



PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

**Under the auspices of
His Grace Bishop Meghrik Parikian, Prelate of Canada**

January 12-26, 2015

Organized by
Armenian Prelacy of Canada

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Jan. 12: Depart Montreal

Our spiritual journey begins as we depart Montreal for Tel Aviv. Meals and refreshments will be served aloft.

Day 2 - Jan. 13: Arrive Tel Aviv Airport / Jerusalem

After arrival at Tel Aviv Airport, we'll be welcomed by our local guide who will accompany us throughout our pilgrimage in the Holy Land. After clearing Customs and Immigration, we'll board our bus and drive to our hotel in Jerusalem. Following dinner we'll walk to the Armenian convent and celebrate the Armenian New Year.

Day 3 - Jan. 14: Jerusalem – Armenian New Year

This morning there will be special Mass at St. James Cathedral. Following Mass visit the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem which is one of the most venerated sites of the Armenian Churches. See the Armenian Seminary and St. James Cathedral (Surp Hagop). The cathedral has a beautiful and ornate interior and dates back to about the 11th century. The carvings and painted tiles found here are remarkable. It is asserted by many theologians and famous scholars as the Gem of the Churches. The main shrine is Kilkhateer; it is believed that the head of St. James the Apostle, son of Zebedee, brother of St. John, martyred by beheading in A.D. 44 is buried here under a marble slab. Continue sightseeing the Armenian Patriarchate including the Museum, which reflects the role of the Armenian community in the history of Christianity, St. Tarkmanchats School, and the Chapel of Archangels (Surp Hrishtagabed). This church was reputed to be on the site of the house of Annas the High Priest, and was known in Arabic as Deir el Zeitouneh - Convent of the Olive Tree. Here you'll see the olive tree to which Our Lord was tied on the night when he was brought to Annas. Next visit the Armenian St. Saviour's Convent where the traditional house of the High Priest Caiaphas is located.

Day 4 - Jan 15: Jerusalem / Tiberias

Depart Jerusalem for Tiberias. Drive to Bethany to visit the House of Mary, Martha and Lazarus Tomb. Drive through the Judean Wilderness to visit ancient Jericho, the oldest known city in the Western World. From the top of the ancient 'tel' we'll have an excellent view of Elisha's Fountain, the Mt. of Temptation and the Sycamore tree to remind us of the story of Zaccheus. Travel along the Jordan Valley to visit the Baptismal site on the River Jordan. Proceed to our hotel in Tiberias, our home for the next two nights.



Day 5 - Jan. 16: Tiberias

This morning enjoy a scenic boat ride on the Sea of Galilee from Tiberias to Capernaum, home of Our Lord during His ministry. After visiting the synagogue where He taught, drive to Bethsaida, home

of Jesus' followers, Peter, Philip and Andrew as well as the location where Jesus healed the blind man. Visit Tabgha, site of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. The Church of St. Peter's Primacy will be our next stop, followed by a visit to the Mt. of the Beatitudes for prayers at the site of the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus preached to the people. In the afternoon drive to Cana of Galilee where Our Lord performed the first miracle, changing water into wine at the wedding feast. Here, we'll invite couples to renew their wedding vows. Ascend Mt. Tabor to visit the traditional site of the Transfiguration of Jesus.

Day 6 - Jan. 17: Tiberias / Bethlehem

Depart Tiberias for Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation, Joseph's Workshop and Mary's Well. Continue to sparkling port city of Haifa for a scenic view of the city and port. Travel along the Mediterranean shores to Caesarea to see the fascinating ruins of this ancient Roman city and Crusader stronghold. Here St. Peter preached and St. Paul was imprisoned for two years before being taken to Rome for trial. View the Roman Amphitheater, which is one of the most popular sites for musical performances. Drive to Bethlehem for accommodation.



Day 7 - Jan. 18: Bethlehem

This morning we will join the Armenian Patriarch, bishops, clergy, Armenian scouts, with colorful uniforms and drive to Bethlehem. We will visit the Nativity Church, the Manger and the Grotto. Behold the fourteen-pointed star that bears the inscription: Here Jesus Christ was born to the Virgin Mary. Of the fifteen lamps burning around the recess, five belong to the Armenians, six to the Greeks and four to the Latins. Visit the Armenian Monastery, most of which dates from Byzantine and Crusader periods. Once a major center for the Armenian hermits, later full of seventeenth-century scribes copying and illustrating Bibles. The water of the well facing the arched entrance is believed by pilgrims to have curative properties. A special reception will be held by the Armenian Patriarchate which will be attended by dignitaries, representatives of other churches and a sizable number of Armenian pilgrims from other parts of the world. Following dinner we will attend the special midnight Mass and the Nativity Church will reverberate with Armenian Christmas hymns.

Day 8 - Jan. 19: Bethlehem / Jerusalem – Merry Armenian Christmas

Today will be free to celebrate Christmas on our own.

Day 9 - Jan. 20: Jerusalem

Following Mass at St. James Cathedral we will ascend the Mt. of

Olives as Jesus did and enjoy the spectacular view of the Golden City. Visit the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus taught the Lord's Prayer to His disciples, the Chapel of Ascension which commemorates the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven, and the Russian Ascension Church where we will see Armenian Mosaics from the Byzantine period. Walk to the Chapel of Dominus Fleuit where Jesus wept over Jerusalem and foretold of its complete destruction. Visit the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations which commemorates the Agony in the Garden. Then visit the Church of the Virgin Mary and the Tomb of Our Lady where the Virgin Mary is believed to have laid before her Assumption. A special Liturgy will be arranged at the Tomb of Our Lady.



Day 12 - Jan. 23: Jerusalem / Old Jaffa / Tel Aviv / Jerusalem

This morning drive to the bustling and vibrant city, Tel Aviv. Drive through the main streets of this cosmopolitan city, encompassing the Mann Auditorium and the Habimah National Theatre. On to Old Jaffa, the world's oldest port. Stroll along the winding, cobblestoned streets with its enchanting boutiques and charming artists' colony. Visit St. Nicholas Armenian Church and the Armenian Convent that Napoleon Bonaparte used as a hospital during his campaign to Palestine. Return to Jerusalem.



Day 10 - Jan. 21: Jerusalem

Enter the Old City where everyday life and customs have remained much the same over the centuries. View the Temple Area from outside including the beautiful Dome of the Rock, el Aqsa Mosque, and the Wailing Wall (the most sacred place in the world for Jews). Walk through the narrow winding and cobblestoned streets of this historic capital. Visit the Church of St. Anne and view the Pool of Bethesda. See the Chapel of Flagellation, Lithostrotos and the Arch of the Ecce Homo. Proceed through the exotic Arab Bazaar to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the most venerated Shrine in Christendom and the center of Christian worship in Jerusalem. See the Stone of Unction, Golgotha, the Armenian Gallery (Vernadoon) and the domed 12th century Armenian Chapel of Helena which is one of the most attractive places in the church, its rock walls covered with crosses scratched by medieval pilgrims. From here thirteen narrow steps lead down into the Crypt of the Finding of the Cross itself. Visit Calvary and the Tomb of Our Lord Jesus.

Day 13 - Jan. 24: Jerusalem / Jericho

Drive through the Judean Wilderness and along the shores of the Dead Sea to Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Proceed to the Oasis of Ein Gedi with its cascading waterfalls, limpid pools, wildflowers and green trees. Swim in the salty, mineral-laden waters of the Dead Sea. Then proceed to our hotel in Jericho with the remainder of the day free.

Day 14 - Jan. 25: Jericho

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in the Jordan River. Today we will join the Armenian Patriarch, bishops, priests and the rest of the community to the Jordan River and celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Late this evening return to our hotel for rest and relaxation.

Day 15 - Jan. 26: Jericho / Tel Aviv / Montreal

This morning transfer to the airport in Tel Aviv to catch our return flight home.



Day 11 - Jan. 22: Jerusalem

Today is free for private activities. This evening enjoy a special Middle Eastern dinner with drinks at the Christmas hotel.

TOUR COST

\$4,150.00 USD

per person/based upon double occupancy

For single occupancy please add an additional \$855.00 USD.

These prices include:

- * Roundtrip airfare from Montreal on Air France
- * All airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- * Accommodation in Superior First Class and Deluxe hotels
- * All hotel taxes
- * Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- * Land transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- * All transfers & baggage handling
- * Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary
- * All entrance fees as per itinerary
- * Gratuities to local guide, driver and hotel staff

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Reservations and Payment: George's International Tours requires a deposit of \$500.00 USD per person at the time of booking. Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure. Payments should be made by personal check or wire transfer.

Cancellations: Please make all cancellations in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$50.00 USD administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 61 days prior, a \$150.00 USD penalty will be charged. If canceled 60 - 31 days prior, a \$350.00 USD penalty will be charged. If canceled 30 - 7 days prior a \$700.00 USD penalty will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets are issued 100% of the airfare is non-refundable. Additional cancellation penalties may apply depending upon the cancellation terms of our suppliers.

Refunds: Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

Trust Account Disclosure: California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if the Seller of Travel was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which the Seller of Travel failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to the Seller of Travel, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Travel Documents: A passport which is valid for a minimum of 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all Canadian citizens. Visas are not required for Canadian citizens. If you are not Canadian citizen, please call to determine your visa requirement status. George's International Tours is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

Tour Cost: All quoted prices are based upon fares, tariffs and currency exchange rates at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. Should the minimum number of 20 tour members not be reached, the right is reserved to increase the tour cost accordingly.

Tour Documents and Tickets: Final tour documents are mailed, provided we have received full payment, within 3 weeks of departure.

Baggage: Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. You will be responsible for paying to the airline any additional charges for additional checked baggage or overweight baggage (if excess weight is permitted). George's International Tours is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

Air Transportation: Air travel is in economy class on Air France (or any other IATA carrier). Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing. Fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice.

Hotels: Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance. Insurance may be purchased directly through George's International Tours and registration forms will be provided upon receipt of your deposit or you may purchase online at www.georgesintl.com. George's International Tours acts only as an intermediary between you and the insurance provider and in no event shall George's International Tours be liable to any person or entity whatsoever for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, compensatory, consequential, or punitive damages related to insurance coverage purchased.

Not Included: Passport/visa fees, travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of the included meals, additional baggage in excess of airport allowance, optional sightseeing tours, and all expenses of a purely personal nature.

Responsibility Clause: The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. George's International Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries.

Limitation of liability: The airlines, hotels, and other suppliers (jointly: "travel suppliers") providing travel or other services sold by George's International Tours are independent contractors and not agents or employees of George's International Tours. George's International Tours and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their travel suppliers offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public. To the extent permitted by law, George's International Tours does not assume liability for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay due to an act or omission of a travel supplier, including, without limitation, an act of negligence or the default of a travel supplier. To the extent permitted by law, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage and/or delay due to force majeure, sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, bankruptcy, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or any causes beyond George's International Tours' control. Further, no responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions, delays, failure to make connections, non-performance or poor performance, loss of revenue, loss of anticipated profits, any additional expenses or lost business, attributable to you yourself, acts or omissions of any third parties, or acts of any governmental authority, even if George's International Tours has been advised that such damages were possible or probable.

Please refer to www.georgesintl.com for further disclosures concerning travel risks, travels with special needs or disabilities, and arbitration.

Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.

For further information on this pilgrimage please contact:

Armenian Prelacy of Canada

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GEORGE'S INTERNATIONAL TOURS

RESERVATION APPLICATION

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land (January 12-26, 2015)

Group Reference Number: 011215A

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please complete one application per person)

Name (as printed on your passport): First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____	
Name (as you wish it to appear on your name badge):	
Passport number:	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Passport date of issue:	Passport date of expiration:
Country of citizenship:	Date of birth:
Street address:	
City:	State: Zipcode:
Home phone:	Work phone:
Mobile phone:	Email address:

ROOM ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Please check one: Double occupancy <input type="checkbox"/> Single occupancy (\$855.00 additional) <input type="checkbox"/>
If choosing double occupancy, please indicate the name of your roommate if known at the time of booking:
If choosing single occupancy, would be willing to share a room with another person? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Please list the name, relationship and phone number for a family member/close friend who is <u>NOT</u> traveling with you:

Please enclose a deposit of **\$500.00 USD per person** made payable to **Armenian Prelacy of Canada** and mail to:

**Armenian Prelacy of Canada
3401 Olivar Asselin
Montreal, Quebec H4J 1L5
Canada**