





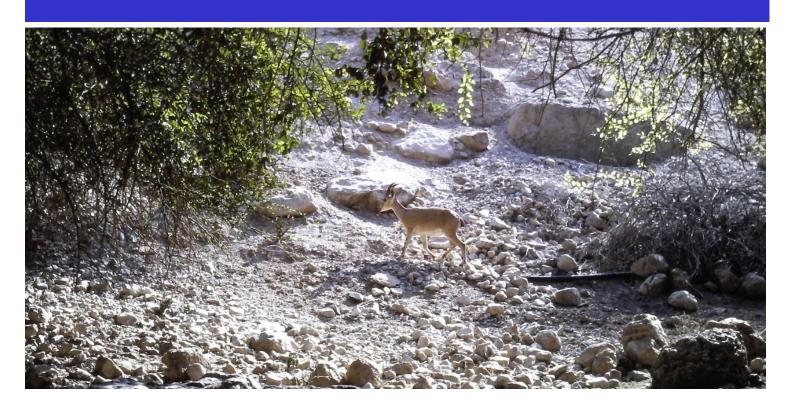




Advent in the Holy Land

With Chris & Rhona Knight
5-13 December 2023

9 days following in the footsteps of Jesus in Jerusalem & Galilee and including visits to Bethlehem, Jericho, the Dead Sea and Nazareth





ADVENT IN THE HOLY LAND

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'We can hear the language of the trees, read the books of the running streams, hear sermons in the stones, and discover the good in every single thing'. These words of Shakespeare in his play As you like it are a wonderful introduction to spending time following in the Footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land. This nine day period in Advent, has been planned to give us space

and time out from the complexity and busyness of life to journey and encounter Jesus through the *places*, the *people* and the *promises* of God.

We will spend our time based in Jerusalem and on the lakeside in Galilee. We will experience the land and its diversity which shaped the Biblical story and the ministry of Jesus. We will visit places where Jesus ministered, and will take a day in Jerusalem to travel the journey of Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. We will encounter sermons in stones, not just in the archaeology of the land but in the living stones we meet as we travel. Focusing on the *I am* statements of Jesus in the gospel of John we will take time to creatively pray and be with Jesus individually and as a group as we journey. We will share together in bread and wine.

This is an ecumenical pilgrimage and we invite you to journey with us.

Chris & Rhona

TOUR INFORMATION

The cost is £2,045 sharing a twinbedded room with private facilities. We stay in two family owned and managed hotels. In Jerusalem, the three star Golden Walls Hotel overlooks the Old City walls and is within walking distance of the Holy Sepulchre. In Tiberias, we stay at the four star Ron Beach Hotel in a wonderful situation right on the lakeside.

The tour is on a **part-board basis** with buffet breakfast and evening meal included. Seven lunches are also included. Touring is by air-conditioned coach and we will be accompanied by a local guide who will share leadership responsibilities and look after the formalities of hotel check-ins, etc. All entrance fees are included as well as all tips to hotels, guide, driver, etc.

Flights are with El Al between London Heathrow Airport and Tel Aviv and all airport and security charges are included. A complimentary visa is issued on arrival at Tel Aviv (please read the back cover page).

Not included: Travel insurance - this is essential but we are unable to sell this so far in advance of travel. Once you have paid your deposit, should you need to cancel for medical/other reasons generally covered by insurance before we are able to offer you a policy, we will refund your

deposit in full. We require all travelers to have adequate cover for the trip and you may choose to have other suitable insurance. Single rooms are available at a supplementary cost of £495.

Any special requests should be noted on the booking form. A deposit is payable now with the balance payable eight weeks prior to departure.

Your final travel documents will be posted to you approximately two weeks before departure.



TO MAKE A RESERVATION

To reserve your place, please complete the booking form and send it with a deposit of £200 per person to the tour leader/organiser. Please make cheques payable to 'McCabe Travel Ltd'. If you prefer to pay by card, please make a note on the booking form and McCabe will contact you to take the payment over the phone.

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DAILY PROGRAMME



Tuesday 5th December | TO JERUSALEM We meet at London Heathrow Airport, taking EL AL flight LY316 to Tel Aviv, departing at 14:20 and arriving at 21:05. We transfer to Jerusalem by coach. We will be

transfer to Jerusalem by coach. We will be staying for five nights at the Golden Walls Hotel, close to the Old City and biblical sites we will be visiting.

Wednesday | BETHANY & MOUNT OF OLIVES

I am the resurrection and the life. Beginning at Bethany and the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus we consider these words of Jesus. We travel a short distance to Bethphage, to which Jesus sends the disciples to find a colt to carry him into Jerusalem. We then go on to take in the panoramic view of the walled city from the Mount of Olives. We will walk down the Mount of Olives, stopping at Dominus Flevit, a walled Franciscan garden and the Garden of Gethsemane, continuing on towards the Church of the Holy Sepulchre via the Church of St Anne and its beautiful acoustics. We lunch in the Ecce Homo Convent, above the Lithostrotos. We end our day at the Garden Tomb where we will share together in bread

Thursday | HEBRON & BETHLEHEM

I am the light of the world. We travel to Hebron and to the Cave of the Patriarchs. We see the structure built over the cave by Herod the Great and consider the seven year reign of King David in Hebron prior to David's relocation to Jerusalem. As we consider the archaeological finds at Hebron from the time of Hezekiah, we also take time to remember the prophecies of Isaiah that foretell the birth of Emmanuel. We then travel to Bethlehem, to the Shepherds' Fields and to visit the Church of the Nativity in Manger Square, also spending time at The International Centre of Bethlehem which seeks to connect the Bible and current Palestinian culture. We lunch on arrival in Bethlehem. In the evening we visit the Western Wall Tunnels.

Friday | EIN KAREM & ABU GHOSH

I am the true vine. We visit Ein Karem, the home of Elizabeth and Zechariah and then visit the stalactite caves at Soreq on the way to Abu Ghosh, a likely site for the village of



Emmaus. We end our day at the Israel Museum where we can see a scale model of Jerusalem around the time of Jesus, a victory stele mentioning the house of David, evidence of crucifixion, and the Pontius Pilate stone found at Caesarea Maritima. There will be free time to explore other aspects of the museum including the art, exhibitions, and the Shrine of the Book that houses some of the Dead Sea scrolls, or time just to rest and have a leisurely lunch (not included today).

Saturday | MASADA & QUMRAN

I am the way the truth and the life. Today, the Jewish Sabbath, we travel to Qumran, visiting the remains of the Essene community and look out at where some of the Dead Sea scrolls were found. We continue by the edge of the Dead Sea to the Oasis of Ein Gedi and walk up to David's Waterfall, with the opportunity to swim in the pool below. We lunch at the kibbutz. We then take the cable car up to the great palace of Herod the Great at Masada to explore the ruins.

Sunday | TO GALILEE VIA THE WEST BANK

I, the one speaking to you, I am he. Today we move on to Galilee. On the way, we visit Jericho and take a cable car up to the Temptation Monastery where we can look down at the valley that would have been part of the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. We then travel to Nablus - ancient Shechem. Here Abraham received God's promise and Joseph is buried. We visit Jacob's Well, and consider the story of the Samaritan woman and of Rebecca. We have lunch in Nablus. We hear from a member of the Samaritan community based in Mount Gerizim. We travel on to Galilee where, after settling in to our hotel, we have the opportunity of joining with the local congregation at St Andrew's Church for their evening service. We stay for three nights at the Ron Beach Hotel in Tiberias, by the Sea of Galilee.

Monday | LAKESIDE MINISTRY

I am the bread of life. We begin our time in Galilee with a boat trip across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, a place where Jesus spent a lot of his time. We explore the



ancient synagogue and see the modern church set above what is thought to have been Peter's house. We then travel to Tabgha and the place remembered for the feeding of the 5,000 by Jesus in Judea as we look over the lake to the more Gentile area of the Decapolis, which saw the feeding of the 4,000. After visiting the Church of the Beatitudes (where we also have lunch in the attached convent) and the lakeside location that remembers Jesus' meeting with the disciples after his resurrection, we spend a leisurely afternoon at Magdala, the possible home of Mary Magdalene, with its two synagogues from around the time of Jesus.

Tuesday | SEPPHORIS & BANIAS

I am the good shepherd. We visit three places that help us understand more of the northern ministry of Jesus in its historical context. Sepphoris is about 4 miles from Nazareth, and was a large city in the time of Jesus where carpentry skills would have been welcome. We visit Caesarea Philippi where Peter declares that Jesus is the Christ and where we find one of the spring sources of the River Jordan. We then visit the lush greenery of Tel Dan and see the Canaanite Gate that is thought to date back to the time of Abraham, and end our day with a beautiful (optional) waterfall walk of just over a mile. We lunch in the el-Rawche restaurant.

Wednesday 13th Dec | NAZARETH & HOME I am the door. On our final day we go to

Nazareth, the home town of Jesus, positioned just off the main trade routes of the day. We will go to Nazareth Village and experience life in the first century, seeing some of the Bible stories brought to life. We share our last meal together – a 1st century style lunch – before travelling to the airport. EL AL flight LY317 departs at 17:15, arriving at 20:45.

The itinerary may be subject to change due to local conditions and there will be quite a bit of walking. If you are concerned about this, please speak to the tour leader or call the McCabe office.



OUR PILGRIMAGE

THE MCCABE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

For many, meeting the 'Living Stones' of The Land becomes a real highlight of their pilgrimage. The McCabe Educational Trust is an independent registered charity with the aim of helping inspiring people we meet on pilgrimage. On your pilgrimage you will meet some of these people. As 'the haves' encounter the 'have nots' the Trust has become a practical tool for one to help the other.

McCabe Pilgrimages invite all travellers to become partners in this work. A £15 voluntary donation to the Trust's work is added to every pilgrim's invoice and all money raised in this way is given in full to the projects the Trust supports. This scheme is voluntary and confidential with nobody put under any pressure to participate.



TRAVELLING ALONE

Many of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive single room supplements. McCabe Pilgrimages will accept individual bookings on a 'guaranteed share' basis. We charge the basic price and accommodate you with a person of the same sex also requesting shared accommodation. If we do not find someone to share with you, you will be accommodated in a single room at only 50% of the usual single room supplement. For single travellers who do require single accommodation this should be requested when booking and, if available, the normal supplement will be payable.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND HEALTH

Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after the time of this pilgrimage. If you need a new passport apply early as there can be considerable backlogs at the passport offices. A visa is issued free of charge on entering Israel and there are currently no further requirements for entering the Palestinian territories. If you are holding a non-British passport, or require further advice, please consult the McCabe office. No inoculations are required but we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Our policy includes COVID-19 cover. A special feature of the policy recommended by McCabe is that you do not need to declare medical conditions or call a medical screening service. Most pre-existing health conditions are covered as long as your doctor agrees that you are fit to travel.

We have arranged a holiday insurance policy underwritten by AWP P&C SA and administered in the UK by Allianz Global Assistance which is a trading name of AWP Assistance UK Limited, AWP Assistance UK Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. AWP P&C SA is duly authorised in France and the United Kingdom and subject to limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority. McCabe Travel Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (firm reference 305686) being permitted to advise and arrange general insurance contracts. Our status can be checked on the Financial Conduct Authority Register by visiting www.fca.org.uk or calling 0845 606 9966.

The policy has been specifically designed so that it covers all McCabe holidays; protecting you in full if you have to cancel and providing you with the very best and most effective protection if you are unfortunate enough to require medical attention whilst away. Standard exclusions apply and are listed on the summary document which is available on request. Please check that you are not affected by the Main Health Exclusions. You will not be covered for any ongoing tests or treatment of an undiagnosed condition, or for any terminal illness, or if you claim as a result of a condition arising within the past twelve months. If you have a medical condition, you must obtain verbal confirmation from your medical practitioner that there is no reason why you should not travel and you must ensure that this confirmation is recorded in your notes.

Note that you will be required to pay an excess of £1,000 on any claim that results directly from a pre-existing medical condition.

A full policy wording will be sent to you with confirmation of your booking, or ask us and we will send you a summary now. Full details are also on our website. If you would like more information or are unsure of any details, please call Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for further advice on 01903 235042. This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident in the UK.

AITO QUALITY STATEMENT

McCabe Pilgrimages is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. McCabe abides by the Association's Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed on www.aito.co.uk. Visit the website to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

This pilgrimage is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The McCabe ATOL number is 2920.

