

# FAITH COMES ALIVE ISRAEL, THE HOLY LAND JOURNEY

08 – 18 MARCH, 2018



Hosted by James Waffle, Bridges For Peace Canada

*"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*  
(Genesis 12:2-3)



*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*

## CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS

*Imagine a family vacation...one that touches your heart forever, one that has an "eternal effect" on your life and the life of your family and ranks high as a "Once in a Lifetime" dream fulfilled. Prepare yourself for a journey to the Holy Land. Join other Canadian families in fulfilling the dream of walking where Jesus walked, and watching the Bible come alive (as a family). Each journey is led by a local Israeli guide who is an expert on the historical, cultural, scenic, and spiritual history of Israel and your host from Bridges for Peace Canada. If you are interested in the special blessings only available in Israel, join me as your host as we travel together for our first ever Israel family tour.*  
Jamie Waffle. Bridges For Peace Canada

#### **DAY 1: THU. 08 MARCH: Toronto to Tel Aviv**

Today, we depart from Toronto on our non-stop overnight flight 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: FRI. 09 MARCH: Arrive Israel**

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 begin our journey by driving to the Dead Sea.

From here, we check-in to our hotel overlooking the Dead Sea where we rest and enjoy our 'Welcome to Israel' dinner. Tonight is Shabbat! **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 3: SAT. 10 MARCH: Masada, Ein Gedi**

After our first Israeli 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. (1 Samuel 24, Song of Solomon 1:14; Ezekiel 47:10)

**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!

After another fascinating day, we make our way back to our hotel by the Dead Sea. **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 4: SUN. 11 MARCH: Dead Sea to Galilee**

After breakfast, we leave the Dead Sea and journey north to the Galilee. Our day involves visits to:

**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.

**Genesis Land**- Located in the wilderness of Wadi Qelt, Genesis Land brings alive the Old Testament stories of the lost children of Israel and the Tabernacle. It's camel riding time!

**Bethany by the Jordan** – Extensive excavations of the surrounding area since 1996 have uncovered many sites. None more significant than the ruins of 'Bethabara.' Many believe this is the original site of John the Baptist's ministry and the location of his baptism of Jesus.

**Bet 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 Bet 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)

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

Our day ends by arriving at kibbutz Hagoshrim, located by the foothills of Mt. Hermon. Dinner will be at our kibbutz. **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 5: MON. 12 MARCH: Upper Galilee**

This morning, we travel through the upper Galilee and visit the following Biblical sites.

**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 Panias (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. This afternoon we enjoy the experience of "quad biking" in the Golan.

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

#### **DAY 6: TUE. 13 MARCH: Sea of Galilee**

This morning, we take the short journey down to the Sea of Galilee. The centre of Jesus' ministry!

**On our way to the Sea of Galilee, we shall visit the Bridges For Peace centre at Karmiel.**

**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! 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)





**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** – We end our day with a memorable time in our private boat on the Sea of Galilee.

Dinner will be at our hotel located by the shores of the Sea of Galilee. **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 7: WED. 14 MARCH: Galilee to Mediterranean Sea**

This morning, we leave the Sea of Galilee and head towards Jerusalem, not before visiting:

**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)

**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)

**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.

After another fascinating day, we make our way ‘up’ to Jerusalem. This will be our “home” for the remainder of the journey. Dinner will be served at our hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 8: THU. 15 MARCH Jerusalem**

Our first full day in Jerusalem includes the following:

**Bridges For Peace Centre in Jerusalem.** Here, we shall learn more about the projects and work currently undertaken by Bridges For Peace in Israel.

**Friends of Zion Museum** – This interactive museum uses state of the art technology to bring alive stories of love and heroism to the world. This truly is a once in a lifetime experience.

**Yad Vashem** – Israel’s national monument, memorial and museum to the Holocaust.

**Western Wall & Tunnels** – Also known as 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.

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

#### **DAY 9: FRI. 16 MARCH: Jerusalem, Bethlehem**

This morning, we drive through the new City of Jerusalem and 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 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. – “*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)

**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.

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

**Dinner will be at the home of a Jewish family as we experience a ‘Shabbat of a Lifetime.’ (B, D)**

#### **DAY 10: SAT. 17 MARCH: Bethlehem, Jerusalem**

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

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

Once back in Jerusalem, we shall visit:

**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.

**Holy Sepulcher Church** – The Catholic tradition of stations X- XIV on the Via Dolorosa. This is the Catholic tradition site of the Crucifixion of Jesus and where he was laid to rest.

**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)

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

#### **DAY 11: SUN. 18 MARCH: Journey Home**

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

*Though we have left the Holy Land, it shall never leave us!*

**B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner**



## INCLUDED

**Air travel:** Return air travel from Toronto.

**Departure taxes and fuel charges:** Currently \$698 (subject to change)

### **Hotels:**

Daniel Hotel, Dead Sea  
Kibbutz Hagoshrim, Upper Galilee  
Caesar Hotel, Sea of Galilee  
Grand Court Hotel, Jerusalem

**Meals:** Full buffet breakfast and dinner daily with refreshments, 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 Manager will accompany the group.

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

**Bottled water:** (2 per person per day)

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

## NOT INCLUDED

**Lunches.** (Unless mentioned in the itinerary.)

**Gratuities:** Equivalent to USD \$110

### **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 18 September 2018. Canada and US passport holders do not currently require a visa for Israel.

**Fuel surcharge:** At time of print, the airline still implements a fuel surcharge on all of its flights. We have included this amount in the pricing. The airline fuel is subject to change and will be re-assessed 90 days prior to departure.

**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 plus insurance is required with the signed booking form. Bookings within 60 days of departure require full payment and are 100% non-refundable.

**Travel Insurance:** The Deluxe/Comprehensive Travel Policy includes ‘trip cancellation’ coverage to protect you against all monies paid, except the insurance premium.

**General Health:** All tour members should be in sufficient good health to enjoy the tour in its entirety.

## **JOURNEY PRICING 11 DAY JOURNEY**

**TORONTO DEPARTURE: \$3899CAD**  
**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$ 859CAD**  
**(Based on 40 paid passengers)**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

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CHRISTIAN  
JOURNEYS



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