



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
SILUKE & SIPAUL

Pilgrimage
THE HOLY LAND



February 9 through 19, 2020

Travel with a Purpose

The Rev. Dr. Peter Walker

The Rev. Dr. Peter Walker was, until recently, Professor of Biblical Studies at Trinity School for Ministry near Pittsburgh (2012-2017). His doctoral research was focused on Jerusalem and the Holy Land in early Christian thought (AD 30-400) and he has



written several books on this topic: *Jesus and the Holy City* (Eerdmans, 1996), *The Weekend that Changed the World* (WJK, 1999) and a fully-illustrated guide to the Gospel sites entitled *In the Steps of Jesus* (Lion Hudson/Zondervan, 2006; revised 2018). He has also been involved in conferences and books looking at reconciliation issues in the Holy Land today. During the last 30 years he has led numerous tours around the Middle East. Dr. Walker has also completed the filming for several documentaries, based both on his book *In the Steps of Jesus* (filmed in the Holy Land) and also *In the Steps of Paul* (which traces all of Paul's travels—including locations such as Damascus, Lebanon, Cyprus, Crete, Malta and Sicily).

Day 1: February 9, 2020

Depart your home city for Tel Aviv on a relaxing flight travelling over Monday night.

Day 2: February 10, 2020

Arrival and Transfer, Galilee

Upon arrival at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport, you will be met and transferred to the Notre Dame Center at



Magdala, for rest, a welcome reception, dinner and overnight. The Notre Dame Center has been recently built on the site of ancient Magdala. It is located within yards of the lake and with breathtaking views of the coastline. It will be our home for the next 4 nights. (D)

Days 3-5: February 11-13, 2020

Nazareth, Bethsaida, Chorazin, Caesarea Philippi, and Capernaum, Galilee

During these three days, we will visit all the major sites in the Galilee region associated with Jesus' teaching and healing ministry:

First, the town of Nazareth, visiting the Basilica of the Annunciation, together with other nearby buildings and excavations from the first-century village, as well as the outdoor museum called 'Nazareth Village,'



which gives us a unique window into life in a first-century village (Luke 2:39-40, 4:14-34).

Secondly, the towns to the north of the lake (Bethsaida and Chorazin), which witnessed many of Jesus' miracles (Matt. 11:20-24); and then, much further to the north and just below the snow-capped peak of Mount Hermon the ruins of Caesarea Philippi, one of the sources of the Jordan River; near here Peter confessed Jesus as the Messiah (Mark 8:27-29).

Thirdly, the beautiful Gospel sites in and around Capernaum (the base for Jesus' public ministry): Peter's home, Capernaum's remarkable synagogue; a natural amphitheater, where Jesus taught the crowds from a boat (Mark 4:1); the Mount of Beatitudes; and Tabgha (the place of seven springs), where we remember Jesus' calling of the first disciples and especially his Resurrection appearance (John 21). There will also be a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee: pausing in the middle of the lake, we will have the calm and space to reflect on all that Jesus did on and around this beautiful lake and what we have learnt during these three powerful days in the area of his public ministry. (B, L, D)

Day 6: February 14, 2020

Jerusalem

Today we take our leave of Galilee, driving round the far side of the lake, passing Kursi (the scene of Jesus' exorcism of Legion: Mark 5:1-20) and then visiting



the hugely impressive remains of Beth Shean, one of the ten cities of the Decapolis, which presents us with all the features of Greco-Roman civic life

in the time of Jesus—a vast theatre and numerous colonnaded streets. Then we travel southwards down the Jordan Valley, enjoying lunch in the oasis town of Jericho and remembering Jesus' visit here and the story of Zaccaheus (Luke 19:1-10). In the afternoon,



like the Galilean pilgrims accompanying Jesus, we make our way up through the Judean desert to the Mount of Olives, from which we gain our first views of Jerusalem—enjoying the panorama as the sun begins to set. We then transfer to our hotel, The Three Arches, which will be our home for the next 4 nights. (B, L, D)

Days 7-9: February 15-17, 2020

Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Ein Karem, Mount of Olives, and the Old City of Jerusalem

We now enjoy three full days in the area of Jerusalem.

First, we visit the nearby town of Bethlehem, the city of David. We visit the Shepherds' Fields and the traditional birthplace of Jesus in the Church of the Nativity (Luke 2:1-20); there are opportunities for buying local crafts and for meeting some of the local Christian community. We then return into the Jerusalem area, visiting the Israel Museum to see the Model of Ancient Jerusalem, and the Shrine of the Book (containing the Dead Sea Scrolls); and then stopping in the charming village Ein Karem, the birthplace of John the Baptist (Luke 1:39-80)—a lovely place to end our day with tea or coffee in its quiet streets.



On the following days we spend much of our time on foot, exploring the streets of Jerusalem. We will see the Western Wall and then the Temple Steps, upon which Joseph and Mary, Jesus and the disciples would all have walked (Luke 2:22-38; Mark 13:1-2); we visit the City of David and its recent excavations displaying the walls of ancient Zion (Psa. 48:12-13); we will visit the church of St Peter in Gallicantu (where we remember Peter's three-fold denial of Jesus: Luke 22:54-62); we will walk along parts of



the Via Dolorosa and visit the sites associated with Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection—both the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Garden Tomb. And, for many, one of the most moving experiences will be our devotional walk from Bethphage over the Mount of Olives, remembering the events of Palm Sunday, followed by Jesus' time of prayer and agony in the olive groves of Gethsemane (Luke 19:28-48; 22:39-53; 24:50-53). There will also be opportunities on the Sunday for joining the local Christian community in worship. (B, L, D)

Day 10: February 18, 2020

Jaffa, Late Evening Airport Departure

On our final morning we have some free time further sight-seeing on our own or for shopping. Around noon we leave our hotel, driving westwards down from Jerusalem, going along some of the route that would have been used by the Emmaus disciples (Luke 24). The precise location of Emmaus is disputed, but we will see three of the four possible sites—having lunch at one of these (Abu Ghosh) and seeing the Byzantine church at another (Imwas/Nicopolis). After some final reflections under the trees in nearby Canada Park, we will go for dinner in the harbor town of ancient Jaffa.

We then make our way to the airport for the flight home overnight, arriving home on the Wednesday (February 19). (B, L, D)

We ask that you make all airline reservations for flights departing after 10:30 PM from Tel Aviv to the United States.

Day 11: February 19, 2020

Return home.



February 9 through 19, 2020

OPTIONAL TWO NIGHT MASADA EXTENSION

February 18, 2020

Free day to enjoy Jerusalem and time for personal exploration. Amongst your many options (in addition to shopping!) are the following: spending time at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial; returning to the Israel Museum (to see its main exhibits); walking the



Old City walls or along the Via Dolorosa; exploring the area of Mount Zion (possible scene of the Last Supper) or the archaeological remains uncovered under the Jewish Quarter (e.g. the Burnt House or Herodian Mansions); or enjoying the acoustics of the Crusader church of St Anne, close by the Pool of Bethesda. We continue with 2 nights in the same Jerusalem hotel. (B, D)

February 19, 2020

Today we travel to Masada. Masada, which means “fortress”, is an ancient fortification situated on top



of an isolated rock plateau on the eastern edge of the Judean Desert, overlooking the Dead Sea. Here

Herod the Great built palaces for himself and later the Zealots made a last-ditch stand against the Romans (in AD 72-3) which, according to Josephus, led to the mass suicide of 960 people. We drive back northwards along the Dead Sea, stopping to enjoy the beautiful springs of Ein Gedi, visiting the significant site of Qumran (home to the Essene community who hid the Dead Sea Scrolls in the caves nearby) and, finally, putting our feet up whilst floating on the Dead Sea! (B, L, D)

February 20, 2020

We leave our hotel in the morning driving westwards down from Jerusalem and going along some of the route that would have been used by the Emmaus disciples (Luke 24). The precise location of Emmaus



is disputed, but we will see two of the four possible sites, including a time of reflection in the Byzantine church at Imwas/ Nicopolis. We then proceed north to the coastal ruins of Caesarea Maritima, a completely man-made harbor city of Roman times; we sit in the theatre and see the residence of the Roman governor, the place where Paul was kept under house arrest and made his defense before Herod Agrippa (Acts 25:13-26:32). After our lunch beside the Mediterranean, we go on to see the city's impressive aqueduct set amidst the sand dunes. Then we drive south down to Jaffa for a walk around this ancient harbor town before having dinner. We then make our way to the airport for the flight home overnight, arriving home on the Friday afternoon (February 21). (B, L, D)

All flights need to depart after 10:30 PM.

February 21, 2020

Arrive home.

PILGRIMAGES@CONNOISSEURSTOURS.COM 1-800-856-1045

SAVANNAH | PITTSBURGH | LOS ANGELES | ATLANTA | NEW YORK | SAN FRANCISCO

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Magdala Guest House, Galilee



A unique Holy Land site known as the hometown of Mary Magdalene, located at the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The archaeological site features a complete first century town from the times of Jesus. It is one of Israel's most recent archaeological discoveries with the best preserved synagogue in the Galilee. Complementary tours of the site are available upon request. The site also features "Duc in Altum" a place for worship and prayer.

Three Arches, Jerusalem



With its 152 ft high central bell tower, the Three Arches Hotel is a Jerusalem landmark recognized the world over. Designed by the world famous architect of the Empire State Building, the hotel offers a blend of old world charm, friendly hospitality, art works and architectural wonders, together with modern, comfortable accommodations to ensure a pleasant and memorable stay in this remarkable city.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS (2 PAGES)

Please read all of the terms and conditions in this section. Any payment made to Connoisseurs Tours towards a tour booking shall constitute a confirmation by the Guest on behalf of themselves and all other persons named on their booking that he/she has read, understood, accepted and agreed to the Terms & Conditions of this tour, the terms of which will apply to the Guest and all other persons named on their booking.

COST OF THE JOURNEY:

\$3,395.00 per person double occupancy,
\$4,090.00 single occupancy

Masada Extension (2 nights, 3 days):

\$895.00 per person double occupancy

A per person deposit is required to confirm your reservation. Deposit: **\$850.00 per person** deposit is required to confirm a reservation on a definite basis. **Final payment is due November 11, 2019.** All payments may be credit card accepted over the phone or online, or by check via the mail.

Last-Minute Changes: Any changes received 30 days or less from the departure date will incur a \$150.00 per person administrative change fee in addition to costs incurred with last minute changes.

INCLUSIVE PRICES

Tour Prices: Tour prices are per person in U.S. dollars. All hotel accommodations, motor coach transportation, special dinners, sightseeing, admissions, portage, and the services of the local guides, drivers and the tour escort/guide are included, as per individual details of the itinerary.

Transfers: A group arrival transfer from the airport specified in the brochure to your first hotel is included in the tour cost. Private arrival transfers are available at an additional cost. A group airport transfer from your last hotel to the departure airport listed in the brochure is also included when you check out of the hotel.

Hotel Accommodations: The tour price includes all hotel accommodations with private baths.

Our standard is to provide the best available accommodations without sacrificing value. Although the quality of accommodations may differ slightly from one hotel to another, our commitment to your comfort is unwavering. Two-bedded rooms are reserved in most hotels. Triples are usually two bedded rooms plus a roll-away cot and are not recommended for comfort.

Meals: Meals are included as specified in the itinerary. B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

Gratuities: All customary gratuities for hotel, restaurant staff, and local guides are included.

NOT INCLUDED

Air Transportation: Air transportation to the tour Air Transportation: Air transportation to the tour departure point and from the tour ending point is not included. While airfare is not included in the cost of the tour, we do offer a Concierge Airline Service to help with your reservations. Connoisseurs Tours' airline partners will assist you with coordinating flight schedules for each traveler in your party. Our airline concierge team will make managing your airline reservations effortless from the day we help you select the best flights through the day of your return.

Gratuities to your Guide/Escort and Drivers:

Gratuities are not included to your overall guide/escort and coach driver, a recommended gratuity amount will be provided to you in your final tour documents. Connoisseurs Tours wishes to stress that this gratuity is optional and on a voluntary basis.

Personal Expenses: Personal expenses such as phone calls, use of fitness center, room service, alcoholic and bar beverages, mineral water, soft drinks, laundry, airline service fees, airline excess baggage fees fees, and other optional incidental extras are not included in the tour price.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Connoisseurs Tours offers Cancellation/Delay/ Medical Protection. The cost of travel protection is **\$242.00 per person based on double occupancy. \$276.00 per person for single occupancy.** Travel

protection can be paid with your deposit or at the time of your final payment. Connoisseurs Tours strongly recommends that you purchase Cancellation/Medical Protection. Traveling is a big investment. It pays to protect yourself against unforeseen circumstances that can result in trip cancellation and additional expenses such as costs related to medical emergencies.

The Travel Insured International Travel Protection Plan we offer is specifically designed to provide you with peace of mind knowing you are protected against the financial impact of unexpected events while on your trip. Additional insurance is available to include the cost of your airfare. Please contact Connoisseurs Tours if you would like to insure the cost of your airfare after you have purchased your airline tickets.

Health and Fitness: Connoisseurs Tours are moderate exertion journeys. Travelers must certify that they are in good health and can walk one to two miles a day. These journeys are not recommended for those who have mobility limitations such as walkers, wheelchairs and scooters.

CANCELLATION TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

All cancellations must be in writing.

Schedule:

- **From time of deposit to 120 days prior to departure:** \$500.00 per person cancellation fee will apply
- **119 days to 90 days:** Full deposit amount is non-refundable
- **89 days to 60 days:** 50% of the total tour price is non-refundable
- **59 days to day of departure:** 100% of the full tour price is non-refundable

Itinerary Change and Flexibility: Connoisseurs Tours pledges to make every effort to operate all tours as advertised. Connoisseurs Tours reserves the right to alter or curtail any aspect of the itinerary, or substitute sightseeing, hotels/ and or conveyances as deemed necessary. Any additional expense for these substitutions will be covered by Connoisseurs Tours.

RESPONSIBILITY: Connoisseurs Tours acts only as an agent for the traveler with respect to transportation, accommodations and other services offered on the

tour. Connoisseurs Tours and the agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error omission, or for any injury, loss, accident or delay or irregularity that may be caused by any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus or other carrier or through negligence or default of any subcontractor or other third party.

The passage contract in use by the carriers when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the traveler. Connoisseurs Tours and/or their agents will not be responsible for loss, injury, damages or expenses to person or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other causes in connection with the tour for anything beyond their reasonable control.

Connoisseurs Tours is not responsible for transportation or other delays or changes to the tour program beyond their control, nor any additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred by the traveler. It may be necessary or advisable for the wellbeing of all travelers to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the travelers, and such alterations will be made without penalty to Connoisseurs Tours. Connoisseurs Tours reserves the right to decline or not to retain any person as a member of any tour or to change or withdraw a tour as circumstances demand. All rates quoted are based on tariffs in effect at the time the tour was planned and are subject to change in the event of adjustment therein. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk and baggage insurance is recommended. Connoisseurs Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels of equal or superior quality. The proposals of this section are governed by Georgia law, and final payment by the traveler to Connoisseurs Tours shall be deemed to be consent to the above provisions.

Any payment made towards a tour booking shall constitute a confirmation by the Guest on behalf of themselves and all other persons named on their booking that he or she has read, understood, accepted and agreed to the Terms & Conditions of this tour, the terms of which will apply to the Guest and all other persons named on their booking.

NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

Call or email Connoisseurs Tours for more information:

1-800-856-1045

Email: Pilgrimages@ConnoisseursTours.com