



COME, WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BIBLE

PILGRIMAGE TO JORDAN & ISRAEL – THE HOLY LAND

WITH AN OPTIONAL PRE-PILGRIMAGE TO EGYPT

9TH / 17TH SEP –
2ND OCT 2027

LED BY
FR NHAN LE

17

OT

24

DAYS

MAIN ISRAEL AND JORDAN
PILGRIMAGE PRICE:

per person (twin share)

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT:

OPTIONAL EGYPT PRE-TOUR:

OPTIONAL SINGLE ROOM
SUPPLEMENT:

AUD\$9,890*

AUD\$2,650

AUD\$4,195*

AUD\$1,295

FULLY
ESCORTED

*Conditions apply. Subject to
change. Main Jordan/Israel package
is based on group of 20 pilgrims.
Egypt pre-tour based on minimum
of 15 pilgrims.

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Dear Friends,

I warmly invite you to join me on a very special pilgrimage to Jordan and Israel, following in the footsteps of Moses, King David, John the Baptist, Jesus and his disciples.

Together, we will journey through the land of the Bible, visit its sacred places, celebrate the Eucharist, pray together, and walk where Jesus walked.

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is much more than visiting historical sites. It is a journey of faith as it helps us appreciate where Jesus walked, the world he saw, the distances he travelled and the physical setting in which 'The Word became flesh and lived among us' (John 1:14). As we stand in the places where the events of Scripture unfolded, the Bible comes alive in a new way. The places we have heard about in the Gospels become real, helping us to understand the Scriptures more deeply and to encounter Jesus in a more personal way.

There is also an optional pre-pilgrimage to Egypt, where we will enter more deeply into the story of the Exodus—the land from which God delivered the Israelites from slavery and began their journey towards the Promised Land and freedom. I hope you will join me for this unforgettable journey of faith, prayer, friendship and let the Scriptures come alive.

Fr Nhan Le

Parish Priest

St Monica's, Moonee Ponds & St Vincent de Paul's, Strathmore



ATTEND AN INFORMATION EVENING

When: 7pm on Friday 15th January 2027

Where: At Symons Centre, 820 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.

*Have your Questions answered *Meet your fellow travelers *Enjoy a full Tour Briefing

Please RSVP to Fr Nhan Le on tnhanle@hotmail.com OR SMS 0414283104.

Hope to see you there.

NEXT STEPS

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Nhan, Olive Tree Travel or [CLICK HERE](#)
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$750 per person for main Pilgrimage plus an extra \$250 per person for the optional Egypt Pre-Tour is required by 22nd January 2027 (unless sold out prior)
3. The final balance will be due in early July 2027



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OPTIONAL EGYPT PRE-TOUR

DAY 1 THU 9 SEP

DEPART MELBOURNE

We depart this evening on our Emirates flight to Dubai. On arrival, we connect with our onwards Emirates flight to Cairo, Egypt.

DAY 2 FRI 10 SEP

ARRIVE CAIRO

On arrival at Cairo international airport, we are met and assisted through visa and customs procedures, before being driven to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 SAT 11 SEP

CAIRO TO LUXOR, BOARD CRUISE, LUXOR

A very early start today. After an early breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight to Luxor aboard Egypt. Upon our arrival we will visit the Temple of Karnak with the statues of Amon before boarding our ship in time for lunch. This evening we take a visit to the Temple of Luxor whilst illuminated and stroll through the city corniche. Dinner and overnight on board our ship. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 SUN 12 SEP

LUXOR, VALLEY OF THE KINGS, EDFU

This morning we enjoy a visit to the West Bank of the Nile and the Two Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir-El-Bahri and the Valley of Kings. We return to the ship for lunch and continue sailing via Esna Lock to Edfu. Dinner and overnight on board. (B,L,D)

DAY 5 MON 13 SEP

EDFU, KOM UMBO

This morning is a free morning in Edfu. You may wish to take a visit to the Temple of Edfu or just relax and take in the surroundings. Later we set sail for Kom Umbo and enjoy lunch onboard. At Kom Umbo we visit the temples established during the Ptolemaic dynasty. We return to our ship for dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 TUE 14 SEP

TEMPLE OF PHILAE, ELEPHANTINE ISLAND, AGA KHAN MAUSOLEUM

A free morning to relax, or the possibility to join an optional trip to Abu Simbel (extra cost). After lunch the afternoon is spent at the High Dam and the Island Temple of Philae. Later we will take a pre-sunset felucca ride (traditional sailing vessel) around Elephantine Island and Agha Khan Mausoleum. Enjoy dinner and our last night onboard our cruise. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 WED 15 SEP

FULL DAY CAIRO – PYRAMIDS, SPHINX, SAQQARA

Today we travel back to ancient Egypt with a full day of touring to the wonders of the ancient world, some of which date back to 1000+ years prior to Abraham. We spend time at one of the Seven Wonders of the world, the famous pyramids. Cheops. We will also see the Sphinx, Saqqara is one of the most extensive archaeological sites in Egypt and is dominated by the Step Pyramid of King Zoser, one of the oldest stone structures in the world! We then take a short drive to the south to Faiyum, the region created Joseph where you will see numerous ancient structures. Dinner and overnight in Cairo. (B,D)

DAY 8 THU 16 SEP

EGYPTIAN MUSEUM, EL KHALILI BAZAAR

After breakfast, flight to Cairo. Upon arrival, we will visit the Egyptian Museum where the treasures of the boy-king Tut, continue to the area of Old Cairo and the hanging church. Stroll through the Turkish style bazaars of Khan El Khalili Bazaar. Dinner and overnight. (B,D)

DAY 9 FRI 17 SEP

CAIRO-AMMAN

After breakfast in Cairo, we head to the airport for our flight to Amman, Jordan. On arrival, we meet the main tour as they arrive from Australia. Dinner and overnight in our hotel in Amman. (B,D)

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MAIN PILGRIMAGE

DAY 1 THU 16 SEP

DEPART MELBOURNE

We depart this evening on our Emirates flight to Dubai. On arrival, we connect with our onward Emirates flight to Amman, Jordan.

DAY 2 FRI 17 SEP

ARRIVAL AMMAN

On arrival THIS AFTERNOON into Queen Alia international Airport, Amman we will be met by our guide. We drive to Amman and check in to our hotel for early dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 SAT 18 SEP

AMMAN CITADEL / ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM MADABA / MT. NEBO / PETRA

We start with a city tour of Amman, one of the cities of the Decapolis (ancient Philadelphia), visiting the Roman Theatre and Citadel. We gather with brothers and sisters in a local church for Sunday worship. Next we visit the new Archaeological Museum in Amman to see the Copper Scroll, one of the jewels amongst the discoveries of the Dead Sea Scrolls. In the afternoon, we drive down the desert highway to Mt Nebo from where Moses viewed the Promised Land and is buried. From there we visit Madaba to view the ancient mosaic of Jerusalem and the land of Israel. Continue on to Petra, for dinner and overnight in the hotel.

DAY 4 SUN 19 SEP

PETRA

A full day to explore the world heritage listed site of "the rose-red city" – Petra, home of the ancient Nabateans. We enter the city through the dramatic ciq, see the Treasury, carved in the pink stone, and continue past the Roman theatre, the Corinthian Tomb, and the Palace Tomb, to the Roman road. Those with the energy will climb up to the High Place of Sacrifice or the Monastery before we return to our nearby hotel in Petra for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 MON 20 SEP

KERAK / MACHAERUS / DEAD SEA

This morning we head back north from Petra. First stop is Kerak, a spectacular Crusader period castle overlooking the Dead Sea. Next we visit Machaerus, Herod's fortress where John the Baptist was imprisoned and beheaded. We finish the day with a swim (or float!) in the Dead Sea. Dinner and overnight at our hotel on the Dead Sea.

DAY 6 TUE 21 SEP

BAPTISM SITE / BORDER CROSSING / MOUNT OF OLIVES / JERUSALEM

First stop this morning is the Jordan river at the site where John the Baptist was baptizing and where Jesus was baptized, to see the remains of the fourth century church on the site. We drive to the Jordanian/Israeli Allenby Border crossing, before a visit to Jericho to see the ancient Tel, and the sycamore tree. We take the cable car to see the Mount of Temptation and to visit the monastery there. We then head on to Jerusalem, approaching the city from east, stopping at the Mount of Olives to get an overview of the city. Here we visit the Place of the Ascension, the Pater Noster and Dominus Flevit Churches, before walking down the Palm Sunday Road to the traditional site of the Garden of Gethsemane, with its ancient olive trees and the Church of All Nations. Dinner and overnight in our hotel. Those who wish may take an evening walking tour of the Old City with one of the Christ College lecturers as an orientation to Jerusalem.

DAY 7 WED 22 SEP

OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

After breakfast we will spend the morning in and around the Old City Jerusalem. We begin with a visit to the Western Wall precinct ("the Kotel") and then go through the western wall tunnels. Visit the Al Aqsa Mosque, and the Dome of the Rock. We then move to the City of David, the most ancient part of the city, viewing the excavations from the time of David, the remains of Nehemiah's wall, Hezekiah's tunnel, and the Siloam Pool. We walk up through the Herodian tunnel and arrive at the Davidson Centre, which includes the remains of a first century Roman road, and the Temple's Southern Steps, where Peter addressed the crowd on the Day of Pentecost. We finish our day with a walk through

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the Jewish Quarter: we see the remains of the first temple period wall and the Roman Cardo, and we visit the Palatial Herodian Mansion and Burnt House, and the Wohl Museum, both of which give a good idea of priestly houses in Jerusalem in the first century, and the destruction wrought by the Romans in AD70. After dinner we will gather in the hotel for a worship service.

DAY 8 THU 23 SEP

QUMRAN / EIN GEDI / MASADA / JERUSALEM

This morning, after breakfast, we head out of Jerusalem to the northern end of the Dead Sea and the Jordan Valley. We begin with Qumran to see the remains of the Essene settlement, and the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were hidden and later discovered. We then head down to the Dead Sea region. First stop is Ein Gedi on the shores of the Dead Sea, where David hid from Saul. Those with energy may go on a hike up into the hills to see the spring. We also see the remains of a well-preserved Byzantine era synagogue. Then we drive further south to the fortress mountain, Masada. We ascend the mountain by cable car and see where the Jewish zealots made their last stand against the Roman 10th Legion after the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. We descend by cable car and visit the Masada Museum. Finally, on the way back to Jerusalem, we stop at Wadi Qelt to view the Old Roman Road and to reflect on the journey from Jericho up to Jerusalem, where Jesus's parable of the Good Samaritan is set. Dinner and overnight again at the hotel in Jerusalem.

DAY 9 FRI 24 SEP

GARDEN TOMB / VIA DOLOROSA / ISRAEL MUSEUM

We start our day with a visit to the Garden Tomb—the major alternative for Jesus's crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, and a good place to reflect on the significance of those events. We then move on to the Via Dolorosa—the traditional route walked by Jesus to his crucifixion. Along the way we stop at the Pools of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the lame man, the Crusader period Church of St Anne, and the Lithostrothos at the Sisters of Zion Chapel (the "stone pavement" remains from the Antonia fortress, where Jesus appeared before Pilate), before making our way to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the traditional site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection. We will spend the afternoon at the Israel Museum, seeing the model of Jerusalem, the Shrine of the Book (where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed), and the archaeological section of the museum. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 10 SAT 25 SEP

TOWER OF DAVID / MT ZION / EMMAUS / JERUSALEM

This morning we visit the Tower of David at Jaffa Gate, which was Herod's Palace at the time of Jesus and now houses an excellent museum giving an overview of the history of Jerusalem. We head next to Mt. Zion, King David's tomb, the Upper Room, the Church of St Peter in Gallicantu, and Caiaphas' house. Later we take a short drive to Emmaus, where Jesus appeared to the two disciples after the resurrection, and visit the Crusader period church. The afternoon will be free time in Jerusalem—a great opportunity to spend some time in the Old City. Dinner and overnight at our Jerusalem hotel.

DAY 11 SUN 26 SEP

BETHANY / BETHLEHEM / HERODION / JERUSALEM

Today, after breakfast, we head out of Jerusalem again, stopping first at Bethany, the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, to see the ancient wine press. This morning we travel to Bethlehem to see the city of Jesus' birth. We visit the Shepherd's fields and the Church of the Nativity on Manger Square, as well as the cave where Jerome lived and worked. Next we head to Herodium, one of the string of fortresses built by Herod the Great, and the site of his burial. In the afternoon, we have free time in Jerusalem. This can be used for shopping in the Old City, or visiting Yad Vashem (Holocaust Museum), walking the ramparts, climbing the tower of the Eloserkirche, or visiting one of the city's other museum's (Armenian; Rockefeller). Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 12 MON 27 SEP

CAESAREA MARITIMA / MT CARMEL / MEGIDDO / NOF GINOSAR

This morning we leave Jerusalem for the north. After breakfast travel to Caesarea by the Mediterranean, the city (re-) founded by Herod the Great and the capital of the Roman province of Judea. We'll see the remains of the theatre, the Herodian palace where Paul was imprisoned, the hippodrome, and the harbor from which Paul sailed to Rome. After lunch we visit Muhraka, the traditional site of Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal. Next we visit Megiddo,

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an important city in ancient Israel overlooking the Jezreel valley, and thought by some to be the “Armageddon” of Revelation. We arrive at our hotel at Nof Ginosar on the shores of the lake for dinner and overnight.

DAY 13 TUE 28 SEP

SEPPHORIS / NAZARETH / CAPERNAUM / NOF GINOSAR

We begin the day with a visit to Sepphoris (Zippori), a city rebuilt by Herod Antipas during Jesus’ youth. We’ll see the synagogue, theatre, small museum, mosaics among the streets, and the stunning “Mona Lisa” of the Galilee. We then take the short drive to Nazareth, the boyhood town of Jesus. We’ll visit the Church of the Annunciation, and Nazareth Village—a recreation of the first century village which gives a good sense of what life was like in Jesus’ day. We also take a short trip the Nazareth Precipice, where the people tried to throw Jesus off a cliff. Later we visit Cana, where Jesus turned the water into wine, and then spend some good time in Capernaum, the home base of Jesus’ Galilean Ministry, to see the ancient synagogue and Peter’s home. We finish the day with a brief visit to the Yigal Alon Museum to see the first-century fishing boat discovered on the shores of lake Galilee. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 14 WED 29 SEP

KURSI / GAMLA / TEL HAZOR / CAESAREA PHILIPPI / TEL DAN / NOF GINOSAR

Today we head north and upwards onto the Golan Heights. We start with Kursi, the possible site for Jesus’ encounter with “Legion”. Afterwards visit Gamla, the ancient Jewish fortress-village that resisted the Romans, sometimes known as the Masada of the North. Here we’ll visit the first-century synagogue, and those with the energy can walk to the precipice. From Gamla, we drive to Tel Hazor, the major Canaanite city conquered in Joshua’s northern campaign, and later a significant city at the time of Solomon. We then drive over the eastern slopes of the Golan Heights with their Druze villages and journey to the headwaters of the Jordan River at Caesarea Philippi, where Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ. An optional short walk here takes in the well-preserved palace of Herod Agrippa II. We then continue to Tel Dan and see the remains of Jeroboam’s temple and the Canaanite gate before returning to Nof Ginosar for dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 15 THU 30 SEP

BET SHEAN / SEA OF GALILEE / BOAT RIDE

After breakfast After breakfast we drive down the Jordan Valley to Bet Shean, another one of the cities of the Decapolis. We then return to Galilee and visit the first-century synagogue recently excavated at Magdala, the town of Mary Magdalene. Later, we visit the remains of Chorazin, one of the cities cursed by Jesus, and Bethsaida, the home town of Andrew, Peter, and Philip. We next visit the Mount of the Beatitudes, where the Sermon on the Mount is commemorated, and Tabgha, the traditional site of the multiplication of the loaves and fish, and of Peter’s recommissioning. We finish the day, and the tour, with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee before returning to Nof Ginosar for dinner and overnight.

DAY 16 FRI 1 OCT

DEPART VIA TEL AVIV

This morning we drive to Tel Aviv to meet our return flight.

DAY 17 SAT 2 OCT

RETURN TO AUSTRALIA

Arrive in Melbourne this evening at 2205 with wonderful memories of your trip!

Itinerary is subject to change

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MAIN PILGRIMAGE (JORDAN & ISRAEL) PRICE INCLUSIONS:

- Emirates Economy Airfares from Melbourne to Amman or Cairo and home from Tel Aviv
- 14 nights in hotel accommodation in shared twin rooms
- Porterage (where available), tips & gratuities throughout
- Breakfasts and Dinners daily (all meals at hotels unless otherwise specified and lunches while out touring).
- Transport by deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- All guiding, entrance fees and transport as per the itinerary and outlined below.

OPTIONAL EGYPT PRE-TOUR PRICE INCLUSIONS:

- Flight from Cairo to Amman to meet the rest of the group at the end of the extension
- 2 internal domestic Egyptian flights with EgyptAir: Cairo to Luxor and back to Cairo
- Porterage (where available), tips & gratuities throughout
- 3 nights in hotel accommodation and 4 nights on the cruise in shared twin rooms
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily, all meals at hotels unless otherwise specified and lunches while out touring.
- Transport by deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- All guiding, entrance fees and transport as per the itinerary and outlined below.
- Egypt Group Visa

EXCLUSIONS:

- Israel ITA Visa which is organised online and is currently 25 shekels which is approximately AUD\$12.
- Drinks with meals
- Personal payments
- Lunches (except on the cruise)
- The services that are not mentioned in "Inclusions"
- Travel insurance

MAIN JORDAN & ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION: (OR SIMILAR)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| • Sept 17-18 | Geneva Hotel | Amman | 1 night |
| • Sept 18-20 | Petra Moon | Petra | 2 nights |
| • Sept 20-21 | Dead Sea | Dead Sea | 1 night |
| • Sept 21-27 | Prima Kings | Jerusalem | 6 nights |
| • Sept 27-Oct 1 | Caesar | Tiberias | 4 nights |

OPTIONAL EGYPT PRE TOUR ACCOMMODATION (OR SIMILAR):

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| • 10-11 Sep | Cairo: Triumph Luxury/Radisson Blu | 1 night |
| • 11-15 Sep | Cruise: Tower Prestige | 4 nights |
| • 15-17 Sep | Cairo: Hyatt Regency/Movenpick | 2 nights |

NEXT STEPS

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Nhan, Olive Tree Travel or [CLICK HERE](#)
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$750 per person for main Pilgrimage plus an extra \$250 per person for the optional Egypt Pre-Tour is required by 22nd January 2027 (unless sold out prior)
3. The final balance will be due in early July 2027

WHO TO CONTACT:

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