Jesus and the First Christians
Jordan, Israel and Turkey

Departs 27 Dec 2015
Bible Study Tour
Itinerary

Dec 27: Depart Adelaide with Emirates Airlines bound for Dubai with onward connection to Amman.

Dec 28: Arrive into Amman in the morning for a tour of the city and a visit to the Archaeological Museum. Accommodation: Amman - Amman West Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Dec 29: Visit the ancient city of Pella the site of one of Christianity’s earliest churches. Jerash, founded by Alexander the Great, a city of the Decapolis, and one of the best preserved Roman cities of the near east. Accommodation: Amman - Amman West Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Dec 30: Drive south to Petra via Madaba, Machaerus and Mount Nebo from where Moses saw the Promised Land. Tonight we have the special experience of seeing Petra by Night—a candle light tour of the Rose City. Accommodation: Petra - Petra Guest House Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Dec 31: This morning have a guided tour of Petra to visit the wonderful sights of the Treasury, the Monastery, the Amphitheatre and the royal tombs. A city hidden for centuries until rediscovered in 1812—this is truly a remarkable site. We then travel on to the coastal city of Aqaba on the Red Sea. Accommodation: Aqaba - Aqaba Gulf Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 1: Early morning border crossing into Israel at Aqaba/Eilat. We make our way north stopping at Solomon’s Mines and then into the Negev Desert—home to Abraham, inhabited by the Tribe of Judah and part of the Kingdom of Solomon. Accommodation: Mitzpe Ramon - Mitzpe Ramon Inn Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 2: Today we visit Avdat, a major town on the Incense Route between the Mediterranean and the Far East. From here we go to the largest city on the West Bank: Hebron—the second holiest city in Judaism and the traditional burial site of the Patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Later we arrive in Bethlehem the birth place of Jesus. Accommodation: Bethlehem—Manger Square Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 3: After defeating the Parthians, Herod built the town of Herodion, with a fortress and a Palace. We visit these today and see the possible sight of Herod’s Tomb. Accommodation: Bethlehem - Manger Square Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 4: Masada, captured by Herod who built a palace and fortified the mountain. Later it was the scene of the Roman siege of Masada against the Jewish freedom fighters: the Zealots. The massive Roman attack ramp is still in evidence. Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found and then onward to Jerusalem. Accommodation: Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 5: We celebrate an early morning Eucharist at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Later we visit the Mount of Olives, the Church of Peter in Gallicantu (cocks crow) and Mount Zion. Accommodation: Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 6: Today we enter the old city of Jerusalem to follow the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa. Also visit the Jewish and Muslim Quarters, the Burnt House, an excavated 2nd Temple Period house and the Western Wall. Accommodation: Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 7: The Israel Archaeological Museum features the most extensive holdings of biblical and Holy Land archaeology in the world. The Rockefeller Museum contains artifacts from prehistoric times to the Ottoman period. Accommodation: Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Petra—Jordan
Jan 8: Today we experience the Jericho of Herod’s times and have a retreat day.  
Accommodation: Jericho - Oasis Intercontinental Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 9: Day trip to Jericho and the archaeological digs, see the Mount of Temptation  
and the Tree of Zachaeus. Also meet the women of the Aqbat Jaber Refugee  
Camp co-operative.  
Accommodation: Jericho - Oasis Intercontinental Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 10: Tour of Ramallah including the old city of Al Bireh, Church of the Holy Family  
and the Al Ain Mosque.  
Accommodation: Nablus—Yasmin Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 11: Spend the day in Nablus with a tour of the old city, Jacob’s Well, Grand Mosque and the Samaritan compound. Later in the  
day travel onto Nazareth.  
Accommodation: Nazareth - Casanova Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 12: A guided tour of Nazareth to see where Jesus grew up and visit the Church of the Annunciation. An evening of reflection.  
Accommodation: Nazareth - Casanova Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 13: Retreat day.  
Accommodation: Nazareth - Casanova Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 14: Travel to the Galilee region the area of Jesus’ early ministry via Mt Tabor, the  
site of the transfiguration of Jesus.  
Accommodation: Tiberias - Ron Beach Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 15: The Jesus Triangle—Capernaum, Bethsaida, the Church of the Primacy of  
Peter in northern Galilee.  
Accommodation: Tiberias - Ron Beach Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 16: We visit Magdala of the Fishes, the Ginnosar Boat and we take a leisurely cruise on the Sea of Galilee.  
Accommodation: Tiberias - Ron Beach Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 17: Today we drive into the Golan Heights to visit the ancient city of Tel Dan and then Banyas where Jesus went on retreat with the  
Disciples. Tonight will be an evening of reflection.  
Accommodation: Tiberias - Ron Beach Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 18: Retreat Day.  
Accommodation: Tiberias - Ron Beach Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 19: Depart Galilee for Tel Aviv via Caesarea Maritima, an ancient harbor built by Herod the Great. You can still see the ruins of the  
city and aquaduct. Late flight to Istanbul from Tel Aviv  
Accommodation: Istanbul—Akgun Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 20: Sightseeing tour of Istanbul visiting the Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia Museum, Justinian Cisterns and the  
Archaeological Museum  
Accommodation: Istanbul—Akgun Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 21: Visit the Green Mosque in the old Ottoman capital of Bursa, and Nicaea.  
Accommodation: Istanbul—Akgun Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 22: On out last day we take a cruise on the Bosphorus, visit the Chora Museum,  
a former Byzantine Church and walk through the evocative spice market.  
Accommodation: Istanbul—Akgun Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Jan 23: Depart Istanbul this morning for Athens for your connecting flights home.

Jan 24: Welcome home to Adelaide.

Cover Photo: Sea of Galilee by Rev Dr Michael Trainor
Cost per person

Full Tour:
$11,685 per person twin share
$13,695 Sole occupancy

Price includes

- Return airfare - Adelaide / Amman / Tel Aviv / Istanbul / Athens / Adelaide
- Departure and air taxes (approx $365p included)
- Accommodation as stated or similar
- Meals as stated on itinerary
- Air conditioned coach
- English speaking leader and guides throughout
- Tours as specified & entrance fees to monuments
- Visas
- Hotel portage and tips
- Tour notes

Fr Michael Trainor....This Bible Study Tour is an opportunity to visit the lands and places linked to the story of Jesus and his first followers. It will offer you an unforgettable experience that will deepen your faith as you come to know the land and culture of Jesus. We live for some days in Jerusalem and on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, visiting the places where those who believed in Him have lived and travelled, such as Pella in Jordan, and Byzantium (Istanbul) in Turkey. This opportunity is truly a privilege for all in the group.

GROUP BOOKING CONDITIONS

Reservations
A nonrefundable deposit of $1500 per change increases the value of your booking. The final balance is due no later than 16 Oct 2015. If a booking is made after this date, the full payment is due at the time of confirmation. Prices are subject to change at any time until full payment has been received and tickets have been issued.

Booking Forms:
You are required to complete the booking form and provide a copy of your passport which provides essential information we require to process your booking. Phil Hoffmann Travel will provide you with all relevant forms. Please make sure you read these booking conditions in conjunction with the Phil Hoffmann Travel “Schedule of Professionalism.”

Not included:
You must pay for all personal expenses not included in our package costs. This includes: flight upgrades; travel insurance, tipping, during any non-group formal arrangements; items of a personal nature eg laundry, phone calls, drinks, meals other than those stated in our inclusions, any amendment fees and; any personal extensions.

Price Alterations:
Tour prices specified are based on airfares, taxes, exchange rates and land arrangement tariffs applicable at the time of printing. Therefore they may be subject to alteration with or without prior notice until final payment date (16 Oct 15), as per brochure.

Amendments/changes
A fee of $100, per amendment will be charged for any reservation changes after your booking is confirmed, unless such a change is due to an error on our part. This fee is in addition to any charges from airlines, land operators or cruise lines. Bookings are non-transferable. An amendment fee of a minimum $100 per person will apply for any changes to group travel arrangements.

Cancellations
Cancellation of firm bookings will be subject to $1500 per person service fee plus any charges imposed by principals involved in operating the tour. Therefore, the cancellation fee may be up to the total cost for land and/or airfares. Canceled bookings are non-transferable.

Refunds/Credits
No refund is available in respect of any sightseeing tours, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilised or required during this tour. No refund is available for cancellations after the tour has commenced. Credit notes cannot be refunded or taken as cash.

Minimum Numbers
Group fares quoted for this tour are subject to a minimum 20 paying passengers travelling together. Phil Hoffmann Travel reserve the right to increase the tour price or cancel the tour should the numbers travelling not meet the required minimum.

Passport & Visas
It is necessary for all passengers to be in possession of a valid passport which has at least 6 months validity beyond your return into Australia (25 June, 2016). We ask you to provide us with a copy of your passport. A Turkish visa is required but not included in the cost of your tour. These must be obtained online prior to travel at: www.evisa.gov.tr. Other visas may be required if you have a non-Australian passport.

Insurance
Insurance is compulsory for cover against loss of deposit and loss of airfares, personal accident, medical cover etc. If you have an ongoing medical condition you may be required to complete a pre-existing medical form. Phil Hoffmann Travel can provide details for travel insurance.

Medical and Travel Advice
It is wise to seek medical advice before travelling as you may require vaccinations for this tour. We recommend seeking advice from a travel specialist or from your GP. You should also refer to the Smart Traveller website at www.smartertravel.gov.au for up to date travel information and governmental advisories.

Baggage
The free baggage allowance on flights is strictly limited to 30kg per person for economy passengers. Hand luggage is provided free of charge and must be one piece and weighing less than 7kg. Passenger should note that baggage allowance for internal European flights will be limited to 20kg and so pack accordingly. Whilst on tour one main bag and 1 piece of hand luggage per person is allowed. Airlines may charge you for baggage in excess of these allowances, which will be at passenger’s expense.

Responsibility
Phil Hoffmann Travel reserves the right to alter or omit any part of the itinerary or to change the reservation, features and/or means of conveyance without any notice and for any reason whatsoever. Phil Hoffmann Travel does not accept liability for failure on the part of transportation companies, hotel contractors and other principals whose responsibility is confined to their own operations.

Phil Hoffmann Travel reserves the right to alter hotels used should the necessity arise. The transportation companies or firms shall be exempt from all liabilities in respect of any detention, delay, loss, damage, sickness or injury and by whom so ever caused and whatever kind occurring of or to the passenger at any time when the passenger is not on board a conveyance used or operated by the transportation companies or firms.

We reserve the right to take any reasonable action should your health, actions or behaviour impair the rights, welfare or enjoyment of other passengers. Phil Hoffmann Travel reserve the right to cancel or withdraw any person as a member of the tour at any time. All ticket coupons and orders are furnished and issued subject in all respects to those terms and conditions under which the means of transportation or other services provided thereby are performed by the owners, operators, public carriers, management agents or agents.

The Phil Hoffmann Schedule of Professionalism applies. E&OE.