



Visit the Holy Land with USPG

3-12 MAY 2010

Led by Canon Edgar Ruddock, Director of USPG's International Relations Team, and the Rt Revd Richard Llewellyn, former Bishop of Dover



Visit the lands of Jesus

USPG is delighted to offer this opportunity to visit the lands of Jesus.

Pilgrimage has been a part of Christian spirituality for many centuries, and it has an important place in many of the world's great religions.

For USPG, a pilgrimage to the Holy Land has three key ideas running through it. Firstly we journey with Christ, visiting the key places the Bible links to his life and ministry, his death and resurrection; second, we encounter the living church of today, glimpsing some of its joys and struggles amid all the turmoil of twenty-first century Middle East; and, thirdly, we journey together with others, sharing a little of who we are and learning together more about our faith and the challenges it brings us in our daily lives.

So this pilgrimage is much more than a holiday. There will, of course, be many beautiful places, many moving moments, and much fun and laughter,

but there will also be a more sombre, challenging side to the visit as we wrestle with the meaning of justice and the desperate searching after peace that is the lot of both Palestinians and Israelis today.

And so, from the quiet of the lakeside hills in Galilee, through the tumult of busy towns like Nazareth, southwards via the Jordan Valley to Bethany, Bethlehem, the Mount of Olives and the Way of the Cross – the Via Dolorosa – we will come finally to the heart of Jerusalem, the place of crucifixion, and the mystery of resurrection.

I do hope you will want to join us on this trip of a lifetime in May 2010. I look forward to the adventure together with great excitement.

*Canon Edgar Ruddock,
USPG Deputy General Secretary
and Director of the International
Relations Team*

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND HEALTH

- ▶ A full valid 10-year passport is necessary.
- ▶ Passports must be valid for the duration of the tour and a further six months after return.
- ▶ Holders of non-British passports should contact Lightline Pilgrimages on 0845 610 6447 for advice.
- ▶ No inoculations are required, but

please visit your doctor for advice prior to the trip.

TRAVELLING ON YOUR OWN

Single rooms are very limited and can be pre-booked at the supplementary cost of £295. However, those travelling on their own can avoid supplement charges by opting to share a twin-bed room with another traveller.

DAY 1: We fly to Tel Aviv from London Heathrow on British Airways, then travel north to Galilee for dinner at the Benedictine-run Pilgrim House, where we are staying.

DAY 2: We visit the site believed to be the place of the Transfiguration – Mount Tabor – as well as Nazareth, and the site of Jesus' First Sign in Cana. We will also visit local Anglican Christians in the nearby parish of Shefa Amr.

DAY 3: During the day we will visit sites by the Sea of Galilee associated with Jesus' ministry, including the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, and the churches associated with the recommissioning of Peter and the Feeding of the Multitude. We will also journey into the Golan, to one of the sources of the River Jordan on the slopes of Mount Hermon, to renew our baptism vows, and, as we journey, learn something of the occupation by Israel of this Syrian territory.

DAY 4: We will drive south to the Jordan Valley, briefly visiting Jericho and having lunch in Bethany, where we will see our first view of the Separation Wall that divides Palestinian areas from Jerusalem and Israel. In the afternoon we will journey around Jerusalem and go through the Wall again to enter the city of Bethlehem, where we will stay in Manger Square for two nights.

DAY 5: We will spend a full day in Bethlehem, visiting the Church of the Nativity and the Shepherds' Fields, as well as encountering the remarkable work of some local Christian organisations. These will include Bethlehem University, the Holy Family Maternity and Neonatal Hospital, and the International Center of Bethlehem, run by the Lutheran Church under its famous pastor Dr Mitri Raheb.

DAY 6: This morning we leave Bethlehem, initially for the Mount of Olives, which we will descend, stopping at shrines and sites until we reach the Garden of Gethsemane. In the afternoon, we visit the Israel Museum to see a model of Jerusalem at the time of Christ, before reaching our hotel in the Old City, where we will spend the rest of our stay.

DAY 7: In the morning we join the local Anglican community at worship at St George's Cathedral, before going to the beautiful village of Ein Karem, the birthplace of John the Baptist, where we will remember Mary's journey to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

DAY 8: In the morning we will visit the Western Wall, the most sacred place in the world for Jews, before ascending Mount Zion, where we visit the Abbey of the Dormition and the church of Peter's betrayal of Jesus, St Peter in Gallicantu. In the afternoon we will meet members of Sabeel, an ecumenical liberation theology movement founded by Canon Naim Ateek.

DAY 9: We hope to visit the Temple Mount, if allowed to do so by the authorities, before walking the Via Dolorosa and visiting the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. In the afternoon we will be taken on a tour around Jerusalem by the Jewish peace organisation founded by Professor Jeff Halper, the Israeli Committee Against House Demolition.

DAY 10: After a visit to a possible site of Emmaus in the village of Abu Ghosh, we head on to Tel Aviv to catch our afternoon British Airways flight back to London Heathrow.

NOTE: The programme is subject to minor amendments



VISIT THE HOLY LAND: ALL-INCLUSIVE COST £1,595

All Lightline tours are carefully calculated to include all necessary costs.

Price includes:

- ▶ Scheduled flights on British Airways or British Midland from London Heathrow.
- ▶ All airport departure and passenger taxes (UK and Israel)
- ▶ Accommodation at Christian-run guest houses and hotels in Galilee (Pilgerhaus), Bethlehem (Orient Palace Hotel), Jerusalem (Knights Palace); all en-suite.
- ▶ Half-board, with dinner, bed and breakfast
- ▶ All entrance fees and local government taxes
- ▶ Qualified English-speaking guide
- ▶ All touring in modern air-conditioned tourist coaches

Price does not include: Single room supplement (£295, limited availability); travel insurance; snack lunches; gratuities (£50); drinks and any items of a personal nature

Travel Insurance is compulsory: We recommend Intune, phone 0800 0223 192 or visit www.intunegroup.co.uk/travelinsurance

To reserve your place, ask today for a booking form:

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Tel: 01992 576065

www.lightline.org.uk