



# PLCMC ISRAEL BIBLE TOUR 2015 LED BY PASTOR DAVID LIEW

## **TOUR DATE**

**30 NOV 2015 MONDAY - 09 DEC 2015 WEDNESDAY** 

10 Days / 7 Nights/8 Days of Touring

# FLIGHT SCHEDULE - THAI AIRWAYS AND EL AL (CONFIRMED SEATS)

#### **DEPART FROM SINGAPORE ON MONDAY**

TG 410 SIN/BKK (30 NOV) 2100 / 2220 (30 NOV) LY 82 BKK/TLV (01 DEC) 0020 / 0640 (01 DEC)

**RETURN TO SINGAPORE ON THURSDAY** 

LY 81 TLV/BKK (08 DEC) 2305 / 1500 (09 DEC) TG 401 BKK/SIN (09 DEC) 1925 / 2245 (09 DEC)

## **TOUR FEE**

Twin Sharing: SGD 3,605.00 per person 1,2

\* Note that the above tour fee does not include airline fuel surcharge and airport taxes.

## **INCLUDED IN TOUR FEE**

- Return economy class airfare using Thai Airways and El Al.
- English-speaking licensed Israeli guide proficient in the Bible.
- 8 Days of touring in an air-conditioned luxury bus.
- 7 Nights stay in good 4-star touring class hotels
   01 04 Dec 15, Tiberias, Leonardo Tiberias or similar (3N)
   04 08 Dec 15, Jerusalem, Leonardo Jerusalem or similar (4N)
- All sites as stated in the itinerary.
- Meals provided as per itinerary. Lunch at Genesis Land on Day 7 and Lunch with Passover meal experience on Day 9.
- Water is provided during meals only.
- All tips of USD 77.00 to the tour guide, bus driver, hotels and restaurants.
- All group transfers.

## **NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR FEE**

- Airline fuel surcharge and airport tax of SGD 640.00 (as at Jan 2015)
- Any increase in airline fuel surcharge and taxes.
- Single room surcharge of SGD 650.00 per person (if applicable).
- Travel insurance. 3
- Personal expenses, medical coverage and drinks during meals.
- Mineral water consumed on the bus or during the tour.
- Israeli visa fee of SGD 60.00 per person (for Malaysians and Indonesians only).
- The above tour fee is based on a minimum number of 30 persons per bus. There will be a surcharge of SGD 120.00 per person for 25 persons per bus.
- A non-refundable deposit of SGD 1,500.00 per person is to be submitted together with the booking form before 01 July 2015. Balance collection is due on 15 September 2015. Payment is by cheque or cash only.
- All passengers are entitled to prevailing 15% discount for travel insurance with AIG or TENET via Omega website.



# PLCMC ISRAEL BIBLE TOUR 2015 LED BY PASTOR DAVID LIEW

DAY 01 30 NOV 15, MON SINGAPORE - ISRAEL

Assemble at Changi International Airport in the evening to begin a fascinating and deeply enriching journey that follows the life and ministry of Jesus, bringing you to the many places mentioned in the Bible.

On the way to the holy land, sit back and relax on board EL AL to Tel Aviv via Bangkok.

TG 410 SIN/BKK (30 NOV) 2100 / 2220 (30 NOV)

DAY 02 01 DEC 15, TUE TIBERIAS

LY 82 BKK/TLV (01 DEC) 0020 / 0640 (01 DEC)

Flight will touch down at Israel's Ben-Gurion International Airport in the morning

Proceed for breakfast



Caesarea Maritima is where Peter preached the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ to Cornelius' household (Acts 10), placing them among the earliest Gentile believers of the new covenant. This is where the first Gentile baptism is mentioned in the Bible, paving the way for Christianity to spread to all nations. The apostle Paul often travelled here (Acts 9:30; 18:22; 21:8). He was also imprisoned here for two years before being taken to Rome to stand trial (Acts 23:23; 25:1–13). Built by Herod the Great, Caesarea Maritima was also a great harbour city with an ancient Roman aqueduct and theatre.

**Mount Carmel** is where Elijah contested and defeated the prophets of Baal by a mighty demonstration of the power of God (1 Kings 18). You will visit the monastery at the top of the mountain and enjoy the panoramic view. You will be able to see the Nazareth Ridge to the northeast, Mount Tabor and the Hill of Moreh to the east, and to the southeast, Mount Gilboa. Below Mount Carmel lies the plain of Jezreel.

Visit to Kelihat HaCarmel

Lunch

**Tel Megiddo (Armageddon)** is an ancient fortress and city, strategically located along the ancient trunk road from Egypt to Syria and Mesopotamia. The site of numerous battles in biblical history, it is also one of the cities of Solomon and Ahab, and where King Josiah of Judah fell in battle. In Revelation 16:12-16, Megiddo is identified as Armageddon, the site of the world's last great battle.

**Galilee Experience** is a multi-media presentation about history of Israel and Galilee on the Sea of Galilee in Tiberias. Run by Messianic Jews, 4000 years of Galilee history will come alive before your eyes.

Overnight in Tiberias

# DAY 03 02 DEC 15, WED TIBERIAS

The Sea of Galilee (Boat Ride), also known as the Lake of Gennesaret, Lake Tiberias and Lake Kinneret in the Bible, is a small lake fed by the river Jordan and lying about 180 metres below sea level. Violent storms sometimes rush down from the surrounding mountains causing very rough waters. Here, Jesus rebuked the winds and the sea (Matthew 8:23–27), taught from Peter's boat (Luke 5:3), and walked on water (Mark 6:45-52). You will take a memorable boat ride in a traditional fishing boat of first-century design.



**MEALS: B/L/D** 

MEALS: B/L/D

**Ancient Boat Museum** The oldest wooden boat in Israel, discovered on the shore of the Sea of Galilee in the winter of 1986, is found in this museum. It has been dated to the first half of the first century.

**Mount of Beatitudes** This hill at the north-western point of the Sea of Galilee is where Jesus delivered the famous Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7; Luke 6). The hill has a hollowed slope that serves as a natural amphitheatre, amplifying any speaker's voice. It also has a view of Capernaum and Tabgha.

**Capernaum** Located on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum was the centre of Jesus' Galilean ministry (Matthew 4:13) after He left Nazareth. Jesus lived here for a substantial period, healing the sick, preaching in the synagogue and performing miracles like delivering a man of unclean spirits (Mark 1:23–26). Another miracle that was performed here was the healing of the paralytic lowered through the roof (Mark 2:1–12). Capernaum was also home to Peter and Andrew (Mark 1:29) and Matthew the tax collector. Recent excavations are reputed to have located the remains of Peter's house in this vicinity. There are also the remains of a fourth century synagogue, believed to be built by the centurion whose servant Jesus healed (Luke 7:1–10). It is likely that this was the synagogue in which Jesus declared Himself as the bread of life (John 6:25-40).

St Peter's Fish Lunch

**Tabgha** (name derived from the Greek *Heptapegon* or "seven springs") According to tradition, this is the location along the shores of the lake where Jesus called Peter and Andrew to follow Him and become *"fishers of men"* (Matthew 4:18–19). Walking on, Jesus found James and John preparing their nets in their father Zebedee's fishing boat, and called them to join him as well (Matthew 4:20–22). Tabgha is traditionally held to be where the miracle of the loaves and the fishes, or the feeding of the 5,000 took place (Mark 6:35–44).

**Church of St Peter's Primacy** is where the resurrected Jesus showed Himself to His disciples as they were fishing and called out to them (John 21). A touching scene followed as Jesus restored Peter, who had denied Him before the crucifixion, and commissioned him to look after His sheep.

Overnight in Tiberias

## DAY 04 03 DEC 15, THU TIBERIAS

**Golan Heights (Bashan)** In biblical times, this area was known for its cattle and its oak trees (Amos 4:1–2; Zechariah 11:2; Isaiah 2:13). In the present day, the Golan Heights is a strategically significant area closely guarded by Israel and its neighbours Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. From the top of the military bunker (Mount Bental), you can see the borders of all these nations.



Caesarea Philippi (Banias). Located to the north of the Sea of Galilee, on the south-western slope of Mount Hermon, Caesarea Philippi is the source of one of the largest springs feeding the Jordan River. Numerous temples were built here during the Hellenistic and Roman periods and this site was named Panias (Banias in Arabic) after the Greek god Pan. Here, Jesus asked Peter, "Who do men say that I am?" and Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." (Matthew 16:13–20; Mark 8:27–30).

**MEALS: B/L/D** 

#### Lunch

**Nazareth Biblical Village** Although it is not an ancient site itself, the Village, a careful reconstruction based on the work of leading researchers, offers a guided tour back into the world of Jesus. Visitors are shown ancient agricultural and construction practices, witness the pressing of olives and taste the foods of the day. Villagers in replica costumes help bring the whole experience to life. Nazareth Village offers a unique chance to understand and see how life was experienced by Nazarenes 2,000 years ago.

Visit to Arab Israeli Bible Society in Nazareth

Cana in Galilee (Drive By) Traditionally taken to be the site of Jesus' first and second miracles, the changing of water into wine at a wedding feast (John 2:1–11) and the healing of the son of a nobleman living in Capernaum (John 4:43–54), Cana was also the home of Nathanael (John 21:2). This site is located on the road that leads from Nazareth to Tiberias.

Overnight in Tiberias

## DAY 05 04 NOV 15. FRI TIBERIAS - JERUSALEM

**Harod Spring (Ein Harod)** or Spring of Gideon, located in the shadow of Mount Gilboa is the site where Gideon chose 300 warriors based on the way they drank from the spring and these men went on to defeat the Midianite army (Judges 7:1-5).

Lunch

**Bethlehem (Visit)**, translated as "House of Bread" (Hebrew) or "House of Meat" (Arabic), is a city in the West Bank where many significant events in the Bible occurred. Believed to be the birthplace of Jesus, Bethlehem is also where David was born and where the tomb of Jacob's beloved wife Rachel can be found (Genesis 35:19). The city is home to one of the largest Palestinian Christian communities in the Middle East and special arrangements have to be made to enter this city. (Please bring passport.)

**The Church of the Nativity** is widely considered the holiest sites in Bethlehem. It is regarded the birth place of Jesus Christ and is also one the oldest surviving churches in the modern world.

The Shepherds' Field (Visit) is an area east of Bethlehem, believed to be where the angels appeared to the shepherds in the field and announced the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:8-10). Several churches were built in this area to commemorate the event. You can still see local shepherds tending their flocks here. Nearby is a fertile plain called the Field of Ruth.

Meeting with Pastor Naim Khoury, First Baptist Church Bethlehem

Drive up to Jerusalem

**Mount Scopus.** Lying just within the official borders of the city of Jerusalem, this place is famous for its panoramic view of the holy city.

Overnight in Jerusalem

## DAY 06 05 NOV 15, SAT DEAD SEA

**Beit 'Abara (Qasr al Yahud)** is the place where the Lord Jesus Christ was baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13-17). This event took place very close to where Joshua (Joshua 3), Elijah and Elisha (2 Kings 2:6-8, 13-15) crossed the large loop in the Jordan River opposite the ancient city of Jericho. In New Testament times, it became known as Bethany, the village of John the Baptist.

**Ein Gedi** (literally "The Spring of the Kid") is an oasis located near the Dead Sea known for its beautiful springs, caves and abundant animal life. This was David's refuge when he fled from King Saul (1 Samuel 23:29). It was in one of the caves here that David cut off a corner of Saul's robe (1 Samuel 24). Some of the psalms are believed to have been inspired in this area.

Lunch



**Qumran.** The 2,000-year-old Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in a cave here by a Bedouin shepherd chasing a stray sheep in 1947. Consolidated from scrolls found in some 11 caves, every Old Testament book is represented except Esther.

**Dead Sea** ("Float"). Biblically known as the Sea of the Arabah or the Salt Sea, its mineral content is so high that nothing lives in it. With a salt concentration many times higher than that of the world's oceans, the density of the water in the Dead Sea is so high that anyone can float in it. With its unique concentration of minerals, Dead Sea waters have long been known to have health and cosmetic benefits. (Please bring own towel, shampoo/shower and change of clothes in a separate bag).



Overnight in Jerusalem

## DAY 07 06 DEC 15, SUN JERUSALEM

The Mount of Olives lies to the east of Jerusalem and is named after the olive trees which grow on its slopes. The Kidron Valley separates the mount from the Eastern Gate, the Temple Mount and the City of David. At the foot of the mount is the Garden of Gethsemane. The Mount of Olives is where Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:37–41) and where He ascended to heaven after His resurrection (Acts 1:9–12). The Jews and many Christians believe that when the Messiah returns, He will descend on the Mount of Olives and enter Jerusalem through the Eastern Gate (Zechariah 14:1–4; Ezekiel 44:1–3; 46:1–2, 8).



MEALS: B/L/D

**Dominus Flevit** (meaning "The Lord Wept" in Latin) is a small church located on the Mount of Olives and believed to be where Jesus wept when he arrived in Jerusalem as He foresaw the tragic events that would occur after His death (Luke 19:37–42). The church, built by the Franciscan order in 1954, is in the unique shape of a teardrop, representing Christ's tears. It commands an inspiring view.

**Garden of Gethsemane** contains ancient olive trees and is situated at the bottom of the Mount of Olives and opposite the Temple Mount. Gethsemane means "olive press", an appropriate name for the spot where Jesus was so hard pressed as He prayed that He sweated great drops of blood (Mark 14:32–42; Luke 22:44). This is also where Jesus was betrayed and arrested (Mark 14:43–50).

**Church of All Nations**, also known as the Church of Agony, is located on the Mount of Olives within the vicinity of Gethsemane. The church property includes a section of bedrock where Jesus is said to have prayed. The stone is said to form a direct line with the Eastern Gate and where the entrance to the Holy of Holies in the Second Temple is believed to have stood before.

**Pool of Bethesda ("House of Mercy")** was where a large number of infirmed people waited to be cured by the waters which were believed to have miraculous healing properties. It was here that Jesus healed a paralytic of 38 years (John 5:1–15). The pool is located within the grounds of the **Crusader Church of St Anne**, built on the site where the home of Anne, the mother of Mary, is believed to have stood. Designed for Gregorian chant, the acoustics of the church's interior are phenomenal.

**The Via Dolorosa** (The Way of Suffering) is the name of a street in the Old City of Jerusalem, believed to be the path that Jesus walked on the way to His crucifixion. There are 14 stations, each signifying a certain point in Christ's journey with the last five stations situated inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. **The Lithostratos** ("The Pavement") is located at the third station of the Via Dolorosa and is where Pilate heard and sought to release Jesus (John 19:13). The reconstructed ruins of **Ecco Homo Arch**, with its three openings, can be seen as you move from the second to the third station of the Via Dolorosa. This spot is where Pontius Pilate presented Jesus to the Jews and said, "Ecce Homo!" or "Behold the man!" (John 19:1–5).

#### Lunch at Genesis Land

Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum commemorates the Holocaust of European Jewry perpetrated by the Nazis before and during World War II.

**Holyland Model**. A complete scale model of Jerusalem during Jesus' time, this is a great visual aid for visitors. Examine the miniature of the Second Temple of Jerusalem.

**Israel Museum** houses some of the most amazing pieces of archaeological artefacts ever uncovered, such as the **Dead Sea Scrolls** which are the oldest known copies of the Old Testament books, in the **Shrine of the Book**.

Evening Shopping at Ben Yehuda Street or Mahane Yehuda

Overnight in Jerusalem

## DAY 08 07 DEC 15, MON JERUSALEM

The Temple Mount is one of the most controversial and hotly contested sites in the world. Located in the Old City of Jerusalem, it has special significance to the Jews as it was the site of both the First and Second Temples. Many Jews also believe that the Temple Mount is the site of the third and final Temple, to be built in the time of the Messiah. The Temple Mount also has great significance to the Muslims. The Dome of the Rock, believed to be the spot from which the prophet Muhammad ascended through the heavens to God accompanied by the archangel Gabriel, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque are located here. The Temple Mount was built on Mount Moriah, where Abraham was prepared to sacrifice Isaac (Genesis 22). It was also where Jesus was presented in the Temple by His earthly parents Joseph and Mary and afterwards stayed behind to debate with the teachers (Luke 2:22–50). The veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom when Jesus died at the cross (Matthew 27:51).

The Dome of the Tablets/Spirits is located on the Temple Mount, just north of the Dome of the Rock. There is a theory by Dr Asher Kaufman that this dome marks the site of the Holy of Holies in the Second Temple, as the east-west line aligning the Mount of Olives with the Eastern Gate and the Temple cuts through this very location.



The Western Wall is part of the retaining wall from the time of the Second Temple and is the most sacred structure in Judaism. Jews have been praying at the Western Wall for centuries believing that the spot is the holiest site on earth after the Holy of Holies. Your friends can see you live at the wall via the Internet when you are there as there are 24-hour video webcams and live cameras installed there.

**The Southern Temple Mount** Excavations here have unearthed the southern steps, a flight of stairs that led to the main entrances of the Temple Mount. Other interesting finds here include a first-century street, a series of public ritual bathing wells (mikveh) for pilgrims to purify themselves before entering holy places and the ruins of Solomon's stables.

**The Jewish Quarter**, in the southwest corner of the Old City, is where the remains of a north-south colonnaded street called the Cardo, complete with some of the original Roman columns, can be found. Just beyond the columns is an underground mall where you will find Jewish stores and art galleries.

Lunch

**City of David**, the fortified city ("stronghold of Zion") which David took from the Jebusites, was later renamed Jerusalem.

**Hezekiah's Tunnel Tour.** To prepare Jerusalem to withstand a siege, King Hezekiah dug the Siloam tunnel to assure the city's water supply during Sargon's reign (2 Kings 20:20; 2 Chronicles 32:30). Hezekiah closed the upper outlet of the waters of Gihon and directed them down to the west side of the city of David. Water still flows through this ancient tunnel which connects the spring of Gihon with the Pool of Siloam. (Please prepare shorts, sandals, torch and towel for those taking the wet tunnel option. Alternatively, you can go through the dry tunnel.)

**Pool of Siloam** Jesus healed a blind man by spitting on the ground and applying the clay to the man's eyes and telling him to wash them in the Pool of Siloam ('sent out') (John 9:6-11).

**Sound and Light at the Citadel – The Night Spectacular** Amidst the archaeological remains in the Citadel's courtyard and to the sound of original music, the story of Jerusalem unfolds through giant breathtaking, virtual reality images. The Night Spectacular uses trompe l'oeil technology – the stones of the walls and structures fade into the scenes and the screened images envelop the viewers and whisk them off to a one-of-a-kind multi-sensory experience.

Overnight in Jerusalem

## DAY 09 08 DEC 15, TUE JERUSALEM

The Upper Room, also known as the Room of the Last Supper, is believed to be where Jesus shared His last Passover meal and the first Holy Communion with his disciples before His death (Matthew 26:26–35; Luke 22:7–38). This was also where the disciples were gathered together praying when the Holy Spirit descended upon them on Pentecost after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:13–16). Located on **Mount Zion** just outside the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, the Upper Room was rebuilt by the Crusaders after it was razed to the ground by the Muslims. On the floor below the Upper Room is the traditional burial place of King David, known as **King David's Tomb**.

**Garden Tomb** was discovered in 1884 by General Charles Gordon when he identified as Golgotha (literally "place of the skull") a prominent rocky crag which looked like a skull. Nearby he found a first century tomb with a rolling stone. Its size indicates it belonged to a wealthy family. While the majority of biblical scholars say this is not where Christ died and was buried, it is the best place to see and feel what it might have been like. We remember Christ's death and resurrection as we celebrate Holy Communion together.

Lunch with Passover Meal Experience

The Road to Emmaus (View from Yad HaShmona) is where the resurrected Jesus appeared to His disciples and opened the scriptures to them concerning Himself (Luke 24:13-35). The disciples did not realize who was talking to them until they invited Jesus to dinner and He took bread, gave thanks and gave it to them (Luke 24:30).

**The Valley of Elah** was where the Philistines came against the army of Israel and where the legendary battle of David against Goliath took place. (1 Samuel 17) In the dried-up riverbed of the Brook of Elah you can still find smooth stones similar to those which David had used to slay Goliath.

**Joppa**, now known as Jaffa, where Peter visited and raised Tabitha from the dead (Acts 9:36-42). Due to that wonderful testimony and miracle, many people came to believe in the Lord. As Peter stayed on in the house of Simon the Tanner and was praying on the roof, he had a vision of a large sheet filled with animals being lowered from heaven (Acts 9:43-10:23). This was the pivotal moment for the gospel to go to the Gentiles as the very next moment, the men from Cornelius the Centurion came looking for Peter.

#### Tel: (65) 6295 5193 Fax: (65) 6295 5136

## Farewell Dinner

Your group will be taken to Ben-Gurion International Airport by 8 pm for your flight home.

LY 81 TLV/BKK (08 DEC) 2305 / 1500 (09 DEC)

DAY 10 09 NOV 15, WED SINGAPORE

TG 401 BKK/SIN (09 DEC) 1925 / 2245 (09 DEC)

Arrive back in Singapore in the evening with many wonderful memories and a deeper revelation and appreciation for the Bible and Israel.

For more information, please email info@omegatours.com.sg or contact us at (65) 6295 5193.

\*Note that the above Itinerary is subject to changes based on the pace of the group, availability and accessibility of the sites due to unforeseen circumstances.