

TRAVEL INFORMATION

THE TOUR PRICE £1095 INCLUDES:

- ◇ Connecting flights with Edinburgh to Tel Aviv with Turkish Airlines. You will have one hand luggage and one check in luggage per person. A meal and refreshments will be served on board the flight.
- ◇ Hotel accommodation on half board basis; in Nazareth for 3 nights based at the Golden Crown Old City and for 5 nights in Bethlehem based at the Bethlehem hotel or similar. Rates are based on sharing a double / twin room. All rooms will be with private facilities.
- ◇ 5 lunches; 1 lunch at Mount Tabor, one lunch at Mount Beatitudes, 1 lunch at Caritas Children's hospital, 1 lunch at Petra restaurant in Jerusalem and 1 lunch at the Sky lounge in Bethlehem.
- ◇ The services of an official fully licensed local excellent English speaking guide for the duration of your pilgrimage (airport to airport)
- ◇ All transfers and transportation in deluxe and air-conditioned tourist motor coaches as per your itinerary.
- ◇ All the entrance fees as outlined in your itinerary.
- ◇ The advance booking of daily Mass
- ◇ Tips for guide, driver & hotel staff in the Holy Land

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:

- ◇ Single room supplement **£195.00** per person
- ◇ Insurance; **£48.00** per person for those under 65 years at the end of the tour and **£70.00** per person for those over 65 years at the end of the tour.
- ◇ Lunches unless specified under 'included' beverages and refreshments
- ◇ Items of a personal nature, e.g. laundry, telephone, bar bills etc.
- ◇ Passport and Visa Costs

HOW TO BOOK

Please complete the enclosed booking form in BLOCK CAPITALS, which should be returned together with a deposit of **£200.00** per person made payable to Special Pilgrimages Ltd and the travel insurance premium of **£48.00 / £70.00** as applicable if our travel insurance is required. Deposits are due by **Friday 4th March 2016**. **We have no third party acting on our behalf as sub agent for this tour and we will not accept responsibility for any money paid to third parties.**

SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms are available at an extra cost of **£195.00** for the duration of your pilgrimage and are subject to availability and to our confirmation. If you are booking on your own and request to share a twin room, we will do our best to find you a suitable person to share with. **In the event that we fail to do so by 3 weeks before your departure, we will charge you the single room supplement and allocate you a single room.**

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You will find our travel insurance benefits, conditions and exclusions, together with our booking conditions and cancellation charges enclosed with this brochure. They are applicable to all our pilgrimages. **Please note that if you have your own travel insurance and do not require ours, we need sight of a copy of your valid policy showing the date from which it is valid from, its expiry date and the premium paid if applicable at the time of booking. We will also need the insurance company's emergency contact number.**

If you are not taking our insurance you must please send in with your booking form and deposit a copy of your travel insurance for our records. This is in line with our obligations as the tour operator under the package travel regulations 1992. If you have bank / credit card insurance or annual travel insurance that expires before departure please fill in the travel insurance policy request form as directed.

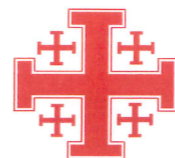
PASSPORTS

You will require a full ten-year international passport for your pilgrimage. **The passport must be valid for a further 6 months at the date of travel.** If you do not hold a European Community passport you must inform us in writing immediately. Visas for Israel may be required for non E.C. passport holders.

FINAL BALANCE

Final payment is due **TEN weeks** before you travel. If we do not receive your full payment by the date shown on your remittance slip we shall assume that you are no longer travelling and we shall cancel your place with loss of your deposit. A reminder will not be issued.

All the flights and flight-inclusive holidays in this brochure are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: **www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate**



A 9 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND
TO CELEBRATE THE 200 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
OF ST. ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, GLASGOW &
THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



FOR £ 1095

19TH - 27TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Under the Spiritual Leadership of Monsignor Christopher McElroy
Organised by Alex Mosson Former Lord Provost of Glasgow



Bookings made within 12 weeks from departure may incur an extra administration charge of at least £50 per person

Departure based on a minimum of 45 pilgrims
Exchange rate £1 = \$1.50

At the time of print we are unable to disclose the type of aircraft

Please note that this tour will not be cancelled unless the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office bans all travel to / from Israel and / or BA, El Al Israel Airlines or other airlines stop flying to and from Tel Aviv to the United Kingdom for political or security reasons



Operated by
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Established 1983



ITINERARY

This Pilgrimage to the Holy Land is taking place in celebration of the 200 year anniversary of the opening of St. Andrew's Cathedral in Glasgow and the Jubilee Year of Mercy. On December 08th 2015, Pope Francis inaugurated the Jubilee Year of Mercy in the Basilica of St. Peter in the Vatican. Bishops around the world have designated special sanctuaries, shrines and churches and prepared Pastoral programmes for the celebration of this extraordinary event of the faithful. For the forthcoming year in the Holy Land, pilgrims are invited to pass through the Door of Mercy opened in Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem in order to obtain the plenary indulgence (visit, confession, profession of faith and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father) a rite with significance and public commitment to a better world. Visiting the Holy Places during the Jubilee year shows a sign of deep desire for conversion and penance for all of our sins against peace, justice and reconciliation. Our Pilgrimage will not only take us to the Holy Places but will also allow us to meet the Palestinian community, the 'living stones' of the Holy Land.

Monday 19th September

Edinburgh / Istanbul / Tel Aviv / Nazareth

Leave from Edinburgh Airport on Turkish Airlines flight TK1344 departing at 10:45 hours and arriving to Istanbul at 17:05 hours. You will then depart from Istanbul on TK788 departing at 18:15 hours and arriving in Tel Aviv at 20:20 hours. You will have one piece of hand luggage and one piece of check in luggage per person. A meal and refreshments will be served inflight. Meeting and assistance upon arrival in Tel Aviv. You will then be met by your guide and transfer to your hotel in Nazareth for check in and overnight stay.

Tuesday 20th September

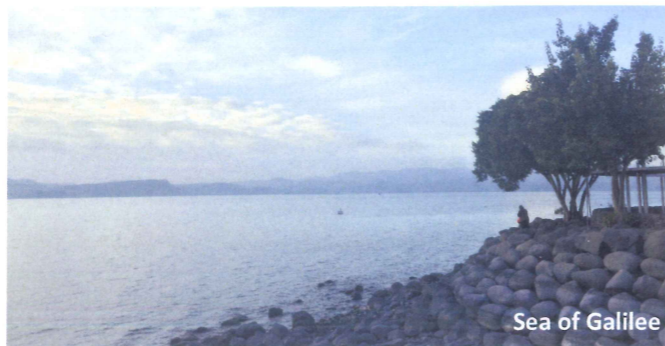
Holy Caves / Nazareth / Mount Tabor

This morning we will have a rest and a later breakfast, leaving the hotel at 10:00 to visit the Holy Caves of Nazareth at 10:30 hours, an ancient underground city built by Christians to hide from the Romans. The cave located at the Sisters of Nazareth Convent has catacombs, mosaics and paved streets within the caves. **We will then continue to Mount Tabor for lunch at 13:00 hours (included).** Mount Tabor, according to a very old tradition, which goes back to apostolic days, is the place where Jesus was "transfigured" (Luke 9; 28-36). Ascend by taxis (included) to the top to visit the Basilica and to see the magnificent view across the plain of Jezreel. **Celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Transfiguration at 15:00 hours.** We then descend by cars to our coach before we return to our hotel in Nazareth for dinner and overnight stay.

Wednesday 21st September

Cana / River Jordan / Sea of Galilee

In the morning we will leave our hotel in Nazareth and proceed to Cana of Galilee for a visit, where since early Christian times many have believed is where Jesus performed His first miracle by turning water into wine at a wedding feast (John 2: 1-11). Cana was also the home of Nathaniel, an early disciple of Jesus. **You will have the opportunity to renew your wedding vows and celebrate Mass at 08:30 hours.** We will then continue to the Baptismal Site on the River Jordan to renew our Baptismal vows. We will then continue to Tiberias where we will sail on a wooden Jesus boat from Tiberias to Capernaum at 11:00 hours. Capernaum, "The Town of Jesus" where He carried out the major part of His Ministry and



Sea of Galilee

Messianic Work. Here Jesus told Peter and Andrew "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:12-22), He cured the Demoniac (Mark 1:21-28) Peter's mother in law (Mark 1:21), the Paralytic (Mark 2:1-12) and the Roman centurion's servant (Luke 1:1-10). It was also here that Jesus made the promise of the Eucharist (John 6: 22-71). We will visit the excavations including the reconstructed fourth century Synagogue and the church built on top of St. Peter's House. **We will have a St. Peters fish lunch at Mount Beatitudes at 13:00 hours (included).** In the afternoon we visit the **Mount of Beatitudes, which commemorates Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:1-12) where we will have a homily at 14:30 hours.** We will then continue to the Church of the Primacy of St Peter and Mensa Christi also known as the Church of Loaves and Fish, the site where Jesus fed the 5,000 (John 6: 1-13). Dinner and overnight stay at our hotel in Nazareth.

Thursday 22nd September

Nazareth / Bethlehem / Civic Reception

In the morning we will check out of our hotel and visit Nazareth, where the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was to bear the Son of God (Luke 1: 26-38). It was also here that Jesus grew up. Visit **the Basilica of the Annunciation including the Grotto and pass through the Door of Mercy,** the Chapel of St. Joseph and the Old Synagogue which tradition holds that this simple building stands on the site of the Synagogue of the time of Jesus. Also visit the Church of St. Gabriel (Mary's Well), which is built over the only freshwater spring in Nazareth, a place where Mary and Jesus must have visited daily to draw their water supply, as do some of the women and children of Nazareth to this day. **Today we will have lunch at our hotel in Nazareth at 13:00 hours (included).** We will then continue to our hotel in Bethlehem for check in, dinner and overnight stay. **This evening we will have a Civic Reception at the Bethlehem Municipality at 17:30 hours with the Mayor speaking, refreshments and traditional Palestinian music and dancing.**

Friday 23rd September

Bethlehem / Ein Karem

In the morning proceed to Manger Square and visit the Basilica of the Nativity and the Grotto, venerated as the birthplace of Jesus (Luke 2:1-7). Also visit the Church of St. Catherine, the Crusaders' Cloister, the Chapel of St Jerome, the Grotto of the Holy Innocents. **Celebrate Mass in St. Catherine's at 10:00 hours. We will then pass through the Door of Mercy at St. Catherine's.** We then drive to the Shepherds' Fields (Luke 2:8-20) for a visit. **Continue to the Caritas Baby Hospital at 12:30 hours for lunch (included) and a visit of the hospital.** In the afternoon continue to the village of Ein Karem, home of Zachary and Elizabeth the parents of St. John the Baptist and where Mary visited her cousin. Visit the Church of St. John the Baptist and the Church of the Visitation.



Jerusalem

Saturday 24th September

Mount of Olives / Stations of the Cross

In the morning, proceed to the Mt. of Olives where we view the Place of the Ascension and enjoy the panoramic view of the Old city of Jerusalem. Continue to the Pater Noster Church commemorating Jesus teaching His Disciples the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:7-15). Inside the cloisters the Lord's Prayer is written in 110 different languages. Continue on foot to Dominus Flevit; here Jesus wept over the City of Jerusalem and foretold its destruction (Luke 19:41-44). Follow on foot the traditional Palm Sunday Procession route to the Gethsemane to visit the ancient Olive Trees and the Church of All Nations, which enshrines the rock where Jesus is believed to have prayed before His betrayal and arrest. **We will pass through the Door of Mercy at Gethsemane obtaining the plenary indulgence. We then celebrate Mass in the Garden of Gethsemane at 11:00 hours. Today we have a traditional Palestinian lunch at Petra restaurant at 12:30 hours (included).** In the afternoon enter the Old City starting at the Church of St. Anne and the Pool of Bethesda and the Chapel of Flagellation from where we will follow the Stations of the Cross to the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre enshrining Calvary and the Holy Tomb for a visit. Return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner & overnight stay. **Please note that this afternoon's tour of the Old City is not suitable for people in wheel chairs or with walking difficulties without being assisted.**

Sunday 25th September

Masada & the Dead Sea / Free Day

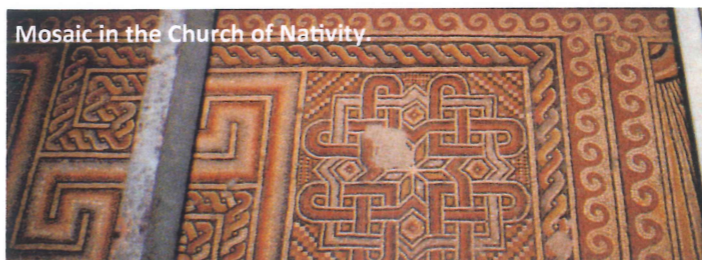
In the morning we have Mass at Shepherds Fields at 08:30 hours. You will then have the option of a free day in Bethlehem or you can join in one of these two options: -

Jerusalem

We will transfer you after Mass to Jerusalem and drop you near Jaffa Gate. We will then pick you up at 16:30 from the drop down point and bring you back to Bethlehem. You do not need to pre book this **free of charge service** you can decide on the day.

Masada & the Dead Sea (£45.00 per person)

After Mass we will drive through the Judean Desert and along the shores of the Dead Sea to Masada. Upon arrival we will take



Mosaic in the Church of Nativity

a cable car and ascend to this formidable fortress. After you leave the cable car you will have a magnificent view of the Dead Sea and Wadi Arava. It is famous for being the last Jewish foothold against Rome. It was captured by the Roman Commander Flavius Silva in 70 AD after a siege which lasted for 3 years during which period he built a ramp on the west flank, 610 feet long on which he set up his war machine. As soon as a breach was opened in the walls, the 967 men, women and children decided to kill themselves rather than surrender. Only two women and five children escaped to tell the tale. We will visit the Synagogue, the luxurious Roman style bathhouse, the storerooms, the Herodian mosaic floor, one of the cisterns, the Western Palace and the walls. We then descend by cable car back to our coach and drive to **Kalia beach side restaurant for lunch at 13:00 hours (not included)** and for a swim in the Dead Sea before we return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

Monday 26th September

Latin Patriarchate / Mount Sion / Bethlehem

After breakfast we will leave our hotel in Bethlehem and proceed to the Old City to **the Latin Patriarchate where we will celebrate Mass at 09:00 hours and have an audience with Bishop Kamal at 10:00 hours.** We will then proceed to the Cenacle, the site of the last supper followed by the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. The Church is built over the site of the house of the High Priest Caiaphas and the dungeon where Our Lord was imprisoned before his trial. It is also here that Peter denied knowing Jesus thrice (Luke 22: 54-62). **We will have lunch at the Sky lounge in Bethlehem at 13:00 hours (included).** The afternoon is then free for your own activities. Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel.

Tuesday 27th September

Bethlehem / Tel Aviv / Istanbul / Edinburgh

This morning we will check out of our hotel early at 03:00 hours (breakfast bags will be provided by the hotel to take with you). We will then proceed to Tel Aviv Airport for our flight to Istanbul on TK811 departing at 07:20 hours and arriving at 09:35 hours. We leave Istanbul at 12:25 hours on TK1345 and arrive back to Edinburgh at 14:50 hours.

THE FLIGHTS IN THIS BROCHURE ARE BASED ON TURKISH AIRLINES SCHEDULED SERVICES FROM EDINBURGH. THE DEPOSITS ARE DUE BY **FRIDAY 04TH MARCH 2016.** IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE THE BOOKINGS AND DEPOSITS BY THIS DATE THE AIRLINE WILL RELEASE THE SEATS AND WE WILL HAVE TO RE REQUEST THEM, SUBJECT TO

Some of the excursions in this pilgrimage are not suitable for people in wheelchairs or with walking difficulties. They may also involve walking on unpaved paths and trails. For further advice, please ask your guide or Tour Leader for advice.

The flights and accommodation information in this brochure are provisional and should be treated as such. Hotels, carriers, airports and flights schedule can change with out prior notice. We cannot be held responsible for any travel or transportation arrangements you personally under take with a third party in conjunction with the flights and accommodation information provided in this brochure. Final flight and accommodation details will be supplied three weeks before departure.