

# A PILGRIMAGE —— TO THE —— HOLY LAND

14-23 September 2016  
with the Rev George Shand & the Rev Lindsay Turnbull



A 10-day pilgrimage based in Jerusalem  
and Galilee departing from Edinburgh

 McCabe Pilgrimages



## A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

with the Rev George Shand &  
The Rev Lindsay Turnbull  
**14-23 September 2016**

Travel with us to the Holy Land and let the Bible come alive as we meet the people and see the places of the gospel stories. The Holy Land is unique in offering so many highlights and contrasts in such a compact area.

On our journey, we will visit places of pilgrimage and also meet the local Christian community, offering them our encouragement as we hear of the challenges they face.

Our pilgrimage is planned for September, when the weather should be warm and sunny and ideal for touring. Visits will include Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, the Sea of Galilee, Nazareth and Capernaum, with free time for relaxation and reflection. We will walk along the Via Dolorosa, drive along the Dead Sea and sail on the Sea of Galilee.

As with any pilgrimage there will be a reasonable amount of walking involved, but this should not discourage any parishioners who are reasonably mobile. If you are worried about this aspect of the visit please contact the tour leader and discuss your concerns.

**We are confident that this pilgrimage will not only be enjoyable, but also a spiritually enriching experience.**

## TOUR INFORMATION

The cost of this tour is £1,745 sharing a twin-bedded room with private facilities. We stay in two family owned and managed hotels. In Jerusalem, the three star Golden Walls Hotel overlooks the Old City walls and is within walking distance of the Holy Sepulchre. In Tiberias, we stay at the four star Ron Beach Hotel in a wonderful situation right on the lakeside. The tour is on a **full-board basis** with buffet breakfast, lunch and table d'hôte evening meal included daily. Touring is by air-conditioned coach and we will be accompanied by a local guide who will share leadership responsibilities and look after the formalities of hotel check-ins, etc. All entrance fees are included.

Flights are with Turkish Airlines from Edinburgh to Tel Aviv via Istanbul. All airport and security charges are included and a complimentary visa is issued on arrival in Israel. We have included most expenses in the tour

cost but some items are listed separately: the travel insurance premium is £59. Everybody travelling should be insured but some may have annual or another suitable insurance.

You should budget for an amount of £45 per person for a group gratuity fund which we will disburse locally to those who help us on our journey.

Single rooms are available at a supplementary cost of £365. However,

please see our note 'Travelling Alone' overleaf.

Any special requests should be noted on the booking form. A deposit is payable now with the balance payable eight weeks prior to departure.

Your final travel documents will be posted to you approximately two weeks before departure.



## TO MAKE A RESERVATION

To reserve your place on this tour please complete the enclosed booking form and send it with a deposit of £200 plus the insurance premium of £59, to the tour administrator. Please make cheques payable to 'McCabe Pilgrimages'.

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# DAILY PROGRAMME



## Wednesday 14 Sep | TO THE HOLY LAND

Meet at Edinburgh Airport for Turkish Airlines flight TK1346 departing at 16.05 and arriving in Istanbul at 22.25. Our connecting flight TK810 departs at 23.35 and arrives in Tel Aviv at 01.45. Transfer to our hotel in Jerusalem. **Six night stay at the Golden Walls Hotel close to the Old City and the Biblical sites we will be visiting.**

## Thursday | VIA DOLOROSA

We begin on Mount Zion at the Church of St Peter in Gallicantu (the High Priest's House). We enter the Old City through Zion Gate and walk to the Western Wall (Bar Mitzvah ceremonies) and, if possible, ascend the Temple Mount to see the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock. We finish our morning by the Pool of Bethesda. After lunch at Ecce Homo convent (above the Lithostrotos), we follow the Via Dolorosa through the lanes of the Old City to the church of the Holy Sepulchre, finishing the day at the Garden Tomb.

## Friday | BETHLEHEM

Today we cross into Palestinian territory to visit Bethlehem. We visit Manger Square and the Basilica and Grotto of the Nativity, and St Jerome's caves. Time for some shopping at an olivewood cooperative and then we drive to the Fields of the Shepherds. After lunch at the Korean Cultural Centre, we celebrate Holy Communion where we have an outlook over the field of Boaz and Ruth. In the afternoon, we visit the Wi'am Conflict Resolution Centre and are taken on a short tour 'behind the scenes'.

## Saturday | JERUSALEM

We drive to the Mount of Olives where we will have a panoramic view of the walled city. As we look across the Kidron Valley we see the Golden Gate, the Dome of the Rock and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. On the Mount of Olives we visit the Pater Noster Church, Dominus Flevit Chapel and the Church of All

Nations in the Garden of Gethsemane. After lunch at Bulghourji Armenian Restaurant, we drive to the picturesque village of Ein Karem where we visit the Church of St John the Baptist. We then return to Jerusalem, passing the Knesset and visiting the Israel Museum where we see the Model of Ancient Jerusalem and the Shrine of the Book Complex (the Dead Sea Scrolls).

## Sunday | LOCAL WORSHIP

Before breakfast there is the opportunity to re-visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to witness the variety of Orthodox Liturgies. Morning worship is with the local congregation of St Andrew's Church of Scotland. We will have lunch at St Andrew's with members of the congregation.

**In the afternoon there will be options available, including a visit to Yad Vashem OR an afternoon free in the Old City.**

## Monday | LIVING STONES

Today we will visit some community based craft and embroidery projects in the Jerusalem and Bethlehem area, led by the Director of the Sunbula Fairtrade and development organisation. Projects will include 'Together for Life' and Oasis (Bethlehem projects for people with disabilities), the Bethlehem Arab Women's Union embroidery project and Cultural Museum, and the Domari (gypsy) Cultural Centre. We will also visit the 'House of Palestinian Crafts'.

## Tuesday | DEAD SEA & JERICHO

Today we leave Jerusalem and travel to the Galilee via the Jordan Valley. We travel alongside the Dead Sea, and visit Qumran (where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered). We have lunch at al Rawdah garden restaurant in the ancient city of Jericho and on the journey to Tiberias will see the Baptismal site on the Jordan River. After booking into our hotel we will have an opportunity to visit the Church of Scotland church on the Promenade and the Scots Hotel. **Three night stay at the**

**Ron Beach Hotel by the Sea of Galilee with visits to places associated with Jesus' early life and ministry.**

## Wednesday | NAZARETH

We ascend Mount Tabor in taxis to visit the Basilica of the Transfiguration and enjoy magnificent views over the plain of Armageddon. We continue to Nazareth where we visit Nazareth Village, a recreation of life in the town in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. We lunch here in a Bedouin tent. In the afternoon we visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and synagogue. We return to Tiberias through Cana, scene of Jesus' first miracle, and visit the Sindyanna Visitor Centre (a project working on Fairtrade in olive oil farming and products, and projects to bring Jewish and Arab communities together).

## Thursday | THE LAKESIDE MINISTRY

Today we visit the sites associated with Jesus' life around the Sea of Galilee. We drive to the north of the lake and visit the ruins of Capernaum, Jesus' Galilean base, and then celebrate Holy Communion on the shores of the lake at Tabgha beside the Church of the Loaves and Fishes. After visiting Mensa Christi (where Jesus appeared to his disciples after His resurrection), we visit the Convent of Beatitudes' church and garden, commemorating the Sermon on the Mount. We stay here for lunch and then sail back across the Sea of Galilee to the hotel, returning by mid-afternoon with time to relax and swim.

## Friday 23 Sep | HOME

We leave the hotel at around 03.00 and drive to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv for our homeward flight TK811 departing at 07.40 arriving in Istanbul at 09.55. We then connect with flight TK1345 which departs Istanbul at 12.35 and arrives in Edinburgh at 15.05.

**Please note: the itinerary may be subject to change due to local conditions.**



# OUR PILGRIMAGE

## The McCabe Educational Trust

For many, meeting the 'Living Stones' of The Land becomes a real highlight of their pilgrimage. The McCabe Educational Trust is an independent registered charity with the aim of helping inspiring people we meet on pilgrimage. On your pilgrimage you will meet some of these people. As 'the haves' encounter the 'have nots' the Trust has become a practical tool for one to help the other.

McCabe Pilgrimages invite all travellers to become partners in this work. A £15 voluntary donation to the Trust's work is added to every pilgrim's invoice and all money raised in this way is given in full to the projects the Trust supports. This scheme is voluntary and confidential with nobody put under any pressure to participate.

## TRAVELLING ALONE

Many of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive single room supplements. McCabe Pilgrimages will accept individual bookings on a 'guaranteed share' basis. We charge the basic price and accommodate you with a person of the same sex also requesting shared accommodation. If we do not find someone to share with you, you will be accommodated in a single room at only 50% of the usual single room supplement. For single travellers who do require single accommodation this should be requested when booking and, if available, the normal supplement will be payable.

## PASSPORTS, VISAS AND HEALTH

Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after the time of this pilgrimage. If you need a new passport apply early as there can be considerable backlogs at the passport offices. A visa is issued free of charge on entering Israel and there are currently no further requirements for entering the Palestinian territories. If you are holding a non-British passport, or require further advice, please consult the McCabe office. No inoculations are required but we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is arranged by **Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd** for **McCabe Travel Ltd** who are an Appointed Representative of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Our status can be checked on the FCA Register by visiting [www.fca.org.uk](http://www.fca.org.uk) or by contacting the FCA on 0845 606 9966. This Insurance is underwritten by ERV. ERV is authorised by the Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BAFIN – [www.bafin.de](http://www.bafin.de)) and the Prudential Regulation Authority and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority.

It has been specifically designed so that it covers all McCabe holidays; protecting you in full if you have to cancel and providing you with the very best and most effective protection if you are unfortunate enough to require medical attention whilst away.

**A unique feature of the policy is that you will not need to call a medical help line to discuss health issues. Most pre-existing health conditions are covered as long as your doctor agrees that you are fit to travel.**

Standard exclusions apply and are listed on the summary document. Please check that you are not affected by the Main Health Exclusions. You will not be covered for any ongoing tests or treatment of an undiagnosed condition, or for any terminal illness, or if you claim as a result of a condition arising within the past twelve months.

Note that you will pay an excess of £1,000 on any claim that results directly from a pre-existing medical condition. In our experience a very few claims result from pre-existing medical conditions. With this policy you are covered with no declaration of health required.

A full policy wording will be sent to you with confirmation of your booking, or ask us and we will send you a copy now. Full details are also on our website. If you would like more information or are unsure of any details, please call Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for further advice on 01903 229 380.

This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident in the UK and is valid for travel up to 31/12/2016.

## AITO Quality Statement

McCabe Pilgrimages is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. McCabe abides by the Association's Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed on [www.aito.co.uk](http://www.aito.co.uk). Visit the website to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

**This pilgrimage is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority.**

**The McCabe ATOL number is 2920.**

