

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 3, 2026

**where it all began:
walking in Jesus' footsteps**

A Holy Land Pilgrimage of Faith & Friendship

Hosts: Dr. Rikk & Katie Watts

Guide: Dr. Yossi Paz

Director: Pastor Bronwyn Spilsbury

pilgrimway.ca

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

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Journey through Israel with

DR. RIKK AND KATIE WATTS

Guide: DR. YOSSI PAZ. Director: PASTOR BRONWYN SPILSBURY



DOCKET #7150

DAY 1: SUN. 22 NOVEMBER: Travel to the Holy Land

Today we depart from Canada on our overnight flights to Tel Aviv. Group Air is reserved from major Canadian cities. Seat upgrades may be available. Book group flights with our agent, who can also assist with personal travel plans.

DAY 2: MON. 23 NOVEMBER: Tel Aviv, Jaffa & Mediterranean

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, we are met by an Israeli aide who will assist us with immigration and luggage formalities. Boarding our luxury touring coach, we meet Dr. Yossi Paz, our guide, and take the short ride to Tel Aviv. Airline schedule permitting, we would visit Jaffa.

Jaffa – One of the oldest towns in Israel and considered one of the oldest ports in the world! Cedars of Lebanon sent by King Hiram of Tyre were unloaded at Jaffa, destined for Solomon's Temple. Here Peter brought Tabitha back from the dead and, in the home of Simon the Tanner, received the vision of pure and impure animals. (II Chronicles 2:15; Jonah 1:3-17; Acts 9:36-42)

From here, we check into our hotel near the Mediterranean Sea where we enjoy our 'Welcome to Israel' dinner. (B, D)

DAY 3: TUE. 24 NOVEMBER: Mount Carmel and Nazareth

Today we leave Tel Aviv and head for Galilee. En-route, we visit:

Caesarea – The ancient Roman seaport capital of Israel where Pontius Pilate made his base and King Herod had a luxurious palace. This is Herod's great man-made harbour that opened sea trade with the world. See the theatre, Roman aqueduct and crusader city. A new discovery is the Prison of St. Paul.

Mount Carmel – Above the city of Haifa, with the Mediterranean Sea and Jezreel Valley on either side, we stand where the Prophet Elijah performed a miracle, calling upon the fire of God to conquer the Prophets of Baal. (I Kings 18:18-45; Isaiah 33:9) We shall also explore the splendid, small **Hecht Museum** at the University of Haifa, giving background to many biblical sites.

Megiddo – Hebrew for **Armageddon**. Megiddo was strategically located on the main trading routes between Babylonia and Egypt. Here we visit the giant fortress and city built by King Solomon. (Judges 1:27; 5:19; I Kings 4:12; 9:15; II Chronicles 35:22; Zechariah 12:12; Revelation 16:16)

Dinner will be in Galilee, home for the next 4 nights. (B,D)



DAY 4: WED. 25 NOVEMBER: Upper Galilee

After breakfast, we begin our day with the ride north to the Tel Dan nature park where we see the spring waters of the River Jordan rise from the ground. Onwards from here, we shall visit:

Tel Dan – This national park and archeological site offer a blend of Israel's natural beauty and Biblical history. It is here that the headwaters of the river Jordan flow. Ruins of Jeroboam's altar are also located at Tel Dan. The ancient 'Abrahamic Gate' is on view. It is through here that Abraham enters and conquers Dan.

Caesarea Philippi – Built at one of the sources of the Jordan River, the city of Panias (named by the Greeks after the goat-footed god, Pan) was later renamed by the Romans as Caesarea Philippi. It was here Simon declared Jesus as Messiah, Son of God; and Jesus renamed Simon as "Peter." (Mark 8:27; Matthew 16:13-23)

Lunch gives us the opportunity to meet and interact with the local Druze communities of Ein Kinia.

Golan Heights – This afternoon, we may view Israel from both Mt. Bentan and the Golan Heights. This parcel of land plays a significant role in the security of those living in the Jordan Valley and Upper Galilee.

Dinner will be back at our hotel this evening. (B, D)

DAY 5: THU. 26 NOVEMBER: Nazareth, Sepphoris, Mt. Tabor

We stay in the Galilee region for the following Biblical sights:

Magdala – Located within one kilometer of our hotel is one of the latest Biblical excavation digs. We have the chance to visit what has been discovered for the ancient seaside town of Magdala, home of Mary Magdalene, with a chapel dedicated to women followers of Jesus. (Luke 8:1-3)

Sepphoris – Tradition says this is the birthplace of Mary and home to Joachim and Anna. It was once the capital of Galilee. This excavated city has some of the most magnificent mosaics in the country, including "The Mona Lisa of Israel".

Nazareth – We will visit **Nazareth Village**: a first-century village that has been restored to reflect life in the time of Jesus. Enjoy this creative and immersive experience that takes us back into Jewish village life, from winepress to potter to synagogue.

Now a suburb of Nazareth, **Cana** is the site where Jesus performed his first miracle when he changed water into wine at a wedding. (Luke 1:26-38; John 1:46; Matthew 2:23)

Mt. Tabor – A traditional site of Christ's transfiguration. Our ascent of Mt. Tabor involves the dexterity of local taxi drivers to reach the summit for teaching and prayer.

Dinner will be back at our hotel this evening. (B, D)

DAY 6: FRI. 27 NOVEMBER: Sea of Galilee and boat ride

Stay by the shores of the Sea of Galilee and visit the following:

The Mount of Beatitudes – Sit on the hill where Jesus delivered his Sermon on the Mount. Looking directly south at the Sea of Galilee, the flower filled gardens offer peace and tranquility. (Matthew 5:1-8)

Capernaum – The centre of Jesus' Galilee! Jesus stayed here for long periods, healing the sick, preaching in the synagogue and performing mighty signs. In Capernaum we will listen to a Rabbinical reading of Mark 5.

Church of the Primacy of Peter – It is here that Jesus appears to his disciples for the third time after his resurrection on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Here Peter is reconciled to Jesus as he declares his love for the Lord, and receives a renewed call, to "Feed my sheep." (John 21:15-17)

Yardenit - A garden enclave by the Jordan River. Here we read the story of Jesus' baptism, God's proclamation, and the Spirit's descent. Here you may be baptized or have your baptismal vows reaffirmed. (Matthew 3:13-17)

Sea of Galilee Boat Ride – The day ends with a memorable time in our private boat on the Sea of Galilee.

Dinner will be at the hotel this evening. (B, D)

DAY 7: SAT. 28 NOVEMBER: Bet Shean, Jericho, Jerusalem

After breakfast, we leave the Sea of Galilee and head towards the Dead Sea, but not before visiting:

Beit She'an – The largest of Israel's archeological digs. Long after its initial discovery years ago, archeologists are still discovering more remains from the Roman era, when Beit She'an was one of the 10 cities in The Decapolis. It is here that Jesus heals a deaf and mute man (Mark 7:31.)

Beit Shean, though destroyed by an earthquake in the 8th Century, offers fabulous insight into Roman life and times. See the ancient Tel that dates further back in biblical history. Here, after losing to the Philistines, King Saul and his sons were hung from the city walls. (Judges 4:7-8)

After Beit She'an, we head further south and pass Gilgal, where Saul was proclaimed king. Gilgal became a sacred place because the tribes of Israel first encamped and celebrated Passover there after their miraculous crossing of the Jordan River, anticipating their conquest of the Promised Land.

Jericho - We may visit Old Testament **Jericho**, home of Rahab, ancestor of Jesus. Here the walls came tumbling down by faith, as Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land. Those who wish may pay a nominal fee and enter the archeological excavation of ancient Jericho. Here we will also interact with local Palestinians.



Above Jericho, view the **Mount of Temptation** where the Spirit led Jesus after His baptism. In the New Testament, Jericho is close to where **Jesus healed Bartimaeus**

From here, we continue to the Dead Sea and the David Resort Hotel. Dinner will be served at our hotel. (B, D)

DAY 8: SUN. 29 NOVEMBER: Dead Sea and Judean Wilderness

After breakfast, we drive into the Judean wilderness and follow the shores of The Dead Sea to visit:

Masada – This UNESCO World Heritage site was once Herod's mountaintop palace and fortress. We ascend to the site by cable car and learn about the last Jewish stand against the Romans, with the story of their choice: death vs. slavery. The final 960 Jewish defenders died with courage here, 25 years after the Fall of Jerusalem to the Romans in 50 AD.

Qumran – Home to the ancient Essenes. In these surrounding hills, they wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls almost 2000 years ago. Here, we will visit the excavated sites of Qumran and view the location where The Scrolls were found in 1947. These scrolls reveal texts of ancient OT Scripture, copied by Essenes and hidden untouched for 2000 years. Scholars confirm that though our Bible comes from many copies through centuries, it matches & is accurate.

Dead Sea – No visit to the Dead Sea would be complete without experiencing the unique buoyancy of these waters. Sunset colours on the minerals of the Dead Sea are a marvel!

After another fascinating day, we make our way "UP" to Jerusalem. The Grand Court Hotel will be our home for the remainder of the journey. (B, D)

DAY 9: MON. 30 NOVEMBER: Jerusalem

We spend our first full day in Jerusalem, including the following:

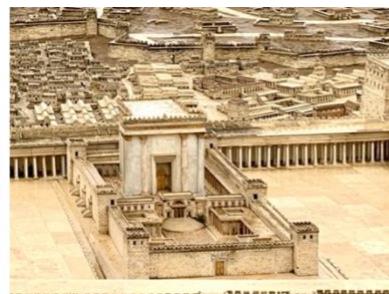
Mount of Olives – We begin our day by viewing Jerusalem from the Mt. of Olives. Photo opportunities abound, with the Golden Dome of the Rock prominent upon the Temple Courts where Jesus walked.

From here, we walk to The Garden of Gethsemane along the same path as Jesus took on Palm Sunday.

Dominus Flevit- The traditional site where Jesus paused and wept over the city of Jerusalem.

Garden of Gethsemane – The site where Jesus prayed in the Garden. "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done."

(Matthew 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-50; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-14)



House of Caiaphas – The current church, St. Peter of Gallicantu, is built upon the ancient home of Caiaphas the High Priest. Below is the traditional site where Jesus was held overnight. Outside is the courtyard where Peter waited and denied knowing Jesus.

Church of St. Anne – Dedicated to Jesus' grandmother, the church is located by the Antonia Fortress. See the excavated pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed the cripple. (John 5:1-9)

Via Dolorosa – We will walk on the mile-long route through the Old City of Jerusalem, from the point of condemnation by Pontius Pilate to Golgotha, Calvary Hill.

Holy Sepulchre Church – Stations X-XIV on The Via Dolorosa. The church was built on the traditional site where Jesus was crucified, buried, and rose again.

Dinner is at our Jerusalem hotel this evening. (B, D)

DAY 10: TUE. 01 DECEMBER: Jerusalem

Our day in and around Jerusalem includes:

Yad Vashem - Israel's national monument, memorial and museum to the Holocaust. A place of memory, mourning, and hope. See the Children's Museum and Boulevard of Righteous Gentiles – trees planted for those who were named as helpers.

Shrine of the Book Museum – Dedicated to the Dead Sea scrolls with original fragments, plus a replica of the great Isaiah scroll.

Israel Museum – An exceptional collection of artifacts from the land displayed chronologically, including from Jesus' time.

Scale Model of Jerusalem - This fabulous reconstruction of the old city of Jerusalem gives us a chance to better understand the importance of the Temple and the city during Herodian (and Jesus') times.

Herodium – Located south from Jerusalem, this was one of Herod's favorite palaces and fortresses. Herodium is the location of the recently discovered site of Herod's tomb. From this vantage point, we can look across the Dead Sea to Mt. Nebo in Jordan, where Moses viewed the Promised Land.

Bethlehem – We hope to cross the border and enter this city of Nativity, where Jesus was born. This is the land of Boaz and Ruth, of David their grandson, and the Son of David: Jesus. In these fields, shepherds watched their flocks, and sacrificial lambs were raised for Temple offering.

Dinner is at our hotel this evening. (B, D)



DAY 11: WED. 02 DECEMBER: Jerusalem

After breakfast, we spend our day in and around the Temple area of the old city, visiting:

Temple Mount – Pending access to the site, we will see the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock. Walk the white stones of Temple Mount, where Jesus taught, and where the Holy of Holies once stood.

Western Wall – Also called The Wailing Wall. This is now the holiest place of pilgrimage for the Jews. We may witness Orthodox Jews pray unceasingly, as Christians join them. Some of us may wish to leave a handwritten note in the crevices of the Western Wall, where Jewish tradition says, Shekinah glory shines. (I Kings 6:14; Matthew 12:6; Luke 2:46; John 2:19)

Davidson Centre and Steps of Ascension – This new facility uses state-of-the-art technology to bring the ancient Temple Mount to life in movies and models. This will give us a better understanding of the magnitude of Herod's construction vs. what we see today.

City of David – We will be guided through the site and new excavations of the City of David and see his throne room. You may choose to walk through Hezekiah's tunnel and re-surface at the pool of Siloam.

Garden Tomb – Preserved by The Garden Tomb Association, these beautiful gardens surround the traditional site of The Garden Tomb. Some believe that this was the garden of Joseph of Arimathea. It is a quiet place for us to share a service of praise, prayer, and holy communion. (John 19:41)

Tonight is our 'Farewell dinner'. A wonderful time to share and reflect on a truly inspirational journey! (B, D)

DAY 12: THU. 03 DECEMBER: Journey Home

This morning, we depart for Tel Aviv airport and our journey home.

Though we have left the Holy Land, it shall never leave us!

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

pilgrimway.ca

**"Blessed are those whose strength is in You,
whose hearts are set on pilgrimage."**

Psalm 84:5



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Produced by Pilgrim Way, with travel services arranged by Christian Journeys
Program is subject to change for best experience, determined by the leaders.

TERMS OF THE JOURNEY

PRICING:

ISRAEL & PALESTINE, LAND EXPERIENCE CAD \$7199

Based on at least 20 paying travellers, price per person with double occupancy.

Single room supplement, for no roommate: CAD \$1979

If you do not wish to room with anyone, add this amount to the total.

If you wish to share but don't have a roommate, let us know - we may find another single traveller for you to room with.

GROUP AIR (optional):

approx. CAD \$1975

Flights: Vancouver – Tel Aviv – Vancouver

Must have minimum 10 travellers in the group

- Includes Air Transportation Taxes
- Departures from other Canadian cities also available, subject to fares
- Upgrade from Economy seat may be available, at additional cost

TO REGISTER:

Email: Complete and scan/photograph your registration form and send it, with your deposit of \$600 per person to info@christian-journeys.com

Deposit may be paid with credit card information on the registration form OR by e-transfer to info@christian-journeys.com

Mail: Mail your registration with \$600 deposit per person cheque to: **Christian Journeys, 107 Lakeshore Drive, North Bay, ON P1A 2A5**

Terms: See Registration Form for travel & refund terms.

Registration is confirmed subject to space, on receipt of your registration form, with CAD \$600 deposit per person. Balance payment is due 90 days before travel.

- See Registration Form for terms of travel & refunds.
- Final invoice will be sent 2 weeks prior to balance payment due date.
- Add 3% surcharge for payment by credit card.

INCLUDED:

Leadership: Bible teaching on sites. Personal conversations and optional evening studies. Opportunity for group and private prayer and worship.

Expert Local Guides: Government licensed Tour Guide and archeologist Dr. Yossi Paz will accompany the group as part of the Leadership Team to maximize the educational and spiritual benefits and enjoyment of the group.

Accommodations: Top quality accommodations throughout.

Meals: Full buffet breakfasts and dinners daily, or as indicated:

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

Israeli hotels are well equipped to accommodate special dietary needs

Transportation: Air-conditioned deluxe coach through the journey

Sightseeing: Comprehensive program per itinerary, including entrance fees

Porterage: One large suitcase per person will be handled by porters. Each person is responsible for transporting any other luggage.

Embarkation package: Tour information mailed a month prior to departure.

Gratuities: CAD \$350. Basic rate for guides, driver, porters, hotel staff, etc.

Blessed are those whose strength is in You, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.
Psalm 84:5

NOT INCLUDED:

Air Travel: Group air is reserved for Vancouver- Tel Aviv -Vancouver. Departure from other cities, return travel extensions, or seat upgrades may be available, subject to fare adjustment and availability.

Lunches: We stop at local cafes as we go. Daily price approx. USD \$15-28.

Travel Insurance: Christian Journeys requires you have "out of country" emergency medical insurance of at least CAD \$250,000. Your insurance company or bank may provide this, or try Manulife or CAA.

Options: May cost extra for those who participate.

e.g. Baptism/ baptismal reaffirmation in the Jordan River is approx. USD \$25.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Passport: Tour participants must be in possession of a passport valid for at least 6 months after this journey ends.

Visas: No visa is required for North Americans to enter Israel or Palestine.

Inoculation: no current requirements.

Reservations: Phone and email reservation requests will be taken, but only upon receipt of deposit and registration form will your place be confirmed.

Deposit and final payment: A deposit of CAD \$600 **per person** is required, along with the signed registration form. See registration form for other payments.

Currency surcharge: Significant changes in international exchange rates may lead to a currency surcharge, assessed 90 days before departure. If a surcharge exceeds 7% of the original journey cost, you will have the option to cancel without penalty.

Travel Insurance: We recommend travellers take cancellation and interruption insurance in addition to the required medical insurance. Your insurance company or bank may provide this, or try Manulife or CAA.

General Health: All tour members should be in sufficiently good health to enjoy the tour in its entirety, with daily unassisted walking including inclines and stairs. Participation may need to be refused in certain instances.

Age minimum: This journey is open to adults of all ages. Teenagers may join with a parent on an individual request basis.

Leader Substitution: In the event a leader is unable to fulfill his/her duties, a suitable substitute leader will be provided in consultation with Pilgrim Way.

Political Advisory: Safety is our priority. If the area is under a "no travel" advisory by 90 days before departure we will fully refund your deposit and offer you priority placement on a future journey when it is safe to proceed.

We celebrate your commitment to journey in pilgrim faith, without insecurity. After full payment, a "no travel" advisory would require an insurance refund.

NEXT STEPS:

Print and complete the registration form. Return it directly, with your deposit, by mail or email to Christian Journeys, address below.

QUESTIONS:

Pilgrimage experience (Bronwyn): bronwyn@pilgrimway.ca

Travel & registration: info@christian-journeys.com

Communication subject line: **WATTS26**

PILGRIM WAY partners with **CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS**

to facilitate excellent accommodations and travel services.



Send your registration and deposit to:

CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS

107 Lakeshore Drive, North Bay, ON P1A 2A5

TICO # 2976741

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