A journey of Faith & Discovery through the Biblical Lands of Palestine & Israel

3 - 10 December, 2018
Dear Friends,

Following on the success of our Pilgrimage to Rome we have been asked by pilgrims to arrange a special Tablet pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

We will follow in the footsteps of Jesus in Galilee and Jerusalem.

In Galilee we will visit Nazareth, the town in which Jesus grew up. We will also visit Capernaum, the fishing village which became the centre of His ministry, as well as other places associated with the events of the Gospel.

In Jerusalem and in Galilee. In Jerusalem we will retrace Jesus' steps from Bethany to Gethsemane and along the Way of the Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We will visit Bethlehem as well as other major sites and meet with the “living Stones”

In addition to visiting the key New Testament sites we will also visit classic Old Testament sites like Qumran and Jericho

We hope many will want to join us on this unique spiritual journey following in the steps of our Lord, and support our Christian brothers and sisters in this troubled region. We will celebrate Mass, pray together, and open up the Scriptures in the place where it happened.

Lightline Pilgrimages support the work of Friends of The Holy Land and a contribution is made on behalf of each and every pilgrim that travels to the Holy Land.
Day 1, Monday,  
**Journey to the Holy Land**
We gather at London Luton Airport for our late morning flight to Tel Aviv. On arrival we will be met by our guide and driven north to Galilee and our hotel in the city of Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up. Dinner and overnight stay in Nazareth.

Day 2, Tuesday  
**Mount Tabor, Nazareth & Cana**
We begin our pilgrimage after an early breakfast by driving to the foot of Mount Tabor from where we will continue by taxi to the summit for Mass in the Basilica built on the site of the Transfiguration of Jesus before Peter, James and John. From the roof top, one can look across the green and fertile Valley of Jezreel and the plains of Armageddon. On descending Mount Tabor we drive to Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up. Here we visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, built over the traditional home of the Holy Family. After a break for lunch we continue to the Greek Orthodox Church, built over Mary’s Well and the old Synagogue-Church. Late afternoon we drive to Cana, the site of Jesus’ first sign to visit the Wedding Church, built to commemorate Jesus’ First Miracle before finally returning to our hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 3, Wednesday  
**Our Lord’s Lakeside Ministry**
After an early breakfast we drive to the Mount of Beatitudes and the Church built to commemorate the Sermon on the Mount where we will celebrate Mass overlooking the Sea of Galilee and the places where Jesus lived and worked. We then drive down to the shores of the lake...
Day 3 continued to visit the Church of the Primacy for meditation and then to Tabgha and the Church of the Loaves and Fishes, which commemorates the miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand. After a break for lunch we drive along the shoreline to the ancient fishing village of Capernaum to view the excavations of the House of Peter, an old synagogue with its foundations that date back to the time of Jesus and quite possibly the site where Jesus may have often preached. We leave Capernaum by boat and sail across the Sea of Galilee to city of Tiberias and return to Nazareth and our hotel in good time to freshen up before dinner.

Day 4, Thursday

Nablus - River Jordan - Bethlehem

After an early breakfast we leave Galilee and begin our journey south along an ancient route through the heart of the West Bank to visit the city of Nablus in which is found Jacob’s Well - the very site which Jesus himself visited on a journey to Jerusalem and where He met a Samaritan woman drawing water. We then drop down to the Jordan Valley to Qasr al Yehud on the banks of the River Jordan near the site where John baptised Jesus and where we too can renew our baptism vows. We then continue through the ancient oasis city of Jericho and break for lunch in Qumran, the site where the Dead Sea scrolls were found. Here we will have an opportunity to bathe in the unique mineral laden waters of the Dead Sea. Late afternoon we leave the Dead Sea and ride up through the hills of the Judean Wilderness to the summit of Mount Scopus for a breathtaking view of Jerusalem and its beautiful surrounding medieval walls. Finally we proceed to Bethlehem and our hotel.
Day 5, Friday
Bethlehem & the Mount of Olives
After breakfast we begin our days by visiting the Church of the Nativity, the oldest church in Christendom built over the cave that marks the spot where Jesus was born. We will also visit the Milk Grotto before driving out to Beth Sahour to visit the Shepherds Field where we will celebrate Mass in one of the caves. We then visit the Bethlehem University, which is sponsored in part by the Vatican, to learn of the amazing work they do. After a break for lunch drive through the separation wall to the top of the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem before visiting Beth Phage, the starting point of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We then walk down the Palm Sunday path to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus was betrayed by Judas. We then continue to visit the Church of Pater Noster which attests to the existence of a cave on the Mount of Olives associated with Jesus’ teaching and the Ascension to the Church of Dominus Flevit, commemorating the site where Jesus wept over the destruction of the city. Finally we visit the Church of All Nations built over the Rock of the Agony, the site where Jesus prayed. Return to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 6, Saturday
Mount Zion & Old City
This morning we leave our hotel after breakfast and drive to Mount Zion to visit St Peter in Gallicantu, the Church of the Cock Crowing that is built over the House of Caiaphas. View the recently excavated steps that lead to the Old city possibly the very steps Jesus was led up after His arrest. We then visit the Cenacle, Franciscan Room of the Last Supper. After a break for lunch we return to the Old City and enter via St Stephen’s Gate (Lion
Day 6 continued
Gate) and make our way to the Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism before continuing to the beautiful Crusader Church of St Anne’s and the Pools of Bethesda before beginning the Way of Cross along the Via Dolorosa including the Ecce Homo Arch and convent, the Lithostratus “the pavement”. View from the roof of the Antonia Fortress the Temple Areas. We proceed through the Souks and over the roof of the Holy Sepulchre and down through the Ethiopian Monastery to the Holy Sepulchre. Visit the Basilica built over the tomb on Calvary. We will celebrate Mass in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Return to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in Bethlehem.

Day 7, Sunday
Ein Karem
We begin our day by driving to the beautiful village of Ein Karem to visit the Church of the Visitation and home of John the Baptist and the place of his birth where we will celebrate Mass. We then return to Jerusalem for a free afternoon to explore the Old City. Late afternoon we return to our hotel in Bethlehem for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 8, Monday
Emmaus & Journey home
This morning we will leave our hotel after breakfast and make our way to Emmaus Abu Gosh to visit the Crusader Church built to commemorate the site where Jesus appeared to the disciples and where we will celebrate our final Mass. We then drive to Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion airport and check-in for our return evening flight to Luton.

Please note this complex touring programme may be subject to minor local amendment.
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