



NEIGHBOUR'S AID SPRING TOUR TO ISRAEL

**7TH – 20TH
MARCH 2023**

ESCORTED BY
**JESMA & JOHN
O'HARA**

14
DAYS

**TOUR
PACKAGE
PRICE**
PER PERSON (TWIN SHARE)

\$7,140*

**OPTIONAL
SINGLE
ROOM**
SUPPLEMENT ADDITIONAL

\$2,500

**FULLY
ESCORTED**

*Price is based on minimum of 25 participants. Price is \$7340 per person for 20-24 participants. Conditions apply. Subject to change

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John and Jesma O'Hara have been leading tours to Israel since 1987. Their first 'tour group' consisted of their own 5 children and some friends. Their love affair with the land and its people has grown over the years as they have introduced many hundreds of people to Israel's rich biblical history and vibrant modern life leading tours most years until the COVID pandemic put a stop to overseas travel. Jesma has studied, lectured and written about the Hebraic Roots of Christianity for many years and loves to impart that knowledge and passion as they travel around this amazing country so close to God's heart. John enjoys being the 'shepherd' of the flock, looking after the tour participants as they travel.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return airfares from Sydney/Brisbane to Tel Aviv with Emirates via Dubai
- Current airport & departure taxes
- Meet & assist upon arrival
- Accommodation is based on a Half Board (breakfast & buffet dinner at the hotels listed below)
- Licensed English-speaking guide.
- Modern Air-conditioned coach.
- Entrance fees, touting and transfers as per the itinerary
- Welcome kit
- 1 Mineral water per person per day
- All tip and gratuities
- Porterage at the hotels.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

- WALK DOWN THE MT OF OLIVES AND ENTER THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMENE
- EXPLORE THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM INCL THE WESTERN WALL TUNNELS
- MEET AND HEAR FROM LOTS OF INTERESTING LOCALS FROM CHRISTIAN & JEWISH COMMUNITIES
- FLOAT & RELAX IN THE DEAD SEA
- ENJOY A BOAT RIDE ON THE SEA OF GALILEE



**NEXT
STEPS**

- STEP 1: Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Jesma O'Hara or the team at Olive Tree Travel
- STEP 2: To secure your place, a deposit of \$500 per person is required by 31st August 2022
- STEP 3: Final balance due by 15 January. 2nd and subsequent deposit may be required



DAY 1 TUESDAY 7 MARCH

Departure from Australia

Depart Brisbane or Sydney this evening on you Emirates flights to Dubai. On arrival, transfer to your onward connecting Emirates flight bound for Tel Aviv.

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH

Arrival

Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport at 0855am. Meeting assist on arrival. Meet your guide and start your Israel touring. Start the day with a spectacular view of Jerusalem from Mt. of Olives. Follow in the footsteps of Jesus and visit the Church of Pater Noster, and the Chapel of Ascension. Walk down the Palm Sunday Road and visit the Church of all Nations at the Garden of Gethsemane and the Dominus Flevit church where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. Continue down the Kidron Valley to the three monumental tombs. Travel to Bethlehem to see the Manger square to visit the Church of Nativity. View the Shepherds' field. Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 3 THURSDAY 9 MARCH

Jerusalem Old City

On Mt. Zion visit the Room of the Last Supper and King David's Tomb. Enter the Old City via Zion Gate to visit the Herodian Mansions on our way to the Western Wall where we can enjoy the Bar Mitzvah ceremonies. Experience a fascinating tour of the Tunnels along virtually the entire western wall of the Temple Mount [11:00] On to the Ari'el Center for Jerusalem in the First Temple Period, a small, interactive museum that presents a model of and exhibits about Jerusalem in the First Temple Period – (14:00) – Return to the bus via the Roman Cardo, to visit. Magen David Adom 16:00 (Israel's Red Cross / Ambulance service - Known as the Red Star of David). Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 4 FRIDAY 10 MARCH

Jerusalem Old City

Visit the City of David. [8:00] Pass through the underground tunnels through which the city was conquered and residents fled. Go down to the hidden spring where kings were coronated. Walk in illuminated darkness [who provides the illumination – tell them to bring flashlights or use their phones] through the water of Hezekiah's Tunnel, where water has flowed since the time of the prophets. See the Pool of Siloam where Jesus healed the blind man. Continue to the Davidson Center, via Herod's drainage tunnel passing under today's city walls, to explore the southern wall excavations and stand on the streets and steps on which Jesus must have trod. Enjoy a lunch at the Old Train Station in the German Colony. Experience a communion at the Garden Tomb – 15:00. Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 5 SATURDAY 11 MARCH

Jerusalem Old & New

Enter the old city via the Lion Gate. See the Pools of Bethesda and St. Anne's Church Pass through Ecce Homo Arch and the Crypt of Sisters of Zion and on to the Via Dolorosa. Pass by [these guys are not into Stations of the Cross] the stations of the Cross on our way to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Visit Christ Church for a talk with Aaron Eime and lunch [at own cost]. End our day with a visit to Bethlehem's Manger square and the Church of Nativity. View Shepherds' fields before returning to Jerusalem for our last night in the Holy City. After dinner meeting with leaders from Keren Sh'va at the hotel. Overnight: Jerusalem

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DAY 6 SUNDAY, 12 MARCH

Beer Sheva

Depart Jerusalem to Negev region. On our way south stop at Bet Shemesh for a visit with Orr Shalom [8:45] Continue to Beersheba – the gateway of the Negev Desert. See the Park of the Australian Soldier and the Commonwealth Cemetery. At Tel Sheva learn about the glorious history of the ANZACS in the Holy Land and see where the famous 'Charge of the Light Horse' took place. On to Drijat - the only Arab village in the Negev that is not Bedouin; its residents are descended from a long line of fellahin – past cave dwellers]. [14:30] End with a visit to Tel Arad - consists of a lower and an upper city. The lower city was inhabited only in the Early Bronze Age (3150-2200 BCE). Descend to the Dead Sea, 400 metres below sea level and the lowest place on earth. Overnight: David Dead Sea Resort & Spa Orr Shalom House visit – 8:45 – 9:45AM Ganir Center Rechov Hahar 2, Har Tuv Industrial Zone Aleph, Beit Shemesh. Overnight: Dead Sea

DAY 7 MONDAY 13 MARCH

Dead Sea

Ascend by cable car to the mountain fortress of Masada, once a luxurious palace built by Herod the Great and later the last stronghold of the Jewish rebellion against the Romans. Explore the unique remains including the bathhouse, water cisterns, storerooms, hanging palaces and the Synagogue. Afterwards, enjoy a nature walk at the desert oasis of Ein Gedi where we might see wild animals roaming freely in the desert. Hike to the waterfalls and dip your feet in the cold clear water. Those who can, those who want, will be able to climb up to the Temple going back to the Chalcolithic period (5,000 years before the present). Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at your hotel, floating the salty waters of the Dead Sea. The high mineral content in the water and the mud are well known for their curative effects. Overnight: Dead Sea

DAY 8 TUESDAY 14 MARCH

Free Day

Free day at leisure. Overnight: Dead Sea

DAY 9 WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH

Jordan Valley

Drive North via the Jordan Valley. Visit the city of Jericho, the oldest city in the world for a tour of the archeological remains dating all the way back to the Stone Age (conditions permitting). Visit the baptismal site on the Jordan River at Qasr al Yahud. Proceed to explore the excavations of the City of Beit Shean sister city of Jerash in Jordan for a look at ancient roman architecture and remains. Our first stop will be at Kochav Ha'Yarden (Belvoir National Park). Its spectacular panorama gave the fortress its name "Belvoir" meaning 'beautiful view.' Overnight: Galilee

DAY 10 THURSDAY 16 MARCH

Sea of Galilee

Enjoy a cruise across the Sea of Galilee in a traditional wooden sailing boat and visit the 'Jesus Boat' museum. You will then ascend to the top of the Mt. of Beatitudes, where your Group Leader can relive the Sermon on the Mount. Perhaps walk down to the Primacy of St. Peter (Little Tabgha) Head to Magdala where you will visit the new and interesting excavations that found a synagogue of the second temple time. After lunch, continue onto Capernaum, the centre of Jesus' Ministries.

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DAY 11 FRIDAY 17 MARCH

Golan Heights

We will start the day with a lookout of the Upper Galilee to get a better understanding of the area. Enjoy a short hike at Tel Dan, a National Park which combines a lush nature reserve with a biblical archaeological experience. Next stop will be Banias which, as well as being a place of natural beauty, is the site of ancient Caesarea Philippi at the foot of Mount Hermon in the Golan Heights. Ascend the Golan Heights and drive to Tel-Faher for an explanation of the Six Day War battles. Drive to Kibbutz El Rom to see the OZ 77 presentation which tells the story of the famous tanks battle which took place in the Six day war. Overnight: Galilee

DAY 12 SATURDAY 18 MARCH

Coastal Plain

Drive South along the Coastal Plain. Drive to the top of the Arbel cliff overlooking the Sea of Galilee for a breathtaking view of the area. Continue to Nazareth Village, a unique reconstruction of a first century village on an actual ancient agricultural site. On for a visit to Nazareth and the holy sites. Stop at Caesarea Maritima to see the harbor city built by Herod the Great. Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY 13 SUNDAY 19 MARCH

Departure

Drive to Old Jaffa. Jaffa is one of the oldest ports cities in the Mediterranean. For over 5000 years, Jaffa has served as a gateway between east and west, north and south. We will participate in the virtual tour named "Tales of Jaffa" where the story of this city will be narrated in a very interesting way. Continue for a short tour of the Tel Aviv city centre - the business and entertainment capital of Israel also known as the "White City" and declared by UNESCO as a world cultural heritage site. Visit Neve Zedek and the earliest neighborhoods of Tel Aviv. Transfer to Ben Gurion airport for your Emirates departure flight to Dubai at 1825 this evening.

DAY 14 MONDAY 20 MARCH

Arrive Australia

Arrive back to Brisbane / Sydney this evening with wonderful memories of your journey!
 Itinerary subject to change

PLEASE NOTE PACKAGE PRICE EXCLUDES Extras, drinks and medical coverage. Incidentals, Travel insurance, Any services not listed in 'Price Includes' above



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