

Your Tour Includes

The tour price includes all air and land travel costs involved in this itinerary, including return economy airfares with Singapore Airlines from Sydney. Also included are admission fees for all sites visited with the group. Comfortable, twin-share hotel accommodation is provided, with private bathroom. All breakfasts and dinners on the tour are included, as are hotel tips, portage, visas and airport taxes while you are with the group. The tour price does not include the cost of drinks (including bottled water), travel insurance, passports, photographic expenses (including camera tickets where applicable) and personal items.

Extra Travel

Should you wish to extend your journey into Africa, Europe or Round the World, or add a stopover in Dubai or Singapore, please contact Harvey World Travel Toronto who will be able to assist with any flights, tours, cruises, accommodation or car hire. You also have the option to upgrade your airfare from Economy Class to Business or First class. For full details and conditions on the airfare, please contact Harvey World Travel Toronto on 02 4959 8666 or toronto@harveyworld.com.au. All additional travel is at your expense and not included in the tour price.

Our Travel Agent

Our travel agent in Australia is Harvey World Travel (Toronto) 64 The Boulevard, Toronto NSW 2283 Phone: 02 4032 7828, Fax: 02 4950 5869, Lic No. 2TA 4798.

All travel costs outside the itinerary are the responsibility of the applicant. The itinerary is subject to change as circumstances may make necessary. No refund can be made for any services offered on the itinerary but not used. Travel insurance should be taken out once a deposit has been paid.



Wesley Institute Middle East Tour Price

\$9,350* Single supplement **\$1,865**

This can be charged to FEE-HELP for those who qualify. Enrol in the subject Biblical Sites Study Tour for Semester 2, 2009.

* **Includes international airfare**



Reserve Your Place Now!

Since places on the tour are limited, you are advised to make your plans early. Wesley Institute students who qualify for FEE-HELP, simply enrol in the subject Biblical Sites Study Tour for Semester 2, 2009 and we arrange government payment of your expenses. Others (both non-students and WI students who are not on FEE-HELP) can enrol in the subject and need to send a deposit of \$250 by cheque to ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGGINGS. Please also send a completed application form and a copy of the first page of your passport. Full payment will be required 10 weeks before departure (i.e. 15 September 2009).

*Please make cheques payable to DIGGINGS TOUR
All prices quoted in Australian dollars.*

Enquiries

PO Box 196, Morisset NSW 2264
Free-call: 1800 240 543 | **Fax:** 02 9012 0882
Email: editor@diggings.com.au



ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGGINGS

Go with someone who knows the way!

Wesley Institute Middle East Tour



Spend 23 thrilling days visiting the pyramids, the sphinx, the temples and tombs of Egypt, explore Israel, Jerusalem, Nazareth, the wonders of Petra and Jerash and so much more!



EGYPT – 9 Days

Tuesday November 24 – Tour Day 1

Depart Sydney at 4:40 pm on Singapore Airlines flight SQ 222 from Sydney for Cairo via Singapore.

Wednesday November 25 – Tour Day 2

Arrive Cairo 5.30am. Depart from airport on our own air-conditioned coach to visit the Pharaonic Village where ancient Egypt comes to life. See the replica of Tutankhamun's tomb. In the afternoon, visit the Cairo Museum with its fabulous collection of treasures from tombs and temples. See the fabulous treasures of Tutankhamun then visit the Royal Mummy room and see the mummies of the great Pharaohs of Egypt. O/N Cairo

Thursday November 26 – Tour Day 3

To the Sphinx, then the three great pyramids of Giza and if they are opened, explore inside both the Great Pyramid of Khufu and the pyramid of Khafre. Visit the ancient re-assembled funerary boat of Khufu in the museum beside the Great Pyramid. See Memphis, the capital of Ancient Egypt, then the Step Pyramid of Saqqara. In the evening, see the impressive Sound and Light show at the Giza pyramids. O/N Cairo

Friday November 27 – Tour Day 4

Morning flight to Luxor. First stop the temple of Luxor with its beautiful avenue of sphinxes and impressive columns. On to the huge temple of Karnak with its colossal statues and Hypostyle hall. See the inscriptions and reliefs of Thutmose III and Rameses II, and the obelisk of Hatshepsut. O/N Luxor

Saturday November 28 – Tour Day 5

FREE DAY IN LUXOR – Possible optional activities for the day off. Luxor Museum, Felucca cruise on the Nile, Mummification museum. Trip to the West Bank (Own expense).

Sunday November 29 – Tour Day 6

See the huge statues called the Colossi of Memnon and the Temple of Medinet Habu. Visit an alabaster factory and the Temple of Hatshepsut. See the magnificent tomb paintings in the royal tombs in the Valley of the Kings. Go inside the tomb of Tutankhamun and see the boy kings mummy on display. On to the Remesseum, the funerary temple of Rameses II. O/N Luxor

Monday November 30 – Tour Day 7

By road from Luxor to Aswan. Visit the temple of Edfu with its huge statue of Horus. Then on to the crocodile temple of Kom Ombo with its deep cut hieroglyphics and reliefs. At Aswan visit the Temple of Philae, the granite quarries, and the unfinished obelisk of Hatshepsut. O/N Aswan

Tuesday December 1 – Tour Day 8

In our air-conditioned coach to the Temple of Abu Simbel, cut out of the cliff face for Rameses II. Return to Cairo by Egypt Air. O/N Cairo



Wednesday December 2 – Tour Day 9

In our air-conditioned coach, follow in the footsteps of the Exodus to the Red Sea. Cross under the Suez Canal and into the Sinai Desert. Climb to the summit of Jebel Musa (Mt Sinai) and farewell the day from the summit. Stay at Santa Katarina in the shadow of the traditional Mt Sinai. O/N: Santa Katarina Village

ISRAEL – 11 Days

Thursday December 3 – Tour Day 10

To the Taba border crossing and into Israel. Explore Solomon's copper mines at Timna, then through the Ramon crater to the ancient ruins of Be'er Sheva and then visit Ashkelon. Continue on to Jerusalem. O/N Jerusalem

Friday December 4 – Tour Day 11

Visit the Mount of Olives for a superb view of the Temple Arena and the Dome of the Rock, then walk down to the Garden of Gethsemane. Visit the City of David and walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel, then on to the old city, through the Damascus Gate to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, then along the Via Dolorosa. See the procession carrying the cross from the Via Dolorosa, to the church of the Holy Sepulcher. Visit the Pool of Bethesda and the Western Wall where the Jews pray. O/N Jerusalem

Saturday December 5 – Tour Day 12

FREE DAY IN JERUSALEM – Optional visit to the Great Synagogue

Sunday December 6 – Tour Day 13

Visit the Herodion where Ehud Netzer found the tomb of Herod and see the current excavation of the theatre there. See the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. In the afternoon to the Garden Tomb, Gordon's Calvary and the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are on display. See the model of the Old City of Jerusalem complete with a model of the temple. The Israel Museum is closed. O/N Jerusalem

Monday December 7 – Tour Day 14

Along the highway to Caesarea. Herod's harbour was a world wonder. See his excavated hippodrome and palace, and the inscription of Pontius Pilate. Visit the wedding village of Cana, then to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation and walk through the bazaar. On to Megiddo of Armageddon fame and walk through the cistern, then on to the baptismal site on the Jordan River. O/N Tiberius

Tuesday December 8 – Tour Day 15

Sail across the Sea of Galilee in a 'Jesus Boat'. Circle the lake, stopping at Kursi. Continue on to visit Dan and Caesarea Philippi. Explore the fortress city of Hazor then on to the synagogue at Capernaum and the church of the loaves and fishes at Tabgha and the Church of the Beatitudes before returning to see the boat from Jesus' day excavated from the bottom of the lake near Ginnosar. O/N Tiberius

Wednesday December 9 – Tour Day 16

First to Mount Tabor, then visit the city of Sepphoris. Next to Beth Shearim's burial catacombs and then on to Mount Carmel where Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal. On to Lachish and then to the Kibbutz at Galon. Experience life on a Kibbutz for a night. O/N Kibbutz Galon.

Thursday December 10 – Tour Day 17

To Beit Govrin national park and experience an archaeological excavation. Work as an archaeologist at Mareshah, a 2000 year old city. In the afternoon visit the Sorek cave, a living stalactite cave in the hills behind Beit Shemesh. Return to Jerusalem. (If there is time stop at Gezer on the way to Jerusalem) O/N Jerusalem.

Friday December 11 – Tour Day 18

First to the ruins of Masada, one of Herod's great fortresses. Take a swim in the Dead Sea where you cannot sink, then to Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Return to Jerusalem, stopping at Jericho to see the remains of the biblical city that the Israelites defeated. O/N Jerusalem.

Saturday December 12 – Tour Day 19

FREE DAY IN JERUSALEM

Sunday December 13 – Tour Day 20

By air-conditioned coach to the border and cross into Jordan. On to Petra. (Possible stop at Madaba and Mount Nebo on the way – depends on the time needed to cross the border). O/N Petra

JORDAN – 2 Days

Monday December 14 – Tour Day 21

Walk, or ride a horse to the Siq, through the clefts in the rock that lead into the rose red city of Petra. See Al-Khazna (The Treasury) cut out of the cliff face, the theatre, or climb to the High Place. Some other sites of interest are the recently discovered Roman temple, or the Byzantine period church and mosaics. If you are feeling particularly energetic then a trip to Al Deir (The Monastery) is well worth the effort. Back on our coach and off to Amman, the capital city of Jordan. O/N Amman

Tuesday December 15 – Tour Day 22

To Jerash, one of the great cities of the Decapolis. Walk through the forum and cardo, see Hadrian's Arch and the Hippodrome, the North and South theatre's and the great temple of Artemis. Transfer to the Jordan international airport for a 4:30pm flight to Dubai. Transfer to Singapore airlines and fly from Dubai to Singapore. (Stopovers in Dubai or Singapore possible at own expense.)

Wednesday December 16 – Tour Day 23

Depart Singapore for Sydney on the evening flight. Arrive back at Sydney 7:30am 17th December 2009.

