



# LIVING STONES OF THE HOLY LAND

November 6-19, 2018 14 Days

Hosted by Pr. Curtis Zieske

## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### **TUE 06 NOV** **Depart U.S.**

Today depart for the overnight flight to Tel Aviv. (Meals in-flight)

### **WED 07 NOV** **Arrive Tel Aviv/Bethlehem**

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, you will be met by your guide and driver. Transfer to Bethlehem for check-in and gather for a welcome dinner. Lutheran Guesthouse (Meals in-flight, D)

### **THU 08 NOV** **Bethlehem**

This morning meet for an introduction to Diyar Ministries with Angie Saba and visit Dar al-Kalima University College and Dar Al-Kalima Health and Wellness Center. Meet with Pastor Mitri Rahab (subject to availability) to learn about the varied ministries of the Diyar Consortium and tour the International Center of Bethlehem (ICB) and Christmas Lutheran Church. Learn how the church empowers Palestinians by fostering training for employment, and creativity among local children. Drive to Hebron to visit the Tombs of the Patriarchs (traditional burial site of Abraham and Sarah) at the Ibrahimi Mosque. Tour this complex Palestinian city with the Hebron Rehabilitation Center. Time permitting, stop at the Cremisan Monastery famous for wine, olive oil and gardens. Lutheran Guesthouse (B,D)

### **FRI 09 NOV** **Bethlehem**

See the Separation Wall and meet with a settler at Efrat Israeli Settlement. Drive to Herodion – the hilltop castle and tomb built by Herod the Great. Then make a visit to Tent of Nations; lunch will be provided at your expense. Tour Solomon's Pools and the Museum in Artas Village followed by a visit to Deheishe Refugee Camp. Return to Bethlehem for a guided walking tour of the Old City, including a visit to the Church of the Nativity and Manger Square. Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

### **SAT 10 NOV** **Bethlehem**

Travel to the Jordan Valley and visit the Qasr el Yahud baptismal site. In Jericho see where Zachaeus climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus as he passed through the town (Luke 19:1-4). Drive to the Dead Sea - there will be time for an optional float in this unique body of water at the Kibbutz Kalia. Take the cable car up to Masada. On this rocky plateau, the Zealots held their last resistance against the Roman conquerors. Also visit Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Return to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight. Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

### **SUN 11 NOV** **Bethlehem**

Attend Sunday worship (in Arabic) at Christmas Lutheran Church, and join the congregation for fellowship following the service. Meet with a muf-ti in Bethlehem and learn more about Islam. This afternoon visit Shepherds' Fields at Beit Sahour where you will view Bethlehem as the shepherds might have on the night of Jesus' birth. There will be an opportunity for shopping at the olivewood cooperative there. Conclude your day with a relaxing Bedouin-style dinner. Lutheran Guesthouse (B,D)

### **MON 12 NOV** **Bethlehem/Galilee**

Travel through the Jordan Valley to the Galilee. On the north shore visit St. Peter's House at Capernaum and the Ancient Synagogue. Drive along the shore to Tabgha for visits to the Church of the Primacy of Peter and Church of Multiplication, built on the site of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. Check in at your hotel for dinner and overnight. Pilgerhaus (B, D)

### **TUE 13 NOV** **Galilee**

Begin the day at the Church of the Beatitudes, one of the most beautiful in the Galilee region. Then drive north, near the Lebanon border to visit Tel Dan and Banias Springs (Caesarea Philippi), a source of the Jordan River. Later view the "Jesus Boat" at Nof Ginosar Kibbutz followed by a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Pilgerhaus (B, D)

### **WED 14 NOV** **Galilee/Jerusalem**

Depart the Galilee for Jerusalem. Stop in Nazareth and see the Church of the Annunciation and Mary's Well. Proceed into the valley of Megiddo. See the shaft and tunnel made by one of the twenty civilizations that built cities on this land. On the Mediterranean coast tour the site of Caesarea, once the Roman capital of Palestine. See the Crusader fortifications, the Roman amphitheater, aqueduct, and the harbor from where the Apostle Paul was taken to Rome. Arrive later today in Jerusalem. St. Mark's Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

### **THU 15 NOV** **Jerusalem**

Embark on a walking tour of the Old City, beginning at the Temple Mount/Haram al Sharif and the golden Dome of the Rock, an important symbol of the Muslim faith (inside visits not permitted). Visit the Western Wall considered to be one of the holiest sites in the Jewish tradition; walk the Via Dolorosa through the Old City to experience the Stations of the Cross, viewing the last few Stations located inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Also visit the Pool of Siloam. Hear from an Israeli speaker this evening. St. Mark's Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

### **FRI 16 NOV** **Jerusalem**

Proceed to the Mount of Olives for a breathtaking view of Jerusalem. Nearby visit Augusta Victoria Hospital, supported by the Lutheran World Federation and hear of the healing work being done. Enjoy a special lunch (arranged by Mark Brown for the olive pickers). This afternoon you'll have an opportunity to assist with the olive harvest. At the end of the day, take a leisurely stroll down the Palm Sunday Road to the Garden of Gethsemane. St. Mark's Lutheran Guesthouse (B,L,D)

### **SAT 17 NOV** **Jerusalem**

This morning travel to the new West Bank city of Rawabi to learn of this ambitious development by Palestinian entrepreneurs. Return to Jerusalem and enjoy time for individual exploration. There are many options to explore such as: Hezekiah's water tunnel, Temple Mount dig site, archeological museum, Robinson's arch, walking the ramparts, shopping or return to the Mt. of Olives to

Dear Pilgrims,

**Salaam Alaykum,  
Shalom,  
and Peaceful Greetings.**

Walking in the footsteps of our Lord, and visiting the holy places ("the ancient stones") is truly a unique and inspiring experience! As a veteran of eight pilgrimages, my great joy is introducing folks to the people of the land ("the living stones"), and seeing their delight at their own discoveries in the Land of Jesus.

I also have a deep appreciation for the struggles and suffering of the Israeli and Palestinian people living in today's political reality. Our news media reports happenings in the Middle East, however, the story is much different when experienced first-hand through the daily lives of ordinary folks. In addition to the holy sites these are the folks and their stories that I strive to make a significant part of your experience of the Holy Land.

Christians are often overlooked in reports from the Holy Land as they seek peaceful resolution to the on-going struggles by building up their country, celebrating their culture and heritage, and welcoming pilgrims with a delightful expression of genuine hospitality.

Your pilgrimage includes the special holy sites in and around Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Galilee and the Dead Sea, and we certainly want to experience them. During my journeys I've discovered delightful shops, restaurants, guest houses, bakeries, and interesting people that will make this a unique opportunity unlike typical commercial tourist packages.

I am inviting you to come along! There is no obligation to be included on my email interest list or if you have questions, please contact me at: [tlpastor@msn.com](mailto:tlpastor@msn.com).

—Pastor Curtis Zieske

assist with the olive harvest. This evening you may want to attend the Sound and Light show at the Tower of David. St. Mark's Lutheran Guesthouse (B, D)

### **SUN 18 NOV** **Jerusalem/Departure**

Check out of the hotel; two day rooms will be available until departure tonight. Attend worship services this morning at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in the Old City and gather for fellowship with members of the congregation. Climb up to the bell tower. Meet with the English-language pastor to learn about the various ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) and see how the world's only Arabic-speaking Lutheran church ministers to its context. This afternoon visit the Shrine of the Book where the original Dead Sea Scrolls are housed and the model of Jerusalem from the Second Temple Period. Gather for a farewell dinner tonight at Anafora's restaurant before transferring to the airport for flight check-in and departure. (B, D)

### **MON 19 NOV** **Return to U.S.**

Connect in the U.S. with the continuing flight to arrive home today enriched and enlightened by your time spent in the Holy Land. (Meals in-flight)

Code: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**  
Itinerary subject to change.  
Speakers subject to availability.

**Our pilgrimage mission:**  
To see the Biblical holy sites of the land of Jesus (the "Ancient Stones") and meet and learn from the people of the Holy Land today (the "Living Stones").

## TOUR CONDITIONS

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** Your reservation and deposit of \$395 per person are requested immediately to fulfill the group deadline requirements. Note that space is limited and reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis. A second payment of \$1000 is due July 3, 2018. Final payment is due September 3, 2018. **The tour price is based upon cash payment.**

**REFUND POLICY:** All cancellations must be in writing. There is no refund for partial or unused land arrangements. Note: Airline tickets will be issued well in advance of departure and may be nonrefundable. The following penalties will apply: Up to July 2, 2018 - \$100 per person administrative fee plus any unrecoverable deposits; July 3 - October 29, 2018 - Deposit plus any unrecoverable payments to hotels, tour operators or airlines; October 30, 2018 or after - No refund.

**CHANGES TO GROUP FLIGHTS:** The group airfare contract for this tour may not allow travelers to make any date or itinerary changes. If you are considering other dates or cities, please submit your request in writing well in advance to secure the best rates and schedule, but no later than July 3, 2018. A minimum fee of \$175 per person will apply for changes to group flights in addition to a possible airfare increase.

**LATE BOOKINGS:** Passengers registering within thirty days of tour departure will be charged a \$50 per person fee. Tour payment in full is required before we can request and confirm space. This fee does not cover any additional airline or ground service charges.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- AIRFARE:** Round-trip economy class airfare from Mpls./St. Paul via United Airlines or other ARC/IATA approved scheduled carrier.
- ACCOMMODATION:** Eleven nights accommodation in Christian guesthouses, double occupancy, with private facilities. Hotels as listed or similar.
- MEALS:** Breakfast and dinner daily as outlined in the itinerary.
- GROUND TRANSPORT:** Transfers and transportation by deluxe motorcoach.
- SIGHTSEEING:** Extensive sightseeing throughout; entrance fees included.
- PORTERAGE:** Luggage handling of one piece per person with the exception of St. Mark's Lutheran Guesthouse.
- EXPERT GUIDES:** An experienced English-speaking tour guide from arrival in Tel Aviv through departure from Tel Aviv.
- GRATUITIES:** Gratuities to drivers and guides (for your convenience, \$138 per person has been included).
- TAXES:** Airport/foreign departure taxes (currently \$653 per person).
- ALL THE INFO YOU NEED:** Comprehensive documentation including travel accessory, bag tags, name badges, flight and land itineraries, destination literature, customs information, travel tips and more.

**PRE-EXISTING medical conditions and other circumstances are covered when travel protection is purchased within 14 days of registration. Contact Travel Insured for more info. 800-243-3174**

## COST SUMMARY

**\*\$4049**

Group Flights From Minneapolis/St. Paul  
Add-on departure from Portland, OR = \$175/per person

Tour Gratuities (\$138).....Included  
Airport Taxes (\$653).....Included  
\*Costs per person based on double occupancy in USD

### Optional Individual Supplement

Single Room (in addition to base tour cost).....\$599

**Costs:** The tour cost is per person based on current airfare from Minneapolis/St. Paul (other cities available), double occupancy, tariffs and currency valuations as of July 2017, a minimum of 15 travelers, and subject to confirmation. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed price and/or itinerary, they are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. Single room supplements may have limited availability and are on a request basis only. *Not all bookings have been made and all space/rates are subject to availability at time of booking.*

### Items Not Included

- Fuel surcharges and/or tax increases levied since the pricing of this tour.
- Beverages other than coffee/tea at breakfast.
- Any meal or sightseeing item not listed in the itinerary.
- Items of a personal nature.
- Optional travel protection: trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss, emergency accident and sickness medical expense, and emergency evacuation/repatriation. Please refer to the Travel Protection section.
- Passport fees. A passport valid six months beyond date of reentry to the U.S. is required.
- No entry visa is required for U.S. citizens; non-U.S. citizens may require an entry visa.

## RESERVATION APPLICATION • APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.GTD.ORG G#181102 • OR CLIP AND MAIL

Zieske : Holy Land • November 6-19, 2018 • (G#181102) • Group Travel Directors • 2000 W 98th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55431

(Name as it appears on passport)

1. \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

2. \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

Address (no P.O. boxes) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Eve.) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate \_\_\_\_\_  I will pay the supplement for a single room.

*Advise if we can assign you a roommate or single supplement. GTD can assist in finding roommates; however, this cannot be guaranteed and the supplement may apply.*

### FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS (please check one)

- I/We will take the group flights from Minneapolis.
- I/We want to leave from Portland, OR.
- I/We will need assistance with flight arrangements from \_\_\_\_\_ airport to join the group.
- I/We will make all of my own flight arrangements.  
*Please contact GTD for land-only rates.*

### DEPOSIT/TRAVEL PROTECTION (please check one)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ space(s) for me/us; we choose the following deposit option:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$643 per person **inclusive of travel protection.**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$395 per person **without travel protection.**

I/We decline now, but understand it can be purchased later without the pre-existing waiver.

Please make checks payable to Group Travel Directors G#181102.

I/We have read and understand the conditions of this brochure. Parent or guardian signature is required for travelers under age 18.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**GTD TRAVEL PROTECTION**

Travel protection is optional, but we encourage all travelers to purchase a plan. GTD offers an extensive and competitively priced plan from Travel Insured International. Travel protection can help provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss, emergency accident and sickness medical expense, and emergency evacuation/repatriation. If you decline coverage at the time of reservation, you may purchase it later, but the Pre-existing Conditions Waiver is available only if the plan is purchased within 14 days of the initial trip deposit. You may contact Travel Insured International for further information before making your decision: 800-243-3174. Review your Plan Document for Schedule of Benefits and Plan Details.

**GTD TRAVEL PROTECTION INCLUSIONS**

- Trip Cancellation.....up to Tour Cost\*
  - Trip Interruption.....up to 150% of Tour Cost\*\*
  - Travel Delay.....\$750
  - Missed Connection.....\$300
  - Baggage.....\$1,000
  - Baggage Delay.....\$200
  - Medical Expense.....\$50,000
  - Evacuation/Repatriation.....\$500,000
  - Accidental Death.....\$10,000
  - Political Emergency Evacuation.....\$100,000
  - ID Theft Resolution Services.....included
  - Assistance Service.....included
- \* a maximum of \$4500 per person  
 \*\* a maximum of \$6750 per person

Cost of this optional GTD Travel Protection is \$248 per person. Additional coverage provided as needed; the full cost of your tour must be covered. Travel protection is non-refundable fourteen days after you purchase a plan.

This document contains highlights of the plan. The Plan contains insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. Fairmont Specialty and Crum & Forster are registered trademarks of United States Fire Insurance Company. The Crum & Forster group of companies is rated A (Excellent) by AM Best Company 2015. The Plan also contains non insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization, OnCall International, and not by United States Fire Insurance Company or Travel Insured International. Review the Plan Document for complete terms, including benefits, conditions, limitations and exclusions that apply. The Plan Document will be provided to you upon purchase of the plan. Coverages may vary and not all coverage is available in all jurisdictions.

**EXCLUSIONS & LIMITATIONS**

Insurance benefits are not payable for any loss due to, arising or resulting from: suicide, attempted suicide or any intentionally self-inflicted injury of You, a Traveling Companion, Family Member or Business Partner booked to travel with You, while sane or insane; an act of declared or undeclared war; participating in maneuvers or training exercises of an armed service, except while participating in weekend or summer training for the reserve forces of the United States, including the National Guard; riding or driving in races, or speed or endurance competitions or events; mountaineering



(engaging in the sport of scaling mountains generally requiring the use of picks, ropes, or other special equipment); participating as a member of a team in an organized sporting competition or participating as a professional in a stunt, athletic or sporting event or competition; participating in bodily contact sports, skydiving or parachuting, hang gliding, or bungee cord jumping; piloting or learning to pilot or acting as a member of the crew of any aircraft; being Intoxicated as defined herein, or under the influence of any controlled substance unless as administered or prescribed by a Legally Qualified Physician; the commission of or attempt to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation; normal childbirth or pregnancy (except Complications of Pregnancy) or voluntarily induced abortion; dental treatment (except as coverage is otherwise specifically provided herein); amounts which exceed the Maximum Benefit Amount for each coverage as shown in the Schedule of Benefits; due to a Pre-Existing Condition, as defined in the Certificate. The Pre-Existing Condition Limitation does not apply to the Emergency Medical Evacuation or Return of Remains coverage; medical treatment during or arising from a Trip undertaken for the purpose or intent of securing medical treatment; due to loss or damage (including death or injury) and any associated cost or expense resulting directly from the discharge, explosion or use of any device, weapon or material employing or involving chemical, biological, radiological or similar agents, whether in time of peace or war, and regardless of who commits the act and regardless of any other sequence thereto.

**CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY**

Group Travel Directors (GTD) provides customized travel planning throughout the world for group travelers who have a variety of reasons and goals for travel. The goals and/or opinions of these groups do not reflect or imply the position of GTD in any matter. Brochure contents may not be duplicated without permission from GTD. In offering these travel arrangements, Group Travel Directors, Inc. (GTD) acts solely as an agent for the sale of air transportation and other travel related services. GTD maintains no control over the personnel, equipment or operations of any entity furnishing services, products or accommodations. GTD assumes no responsibility or liability for, and shall not be expected, asked or required to pay for any injury, damage, expense, personal injury, property damage, inconvenience or any other loss experienced by reason of: (1) any intentional, wrongful, negligent or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any supplier, its agents or employees; (2) any defect, breakdown or other failure of any vehicle, equipment, service, product or other instrumentality which is owned, operated or otherwise used by a supplier; (3) any intentional, wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any other party not under the direct control of GTD; (4) financial problems causing nonperformance by any supplier; or (5) any other cause, condition or event whatsoever beyond the direct control of GTD. GTD cannot guarantee any rates, bookings or reservations of any supplier. Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute a consent to the foregoing provisions. All prices quoted are subject to change if airlines or ground operators increase their prices, the U.S. dollar is devalued significantly against foreign currencies, the group falls below minimum numbers, or a fuel surcharge, government tax or user's fee is imposed. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. GTD reserves the right to withdraw from any tour any tour member whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the group as a whole. The above Conditions and Responsibility also covers the group leader(s) and their respective organizations.



**NOTE TO OUR TRAVELERS:**

Please be assured that GTD continually monitors travel industry developments (strikes, etc.) as well as world events. If any such matters affect your tour, you will be notified. At the time this tour was developed there was a U.S. State Department Travel Warning in effect for this destination; please refer to the following website for current information or call Group Travel Directors. <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>

**For more information, contact:**

**Pr. Curtis Zieske**  
 1310 Park Lane  
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 tel: 507-351-9580  
 email: tlpastor@msn.com

or

**Group Travel Directors**  
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 fax: 952-881-6276  
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[www.gtd.org](http://www.gtd.org)

