at out Jerusalem Hotel.

Day 6, Saturday, Oct 26—Today we begin at the Mt. of Olives where we will hear an explanation of the city, then walk down the Palm Sunday road to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus spent that agonizing night before his betrayal. We enter the Old City of Jerusalem and visit the Pools of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the lame man. We will walk through the Old City following the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, one of the sites believed to be the crucifixion of Jesus. We end our day in Bethlehem, the birthplace of our Savior. We will see the Church of the Nativity, the traditional site of the birth of Jesus and the Shepherds fields where the birth of Jesus was announced and the biblical account of Ruth and Boaz took place.

Day 7, Sunday, Oct 27—We drive outside of Jerusalem today to the lowest spot on earth, the Dead Sea. Ascending by cable car, we will tour the famous archaeological site of Masada, an ancient fortress, where Jewish Zealots made their last stand against Rome in 73 CE. We drive by Ein Gedi to see the waterfalls where David hid from Saul. At Qumran, we will see the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We take time to "float" in the Dead Sea waters before returning to our hotel in Jerusalem.

Day 8, Monday, Oct 28— This morning we begin on Mt. Zion to visit the Church of St. Peter in Galacantu, Caiaphas' House where Jesus was held before trial, and see ancient steps cut into the hill, that led to the city, a path Jesus may have used. In the Jewish Quarters we will visit the traditional Upper Room and enjoy a time of worship. See the ancient Roman Cardo, and visit the remains from Hezekiah's Wall. Next visit the Western Wall for a personal time of reflection and prayer, and then walk through the Western Wall Tunnel to see remarkable underground excavation of ancient Jerusalem. We will walk along distinctively carved and well-preserved Herodian stones that weigh over 100 tons. At the Davidson Center, we will enjoy a virtual tour of the Second Temple and explore the Temple Southern Steps. These steps were the only entrance to the Temple during the time of Christ. Then to the new excavations of the City of David. We will see an overview revealing some of the most exciting archeological finds of the ancient world. Archeologist have found what they believe is King David's Palace that has been undisturbed for over 3,000 vears.

Day 9, Tuesday, Oct 29—On our final day in Jerusalem we will walk through Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum, in memory of the millions murdered by the Nazis. We then visit the Israel Museum and see the Holy Land Model, a miniature replica of Jerusalem during the time of Christ. We will also see the Dead Sea Scrolls found at Qumran. We will end our time in Jerusalem at one of the sites believed to be the burial site of Jesus, the Garden Tomb, We enjoy a time of worship and communion, a highlight of our tour. A special dinner is planned as we conclude our Israel Journey. We then transfer to the airport for late night departure.

**Day 10, Wednesday, Oct 30**—Depart Tel Aviv just after midnight and return home with a lifetime of memories of our journey through the Holy Land.

Itinerary can be changed at the discretion of your guide and tour leader.

## Journey to Israel The Land of the Bible

10-day Holy Land Tour



Tour Price \$3499 per person\*

October 21 - 30, 2013



#### **Price of Tour Includes**

Round trip airfare from Dallas on US Airways (pricing from other cities are available), breakfast and dinner daily, special farewell dinner, seven amazing full days of sightseeing, all entrance fees on itinerary, english speaking guide, porters at hotels, deluxe motor coach and driver, seven nights first class (4-star) hotels, airport transfers, tips to driver, guide and hotel staff, tax and fuel surcharge at current rate\* (subject to change) tour price is cash/check discounted rate

#### **Not Included**

Lunches, bottled water or beverages, single room, travel insurance, personal items, use of credit cards for tour payments

### Please Note: Airline Taxes and Fuel Surcharge\* are

included in the tour price. The current rate is \$700. This fee is set by the airline and Madison Tours has no control nor receives advance notice of changes. Due to fluctuating oil prices, the fee may change. The airline will only guarantee the fee at time of ticketing, about six weeks before departure. If the airline impose an increase, the difference will be collected before departure.

Terms and Conditions: Reservation is made with a \$300 deposit per person. All rates are in US dollars, per person, double occupancy. Unless passenger has a preferred roommate, MTT will make every effort to assign a suitable roommate. MTT is not responsible for, nor does it guarantee the finding of a roommate. If no roommate is available for placement, the applicable single room supplement will apply. Tour price is based on a minimum number of passengers. Should the minimum number not be met, tour price would be subject to change. The tour price reflects a discount for purchases paid by cash or check. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted as a convenience to our customers and are subjected to a 3% non-refundable convenience fee. Fuel Surcharge: Fuel Surcharge is included in the tour price. This fee is set by the airline and MTT has no control nor do we receive advance notice on any changes. MTT reserves the right to amend your tour price if necessary. Cancellations: Full refund, less \$100 handling fee, will be made up to 120 days before departure: 119-60 days, \$350; 59-30 days, 50% of tour price; less than 29 days, non-refundable. All applicable airfare and overseas operation cancellation fees will be added to the above. All cancellations must be submitted in writing and will take effect upon date of receipt by MTT. Unused portions of the tour costs are not refundable. Travel Insurance: We strongly advise cancellation insurance, which may grant full refund in case of illness or unforeseen events. Travel insurance also covers emergency medical expenses, trip interruption or missed connection and baggage delay. You will find policy details and coverage in the insurance brochure that will be sent to each passenger after the initial deposit and registration has been received, or you may visit www.madisontravel.com for more information. **Not included in tour price:** Travel Insurance, excess baggage charges, meals other than those provided for, items from hotel room, mini-fridge, telephone calls, laundry, bottled water, liquors, after dinner coffee or tea, personal items, US Customs & Immigration fee, if any, anything not mentioned as included and anything of a personal nature. Please Note: A \$50 charge per person, per change will be assessed for any deviation from the prepared tour itinerary. No changes accepted within 30 days of departure. The fare is based on advance purchase excursion rates. The services of any IATA or ARC carrier may be used in conjunction with the tour. MTT act only in the capacity of agents for all vendors. By acceptance of tour membership, the tour member agrees that neither the tour operator, nor any of its employees or affiliates shall be liable for any strikes, riots, terrorism, wars, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, improper visas, passports or other travel documents, defaults, delays, loss or damage resulting from negligence of any vendor. By embarking upon this tour, the traveler voluntarily assumes all risks of damage or loss involved, expected or unexpected. Tour operator reserves the right to refuse any person, before, or during the tour, and to make any changes to the tour should circumstances warrant.

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#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

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