



Bethlehem

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

December 27, 2012 – January 4, 2013

Walk where Jesus walked and use **MUSIC** as an outreach to non-Christians throughout Israel, including a **WORLDWIDE PREMIERE** performance in Manger Square in Bethlehem!

hosted by PHIL BARFOOT



HIGHLIGHTS

PERFORM

- **Worldwide Premiere** performance of "THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS" in Bethlehem!
- **Perform** in Manger Square in Bethlehem

DISCOVER

- **See** and **touch** the WESTERN (WAILING) WALL
- **Walk** the steps of JESUS through the streets of the Old City of Jerusalem along the VIA DOLOROSA

EXPERIENCE

- **Partake** of the Lord's Supper at the GARDEN TOMB.
- **Ride a boat** across the SEA OF GALILEE and visit the ruins of CAPERNAUM.
- **Experience** a historic drive to BETHLEHEM, the royal city of David, to kneel at the traditional place of the birth of Christ at the GROTTA OF THE NATIVITY.
- **Special Teaching Moments** by our church pastors.

2090 BAKER ROAD ♦ SUITE 304-104 ♦ KENNESAW, GEORGIA 30144

TELEPHONE: (678) 398-7007 ♦ FAX: (770) 635-8585

WWW.HARMONYINTERNATIONAL.COM ♦ INFO@HARMONYINTERNATIONAL.COM



I am thrilled to be hosting the 2012 BETHLEHEM CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL—a historic music, ministry, and spiritual pilgrimage to Israel celebrating the birth of Christ. In addition to “Walking Where Jesus Walked” you will be performing the World Premiere performance of “The Light of Christmas” in Bethlehem!

A SPECIAL INVITATION TO YOU!

Singers and Spouses are welcome!

I am asking you and your choir to be part of the initial “core” of the choir we are putting together for this trip. Our goal is to have 200+ in the choir with plans to create DVD video that will include the full concert as well as tour highlights and testimonies. Although plans are still being finalized, we are concentrating on 2 concerts while on tour in addition to a number of stop-and-sings at key Biblical spots. Beyond the music, we will have opportunity to experience all that the Holy Land has to offer. Music/Ministry highlights to include:

- **Using MUSIC to share the Gospel in unprecedented ways throughout the Holy Land.**
- **Connecting with non-Christian ISRAELIS and PALESTINIANS.**
- **Expanding the ministry of the BETHLEHEM BIBLE COLLEGE and its Music Outreach Department.**

I am only inviting a few choirs to be part of this initial core group. There is no doubt that the lives of you and your choir members will be completely changed by the events you will be part of!

Sincerely,
Phil Barfoot, Artistic Director
2012 BETHLEHEM CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL



DAILY ITINERARY

(Subject to Change)



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27: DEPART THE USA

Depart the U.S. on your international flight bound for Israel.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28: WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

Arrival in Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv. Meet, assist by local tour guide responsible for your tour of Israel, and transfer by your guide and driver to hotel. Dinner and overnight.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29: BETHLEHEM CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

9:00a—Visit Church of the Nativity; sing in Manger Square-Bethlehem

12:00p—Lunch at Lutheran Christmas Church (Sandwiches)

12:30p-3:00p—Dress Rehearsal

5:00p—Light snack break

6:00p—**Performance of "The Light of Christmas"**

9:00p—Dinner at the famous "Grotto" Restaurant in Bethlehem including traditional foods, entertainment and fellowship with Palestinian Christians.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30: JERUSALEM

After breakfast this day we shall start our pilgrimage in Jerusalem with a drive to the top of the Mt. of Olives, from which Jesus ascended to heaven after His resurrection. From the top of the Mount there is a magnificent view over all of ancient and modern Jerusalem, the center of the Biblical world. We visit the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations where Christ prayed on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:40-46). Next we shall enter within the old Walled City of Jerusalem and walk in the footsteps of our Lord as he bore the burden of our sins to the Cross at Golgotha. We visit the Pools of Bethesda and walk on along the Via Dolorosa, following the 14 Stations of the Cross from Pilate's Judgment Hall to the empty tomb in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. We shall also visit the last standing remnant of the ancient Temple at the Western (Wailing) Wall. Dinner at hotel.



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MONDAY, DECEMBER 31: GARDEN TOMB/MASADA



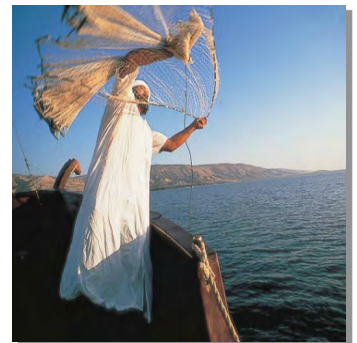
We start this day with a meaningful communion service at the Garden Tomb. Afterwards, we drive down through the Judean desert and past the "Inn of the Good Samaritan" to the Dead Sea, the lowest spot on the face of the Earth. We drive around the shores of the Dead Sea passing Ein Gedi enroute to the mountain fortress of Masada. Ascent by cable car for an extensive tour of the site, which was the scene of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in the year 73 AD. Tonight we'll have a special New Year's Eve celebration!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1: QUMRAN/TIBERIAS

After a mid-morning brunch, we'll board our coach and drive along the shores of the Dead Sea to visit the archaeological remains of the Qumran settlement where the Dead Sea Scrolls were written over 2,000 years ago. Today, we'll also get a driving tour of Jericho, the oldest city in the world! Afterwards, we head north to Tiberias for dinner and overnight, overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2: SEA OF GALILEE

The Sea of Galilee is rich in memories of the three years of Jesus' ministry around its shores. We begin our pilgrimage in the Sea of Galilee with a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee to visit the ruins of Capernaum, which in Jesus' time was a flourishing border town and was called "his own city" because of the frequency with which Jesus visited it and the mighty works He did there. A lunch of St. Peter's Fish is ready for us in a restaurant on the eastern shores of the Sea of Galilee. We stop for some meaningful time on the Mount of Beatitudes, the scene of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5) for a teaching moment. We continue our drive around the shores of the Sea of Galilee to the Baptismal Site along the river Jordan offering an opportunity for those who wish to be baptized. Dinner at the hotel.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 3: NAZARETH/MT. CARMEL/CAESAREA MARITIMA



After having breakfast, we start this day with a drive through the beautiful landscape of Lower Galilee, the scene of much of Christ's ministry and the home of many of the disciples. We drive on across the "Plain of Armageddon" to the town of Nazareth, a town in the hill country of Galilee where Jesus grew to manhood (Matthew 2:23). Here we will visit Cana in Galilee, the scene of the wedding feast, where Jesus turned the water into wine (John 2:1-11). Afterwards, we'll visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, a modern Catholic Church built over the remains of Byzantine (dating from the 4th or 5th century) and Crusader churches. It incorporates the cave in which the Virgin Mary received the news from Gabriel that she would give birth to Jesus. Afterwards, we journey to Mt. Carmel where we shall visit the "Place of Sacrifice" where the Prophet Elijah had an encounter with the Priests of Baal (1 Kings 18:17-40). Our next stop is a visit to the ruins of Caesarea Maritima, which was seat of government of the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate. Next, time permitting, we drive towards ancient Jaffa (New Testament Joppa) where the Apostle Peter had a vision, whilst sitting on the rooftop of the House of Simon the Tanner, and he received God's command to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles. We continue on towards airport for overnight return flights to the United States.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4: WELCOME HOME!

Arrival back into the U.S.

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QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Q How safe is Israel?

A Very safe! The main industry in Israel is tourism. Because of that the government implements many safeguards to protect pilgrims coming to the Holy Land. Many of the reports we may see on the news from time to time are isolated to Gaza, which is located far to the south.

Q Can my friend, spouse, or other family members go?

A Yes! If they live in a different part of the US we will work with them in arranging their air connection to the international points of departure.

Q Will we have a guide with us during the entire tour?

A Yes! Not only will there be a professional guide on each bus, but Brad Matheson, President of Harmony International, along with his staff, will be accompanying the tour every step of the way.

Q I have some special health considerations, what if a situation arises?

A As part of your tour package we have included a FULL health and emergency package covering you in the event of a medical situation.

Q What are our hotels like?

A We will have two hotels during our time in Israel; both will be 4-star deluxe hotels known for their comfort and quality.

Q What will our transportation be like?

A We will be traveling in new luxury European-style buses for the duration of the tour.



WHAT'S INCLUDED IN OUR PROJECT?

1. **Transportation within Israel** by new/modern motor coach.
2. **Sightseeing/Religious/Educational/Cultural Arrangements. Admissions to all itinerary events:** National Park ticket unlimited entries, Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, Masada round trip cable car, Qumran, Capernaum, ALL INCLUSIVE ON ITINERARY.
3. **Accommodations** at FIRST CLASS 4-star hotels. The price is based on double/triple occupancy, all rooms with private facilities.
4. **Breakfast and Dinner provided each day.** Because of our group itinerary lunch will be on your own most days but coordinated by HI staff.
5. **Sightseeing excursions** as outlined in the day-by-day itinerary. Guides are also selected based upon experience, referral, knowledge, and ability to deal with people.
6. **Assistance** from HI staff as requested. Members of the HI staff will be with the group throughout the Tour. We will also have a global cell phone for transcontinental use in case of emergencies.
7. A pre-departure **HI Travel Packet** is available to each participant containing useful information about travel preparation, destination information, useful packing, cultural conditioning suggestions, as well as insights and travel documents.
8. A **Printed itinerary** is given to each individual listing hotel addresses, local contact phone numbers, and HI staff contact procedure.
9. **Individual health insurance coverage** is included in ALL HI projects covering each individual (see summary of coverage below).
10. **Tour Management** is conducted by HI working directly with local agencies to establish objectives, develop itineraries, and coordinate all items related to the Tour.

Summary of Coverage

Accidental Death & Dismemberment.....	\$100,000/Person (Reduced to \$10,000 for those under age 12 or over age 70)
Disability Income, for 1 st through 100 th months, Accident	1,000/Month
For 101 st through 200 th months, Accident.....	\$500/Month
For Sickness 50 Month Benefit	
3 Month Waiting Period	\$250/Month
Medical Expense, \$100.00 Deductible	\$10,000
Note: \$2,500 of this benefit can be used to meet eligible medical expense incurred in the U.S.	
Emergency Evacuation.....	\$100,000
Family Coordination and Repatriation of Mortal Remains	\$25,000
Medical Assistance (24 Hour Telephone Service)	
For Assistance with Worldwide Medical Emergencies.....	Included
Property (Baggage) Insurance	
\$100.00 Deductible	\$2,500
Aggregate Limit.....	\$2,000,000

NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR

1. US Passport or process of obtaining a passport.
2. Meals not specified in itinerary.
3. Tips to guides/drivers of approx. \$5/day (to be billed with final payment).
4. Airfare.