

Holy Land and Jordan

May 21 - June 1, 2012

Hosted by: Dan and Katherine Cooper



Since 1955

MTS  **TRAVEL**
mtstravel.com

124 E. Main St., 4th Fl.
Ephrata, PA 17522
(717) 721-7300
(800) 874-9330

Monday, May 21**Departure**

Depart New York's JFK International Airport late this afternoon for the transatlantic flight to Tel Aviv.

Tuesday May 22**Arrival – Tiberias**

Change planes in Istanbul this morning and arrive at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport mid-afternoon. Drive through the agricultural stretches of the Sharon Plain, carpeted with orange groves and persimmon trees. Continue along the Mediterranean coast to Caesarea Maritima with its magnificent harbor, theater and aqueduct constructed during the reign of Herod. Travel the short distance to Mt. Carmel, the site of Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal. Head inland to

Tiberias along the Sea of Galilee for dinner and overnight at the Leonardo Club Hotel in Tiberias.

Wednesday, May 23**Nazareth – Sepphoris**

Spend the morning getting acquainted with the home town of Jesus of Nazareth. Visit the spring and Mary's well, and then walk through the present-day bazaar, over the site of ancient Nazareth to the Church of the Annunciation. Spend time at Nazareth Village, a recreation of what life in Nazareth would have been like at the time of Jesus. Drive to nearby Sepphoris, the capital city of the Galilee during the time of Christ, and today a rich archaeological site. Drive to the mound of Megiddo, *har Megiddo* in Hebrew, which gives its name to Armageddon. Continue to Yardenit, the traditional baptismal site along the Jordan River. Those who wish may be baptized in the Jordan River at this time. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Thursday, May 24**The Galilee**

Drive to Kibbutz Nof Ginosar for a visit to the museum displaying the "Jesus Boat," found buried in an exposed section of the lakebed during the drought of 1986. Stop at the Mount of Beatitudes, the site where Jesus delivered His Sermon on

the Mount, overlooking the Sea of Galilee. Visit Tabgha to view the mosaics of the Church of the Loaves and Fishes. Drive to Capernaum, used by Jesus as a home base during His ministry. See the remains of the fourth-century synagogue and the nearby house of Simon Peter. Drive north to Caesarea Philippi (Banias), a source of the Jordan River located at the base of Mt. Hermon. It is recognized as the place where Peter acknowledged Jesus as Christ. Enjoy a nature walk at Tel Dan and visit the high place where Jeroboam, son of Nebat, set up a golden calf. End the day with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee before returning to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Friday, May 25**Beit Shean – Jerusalem**

Visit the mound of Beth Shean, hearing the story of Saul and viewing the ruins of Roman Scythopolis. Travel south along the Jordan River towards Jericho, stopping at the spring where Gideon asked his men to drink. Ascending the Roman road along Wadi Qilt, stop for a look at St. George's Monastery, built into the cliffside. Stop at the Monastery of the Good Samaritan, believed to be the site where Elijah was fed by the ravens in the wilderness. Finally, from the top of Mt. Scopus, behold the majestic Holy City of Jerusalem. Walk through the Western Wall Tunnel, where additional portions of the wall, as well as other structures beneath it, have been excavated. Overnight at the Ambassador Hotel in Jerusalem.

Saturday, May 26**Jerusalem**

Begin the day with an orientation to Jerusalem from the Mt. of Olives. Follow the traditional Palm Sunday route to the church known as Dominus Flevit ("the Lord weeps"). After viewing the Golden Gate, walk downhill to Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations. Drive to Mt. Zion to see the Upper Room, the possible site of the last supper, and visit the Tomb of King David. Stop at the Church of St. Peter of Gallicantu ("cock crow"), possibly the location of Caiaphas' house where Jesus was tried and kept overnight. See the Pools of Bethesda and St. Anne's Church before walking along the Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross) to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Return to the Ambassador Hotel for dinner and overnight.

**Sunday, May 27****Jerusalem**

This morning begins inside the Dung Gate at the Davidson Exhibition and Virtual Reconstruction Center at the Old City's Southern Wall excavations. See the southern steps, where Jesus taught, and climb to the Temple Mount to see the Dome of the Rock. Visit the Western ("Wailing") Wall, Judaism's holiest site. Continue to the New City to visit the Shrine of the Book, which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Yad Vashem Memorial to Holocaust victims. Enjoy a special Middle Eastern farewell dinner and overnight at the Ambassador Hotel.

Monday, May 28**Dead Sea Area / Optional Departure**

Depart Jerusalem, driving towards the northern edge of the Dead Sea to visit Qumran. View the caves where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered in 1947. Continue south along the western shore of the Dead Sea to Masada, a high plateau fortified by Herod the Great and the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots revolt against Rome in 66 AD. Take a cable car to the top of the plateau to visit the ruins and enjoy the spectacular view of the surrounding area.



Persons who are returning home will return to the Ambassador Hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and time to rest and prepare for transfer to Tel Aviv for an early morning departure. Change planes in Istanbul, arrive at JFK Airport mid-afternoon on May 29.

Those remaining to tour Jordan will leave Israel by driving to the Arava border with Jordan. After acquiring a free collective visa, meet the Jordanian bus and guide. Proceed along one of the possible Exodus routes to Wadi Rum and enjoy one of the largest and most magnificent of Jordan's desert landscapes. A jeep ride through Wadi Rum will reveal sandstone ridges a thousand feet high, topped with domes worn smooth by the desert winds. Fresh water springs made Rum a meeting center for caravans heading towards Syria and Palestine from Arabia. Gaze at the spectacular desert sunset and share dinner under the stars with Bedouins at the Captain's Desert Camp. Enjoy a "Zarb" meal cooked all day, buried in the sand by the Bedouin "chefs!" Wadi Rum is indeed a foreign world—spend the night in large Bedouin tents under the stars.

Tuesday, May 29**Arrive USA / Petra**

Drive to the Red Rose city of Petra this morning, in the heart of the Seir Mountains mentioned in the biblical text of Genesis. These mountains house the Aaron Peak, the highest in Petra and the burial place of Aaron brother of Moses. Walk (or ride in a donkey cart for an additional fee) through the Siq, the main

entrance to Petra for 1250 years. At the end of which appears the first monument known as the Treasury. Continue walking through the outer Siq with all of its tombs and burial chambers to one of the largest theaters in Jordan. This theater is carved in the sand stone mountains of Petra at the bottom of the High place of Sacrifice Mountain. Walk up the hill to the Royal Tombs for an excellent view of the lower part of Petra with all its Roman remains. See Pharaoh's daughter's palace—actually a Nabatean tomb. Walk back to the entrance and continue to the Petra Panorama Hotel for dinner and overnight.



Wednesday, May 30 Petra / Madaba / Mount Nebo / Dead Sea

Follow the King's Highway to Mount Nebo, from which God showed Moses the Promised Land. Visit nearby Madaba, with a mosaic floor from the 6th century showing a map of the Holy Land as Christian pilgrims knew it. Check into the Dead Sea Spa, a spa located along the Dead Sea. The remainder of the day is free to relax and perhaps take advantage of some of the treatments offered at the spa.

Thursday, May 31

Dead Sea / Jerash / Bethany-Beyond-the-Jordan

Drive north to Jerash, site of the Decapolis city where Christians of Jerusalem took refuge during the first Jewish revolt against Rome. Cross the Jabbok River, where Jacob wrestled with God. Stop at Bethany Beyond the Jordan, the recently excavated site where ancient pilgrims located the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. It is strongly suggested that this took place very close to Beit Abara, where Joshua, Elijah and Elisha crossed the river. In New Testament times, it became known as Bethany, the village of John the Baptist. (This Bethany is not to be confused with the village of Bethany near Jerusalem, where the Bible says Lazarus was raised from the dead.) The Bible records that John the Baptist lived, preached and baptized in the village of Bethany, on "the other side of the Jordan." (John 1:28) Return to the Dead Sea Spa for dinner and overnight.



Friday, June 1

Departure

Drive to Queen Alia Airport near Amman for an early-morning departure, changing planes in Istanbul and arriving at JFK Airport mid-afternoon.

**Your Tour Hosts:
Dan and Katherine Cooper**

Dan and Katherine are both preacher's kids who met and married while they were students at Harding University. They moved to New Jersey after graduating in 1973. Dan has worked with two churches: the Vineland Church of Christ (1973-1984) and the Pitman Church of Christ (1984 until the present). He has completed a Master's Degree in Church Growth from Harding Graduate School of Religion in Memphis. Known for his video series on Friendship Evangelism, he presents seminars throughout the country. Katherine has a BA in English and a Master's Degree in Social Work. Katherine is active in Pitman's Women's Ministry activities. She and Dan present seminars on church growth. Dan and Katherine have four adult children and one granddaughter.



For More Information:

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Travel Arrangements by:
Since 1955

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E-mail: tours@mtstravel.com

Tour Pricing, Based on Double Occupancy:

Israel only: \$3,059 per person

Israel and Jordan: \$3,898 per person

Single Room Supplement:

Israel: \$535

Jordan: \$260

Optional Group Travel Insurance (nonrefundable):

Israel only: \$185

Israel and Jordan: \$210

This tour price reflects special group rates. Deposits received after February 14, 2012, will likely incur additional charges due to supplier contract terms.

Tour Price Includes:

- Round-trip airfare from New York/JFK International Airport
- Accommodations listed in itinerary, or similar
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Sightseeing and entrance fees to sites listed in itinerary
- English-speaking guides throughout
- Drivers and transportation in air-conditioned motor coaches
- Hotel service charges and local taxes
- Airline taxes and fuel surcharges (Taxes are currently \$440; subject to change)
- Tips to guides drivers and hotel staff
- Jordan visa
- Border crossing taxes

Not Included:

- Lunches
- Passport fees
- Beverages with dinner
- Items of a personal nature

Tour Features and Conditions

Please read all Tour Features and Conditions carefully. Payment of tour deposit constitutes acceptance of these conditions.

Air Transportation: Air transportation is restricted to the services of any IATA carrier, in economy class based on nonrefundable fare. Travelers are responsible to provide their names as they appear in their passport. Ticketing will be made 30-45 days prior to departure, after which there will be a charge for name corrections. Tour price includes current airline taxes and fuel surcharges of \$440, which are subject to change until ticketed. *Tour participants are responsible for any increase in airline taxes or fuel surcharges imposed by the airline.*

Accommodations: Based on two or more persons sharing a room in accommodations listed in itinerary, or similar. Single rooms are subject to availability at an additional charge. *If a passenger cannot supply a roommate, the passenger is responsible for the additional charge.*

Meals: In-flight meals and snacks are served according to airline policy. Breakfast and dinner will be provided daily. Beverages with lunches and dinners are not included.

Transfers and Baggage: Transfers between airports and hotels upon arrival and departure are included in the tour price, including handling of one medium-sized suitcase per person, not exceeding 62 dimensional inches (length plus width plus height) or weighing more than a maximum of 50 pounds. *Due to limited luggage storage space on motorcoaches, it is important that each person bring only ONE piece of checked baggage. In addition, a flight bag or overnight case may be taken, which must be handled by the passenger at all times. Baggage allowance is subject to change according to airline policy.*

Sightseeing and Entrance Fees: Are included as indicated in itinerary, using private motorcoach or other conveyance, with local guides where necessary.

Tips and Taxes: Service charges and taxes on accommodations are included. Tips to guides, drivers, and hotel staff are included. Tips for personal services are not included and are at tour member's own expense.

Not Included: Passport fee, travel protection insurance, and expenses of a purely personal nature are not included. Transportation from your home to JFK International Airport and return is not included.

Deposit and Payment: Reservations may be secured upon payment of a deposit of \$500 per person. You will be invoiced for final payment, which is due March 22, 2012.

MTS Cancellation Conditions: Refund of full deposit (less \$100 administrative fee) will be made up to February 14, 2012. If cancellation occurs between February 15 and April 20, 2012, the fee is \$500 plus unrecoverable airline, hotel and tour operator payments. There is no refund after April 20, 2012, or for unused tour services.

Protect Your Investment: MTS TRAVEL strongly recommends purchasing this primary insurance coverage. If you purchase the protection plan within 21 days of registration, any restriction on pre-existing conditions is waived. If protection plan is purchased after the 21 days, all coverage is subject to exclusion of pre-existing conditions. Certain conditions, exclusions and limitations apply as set out in the Evidence of Coverage and Confirmation of Coverage, which you will receive upon receipt of deposit. You will have ten days to review coverage and cancel your policy.

Following is a brief description of coverage:

- This protection plan will cover you for cancellation fees if you need to cancel because of death, injury or illness to you, your traveling companion or your immediate family member.
- Medical Evacuation: \$250,000
- Medical Expenses: \$25,000
- Baggage loss/delay: \$1,500/\$250

A valid passport is required. If you do not have a passport, you should apply for one immediately. Information on obtaining a passport will be provided upon receipt of deposit. If you now have a passport, please verify that it is valid until December 2, 2012. A visa for Israel is not required for U.S. citizens. A visa for Jordan is required and will be obtained for U.S. citizens, provided a copy of the photo page of your passport is received by the MTS TRAVEL office by March 22, 2012.

All rates and fares are based on current information and are subject to change. Rates are based on a minimum of 22 persons traveling together.

Deviations: Any individual making a change in travel arrangements apart from this group program will be charged a service fee of \$100 per person, plus any additional air or land costs incurred.

The itinerary as outlined is an indication of sequence and sites to be included in the tour program. However, the tour operator reserves the right to alter or change the itinerary and/or the sites included should it be deemed necessary due to local conditions, time restrictions, or other circumstances.

In the ever-changing world situation, MTS TRAVEL recommends personal monitoring of news about your destination. For the latest country information from the U.S. Dept. of State, please visit www.mtstravel.com and click "U.S. State Department Travel Warnings" in the middle of our home page.

Guests with disabilities or dietary restrictions should inquire in advance about whether their needs can be accommodated.

Responsibility

Menno Travel Service, Inc., D/B/AMTS TRAVEL, with its officers and staff act only as agents for the various companies whose accommodations are utilized. They assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the services of any train, vessel, carriage, automobile, airplane or other conveyance, which will be used either wholly or in part. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, omission, or any injury, loss, accident, or any delays, which may be occasioned by reason of, defect in any vehicle or through neglect or default of any company or persons engaged in the conveying of passengers. The steamer, airplane services or that of any other conveyance, sickness, accident, weather, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes and all such losses or expenses must be borne by the passenger. Prices and schedules appearing in this brochure are based on current schedules and tariff rates and are subject to change without notice. The tour operator reserves the right to modify the itinerary where deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. The airlines and/or other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not aboard their plane or conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and purchaser of tours and/or the passenger.

CST 2013363-40

**Reservation Form
Holy Land and Jordan
May 21–June 1, 2012**

This tour price reflects special group rates.

Deposits received after February 14, 2012, will likely incur additional charges due to supplier contract terms.

**To be assured of reservations, please complete and mail this registration form to
MTS TRAVEL, 124 E. Main St., 4th Fl., Ephrata, PA 17522, along with your deposit of \$500 per person.**

**Please reserve space as follows on the Holy Land and Jordan tour
hosted by Dan and Katherine Cooper, May 21–June 1, 2012.**

Enclosed is my deposit check of \$_____ (\$500 per person. Please make check payable to MTS TRAVEL.)

Please register me for: Israel only Israel & Jordan

(Please Print)

Name 1 (as it appears on passport): _____ Name 2 (as it appears on passport): _____

Nickname for name badge: _____ Nickname for name badge: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (evening) _____ (days) _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Birthdate: _____ Birthdate: _____

Passport Copies: Please provide a clear photocopy of the photo and signature page of your passport. This is required for ALL international tours.

Room Type: Twin/Double Rooming With: _____
 Single

Travel Protection Insurance—Check One:

I/we wish to be covered by cancellation insurance. Israel only portion: \$185, Full Tour: \$210.
(Include \$185/\$210 per person with your deposit check. The \$185/\$210 is not refundable.)

I/we do NOT wish to be covered by the cancellation insurance.

Credit Card Information:

Please Charge: My Deposit of \$_____ + \$_____ Travel Insurance = \$_____ Total Charge

Mastercard Visa Discover American Express

Name as it appears on card (printed): _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Security Code: _____

Name as it appears on card (printed): Signature: _____

I have read the Tour Features and Conditions for this tour and agree to the terms listed therein.

Signature: _____