

# EGYPT & ISRAEL JOURNEY

08 – 20 MAY, 2023



*Hosted by Bishop Barrington Smith*

*“Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, whose heart is set on pilgrimage.” (Psalm 84:5)*



*Ancient Pyramids of Giza*



*Temple Mount, viewed from the Mount of Olives*



*Sea of Galilee, viewed from the Mount of Beatitudes*



Travel Industry Council of Ontario  
T.I.C.O. Registration # 2976741

**DAY 1: MON. 08 MAY: Departure for Egypt**

Today, we depart from Canada on our overnight flight(s) to Cairo. 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: TUE. 09 MAY: Arrival Cairo**

Upon arrival at Cairo Airport, we are met by our Tour Manager who will assist us with immigration and luggage formalities. From the airport, we take the short drive to our hotel where we can unpack and relax. Tonight, we will have our 'welcome dinner' at the Concorde Hotel in anticipation of a memorable journey. **(B, D)**

**DAY 3: WED. 10 MAY: Cairo**

This morning, we will have our first breakfast before beginning our day of sightseeing which will include:

**Pyramids of Giza** – Truly magnificent! Not only can you stand on these great testaments to ancient engineering, but you can walk through the passageways of the Great Pyramid to its inner core, the Great Chamber.

**Great Sphinx** – To this day, there is much debate over who built this large monument and in whose name it was dedicated to. Regardless, the Great Sphinx has stood the test of time and is a wonder to see.

**Coptic Cairo** – The Hanging Church and early Christianity. Traditional location of where Mary, Joseph and Jesus stayed during their time in Egypt.

Once back at our hotel, we will enjoy dinner and relaxation. **(B, D)**

**DAY 4: THU. 11 MAY: Exodus to Mt. Sinai**

This morning, we embark on a symbolic voyage as we make our own EXODUS towards the Promised Land, traveling across the Sinai Desert, arriving at the foot of Mt. Sinai by late afternoon.

Here, we find St. Catherine's Monastery built upon the traditional site of Moses' encounter with the Burning Bush.

Dinner will be at the Catherine Plaza Hotel this evening. **(B, L, D)**

**DAY 5: FRI. 12 MAY: Mt. Sinai to Israel**

For those of you who wish to do so, you can ascend Mt. Sinai for sunrise. A truly unique and spectacular moment!

For those less energetic, you can enjoy a morning of relaxation.

This afternoon, we arrive at the border of Israel and meet our guide, Shimon Zemer.

**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 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 will be at our hotel, the Daniel Hotel, Dead Sea. **(B, D)**

**DAY 6: SAT. 13 MAY: Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea Swim**

After breakfast, we will leave the morning free to enjoy 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 on the water!

**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)

After another fascinating day, we return to our hotel by the shores of the Dead Sea. **(B, D)**

**DAY 7: SUN. 14 MAY: Dead Sea Scrolls, Jericho, Beth Sh'ean**

Today, we journey north towards the Galilee and visit:

**Qumran** – It is here that the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Here, we will visit the excavated sites of Qumran and view the location where The Scrolls were found in 1947.

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

**Mt. Tabor** – One of the traditional sites of Christ's transfiguration, the ascent of Mt. Tabor involves the dexterity of the local taxi drivers to reach the summit.

**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. (1 Samuel 31:10)

From here, we arrive at the Caesar Hotel in Tiberius. Home for the next three nights! Dinner is at our hotel tonight. **(B, D)**

**DAY 8: MON. 15 MAY: Sea of Galilee and Boat Ride**

After our Israeli buffet breakfast, our full touring day involves visits to the heart of Jesus' Ministry:

**Magdala** – Located within one kilometer from our kibbutz, we have one of the latest Biblical excavation digs. We have the chance to visit what has been unearthed so far for the ancient seaside town of Magdala. (Luke 8:1-3)

**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)

**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 1:35-43)



**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)

**Ginosar** – 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 is back at our hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 9: TUE. 16 MAY: Caesarea Philippi, Golan Heights, Upper Galilee**

After breakfast, we begin our day by setting off into the Upper Galilee which today includes:

**Hazor** – Once the largest city in all of Canaan. The multi layered Tel of Hazor is a fascinating site that offers intrigue and insight into five thousand years of civilization. Captured by Joshua and burnt to the ground, this city was eventually rebuilt by Solomon in the 10th Century BC. (Joshua 11:10-14; Judges 4:2; I Kings 9:15)

**Tel Dan** – This national park and archeological site offers 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)

**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** – In this river, where Jesus was Baptized, you have the opportunity to be Baptized or have your Baptismal vows reaffirmed.

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

#### **DAY 10: WED. 17 MAY: Nazareth, Megiddo, Caesarea Maritima**

After breakfast, we leave the Sea of Galilee and head towards Jerusalem but 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.

Our day ends by travelling “up to Jerusalem”, where we check into to our hotel. The Leonardo Hotel will be our home for the remainder of the journey. Dinner will be at our hotel. **(B, D)**

#### **DAY 11: THU. 18 MAY: Jerusalem**

Our first full day in Jerusalem includes the following:

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

**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.

**Western Wall and Tunnels** – Also called The Wailing Wall. The holiest place of pilgrimage for the Jews. Here, we can observe the Orthodox Jews pray relentlessly along with many Christians.

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

#### **DAY 12: FRI. 19 MAY: Jerusalem**

After breakfast, we will visit the following:

**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.

**Dominus Flevit** – The traditional site where Jesus wept over the City of Jerusalem.

**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)

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

**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)

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

**Holy Sepulcher Church** – Stations X - XIV on The Via Dolorosa.

**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 “Shabbat of a Lifetime” dining experience. A wonderful time to share and reflect on a truly inspirational journey. **(B, D)**



**DAY 13: SAT. 20 MAY: Israel to Canada**

This morning, we check out from our hotel and transfer back to the airport and our flight back to Canada. Breakfast, lunch and complimentary in-flight service will be provided onboard. (B, D)

**INCLUDED**

**Air travel:** Round trip from Toronto. Fares from other cities available upon request.

**Hotels:** Concorde Hotel, Heliopolis Cairo  
Catherine Plaza Hotel, Mt. Sinai  
Daniel Hotel, Dead Sea Israel  
Caesar Hotel, Tiberius  
Leonardo Hotel, Jerusalem

**Meals:** Full breakfast and dinner daily.

**Transportation:** Air conditioned luxury coach service throughout the journey.

**Sightseeing:** Comprehensive program as per itinerary, including all entrance fees.

**Tour Guide:** Government licensed Tour guides will accompany the group and work with the Leadership Teams to maximize the educational/spiritual benefits and enjoyment of the group.

**Egypt and Israel visa and border crossing fees**

**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 \$990.

**Gratuities:** Equivalent to USD\$140 (CAD\$185)

**NOT INCLUDED**

**Lunches** (unless mentioned in the itinerary)

**Comprehensive 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 visit our website [www.christian-journeys.com](http://www.christian-journeys.com) if you require quotations.

**Passport:** Tour participants must be in possession of a valid passport which does not expire before 21 November 2023. Canadian and USA passport holders do not currently require a visa for Israel. Your Egyptian visa looked after by Christian Journeys.

**Inoculation:** At time of printing, no Covid-19 testing required to participate on this journey for those with vaccinations.

**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 \$500 is required with the tour booking form. Cancellations made before 08 February 2023 will incur a \$150 cancellation fee, per person. Bookings within 90 days of departure require full payment. Final payment due 08 February, 2023.

**Fuel surcharges:** The air transportation costs include a ‘fuel surcharge’ component of \$598. 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.

**13 DAY JOURNEY PRICING**

<b>JOURNEY LAND PRICE:</b>	<b>CAD\$3999</b>
<b>GROUP AIRFARE:</b>	<b>CAD\$1581</b>
<b>GRATUITIES:</b>	<b>CAD\$ 185</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>CAD\$5765</b>
<b>SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:</b>	<b>CAD\$1499</b>

**(Price based on 30 paid participants)**

**Please add 3% fee for all credit card transactions.**



*for more  
information  
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