

WITH JESUS AT SUKKOT

26 Sept – 10 Oct
2023

YOUR TOUR HOST
Martin Weatherston

Sukkot (Tabernacles) is the third of the three pilgrim Feasts. It has come to be known as 'The Season of our Rejoicing'. In other words, 'Jewish Thanksgiving' which no doubt inspired the Pilgrims who colonized North America. The command to rejoice is at the heart of this 8-day Festival just as it is at the heart of the New Testament. Failure to obey this commandment led to the exile of the Northern Kingdom (Hosea 9). In the same way, not keeping this appointed time in the Millennium will result in the withholding of rain (Zechariah 14:17). No wonder Jerusalem is such an exhilarating place to be during Sukkot. It is filled with Jewish people as well as Christians from every corner of the globe. Joy is expressed in several ways including circle dancing at the Western Wall, the March of the Nations and the associated welcome extended by local Israelis to their Gentile visitors.



TOUR PRICE ISRAEL

AUD \$5,425 *

PER PERSON
TWIN SHARING
LAND ONLY

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

ADDITIONAL AUD \$1500

* Price is subject to a minimum of 15 full paying adults, currency fluctuation, or increase - conditions apply

YOUR TOUR HOST

Martin Weatherston



Martin Weatherston is the National Director of the 210 year-old Anglican mission CMJ (Church's Ministry to the Jewish people) in Australia and New Zealand.

He is a minister of the word and of prayer with a special focus on reconnecting the 'wild olive tree branches' (Christian) to their 'natural roots' (Hebrew).

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation - Half-board (breakfast & dinner) in en-suite shared twin rooms, taxes & portage.
- Transportation - Bus and driver for touring and group transfers to and from airport.
- Guide - Licensed Christian/Messianic guide.
- Tips - Driver, Guide, Hotels.
- Guest speakers (if specified).
- Entrance fees - Historical sites, museums, parks, etc.
- Study Materials.
- Services of US Travel Agent

PRICE EXCLUDES:

Airfare; visas; travel insurance (mandatory); all covid compliance related expenses; lunches & snacks; individual activities on free days; individual transfers to/from the airport apart from the main group; discretionary gift for guide and driver; personal discretionary spending.

"This tour helped me to know the voice of the good Shepherd and to see who is following Him with me" (Darrelle Dhu, WA)

WHAT TO DO NEXT

1. Obtain a booking form from Trish Cortizo 0421638453/1300 550 830 or trish@olivetreetravel.com.au
2. To secure your place a deposit of \$600 is required.
3. Final balance will be due by 16 Jun 2023

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DAY 1 TUES 26 SEPT Arrival In The Land Of Promise
We arrive at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv. Overnight: Grand Beach, Tel Aviv

DAY 2 WED 27 SEPT In the footsteps of the Patriarchs & Australian Light Horse

We begin our journey by climbing up through the strategic lowlands into the Mountains of Judea, to the burial Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron, where we will look at God's covenants with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Next, we shall continue in the steps of the Patriarchs to the southern desert region called the Negev in the Bible (a name it still carries today). Here we visit Tel Beersheva, one of the most impressive and ancient fortified cities of the Kingdom of Judah. We will also visit a number of sites associated with the ANZAC forces in WWI and the Battle of Beersheva, including the famous charge of the Australian Light Horse. We will also visit The ANZAC Museum, a museum to commemorate the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps forces, who liberated the city from the Ottoman Turks in 1917 (open till 15:00). In the evening, we will meet with the pastor of the messianic congregation, Howard Bass (time to be confirmed closer to the date). Overnight: Leonardo, Beer Sheva.

DAY 3 THUR 28 SEPT The Judean Desert - Seeking Refuge In The Wilderness

Our theme today is the wilderness and what it signified to the ancient Israelites. We begin our day at Masada, Herod the Great's magnificent fortress palace in the desert, and the last stand of the Zealots, a Jewish revolutionary group at the time of Jesus. From Masada we drive north to the beautiful subtropical oasis of Ein Gedi, where David hid from Saul. Depending on conditions, we can walk into the nature reserve and possibly to the waterfalls. We may see some wildlife, including the furry rock badger and the graceful ibex. We will also discuss the temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness. Our last site visit will be Qumran, likely the home of the Essenes, a First Century Jewish sect which may have influenced early Christianity, and the site of the most exciting archaeological discovery ever made in Israel – the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will finish our afternoon by enjoying a float in the therapeutic mineral rich waters of the Dead Sea. At the end of the day we will make the final ascent to Jerusalem – the City of the Great King. Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Jerusalem

DAY 4 FRI 29 SEPT Erev Sukkot – Introduction to Jerusalem & Decorating the Sukkah

Our goal this morning is to get a basic orientation to Jerusalem. After a visit to the Western Wall place of prayer, Judaism's most holy site, we will walk back to Christ Church via the Christian Quarter and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the most likely site of the burial and resurrection of Jesus. From here, we will venture into bustling and vibrant New City. For a glimpse of modern Israeli society, we will follow pedestrian streets: along Jaffa Road to Zion Square, then up Ben Yehuda Street to the colorful Mahane Yehuda open-air market, where Jerusalemites shop for some of the best and freshest foods in Israel and sit in cozy cafes. After lunch we will return to Christ Church to decorate a sukkah, the traditional temporary hut constructed to celebrate the holiday. Our sukkah will be built in the Christ Church courtyard, and be a key focus for welcoming visitors during the holiday. Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Jerusalem

DAY 5 SAT 30 SEPT First day of sukkot - Free Morning & Afternoon Teaching

The morning is free as we take in the beginning of the Sukkot holiday. Tour participants can rest, reflect, shop, or for the energetic, perhaps a walk on the walls of the Old City. Shoshana will provide a list of interesting options for those who want to explore on their own. In the afternoon, David Pileggi will deliver his first lecture, entitled "The Place of Jerusalem". Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 6 SUN 1 OCT Second Day of Sukkot – Christ Church Service, City of David

After breakfast, we visit the place where it all began – the City of David. Here, we will walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel to the Pool of Siloam. Before service we will enjoy a tour of the Christ Church Heritage Centre to learn about CMJ's 200-year history of ministry to the Jewish people. We will join the evening worship service at Christ Church. Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 7 MON 2 OCT Third Day of Sukkot - Yad VaShem and the Israel Museum

In the morning, we will visit Yad VaShem, the Israel Memorial Museum to the Holocaust. Here we examine the spiritual and theological roots of the most notorious genocide in history and the connection between the Church, Jesus and the Jewish people prior to and during this period of time. There we will also visit the Children's memorial and discuss the impact of the Holocaust on Jewish Christian relations today. We will end our day at the Israel Museum, where we will view a Model of Jerusalem in the time of Jesus as well as the Shrine of the Book which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will drive to Bethlehem to visit Shepherds' Fields. Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 8 TUE 3 OCT Fourth Day of Sukkot – Second Lecture

In the morning, we will have the second lecture on "Holiness and Purity in Ancient Israel" will be delivered. March of Nations, Jerusalem Parade (to be confirmed closer to the date). Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 9 WED 4 OCT Seventh day of Sukkot - Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus

Today will be devoted to learning about Jerusalem in Jesus' day, when the Temple in Jerusalem was the center of Jewish life. We will study how worship was performed in the temple, the Sadducees and Jesus' attitude towards them, and generally enrich our insight into many important events in the

gospels and book of Acts. An early start will take us up to the Temple Mount, where we'll consider some of Jesus' activities there, as well as the claims of Islam. We will continue to the Western Wall Tunnels to walk at what was street level in the time of Jesus. We continue our day at the excavations near the base of the Temple Mount and discuss Pentecost on the Southern Steps where Jesus walked, Davidson Centre. We then make our way through the Jewish Quarter of the Old City to see the Herodian Villas, the palatial mansions that were the home to the Sadducees, the ruling priesthood at the time of Jesus. Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 10 THUR 5 OCT Sixth day of Sukkot – Church Of St. Peter In Gallicantu In The Steps Of Jesus – Crucifixion, Death, Burial And Resurrection

We will start our day with a visit to the church of St. Peter in Gallicantu a possible place of Peter's triple rejection of Jesus (Christine Sakakibara). The rest of the day, we focus on sites related to the Biblical passages concerning Jesus' last week in Jerusalem. Our goal is to understand why He was crucified, how He was buried, and what it meant to the Jewish people of the First Century that He was raised from the dead. From there, we take in a panoramic view of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, the site of Jesus' ascension to heaven and His future second coming. After viewing a tomb from the time of Jesus, we will walk down the Mount of Olives to Gethsemane. Next we cross the Kidron Valley and enter the Old City through Dung Gate. Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 11 FRI 6 OCT Fifth day of Sukkot – Garden Tomb and Beit Immanuel

We start our day with a reflective time at a site that wonderfully illustrates Jesus' burial and resurrection, the peaceful Garden Tomb. Instead of dinner, we will have lunch at the Guest House. In the evening, we will drive to Beit Immanuel Guest House in Tel Aviv where we will join the Messianic Congregation service (to be confirmed closer to the date). Afternoon bus: Beit Immanuel (6-8pm). Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 12 SAT 7 OCT Shmini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah: Free Morning & Afternoon Teaching

In the afternoon, we will have a final lecture: "The Relationship between Worship in the Temple, the Church, and The New Jerusalem". Overnight: Christ Church Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY 13 SUN 8 OCT Samaria, Ancient Israel & The Galilee

Today we say farewell to Jerusalem and travel north into the northern homeland of the Patriarchs, of the Israelites under Joshua, and later the breakaway Kingdom of Israel. We will focus on our roots in the Old Testament, which are vital to our understanding of the New Testament. In the morning, we visit Tel Shiloh, the long-time location of the Tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant. We will conclude our day at Tzemach, a place of commemoration of Australian Aboriginal Troopers who fought in WW1. Overnight: Maagan Kibutz Hotel, Sea of Galilee

DAY 14 MON 9 OCT Around The Sea Of Galilee – Daily Life and Religion in the Time of Jesus

Our day will be spent visiting various sites around the Sea of Galilee as we try to picture daily life and religion in the First Century, and seek to better understand the miracles and teachings of Jesus in His original Jewish context. Today we will visit the Mount of Beatitudes, traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount, where we will consider the Kingdom of God in Jesus' teachings. After a short walk or drive down the hill we will arrive at Capernaum, the town where Jesus lived during the majority of His ministry. Other sites may include Chorazin, the well-preserved ruins of a typical Galilean village, where we study village life, Jewish religion, and the Pharisees. At the newly excavated Magdala, the home of Mary Magdala, we will visit the remains of an ancient synagogue from the time of Jesus or the lovely Tabgha, which commemorates the multiplication of loaves and fish, and where Jesus met the disciples after the resurrection. After dinner we will meet with a local believer. Overnight: Maagan Kibutz Hotel, Sea of Galilee

DAY 15 TUE 10 OCT The Galilee Continued

In the morning, we will set sail for a boat ride on the Lake to enjoy the views and some worship, prayer and reflective time. We will visit Kibbutz Ginosar to see the "Jesus Boat", a Galilean fishing boat from the First Century. Next we will visit Beit Bracha, a CMJ center on the shores of Galilee where we'll hear about the work of the ministry and take part in a review of your pilgrimage. We will have lunch at fish restaurant. On the shores of the Sea of Galilee, we will explore Capernaum, the town where Jesus lived during the majority of His ministry. Here we will enjoy a contemplative time on the shore of the Lake. We will conclude our day at inspirational Magdala, where we will see the oldest synagogue excavated in the north.

- * There will be early morning devotions before or after breakfast lead by Martin.
- * The tour will include three lectures by David Pileggi and several additional speakers.
- * The Anglican International School heritage center tour might be included as per availability.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Itinerary and accommodation subject to change if conditions necessitate.
- Some days involve a significant amount of walking and/or steep climbing. Every effort will be made to enable all tour members to fully participate at every site, but in some cases that may not be possible.

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