

**Photographs of 2016 Tour:
Outside Cave of Machpelah, Hebron**



**Our tour leaders in 2016 –
Mohammed Omar, Rabbi David Hulbert & Revd. Jude Bullock**



**THE EAST LONDON
THREE FAITHS FORUM
OUR SEVENTH GUIDED TOUR TO
JERUSALEM AND THE HOLY LAND**

Wednesday 29th November – Wednesday 6th December

Led by: Rabbi David Hulbert, Maqsood Ahmed, Mrs Abida Iqbal and The Ven. Elwin Cockett, Archdeacon of West Ham



Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit places in the Holy Land (both Israel and the Palestinian territories) sacred to our three faiths:

Jerusalem

*Al-Aqsa Mosque and Dome of the Rock
Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Jesus' tomb)
Western Wall*

Dead Sea

*Yad Vashem (Memorial to Holocaust victims)
Masada (King Herod's palace), swim in the Dead Sea*

Bethlehem

Jesus' birthplace

Hebron

Tombs of the Patriarchs

Nazareth

Jesus' home-town; site of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary

Caesarea

Capital of Judaea and major port in Roman times

Boat-trip across the Sea of Galilee

And many more!

COST

£1,300 per person, sharing twin room.

Includes:

Return coach from Woodford to Luton Airport
Return flights
Half-board in top-quality, modern hotels
Travel in comfortable air-conditioned tour coach
Qualified tour guide, with us for the whole week
All entrance fees

The **cost** is made up of a **deposit** of £300, payable immediately, that will buy your EasyJet ticket. The flight tickets will go up in price as the plane fills up, so it is important to commit yourself and secure this price as soon as you can. The **balance** of £1,000, covering the hotels and the tour, will be payable at the beginning of October. This price is unlikely to change, unless there is a major fall in the value of the £ against the \$.

If you would like to come, send your name and full postal address to david.hulbert@whsmithnet.co.uk and you will be sent all the details and the booking form, with full terms and conditions.

FURTHER DETAILS:

The Middle East is the cradle of all three Abrahamic faiths and Israel/Palestine is full of holy places sacred to all three faiths. Jerusalem is a holy city, a place of pilgrimage for Jews, Christians and Muslims. The magnificent Dome of The Rock is the earliest mosque in the world, marking the Night Journey of the Prophet from Makka. Many of the present-day inhabitants of the Holy Land are still guided by their religious faith in their lives. Visiting the Holy Land, and praying to God there, in the company of other people of faith, is the journey of a lifetime.

This tour will be led by Rabbi David Hulbert, Maqsood Ahmed, Mrs Abida Iqbal and The Ven. Elwin Cockett, Archdeacon of West Ham. The itinerary mostly duplicates those of our earlier six very successful visits, and we will be led by the same professional tour guide, Eli Rockowitz, who is very much looking forward to meeting us again!

We have tried to include as many significant sites of religious pilgrimage as possible in the seven days available, and we have also tried to achieve a good balance of sites of Jewish, Christian and Muslim interest. But members of the Three Faiths Forum will recognise that the trip is an opportunity to learn about the holy sites of the other two faiths, as well as venerating their own. The weather will be warm and beautiful. Although the tour is quite intensive, there will be some free time and there will be plenty of opportunities to nap on the coach!

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- * Tourist visas are normally granted to British passport holders on entry to the country. You *must* have at least six months' validity left on your passport *after* the end of Nov. 2017. **Please check now!** For those who wish to use their passports to visit countries such as Pakistan, you can be assured that the border control people will put entry and exit stamps on a separate, removable piece of paper in your passport.
- * You should expect very stringent security checks, both at Luton and upon arrival in Israel. Please be calm and patient!
- * You do not need any medical jabs. Drinking water is safe. Just pack some Diocalm to soothe 'holiday tummy'.
- * You do not need to take travellers' cheques or cash - there are plenty of cash machines that work with British credit or debit cards.
- * Food is 'Mediterranean', with plenty of dairy food, fresh salads and rice. All meat will be kosher/halal. Hotels operate an 'eat as much as you want' buffet service.
- * Prices are much the same as they are in Britain. You are expected to bargain for souvenirs in Arab shuks, although Israeli prices are fixed.
- * As part of a guided coach tour, you are expected to be punctual for all departures, especially first thing in the morning! You will be expected to keep with the group, and not wander off to 'do your own thing' - although there will be free time and time for regular prayers.