

A 21 DAY PILGRIMAGE JOURNEY



DEPARTING WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL 2012

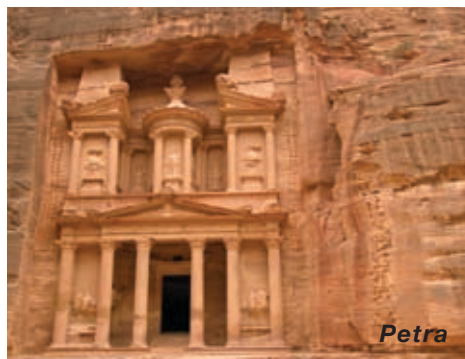
# YOUNG & QUEANBEYAN

EXODUS JOURNEY 2012

TOUR CODE 2PV17



Cairo



Petra



Sea of Galilee

FEATURING: CAIRO • ST CATHERINE • TABA • PETRA • DEAD SEA • SEA OF GALILEE • JERUSALEM



INDICATIVE  
**\$6995** AUD  
TWIN SHARE  
*Including taxes and fuel levies*



# PILGRIMAGE ITINERARY

Meal Code - B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner



Mt Sinai

## DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 11TH APRIL - DEPART FOR EGYPT

## DAY 2: THURSDAY 12TH APRIL - ARRIVE CAIRO

Upon arrival at **Cairo** airport our local guide will welcome us as we travel to our centrally located hotel.

The rest of the day is at leisure before dinner at our hotel.

*Cairo overnight (D)*

## DAY 3: FRIDAY 13TH APRIL - CAIRO

We begin our journey by visiting the great **Pyramids** at Giza, the 7<sup>th</sup> wonder of the world and the only one still in existence, before coming eye to eye with the inscrutable **Sphinx**. We may venture inside a pyramid and have the opportunity to view the ancient burial tomb of the Pharaoh.

After Mass at the Franciscan Church, we then continue onto the **Hanging Church** with the miraculous image of Our Lady before visiting the **Abu Serga Church** where tradition says the Holy Family took refuge while in Egypt (crypt sometimes inaccessible due to subterranean water). Visit the **Ben Ezra Synagogue** which was originally a Christian church, which the Coptic Christians of Cairo had to sell to the Jews in 882 AD in order to pay the annual taxes imposed by the Muslim rulers of the time. It is believed that the site of the Synagogue was where the cradle of baby Moses was found.

*Cairo overnight (BD)*

## DAY 4: SATURDAY 14TH APRIL - CAIRO

This morning we visit the world famous **Egyptian Museum** which houses the treasures of the "Boy King" – Tutankhamun; the mummy of Ramses II (thought to be the ruler of Egypt at the time of the Exodus) as well as some of the most famous ancient art pieces in the world.

After Mass at a nearby Church, we continue to the Coptic Orthodox **Church of St Mary** where between 1968-1971 over 250,000 people witnessed apparitions of Our Lady. We continue via the City of the Dead to the **Khan el Khalil Bazaar**.

*Cairo overnight (BD)*

## DAY 5: SUNDAY 15TH APRIL - CAIRO TO MT SINAI

This morning we depart Cairo and travel via the **Gulf of Suez** to **Ayun Musa** (Well of Moses) where Moses made camp following the parting of the waters, and miraculously brought forth water from the sands.

Continue our adventure today to **Wadi Feran** abounding in biblical history and identified as the site of **Rafadim** – battlefield between the Hebrews and the Amalekites (Exodus 17).

Just before we arrive into the village of **St Catherine** we stop at the **Plain of El Raha** (Plain of Rest) known as the traditional site where the people of Israel stopped to camp and first laid eyes on the sacred mountain. Here too we will see the **Chapel of the Golden Calf** built to commemorate the false idol fashioned by Aaron and the Israelites while Moses was on **Mt Sinai**. Retire early this evening.

*Mt Sinai overnight (BD)*

## DAY 6: MONDAY 16TH APRIL - SINAI TO THE RED SEA

Arise as pilgrims in the very early hours of the morning for our optional trekking adventure (or partly by camel back) as we ascend to the **summit of Mt Sinai** before the breaking of dawn. The solid walk to the summit which takes 2-3 hours is rewarded by an unforgettable view and a look at the cave where Moses had hidden himself before coming face to face with God and was given the Ten Commandments. After our descent we visit the Orthodox **Monastery of St Catherine** enclosed by a 6<sup>th</sup> century fortress and incorporating the **burning bush** seen by Moses. The monastery too has a world renowned collection of ancient illuminated manuscripts and many valuable icons considered second in importance to the Vatican. We aim for the opportunity to view this wonderful collection (subject to special access being granted by the monks).

We continue east today through the desert to one of the spectacular new resort destinations at **Taba** on the **Red Sea**. Here at the tip of the Gulf of Aqaba, Taba has scenic bays, lagoons and an

azure coastline set amongst the mighty Mt Sinai backdrop. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon at leisure on this wonderful sandy shoreline.

*Taba / Red Sea overnight (BD)*

## DAY 7: TUESDAY 17TH APRIL - VIA AQABA TO PETRA

This morning we leave our resort by the Red Sea and continue our journey towards the Holy Land. We travel from Taba through the double border crossing to **Aqaba** in Jordan dating back 5,500 years and at the junction of land and sea routes from Asia, Africa and Europe.

Visit here in Aqaba some of the fascinating sites used by King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, including the early Islamic city called **Ayla**, the **Aqaba Fort**, built by the Mamluk Sultan Qansawh el Ghawri and a fine museum at the house of Sharif Hussein bin Ali, great grandfather of King Hussein.

Our journey this afternoon brings us north through the Jordan Desert to the magnificent ancient trading city of **Petra** known as the 'Red Rose City' and one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. Here we are positioned in the biblical land of Moab (Judges 11: 17-18).

*Petra overnight (BD)*

## DAY 8: WEDNESDAY 18TH APRIL - PETRA EXPLORATION

We have a guided tour this morning of the ruins from ancient **Petra** – the city that the Nabateans carved out of solid rock dating back to 300 BC! Our visit will follow a passage through the **Sig**, a chasm created in a prehistoric earthquake. This is one of the special moments to walk through this canyon which dramatically opens up to reveal the **Treasury Building (Al Khasne)** - a never to be forgotten experience. We will see also the **Roman Theatre** as well as churches, homes and many other buildings from this fascinating period. The remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure.

*Petra overnight (BD)*

## DAY 9: THURSDAY 19TH APRIL - VIA MADABA & MT NEBO TO THE DEAD SEA

Travel north this morning toward the Dead Sea, via **Wadi Mujib**, known as the 'Jordanian Grand Canyon'. Enjoy a brief stop at **St Georges Church** at **Madaba** with its precious 6<sup>th</sup> century mosaic map of the Holy Land.

Today's highlight finds us atop Biblical **Mt Nebo** for a spectacular Mass. Here, at the site where the Old Testament opened its door to the land of the New, Moses looked over into the Promised Land and blessed Joshua who was to lead the Israelites under God's protection (Joshua 1: 6-9).

This afternoon we arrive at the Jordanian side of the Dead Sea to check-in to our beautiful hotel located down on the shore. Here we will unwind and take the optional opportunities to float in



the salty waters said to have healing qualities. The experience is quite unique!

*Dead Sea overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 10: FRIDAY 20TH APRIL - VIA JERASH TO THE HOLY LAND

Our pilgrimage begins this morning with a visit to **Bethany Beyond the Jordan**, one of the most recent archaeological and religious discoveries. The five springs here form a tributary of the Jordan River and believed to be the **Baptismal site of Jesus** by John the Baptist. So authentic is this site that Pope Benedict XVI chose this as an essential place to visit on his last pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Then head north to **Jerash**, once one of the busiest Roman towns and now the best preserved Graeco/Roman Town in Jordan. In Jerash we will visit the **Street of Columns**, **Temple of Artemis** and the **Arch of Hadrian**. Continue west this afternoon to cross the Jordan River border into the Holy Land of Israel known as the land of the “fifth Gospel”.

Journey on to Tiberias on the shores of **Lake Galilee** ... “Go to Galilee and you will find him there” (Mt 28:7).

*Sea of Galilee overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 11: SATURDAY 21ST APRIL - MT. TABOR / NAZARETH / CANA

Travel out this morning and ascend the narrow road leading to the majestic summit of **Mt Tabor** where Our Lord's divinity shone forth in the Transfiguration (Mt 17:1-2). After a memorable Mass in this breathtaking setting we will better understand Peter's words ‘Lord it is good for us to be here’.

Continue on to **Nain**, where we relive the story of the dead son whom Jesus healed and gave back to his mother (Lk 7:15).

We soon come to **Nazareth**, the town of Jesus' childhood. Visit nearby **Nazareth Village**, a recreation of the town and village life of Nazareth as in the days of Jesus. Here enjoy a traditional meal and take a parable walk back in time along the path which brings to life the environment and atmosphere which shaped Jesus' early years and ministry.

A special highlight today will be a visit to the **Basilica of the Annunciation** where a traditional cave becomes the focal point of Mary's response “Let it be done to me according to thy word” (Luke 1:38). Also see the **Church of St Joseph**.

Finally today visit the village of **Cana** where Jesus performed his first miracle transforming the water into wine at the wedding feast (Jn 2:1-11). Here, married couples will have an opportunity to renew their wedding vows, and single and widowed pilgrims will receive a special blessing.

*Sea of Galilee overnight (BLD)*

#### DAY 12: SUNDAY 22ND APRIL - SEA OF GALILEE

Our memorable Galilee day begins with a visit to **Nof Ginosaur Kibbutz** within which is preserved the remains of a first century fishing boat as in the days of Christ. Passing **Sowers Bay** we reflect on

the parable of the sower (Mark 4:1-9) before a brief stop at **Migdal**, the town of Mary Magdalene. Journey on to **Capernaum**, the centre of Jesus' teaching and healing and home to Peter the apostle (Mt 4:12-20). After exploring this site, we set off from the shore in a **traditional sailing vessel** to encounter one of our most memorable pilgrimage highlights – a **Private Mass floating in the centre of Lake Galilee** with engines switched off. Here we will recall the miracles of Jesus calming the storm and appearing to the apostles walking on this very water. After Mass, we will continue back to the shore for our special ‘**St Peter's fish' lunch**’.

Return by road around the lake to **Korazin** to relive the parables of the House built on the rock and the persevering widow. Onwards to the **Church of the Primacy of Peter** where Jesus challenged Peter and each one of us ‘Do you really love me, feed my sheep’. Finally we arrive at **Tabgha**, site of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (Mt 14:20) where we will spend some quiet time to reflect and pray by the shore of the lake.

*Sea of Galilee overnight (BLD)*

#### DAY 13: MONDAY 23RD APRIL - VIA MT CARMEL & CAESAREA TO JERUSALEM

Our day begins with Mass at the **Mount of Beatitudes** as we take time in this special place to ponder Jesus' message of happiness – the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:1-12).

Departing Lake Galilee, we travel due west to **Mount Carmel at Muhraqa** overlooking the beautiful Jezreel Valley. [Elijah went to the top of Carmel after confronting the priests of Baal in a contest of faith between his God and theirs]. Here we will visit the Carmelite Monastery which stands on the site of the early church.

Continue on to **Megiddo**, the great biblical location of many decisive battles in ancient times and the actual site of **Armageddon** (Rev 16:16).

Further on we will come to the crusader port city of **Caesarea** to see the maritime city built by **Herod the Great** and once the Roman capital of Israel. It was here the centurion Cornelius was baptized

by Peter, becoming the first gentile convert to Christianity (Acts 10), and where Festus tried Paul (Acts 25: 6-12). Visit the impressive excavations, the amphitheatre and the Herodian port.

Finally today we continue on to our hotel in **Jerusalem** – the City of our God.

*Jerusalem overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 14: TUESDAY 24TH APRIL - BETHLEHEM & SURROUNDS

Our day of pilgrimage commences in **Ein Karem**, the birthplace of St John the Baptist and site of the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth “Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord” (Lk 1:43). Pilgrims may choose to pray a mystery of the Rosary here as we walk up to this church commemorating ‘The Magnificat’.

We travel on to **Shepherd's Field** to commemorate the appearance of the angels to the shepherds on that first Christmas night, and where we will celebrate Mass. Continue to **Bethlehem** where we will visit the **Church of the Nativity** built over the stable where Jesus was born; the **Grotto of the Holy Manger**.

Finally we have an orientation viewing of the **Second Temple scale model of Jerusalem** as it was in the time of Jesus. Then proceed to the **Shrine of the Book** to view the **Dead Sea Scrolls** with our own eyes.

This evening, after dinner, we hope to take the opportunity to visit the Pontifical Institute - Notre Dame Jerusalem Centre to experience the unique and very special presentation of the Shroud of Turin.

*Jerusalem overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 15: WEDNESDAY 25TH APRIL (ANZAC DAY) – JERUSALEM

We start the day with a gentle Dawn Service. We then proceed to the **Mt of Olives** this morning where we will firstly visit the Church of the ‘**Pater Noster**’ commemorating the site where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's prayer (Mt 6:7-15). We then enjoy a panoramic view over the city as we wander past the **tombs of the Prophets**



*Garden of Gethsemane*

Haggai, Malachi and Zechariah before arriving at **Dominus Flevit** for Mass where Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem (Lk19:41-44).

We then visit the **Garden of Gethsemane**, where we will enter the **Church of the Agony** containing the bare rock upon which Jesus is said to have prayed before his arrest.

Free time this afternoon. Visit the Holy Sepulchre for some quiet prayer and reflection, wander through the Old City of Jerusalem or just enjoy a peaceful day at leisure in this ancient biblical city.

This evening, after dinner, we will journey back to the **Garden of Gethsemane** for a memorable **Holy Hour** to contemplate the Agony of Our Lord in the darkened Basilica. This Holy hour will be extra special as the guard protecting the rock where Jesus prayed in Gethsemane was made by Australian Diggers after the First World War.

*Jerusalem overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 16: THURSDAY 26TH APRIL – JERUSALEM

This morning we proceed to **Mt Zion** to visit the **Cenacle, room of the Last Supper** and the **Church of Dormition** where Our Lady was assumed into heaven. In the **Church of St Peter in Gallicantu** we will commemorate Peter's denial of Jesus after His arrest, before visiting **King David's tomb**.

Free time this afternoon.

*Jerusalem overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 17: FRIDAY 27TH APRIL - JERICHO, MT TEMPTATION & MASADA

Travel along the **Jericho Road** as we remember the parable of the Good Samaritan and journey through desert hills and dry rocky landscape. Soon our coach will pass through the site of **Qumran** where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947 by a Bedouin shepherd boy.

We continue south passing the Dead Sea to the historical **Masada** where, on arrival, we will embark on the cable car offering spectacular scenery to the summit. Here we will enjoy a guided tour of Herod's fortress and the Zealot's last stand.

Travel then back to **Jericho** the 'City of Palms' which is said to be the oldest inhabited city and most famous oasis. Across the valley we ascend by cable car to the **Mt of Temptation**, the site of Jesus' fast of 40 days and there are enough stones to illustrate Satan's words "If you are the son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves". Here on Mt Temptation we will enjoy a traditional Palestinian meal.

Finally today, we relive the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead in **Bethany** and descend the dark stairs to his tomb. Here we will finish our day with Mass at the Church of St Lazarus before continuing back to our hotel for dinner.

*Jerusalem overnight (BLD)*

#### DAY 18: SATURDAY 28TH APRIL - JERUSALEM

After breakfast we travel to the Temple Mount to view the **Dome of the Rock, El Aqsa Mosque and the Wailing Wall**. Then we come to the **Church of St Anne**, built over the birthplace of the Virgin Mary and the **Pool of Bethesda** where Jesus healed the paralysed man (Jn 5:2-9). We continue onto **Ecce Homo** convent where we view the **Lithostrotos and the Pavement** and visit the **Flagellation and Condemnation Chapels**.

We then commence the **Stations of the Cross** as we pray and follow in Our Lord's footsteps along the actual **Via Dolorosa** to the site of **Calvary** where we will celebrate Mass in the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.

Free time this afternoon. For our final night of pilgrimage, we will enjoy a special farewell dinner.

*Jerusalem overnight (BD)*



*Via Dolorosa*

#### DAY 19: SUNDAY 29TH APRIL - DEPART THE HOLY LAND

#### DAY 20: MONDAY 30TH APRIL – IN TRANSIT

#### DAY 21: TUESDAY 1ST MAY – ARRIVE AUSTRALIA

#### SPECIAL NOTES

*All details of sightseeing listed and order of daily arrangements must remain subject to change due to any unforeseen circumstances, which may arise, or at the discretion of the pilgrimage leadership.*

*This overview is based on the standard pilgrimage departure and return dates. Please refer to your personal flight itinerary for more specific details or amendments pertaining to your travel.*

### SIMPLE BOOKING PROCEDURES

- Contact Harvest to place your booking and to advise any other extension plans.
- Send a \$600 deposit per person (plus our optional insurance payment) with completed pilgrims booking form to Harvest Pilgrimages in Sydney. Cheques to be made payable to Harvest Pilgrimages or nominate Credit Card details where shown.
- Await Harvest Pilgrimage's letter of confirmation containing receipt, visa(s) information (as applicable) and travel insurance detail along with any other specific travel detail.
- Make balance of payment 7 weeks prior to departure.
- Collect or await the delivery of final tour documentation including Cabin bag and pilgrims journal and ticket wallet approximately two weeks prior to departure date.

### INCLUSIONS

**Airfares:** Economy class airfare Ex Sydney flying Emirates Airlines (N.B. Airlines taxes are included at approximately \$150 per person on standard itinerary and subject to fluctuations).

**Accommodation & Meals:** Based on moderate standard accommodation throughout with breakfast and dinner daily.

**Miscellaneous inclusions:** • Deluxe Air-Conditioned Motor coach with driver • Local tour escort • Sightseeing and entrance fees throughout itinerary • Pilgrims Cabin bag, journal and ticket wallet

#### Not Included:

- Passport and Visa Costs (if applicable) • Other meals not stated • Items of a personal nature including phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc. • Travel insurance (Harvest will recommend a special group policy rate).

Departure Date	Indicative Cost (pp)	Tour Code
11 APRIL 2012 <i>Twin Cost</i>	<b>\$6995</b> <small>INCL. TAXES</small>	2PV17
Single Room Supplement	<b>\$1490</b>	
Prepaid Tipping	<b>\$220</b>	

*\* Costs have been based on prices as at June 2011 and must remain subject to possible change in the unlikely event of significant exchange rate variations, airfare increases and minimum group size contingencies.*

#### All Bookings to

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