

ALPHA 2 OMEGA TRAVEL



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

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# A2Ω Travel Tribune

Volume IX Issue II

Spring 2021

HE IS  
*Risen*

HE IS  
*Risen*

HE IS  
*Risen*

HE IS  
*Risen*

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

## A message from one our tour hosts....



I have been blessed to lead several trips to Israel. And for as many times as I've journeyed to the Holy Land, I've never found myself going through the motions in visiting. For all the sacred places I've explored in that part of the world and all the diverse people I've encountered along the way, there still remains for me a mystery and a majesty to Israel that cannot be exhausted.

People will tell you that going to Israel will change how you read the Bible. This is most certainly true. But it's more than that. Visiting the Holy Land is an experience where the faith in Christ we live by becomes enriched by literally following in the footsteps of Jesus – a part of the world in which Christ once walked.

At no time of the year are the deeply-etched grooves of my experiences and memories of Israel more meaningful to me than during the season of Lent – particularly during Holy Week. For I have traced the path Jesus took into Jerusalem from Bethany on Palm Sunday, visiting Dominus Flevit, (translated as The Lord Wept), the Roman Catholic church fashioned in the shape of a teardrop to mark the moment when Christ looked upon the city of Jerusalem and mourned. When I close my eyes on Maundy Thursday, I return back and I am praying with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. As I picture the beautifully atmospheric Church of All Nations that now stands as a part of that garden, I become mindful of the weight of the world that Jesus willingly rested on his shoulders.

On Good Friday, the traditional Stations of the Cross are now for me more than wooden carvings or ornate pictures. For I have walked the Via Dolorosa or the Way of Sorrows. I have followed the path, from Pilate's Judgment Hall in the Antonia to a place called Calvary, that my Lord and Savior stumbled along, already bearing the weight of all human sin. The chaos of that day and the silence of that long, dark night of his Cross are, for me, ingrained with visceral, palpable sights and sounds from having trudged along the narrow and congested streets of modern-day Jerusalem.

And whenever I confess the oldest creed of our faith, in my mind's eye, I always go back to the shadows and light of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where I now not only believe, but also have lingered at the place Jesus Christ "was crucified, died, and was buried." Every year, the culmination of the Lenten season, the celebration of Easter Sunday, looks and feels different now. Because I, like the first witnesses of Christ's Resurrection, have had the opportunity to visit the Garden Tomb. I have entered and exited a grave that is empty much like the kind they did. Like those women and men, I emerged with a renewed hope in the One who is living and cannot be found among the dead, the One who promises me life eternal.

As followers of Jesus, we live by faith. To visit Israel is to have one's faith infused with the physicality of matter and history. Several places you visit, like the Sea of Galilee or the Southern Steps of the Temple, are undisputed locations of Jesus' life. Other sites are reliable places from recorded church history.. The authenticity of yet other sites remains a speculative mystery. Either way, the intersection of Heaven and Earth becomes something more than a prayer request when you journey to Israel. For all these ancient artifacts, largely unchanged terrain, and biblical sites—shout the reality of Christ's humanity. At the same time, being able to see and touch these sacred spaces and corridors in which the Incarnation once dwelled among us is to perceive the divinity of Jesus as well.

Jesus calls us as his disciples to "Come and see." Therefore, as a follower of Jesus, I encourage you to make the pilgrimage to the land of your spiritual birth. Doing so will not only change how you read the Bible; it will transform your appreciation of the Gospel. You will learn to rejoice in Jesus' life, earthly ministry, death and resurrection not as dead history but as living reality.

*Pr. Chris Tweitmann, Grace Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach CA*

We are hopeful that 2021 will bring renewed opportunities to begin planning further for tours in Fall 2021 and into 2022-2023. At this point, we have tours scheduled for Fall 2021 and many more scheduled for 2022, with available dates in 2022-2023.

We wait with anticipation, along with many others, for the opening of many countries. Several countries are now open, and groups are traveling. We hope that by Fall 2021, Israel will once again be open to the bustling of pilgrims, and we can again experience the richness of our faith, touching the past as we travel through many places.

Over the course of the next few months, Ministries of Tourism should be announcing guidelines for travel to their countries. This will help us and you, plan for travel abroad. We have heard many positive things regarding the reopening of many countries and await further information.

If you have a tour scheduled, rest assured that your funds can be transferred to new dates without penalty. If you have not yet scheduled a tour for your church or community, now is the time to begin preparing. We are offering tours to Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Greece, Turkey, and Rome. You can contact our office directly at (760) 985-3540 or email us at [office@alpha2omegatravel.org](mailto:office@alpha2omegatravel.org).

### **Host a Tour in 2021-2022-2023**

#### **Host a tour - Israel - Custom Pricing 2021**

Oct 20-30, Nov 1-11, Nov 8-18, Nov 15-25

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

Feb 7-17, Feb 14-24, Mar 28-Apr 7  
 Apr 4-14, Apr 18-28, Apr 25-May 5  
 May 2-12, May 9-19, May 16-26, May 23-Jun 2, May 30-Jun 9  
 Jun 6-16, Jun 13-23, Jun 20-30, Jun 27-Jul 7  
 Jul 4-14, Jul 11-21, Aug 29-Sept 8  
 Sept 5-15, Sept 12-22  
 Oct 17-2, Oct 24-Nov 3, Oct 31-Nov 10  
 Nov 7-17, Nov 14-24, Nov 21-Dec 1

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

Feb 6-16, Feb 13-23, Feb 20-March 2, Feb 27-March 9  
 March 6-16, 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, Jul 17-27

**Save \$\$\$\$ when purchasing a complete package!**



Enrich you Faith!

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TRAVEL

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## Upcoming Tours

### Host a Discounted-Off Season Tour in 2022-2023

#### Discounted -Israel, January and February 2022

Jan 4-13, Jan 11-20, Jan 18-27, Jan 25-Feb 3, Feb 1-10  
Complete package starting at \$3499 Land only package starting at \$2699

#### Host a tour - Discounted - Israel, January and February 2023

Jan 3-12, Jan 10-19, Jan 17-26, Jan 24-Feb 2, Jan 30-Feb 9  
Complete package starting at \$3499 Land only package starting at \$2699

### Join an existing tour

Israel, September 27-October 7, 2021- \$3650

Israel, October 10-22, 2021- \$4299

Israel and Jordan, February 28-March 11, 2022 - \$4099

Israel, March 9-20, 2022 -\$3489

Israel, March 21-April 1, 2022 -\$3899

**Save \$\$\$\$ when purchasing a complete package!**

\$100 discount when you make all payments and deposits in  
cashier's check, personal check, or money order.

# \$100 OFF

Alpha 2 Omega Travel (760) 985-3540 www.alpha2omegatravel.org

Coupon valid when groups total at least 20 or more participants. Coupon must accompany registration form.  
Discount will be applied at the time of final payment. Coupons cannot be combined.

