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# A2Ω Travel Tribune

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*From the  
beginning to the  
end, you'll  
enrich your  
faith and  
experience the  
best!*

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*Alpha 2 Omega Travel wishes you a blessed and joyous  
Easter Season!  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
He is risen indeed!  
Alleluia!*



ALPHA 2 OMEGA TRAVEL

### A message from our tour host....



As the Gospel of Mark recalls the Resurrection of Jesus, the mysterious young man at the tomb tells the women: “But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you....” (Mark 16.7). This is the promise of Easter....that the risen Lord is always there ahead of us! And perhaps this is the best way to approach our visit to the Holy Land! I’m sure your itinerary will include stops at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, the synagogue in Capernaum, and probably an excursion to the Dead Sea and Herod’s fortress of Masada. Wonderful. These sites are definitely a must see and your trip to the Holy Land wouldn’t be complete without the opportunity to walk in these amazing places. There really is no better Christian Education experience than traveling in the Holy Land with your Bible by your side and experiencing the land itself as what many refer to as a ‘fifth Gospel.’ And I have no doubt that you will encounter Jesus in these places.

But I want to call your attention to those ‘living stones’ that won’t be on your itinerary. These are the people who call this wonderful place home. I encourage you to see them as a part of your pilgrimage experience and to approach them with love and respect. We are, after all, guests in their land. The shop keeper in the old city who is selling spices that you can take home and add to your rice or an ancient oil lamp that connects you to the history of the places you visit. What is his/her name? How long have they lived there? Or the little boy who precociously is trying to get you to buy a wooden camel or scarf; even if you aren’t going to buy anything, perhaps a playful smile might be better than acting aloof. Would you like to take a picture of someone? Ask for their permission. And if they are there trying to make a living, an offer to give a small sum in exchange is often a common courtesy. If you have the opportunity, try to learn about the different worshipping communities, cultures, their customs, and beliefs. Take the time to see the vibrancy of not only the past stories, but the current narratives as well. Watch the local children run and play—how similar are they to your own kids? Perhaps, it is especially in the people where we see the spirit of the Risen Christ most clearly.



So, you’re going to the Holy Land! Great! Remember to be watchful for the risen Lord who goes before you; and who might just be found in the people along the way!

***Pastor Jeff Frohner, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Marion IA***

### Messages from our tour participants....

I encourage everyone to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land at least once in their life. My first trip was in 2013 with Alpha 2 Omega Travel. It was an amazing experience. So much so, that I am returning in 2023 to revisit many of the sites I saw then and adding several more, including time in Jordan.

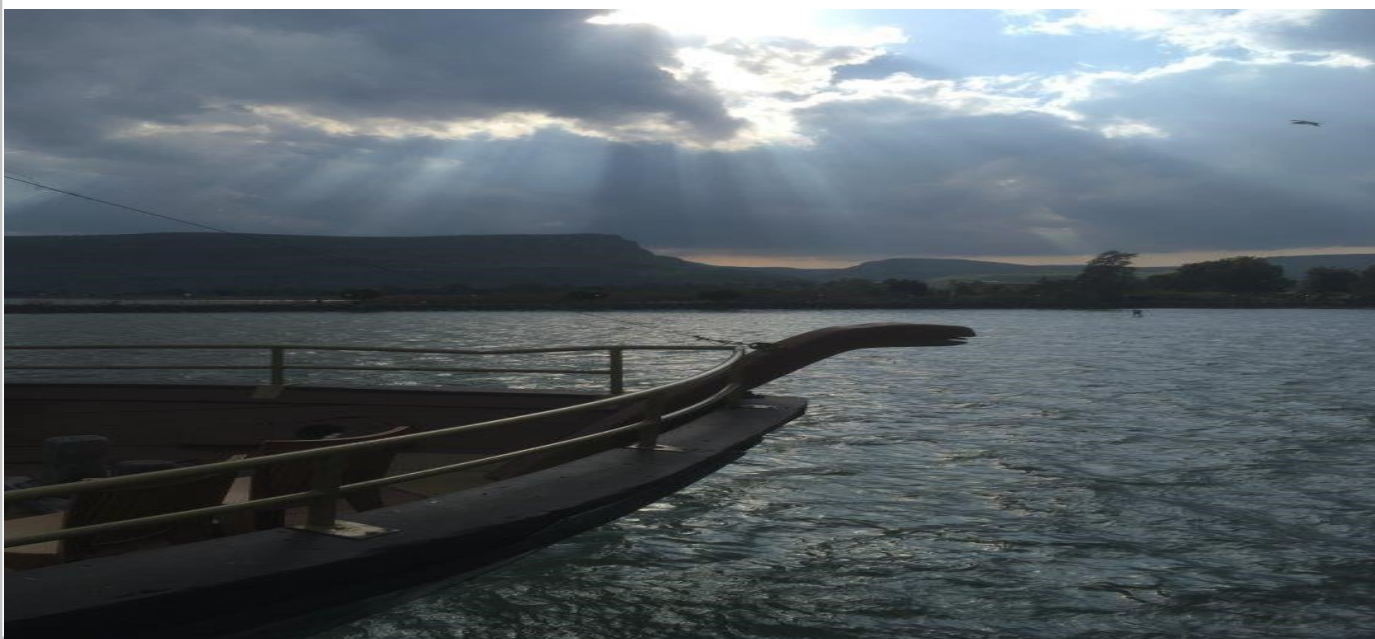
I say pilgrimage because this is not your average group tour. You are truly on a pilgrimage, visiting places that you have read about in the Bible your whole life. The perspective gained from seeing the actual places where Jesus walked and their relationship to each other provided me with a whole new level of understanding what the world was like during those ancient periods in history. One can't describe what it feels like to reaffirm your baptism in the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized, travel down the Mount of Olives to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, or to walk the Via Dolorosa following Jesus' final journey to the cross. It is just too much for words, and Holy Week will take on new meaning for the rest of your life.

Trips with Alpha 2 Omega are led by a trained guide who complements the pastor hosting your group. Between the two, you gain historical knowledge and spiritual inspiration. You also don't have to worry about a thing. Just get yourself up and out at the appointed time each day and you will be led and fed! I never experienced a moment's concern for my safety, either. The areas you will visit are as safe as anywhere you will travel (and maybe even where you live). Certainly, if a problem were to arise, I have every confidence that Alpha 2 Omega Travel would be able to navigate any situation.

If you have an opportunity to make this trip of a lifetime, don't say no!

Grace and Peace,

***Linda Howard, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, San Clemente CA***



### More messages from our tour participants....



The Bible comes to life! – Experiencing the Holy Land is a profound blessing for any follower of the Lord Jesus. My wife and I had the pleasure of taking part in an intimate church group tour guided by



Linda Miller with Alpha 2 Omega travel and were treated to a fine tour of Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Our trip was packed with memories that brought the scriptures to life for us.

Some of our most memorable experiences included:

- Singing hymns inside the church at the Shepherd's Field near Bethlehem and seeing Crusader Crosses from ancient pilgrims engraved in pillars in the Church of the Nativity protecting the place of Jesus' birth.
- Hearing pilgrims from around the world signing praises to God in their own languages as believers were baptized in the Jordan river near the site in Jordan where John the Baptist baptized Jesus at the beginning of His earthly ministry.
- Walking through the ruins of Capernaum, Jesus' hometown, at the edge of the Sea of Galilee, where stones along the lakeshore were probably silent witnesses when Jesus walked on water.
- Walking in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent his lonely night in prayer before His arrest.
- Holding an impromptu church service in the pit where Jesus was believed to be held as he awaited trial before the Sanhedrin at Saint Peter in Gallicantu Church, believed to be the site of the high priest Caiaphas' house.
- A late afternoon stroll through Old Jerusalem over the cobblestoned Via Dolorosa, observing the Stations of the Cross on our way to the Tomb of the Holy Sepulcher, where we were able to touch the rock of Golgotha where the Savior of Mankind shed his blood for the sins of humanity and see pilgrims from around the world gathered at the site of the empty tomb.
- Touching remnants of the Temple stones that were still lying where Roman Soldiers had cast them down from the Temple Mount in accordance with Jesus' prophecy at the Davidson Center,

And these are just a small sampler of the many activities that Linda planned for our group. We also visited Petra, Amman, and Jerash in Jordan. Jericho and the Dead Sea in Palestine and Mt. Carmel and Caesarea Maritima in Israel. Linda's experience and local connections made the trip carefree. Our tour guides were fantastic in both Israel and Jordan and we always felt safe throughout the trip. Actually, this wasn't just a trip; it was the experience of a lifetime. And we are already longing to go back again.

***Greg and Yvonne Carmean, Rancho Santa Margarita CA***

It's been 7 years since our visit to the Holy Land with Alpha 2 Omega Travel. What an incredibly special time!

It was a time of wonder. I looked out of our hotel room in Tiberias every chance I got. I couldn't believe I was actually seeing the Sea of Galilee. After reading about it for so many decades, I never really thought I'd get the opportunity to see it in person.

It was a time of reflection. One of the most special moments for me was our visit to the Mount of Beatitudes. We sat on the hill as our pastor read those eight blessings recounted by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. I was transported back in time in my imagination. I could really feel how it must have been for the people who were hearing those encouraging words for the first time.

It was a time of renewal. We affirmed our baptisms in the Jordan River. We renewed our marriage vows in the church at Cana.

It was a time of discovery. I think the biggest surprise to us was how very much we enjoyed the extension trip to Jordan. Of course, Jerash and Petra are beyond amazing and worthy of being on anyone's bucket list, but perhaps most memorable of all was the warmth of the people.

It was a time of joy. We visited the Garden Tomb where the empty tomb bears witness to the hope we have in Christ Jesus. The stone is rolled away. He is risen!

Blessed Easter to all.

***Sam and Krysia Baker***



## A message from our tour participant....



### Upcoming Tours

During the next few months, we are actively seeking tour hosts for the 2023-2024 tour seasons. If you have hosted a tour in the past, please give us a call to schedule dates for your next tour.

If you haven't traveled with us before or haven't traveled to the Holy Lands, we welcome the opportunity to speak with you. You can contact our office directly at (760) 985-3540 or email us at [office@alpha2omegatravel.org](mailto:office@alpha2omegatravel.org).

### Tour Dates Available 2022-2024

#### Host a tour - Discounted - Israel 2023

Jan 3-12, Jan 10-19, Jan 17-26, Jan 24-Feb 2

Complete package starting at \$3299 Land only package starting at \$2599

#### Host a tour - Discounted - Israel 2024

Jan 2-12, Jan 10-19, Jan 17-26, Jan 23-Feb 1

Complete package starting at \$3399 Land only package starting at \$2699

#### Host a tour - Israel - Custom Pricing 2022

Oct 31-Nov 10, Nov 7-17, Nov 14-24, Nov 21-Dec 1

#### Host a tour - Israel - Custom Pricing 2023

Feb 20-March 2, Feb 27-March 9, March 13-23, March 20-30, March 27-Apr 6, Apr 10-20  
Apr 17-27, Apr 24-May 4, May 1-11, May 8-18, May 15-25, May 22-Jun 1, May 29-Jun 8  
Jun 5-15, Jun 12-22, Jun 19-29, Jun 26-Jul 6, Jul 3-13, Jul 10-20, Aug 28-Sept 7, Sept 4-14  
Oct 9-19, Oct 16-26, Oct 23-Nov 2, Oct 30-Nov 9, Nov 6-16  
Nov 13-23, Nov 20-30

#### Host a tour - Israel - Custom Pricing 2024

Feb 5-15, Feb 12-22, Feb 19-29, Feb 26-Mar 7, Mar 4-14, Mar 11-21, Apr 1-11, Apr 8-18  
May 6-16, May 13-23, May 20-30, May 28-Jun 7, Jun 3-13, Jun 10-20, Jun 17-27, Jun 25-Jul 5, Jul 2-12  
Sept 3-13, Sept 9-19, Sept 16-26, Sept 23-Oct 3, Sept 30-Oct 10, Oct 28-Nov 7  
Nov 4-14, Nov 11-21, Nov 18-28, Nov 25-Dec 5

### Join an existing tour– Space Available If you have a small group, join with one of our existing tours!

Israel, May 15-27, 2022 - \$4299  
Israel, October 17-27, 2022 - \$3650  
Israel, November 7-18, 2022 - \$3899  
Israel and Jordan, February 4-21, 2023 - \$5199  
Israel and Jordan, February 26-March 8, 2024 - \$4399

**Save 20% when purchasing a complete package!**

**We also offer tours to other biblical destinations!**

**Greece, Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, and Rome**

## Travel Tips

### Money Concerns

Debit/credit cards are used in the Middle East. Contact your bank prior to leaving and give them the dates of your travel plans. Please remember to request an international number from your credit card or bank when you give them your travel dates. It makes it much easier to contact them, in the event that you need to do so.

In most cases, when you pay in U.S. dollars, you will receive back foreign currency. It is wise to carry quite a few smaller bills; \$1's, 5's, and 10's. You can use these for small purchases. Money belts or pouches are highly recommended to keep passports and money secure.

### Passports

Make sure to have a valid passport, with a date of at least six months remaining from return date of the tour. If you do not have a passport, apply for one immediately. You can obtain information on applying for or renewing your passport at <http://travel.state.gov>.



## Safety

Safety in a foreign country is of great concern to most people. Many people are not comfortable traveling to a place with which they are unfamiliar, and may perhaps have heard that it is unsafe. It is sometimes easier to avoid visiting a country you

have always wanted to visit. Your safety is our concern. Tour operators will always have the most current information on the safety in each country, and any reports that are issued. Security issues in Israel and other countries are many times overly exaggerated.

It is, in all probability, safer than where you live. Rest assured that millions of people travel to Israel and the Middle East every year, without any safety or security issues.

