

The Best of Israel 2012



March 6 - 19, 2012 • hosted by Pastor Jim Welch

Dear Friend,

For thousands of years, no place has been more precious to God's children than the land of Israel. God used the land to shape the lives of His people in the Bible - and He does the same today.

Visiting Israel is an unforgettable, faith-maturing experience. As often as I've had the privilege to go, I always come back personally changed. Really, every time.

From the waters of Galilee to the winding streets of Jerusalem, you will explore the land of Abraham, David, Jesus and Paul. The goal is to increase your understanding of the Word of God and to draw closer to the God of the Word. You will forever read your Bible with greater insight as your appreciation for God's sovereignty and grace deepens.

Daily you will stand at spectacular vista points to view the breathless panoramas of Bible history. Bible crossroads and sites become your experience, whether standing atop Mt. Arbel to absorb the Galilean ministry of Jesus or sitting on the ancient steps on which our Savior walked and taught in Jerusalem.

Group travel to the lands of the Bible is one of the most enriching and enjoyable experiences available to modern Christians. Faith takes on new dimensions through such spiritual journeys.

Take a moment to read through the exciting itinerary. Unlike the patriarchs you will not be "roughing it," but staying at the finest hotels in Israel. To assure your space, please return a registration form to IGM (signed and with your deposit) after you have read the "Tour Conditions" carefully.

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IGM REGIONAL TOUR

LAND & WORD

*authentic Bible sites with
inspiring views & gentle walks*

Depart: Tuesday, March 6, 2012
Return: Monday, March 19, 2012

DAY 1 - Tuesday, March 6 USA DEPARTURE

Be at the airport at least 3 hours prior to departure for international check-in procedures. Hot meals and in-flight entertainment are per airline policies.

BLR = Bible Lands Resource: daily readings

BLR: p. 2 - Roads, Rivers & Crossroads

DAY 2 - Wednesday, March 7 ARRIVE LONDON

Arrive London late morning. Transfer to an airport hotel using local available transportation. The afternoon is at leisure to use the London Underground for personal exploration (Hatton Cross Station is only one short block from the hotel). Dinner is not included this evening.

DAY 3 - Thursday, March 8 TO TEL AVIV

Region: Coast of Sharon
Return to Heathrow Airport this morning for the flight to Israel. Arrive Tel Aviv this afternoon and proceed through passport control (keep the white entry paper in passport). Meet your guide outside

in the group parking lot. Depart to your seaside hotel for lodging.
BLR: p. 6 - Coastal Plains

DAY 4 - Friday, March 9 TO SEA OF GALILEE

Region: Coast of Sharon, Jezreel Valley, Sea of Galilee
Visit Caesarea Maritima (Acts 10, Peter's encounter with Cornelius) to view the Roman theater, Pontius Pilate stone, Caesar's seaside home and the stadium. Continue to Herod's harbor and the Roman aqueducts. Ascend the range of Mt. Carmel to Muhraqa (Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal). Descend to the Jezreel Valley to visit Megiddo (the dig and the water tunnel). Depart for the Mt. Arbel Cliffside overview of the center of Jesus' operations at Galilee. Proceed to your lodging.

BLR: p. 6 - Coastal Plains #2, Coast of Sharon, #5 Lower Galilee

DAY 5 - Saturday, March 10 SEA CIRCLE TRIP

Region: Sea of Galilee
Circle the sea visiting sites of Jesus' ministry. Depart for the Yarmuk River and ascend the Aphek Plateau for an unobstructed view of the Sea of Galilee from Kfar Haruv. Continue past Koursi (Jesus cast demons into swine) to Bethsaida, home of Peter, Philip, Andrew. Proceed to Chorazin. Visit the Mt. of Beatitudes, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7). Optional is a foot descent to the seaside of Tabgha. Visit Capernaum, the center of Jesus' Galilean ministry. Sail the sea in the Jesus Fishing Boat, a double-scale replica of a Roman fishing boat. Visit Yardinit, the modern Jordan River baptismal site at the southern end of the Sea of Galilee.

BLR: p. 6 - Mountains & Valleys, Overview, #4, #5, p. 7 - Jesus at Galilee, Rift Valley

DAY 6 - Sunday, March 11 TO UPPER JORDAN



Region: Upper Jordan, Sea of Galilee

Depart the sea on the ancient Via Maris, stop briefly at Hazor (ancient crossroads, largest Canaanite city) and continue to Tel Dan. Walk through the Nature Preserve beside the roaring Jordan River to Tel Dan. View the High Place of Jeroboam and the Canaanite gate. Proceed to Baniyas (Caesarea Philippi), Peter's confession of Jesus as Christ. Continue to Mt. Bental for views of Mt. Hermon and Syria. Return to the Sea of Galilee for dinner and lodging.

BLR: p. 7 - The Upper Jordan

DAY 7 - Monday, March 12 LOWER GALILEE, NAZARETH

Region: Lower Galilee, Sea of Galilee

Visit more sites of Jesus' life at Galilee. Begin at Nazareth with views from Mt. Precipice, a visit of Nazareth Village, and more. At the capital city of Galilee, Sepphoris, view the Roman theater and the mosaic floor. Return to the Sea of Galilee with afternoon leisure beside the sea.

BLR: p 6 #6 - The Jezreel Valley

DAY 8 - Tuesday, March 13 BETH-SHEAN, JERICHO, DEAD SEA

Region: Jordan Valley, Dead Sea
Depart the Sea of Galilee for Tel Beth-shean. From the ruins of Scythopolis consider the demise of Saul, Israel's first king. View ruins of the only Decapolis city west of the Jordan. Visit Herod's Spring,

Mt. Gilboa and Belvoir Castle before descending down the Jordan Valley to Jericho. Continue to the Dead Sea. Time permitting, visit Qumran and Ein Gedi before checking into your Dead Sea resort hotel for dinner and lodging.

**DAY 9 - Wednesday, March 14
MASADA, ARAD, BEERSHEBA,
JERUSALEM**

**Region: Dead Sea, Judaeen
Wilderness, Jerusalem**

Ascend the fortress of Masada by cable car. View the ruins of the last stand of the Zealots against the Romans. Descend the mountain on the western siege ramp. Meet your coach and continue to Tel Arad and Beersheba. Continue to Mt. Scopus for a Genesis welcome and first view of Jerusalem.

**DAY 10 - Thursday, March 15
JERUSALEM**

Region: Jerusalem

Ascend the Mt. of Olives for orientation to Jerusalem's Old City. Walk the Palm Sunday route past the Dominus Flevit Church to the Garden of Gethsemane. Proceed to the Dung Gate and enter the Ophel Ridge. Walk on the Herodian pavement, view and touch the Temple foundation, and visit the Temple steps where we know Jesus walked and taught (Lk. 19-21) for a devotional time (Western Wall Tunnels are subject to time

confirmation). Depart for the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book. Continue the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

**DAY 11 - Friday, March 16
JERUSALEM**

Region: Jerusalem

Enter the Dung Gate and ascend the Temple Mount to view the Dome of the Rock. Continue to the intact St. Anne's Crusader Church (hymn-sing?), the Pools of Bethesda, and the Ecce Homo Arch. Walk through portions of the Via Dolorosa and the marketplaces. After a lunch-break, visit the Garden Tomb for a private tour and fellowship communion. Proceed to the southern excavations of the Ophel Ridge. Enter Area G to explore the dig of the City of David and continue to the Warren Shaft. Optional is a descent to the Gihon Spring and a walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel (bring old shoes for the walk through knee-deep water) to the Pool of Siloam (Jn. 9).
BLR: p. 7 Jesus at Jerusalem

**DAY 12 - Saturday, March 17
BETHLEHEM, JUDAEAN
SHEPHELAH**

**Region: Judaeen Hills, Judaeen
Shephelah**

Depart Jerusalem for Herodium (Herod's grave), the view of Tekoa (Amos' home), the Judaeen Hills and continue to Bethlehem. Visit shepherds' fields, the Church of the

Nativity, and shop for olivewood. Proceed to the Valley of Elah to note Tel Socoh and Tel Azeqa, the setting for David and Goliath. Return to Jerusalem via the Sorek Valley and Beit Shemesh.

**DAY 13 - Sunday, March
18 JERUSALEM FREE DAY
Region: Jerusalem**



Today is at leisure for personal interests in Jerusalem.

**DAY 14 - Monday, March 19
ARRIVE USA**

Transfer to the tel Aviv Airport this morning for the flight to the USA. Fly while reliving the experiences of having walked and learned the land of the Bible. Clear customs upon arrival at the USA.



LAX roundtrip - \$4,445

Price is per person, double occupancy.
(price adjusted for less than 20 persons)

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT. For all deposits received by IGM by October 1, 2011, \$200 will be discounted on the final tour price.

PRICE INCLUDES: British Airways group economy, round-trip from Los Angeles, overseas group airport transfers, first class hotels per the itinerary listing (subject to confirmation), daily breakfast and dinner (except London), entrance fees, overseas portage of 1 suitcase, all overseas transfers, English-speaking scholarly guides, personal copies of **BLR (Bible Lands Resource)**,

\$597 Inclusive fees (including airline ticket taxes & fees, and other fees & taxes & visas), all tips.

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE: Daily lunches, personal services requested.

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT: \$880

LAND ONLY: \$3,250

REQUESTED HOTELS:

LONDON: Jurys Inn Heathrow Hotel

NETANYA: Seasons Hotel

TIBERIAS: Leonardo Plaza Hotel

DEAD SEA: Le Meridien Resort

JERUSALEM: Ambassador Hotel

TOUR CONDITIONS:

1. **DEPOSITS:** Registrations require a signed and dated **IGM** form and a **\$300** deposit per person. **Late Deposit fees are:** \$50 for less than 100 days and \$150 for less than 60 days (after invoice period) before departure. **Late registrations** risk airspace not being confirmed.

2. **FINAL PAYMENTS:** Final payments must be received 60 days prior to departure. Payments received later will be assessed \$50 per person and must be paid by a Cashier's Check or Money Order. If final payment is not received by 40 days prior to departure, the participant's tour space will be canceled and the deposit forfeited.

3. **DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENTS:** Payable to **IGM TOURS**.

4. **CREDIT CARDS: VISA and MasterCard** credit cards may be used for deposits and Final Payments.

5. **FINAL DOCUMENTS:** Final tour documents (including airline tickets and any itinerary adjustments) will be available one week before departure to facilitate any last minute changes.

6. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS: Written cancellations must be sent directly**

to IGM TOURS. Cancellations (for any reason whatsoever) are subject to an **IGM \$50 administrative fee.**

90 days prior: an additional \$100 per person plus \$150 airline fee.

40 days prior: the full tour price is charged.

There are no refunds for international tickets once issued!

7. **AIR TRANSPORTATION: British Airways** group economy airfares (10 persons flying the same route) are non-refundable and issued about 40 days prior to departure. Tickets do not permit changes in names, cities, or dates without penalty. Airfares are subject to change until ticketed. **Bonus and discount coupons are not applicable.**

8. **HOTELS:** Prices are based on 1st class & deluxe hotel rooms (twin bedded, dbl. occ.). If changed, similarly priced hotels are used. Single room occupants (for any reason) must pay single room surcharge.

9. **MEALS:** Daily breakfasts & table d'hote dinners. Coffee/tea are only included with breakfasts.

10. **GROUP TRANSFERS & ENTRANCE FEES:** Overseas group transfers and entrance fees are included. Individual transfers are not included for those who deviate from tour itineraries.

11. **GUIDES:** English-speaking guides are provided.

12. **PORTERAGE:** Overseas portorage of 1 suitcase is included. The fee for additional suitcases/flight bags is \$1 per hotel.

13. **LUGGAGE:** Group touring is limited to one normal size suitcase (not to exceed 50 lbs), one camera case, and one flight bag.

14. **PASSPORTS & VISAS:** Each participant is responsible for a valid passport with 6 months validity for USA return, and must submit a legible copy or scan of the photo page to IGM TOURS (please do not fax). **Data is required 60 days prior to departure.** Visas are required on this tour for U.S. passports. Other than U.S. passports must advise **IGM** at the time of registration.

15. **NO SMOKING POLICY:** Smoking is not permitted on coaches or flights.

16. **ITINERARY CHANGES:** The itinerary has been planned under the direction of your tour leader. It is possible that the daily itinerary may be adjusted by unforeseen circumstances.

17. **PRICING FLUCTUATIONS:** Tour prices are based upon current tariffs, agreements, and exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure production, September 2010. These factors are outside the control of **IGM**, and will be defined by **IGM** at least 60 days before departure.

But if the fuel surcharges increase anytime prior to ticketing you will be assessed.

18. **DEVIATIONS/CHANGES:** Deviations/changes must be requested in writing to **IGM** (\$50 per person plus airline fees) at least 90 days before departure. And subject to airline regulations. Requests **less than 90 days** (invoice period) require an added \$75 fee per person. They are **not** accepted less than 60 days. No exceptions.

19. **REFUNDS:** Refunds are made only per the guidelines listed below.

20. **TRAVEL INSURANCE:** **IGM strongly recommends** the purchase of travel insurance for protection of one's tour and luggage investments. Coverage may commence from the day of tour deposit throughout the tour duration.

21. **TOUR OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITY: IGM TOURS, Inc.,** herein and hereafter referred to as **IGM** and/or its agents, act only in the capacity as a broker agent for the passenger in all matters connected with hotel lodging, sightseeing, tours and transportation, whether by air, rail, motorcoach, boat, or any other means and as an agent holds itself free of responsibility for any damage or expense resulting from any cause whatsoever. **IGM** is a bonded wholesale travel broker, which complies with California's "Seller of Travel State Law": CST#2018950-50. **IGM** and/or its agents will not be responsible

for any damage or expenses or inconvenience caused by late registrations, late airplanes, trains, boats, or changes in any of their schedules due to strikes or any other reason whatsoever. **IGM** operates 9:00am -5:00pm weekdays excluding holidays. **IGM** will not be responsible for the loss or damage to luggage or any passenger's personal belongings. **IGM** recommends the purchase of Travel Insurance to cover such events. **IGM** reserves the right to refuse any person as a tour member at any time before or during the actual tour. **IGM** reserves the right to cancel, change, or withdraw the tour in whole or in part at any time. The sole obligation of **IGM** is to refund payments received in connection herewith if not acceptable by tour members. Refunds for canceled airfares and services abroad for any reason will be made only after having been received from the airlines, hotels, or companies performing these services, less any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the operation resulting from those cancellations and will follow the guidelines herein contained for cancellations. Requests for any refund due to absence from the itineraries abroad must be submitted to **IGM** in writing not less than 60 days prior to departure and are subject to agreements with overseas Operators. Any dispute arising out of these tours will be settled in the courts of the City of Hayward, CA.

22. **AIRLINE RESPONSIBILITY:** The participating airline, British Airways, is responsible only for the air travel portion of this tour performed for it on behalf of tour participants in accordance with the terms and conditions of their individual passage contracts and subject to the applicable laws, treaties and regulations governing air transportation. Tour services, including but not limited to carriage by land or sea, guide services, hotel accommodations, restaurants and all services other than carriage by air, are furnished by contractors who are independent and do not act for or on behalf of the above airline and the above airline shall not be responsible for any act, omission or event occurring prior to the tour participants embarkation upon or after his/her disembarkation from the aircraft. The usual passage contract by the airline when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the tour participants and in purchasing a passage contract as part of this tour, the tour participant acknowledges and accepts the foregoing conditions. The above airline is not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board its aircraft.