

Holy Land Tour

An Educational Tour
Organized by Shalom Tour Pte Ltd

*Register Early
Space Limited to Enhance the Learning Experience*

27 November – 10 December 2015



View from a church on the Mount of Olives of the Temple Mount and Dome of the Rock

Shalom! Picture yourself cupping your hands to drink water at the same spring where Gideon's band of 300 select men did the same, . . . climbing the steps that led to the altar of the golden calf in the northern kingdom of Israel, . . . or studying about Jesus calming the storms as you sail across the Sea of Galilee.

This is not another pilgrimage that surveys churches and souvenir shops. Instead, I wish to use this experience to teach you God's Word in its original setting. I have taught Bible classes in over 30 countries. In addition, I lived and studied in the Holy Land for three years. As a result of our time together, you will envision more clearly some of the biblical events and why they occurred as they did.

Together we will travel from Dan to Beersheba, from the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea. The Bible will come alive. You will never read the Scriptures the same way again. My wife, Jeannette, and I will lead this tour organized by Shalom Tour Pte Ltd. We invite you to join us on this trip of a lifetime.

Please read carefully the exciting itinerary designed to enhance your appreciation of the Scriptures. Because this trip is designed to be a learning experience, space is limited. Do not delay in reserving your place on this tour. I trust you can join us. If you would like more information about the trip please contact shalomtour@singnet.com.sg or studytour@east.edu.sg

Dr. Keith A. Shubert

Itinerary

- 26 November (Thursday)** Evening check-in at Changi Airport and board the Turkish Airlines flight for Istanbul before midnight.
- 27 November (Friday)** Fly overnight from Singapore, transit in Istanbul, Turkey, and arrive in Israel mid-morning. We first visit a biblical garden where we have lunch and experience what life was like in biblical times. Then we go to **Bet Shemesh** and overlook the **Sorek Valley** where Samson lived. We continue south to the **Elah Valley** where David defeated Goliath. We spend the night in the **Judean Hill Country**. *Overnight at Yad Hashmona Country Hotel or similar.*
- 28 November (Saturday)** We drive north to **Caesarea**, a city built by Herod the Great along the **Mediterranean Sea**. In Caesarea, Peter preached in Cornelius' home and Paul was imprisoned for two years. We continue to **Mt. Carmel**, where Elijah took a stand for God against the prophets of Baal. We have lunch nearby and then walk through the strategic city, **Megiddo**, which Solomon fortified. We descend to the **Sea of Galilee** and check into our lakeside kibbutz hotel. *Overnight at Maagan Holiday Village or similar.*
- 29 November (Sunday)** We travel through **upper Galilee** on our way to **Hazor**, the largest city in Palestine during the days of Joshua and Solomon. In **Dan** we climb the steps leading to the altar where Jeroboam placed a golden calf when the nation divided. We stop at **Caesarea Philippi** where Peter confessed Jesus to be the Messiah. We go up to the **Golan Heights** and see the plains of **Bashan** and return to our hotel via the area where Jesus healed a demonic and as a result a herd of pigs rushed over the cliff and drowned. *Overnight at Maagan Holiday Village or similar.*
- 30 November (Monday)** We drive to **Nazareth**, where Jesus grew up. At Nazareth Village and Kfar Kedem we experience what life was like during the time of Christ. In the afternoon we climb to the top of **Mt. Arbel**, to overlook sites of biblical significance in the region. We descend to **Tiberius** on the western shore of the **Sea of Galilee** and return to our hotel with time to reflect, relax on the beach, or swim in the lake. *Overnight at Maagan Holiday Village or similar.*
- 1 December (Tuesday)** Today we focus on sites from the life of Christ. We have a time of worship and teaching on the "Worship Boat" on the **Sea of Galilee** and view the "**Jesus Boat**" which shows the size of boats used by fishermen in that area during the first century. Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount on the **Mount of the Beatitudes**. More of Jesus' recorded miracles were performed in **Capernaum** than any other city. We conclude the afternoon at a baptismal site on the **Jordan River**. *Overnight at Maagan Holiday Village or similar.*
- 2 December (Wednesday)** We leave the **Sea of Galilee** and go towards **Mount Gilboa**, on the southern edge of the **Jezebel Valley**. We stop at **Ein Harod**, the spring where Gideon, in obedience to God's direction, selected 300 men to fight against the large Midianite army (about 135,000 men). We drive to **Bet Shean**, where the Philistines hung the bodies of Saul and Jonathan after Israel's defeat. We follow the **Jordan River** until we reach the **Dead Sea** and **Qumran** where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were discovered. We continue south to **Masada**, which Herod the Great fortified and where the Jews had their final resistance against the Romans until A.D. 73. We check into our hotel along the southern shores of the **Dead Sea**. *Overnight at Isrotel Ganim Dead Sea or similar.*
- 3 December (Thursday)** We travel towards **Beersheva**, the main city of the **Negev** region. This was Abraham and Isaac's home area. Afterwards, we descend below sea level to the **Dead Sea**. Upon returning to the hotel, we have the afternoon free to relax, reflect on what we've learned and experienced, visit the spa, or enjoy an "unsinkable swim" in the **Dead Sea**. In the evening we have a worship service reflecting on who God is and what we have learned. *Overnight at Isrotel Ganim Dead Sea or similar.*
- 4 December (Friday)** We drive north along the **Dead Sea** and stop at **Ein Gedi** where David hid when he fled from Saul. We visit **Jericho**, the first city the Israelites conquered when they entered the Promised Land. We go up the road of the Good Samaritan through the **Judean Wilderness** and stop at "Genesis Land" to experience what life was like for Abraham when he arrived in the Promised Land. After lunch we continue uphill to **Jerusalem**. We enter the Old City via the **Dung Gate** and walk to the **Wailing Wall** where many religious Jews come to pray. We follow the narrow streets of Jerusalem to the **Pool of Bethesda** where Jesus healed the crippled man. In the late afternoon we check into our hotel and celebrate the start of the Sabbath with a special meal. *Overnight at Leonardo Hotel Jerusalem or similar.*
- 5 December (Saturday)** We spend the morning at the **Israel Museum** where we see the **Dead Sea Scrolls** exhibit and a **scale-model of Jerusalem** as it appeared in the time of Christ. After lunch we travel a few kilometers south to the **Shepherd's Fields** where the angels told the shepherds of Christ's birth and to the Church of the Nativity in the center of **Bethlehem**. We return to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner. *Overnight at Leonardo Hotel Jerusalem or similar.*
- 6 December (Sunday)** After we walk up to the **Temple Mount** area, we walk around the area where the Temple once stood. A short distance away is the fortress **Antonia** where Pilate condemned Christ to death. We then follow the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**, the site of the crucifixion. We walk through the **Jewish Quarter** and see a section of the wall King Hezekiah fortified. We remain in the Old City and walk to the **Southern Steps**, which Jesus would have used when He entered and left the Temple. The first night of Hanukkah begins at sunset. *Overnight at Leonardo Hotel Jerusalem or similar.*
- 7 December (Monday)** We again enter the **Old City**, walk by the **Western Wall Plaza**, and follow a tunnel along the **Western Wall**. We see some of the large stones Herod the Great used when constructing the **Temple Mount**. Afterwards we travel to the **Mount of Olives**. We follow the **Palm Sunday Path** to the **Garden of Gethsemane** where Jesus was betrayed. After lunch we are free to visit the **Holocaust Museum** (Yad Va Shem) with the group, go shopping, explore the city on our own, or return to the hotel. At the hotel we see candles lit for the second night of Hanukkah. *Overnight at Leonardo Hotel Jerusalem or similar.*
- 8 December (Tuesday)** We begin our day at the ancient city of **King David** and walk down to **Hezekiah's Tunnel**, which King Hezekiah commissioned to bring spring water into Jerusalem. This wet hike will end at the **Pool of Siloam**, where Jesus sent the blind man to wash and be healed. After changing into dry clothing, we join an archeological project on the **Mount of Olives** and wonder if we might find an ancient coin or artefact from 2,000 years ago or older. The afternoon is free and easy. At the hotel we see candles lit for the third night of Hanukkah. *Overnight at Leonardo Hotel Jerusalem or similar.*
- 9 December (Wednesday)** After a leisurely morning, teaching session, and lunch we gather at the **Garden Tomb** where we remember Christ's death and resurrection with Holy Communion. We have a celebration dinner near **Kiriath-Jearim** where the Ark of the Covenant remained about twenty years. We celebrate all we have learned and new friendships gained. Afterwards we travel to Ben Gurion International Airport and check in for our evening flight on Turkish Airlines to Istanbul.
- 10 December (Thursday)** We fly from Istanbul and return to Singapore in the late afternoon. We read the Bible with a new understanding. We will never be the same.

Tour Fee: SG\$4,699

30 May 2015 Registration Deadline

Included Costs: Airfare; standard room accommodation at hotels in Israel based on twin sharing; daily buffet breakfast and dinner in Israel; lunch each day in Israel; entrance fees to all specified sites; Israeli departure fees; roundtrip airport transfers from/to Ben Gurion International Airport (if arriving/departing with main tour group); study guide for sites visited; services of English-speaking guides; air-conditioned buses; portage of one 30 kg piece of luggage and one piece of hand luggage; and all tips (guides, drivers, hotels, meals, and porters).

Excluded Costs: Fees to obtain/renew a passport; airline taxes and fuel surcharge; extra beverages with meals; Jordan River baptismal fee; transfer and portage of excess luggage in addition to one piece of checked luggage; upgrade of hotel room or airline seat; single room supplement; additional nights or transfer fees if not arriving or departing with the main group; travel insurance; personal expenses (such as phone calls, room service, use of mini bar, laundry, business center or internet connection fees, and shopping); travel to/from Israeli Embassy (for citizens of some countries where a personal appearance is required); and Israel visa fees for citizens of some countries.

Luggage: Each passenger coming from Singapore is allowed one piece of checked-in luggage weighing up to 30 kilograms plus one piece of hand luggage not exceeding dimensions of 17" x 14" x 8". Turkish Air will assess a fee for more than one piece of checked-in luggage.

What to Bring: Bible, notebook, hat or umbrella for sun protection, sun screen lotion, sturdy walking shoes, casual clothing for touring, long trousers/skirt for certain religious sites, dress-up casual for Sabbath dinner, water shoes for use at the Dead Sea beach and in Hezekiah's Tunnel, flashlight and batteries for use in Hezekiah's Tunnel, camera with extra batteries and memory cards, skin lotion, personal toiletries, swimsuit, rain jacket or poncho; winter jacket/coat, gloves, scarf, and spending money.

Documentation & Visas: Participants must ensure that their passports are valid for a minimum of six (6) months upon entry into Israel. Most participants will obtain Israeli visas upon arrival. Citizens of some countries may need to appear in person at the Israeli Embassy in their country to apply for a visa. Shalom Tours Pte Ltd will process visa applications for Malaysian and Indonesian citizens.

Accommodation Options: All accommodations will generally be on twin-sharing basis in standard hotel rooms containing two twin beds. Please note the following:

- (1) **Married couples** who request a double bed should specify this on their registration forms submitted with the deposit. This type of room is not guaranteed but is subject to availability at each hotel.
- (2) If a **single person** traveling alone wishes to share a room with another person of the same gender, he/she should indicate on the registration form submitted with the deposit either the name of his/her preferred roommate also going on the trip or that he/she is allowing Shalom Tour Pte Ltd to assign a roommate of the same gender. There is no guarantee of such a roommate. The single participant must be prepared to pay for Single Room charge which is an additional SG\$1,050.
- (3) There is no reduction of cost if **three adults** (including children ages 12+) share a room.

Children: Because this tour has an educational emphasis, it is not recommended for young children.

East Asia School of Theology (EAST) Course Credit: Those wishing to obtain three hours of EAST credit can register online for the course *BS532 Physical Settings of the Bible Practicum (3 credits)* in June or July 2015 prior to the start of the semester. Homework must be completed prior to the trip to enhance the learning experience. Questions about registration for course credit should be addressed to Wong Ee Yuing at EAST (email: ceyuing@east.edu.sg or telephone: 6291-9744). Questions about homework requirements can be sent to studytour@east.edu.sg. EAST tuition fees will be assessed upon course registration. The cost of the textbook is separate from the tuition fee.

Pre-Trip Sessions and Orientation: Since this is an educational tour there will be five pre-trip sessions at EAST prior to the trip (one per month starting July 2015). These pre-trip sessions are recommended for all trip participants and required for those doing work to obtain EAST course credit. The first four sessions will provide biblical and cultural contexts of many sites/regions to be visited. The fifth and final orientation will occur about 2-3 weeks prior to departure and provide additional information about the schedule, flights, clothing, and security, or any other questions participants may have.

Travelers not Originating from Singapore and/or Using Frequent Flyer Miles: Participants not traveling with the group from Singapore and/or those using frequent flyer miles will need to make their own flight arrangements. For travelers not originating from Singapore and making their own flight arrangements and/or using frequent flier miles, the land package cost is SG\$3,449.

Those using frequent flier miles or not traveling with the group from Singapore should arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport (Tel Aviv, Israel) prior to 8:30 a.m. on Friday, 27 November 2015 and depart from Ben Gurion International Airport (Tel Aviv) after 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 9 December 2015. Accommodations before and after the tour as well as airport transfers in Israel for those not traveling with the main group are not included in the tour price but can be arranged at an additional cost.

Facilities: Certain facilities such as museums and sightseeing tours may not be available on a given day due to weather or other factors. Alternatives will be offered whenever possible.

Schedule of Payments:

	Participants from Singapore <i>or</i> those residing outside of Singapore but traveling from Singapore with the group (SG\$4,699)	Participants from other countries making own travel arrangements <i>or</i> individuals using frequent flyer miles (SG\$3,449)
Deposit (<i>Non-refundable but transferable</i>) Due by 30 May, 2015	\$500	\$500
Balance Due by 30 August 2015	\$4,199 + Taxes & Fuel Surcharge	\$2,949

Airline Taxes and Fuel Surcharge: Airline taxes and fuel surcharges are subject to change prior to final ticketing. As of January 2015 the Turkish Airline taxes and fuel surcharge was SG\$655.00. The charge for this will be assessed at the time of ticketing and is payable by 30 August 2015 (see above).

How to Register for the Trip:

1. Obtain a trip registration form. These are available from shalomtour@singnet.com.sg or studytour@east.edu.sg
2. Gather the following (1) completed registration form, (2) photocopy of passport ID page, (3) recent passport-sized photo, and (4) deposit cheque of SG\$500 payable to **Shalom Tour Pte Ltd**.
3. Post the four documents to Shalom Tour Pte Ltd, Changi Airport Post Office, PO Box 197, Singapore 918147.

Registration Deadline. Registration forms and deposit cheques are accepted until 30 May 2015. After the deadline it may still be possible to register based on availability of airline seats. Seats reserved after 30 May 2015 may be ticketed on an individual fare basis rather than on a group fare basis. The fare difference would be the responsibility of the individual.

Payment Procedures for Individuals Residing Outside Singapore: Participants residing outside Singapore can make payments to Shalom Tours Pte Ltd. by overseas telegraphic transfer. For details please email shalomtour@singnet.com.sg

Travel Insurance. Purchase of travel insurance is strongly recommended with respect to unforeseen circumstances such as trip cancellation, personal baggage loss, personal accident, injury, or illness. It is recommended that participants select policies which provide maximum coverage. ACE Travel Insurance is available for purchase through Shalom Tour Pte Ltd.

Extensions of Stay. An extension of stay in Israel or Turkey at the end of the tour is permitted, subject to the maximum validity, restrictions, and fare rules of the air ticket. Flight and accommodation reservations for this extended stay should be made prior to the commencement of the tour. Extensions or deviation from the group after the tour will be at the expense of the participant and transfers will not be provided. Those wishing to extend their stay should indicate this on the registration form.

Unused Services. No refunds will be made for unused air tickets, land transportation, meals, accommodation, sightseeing, or any part of the tour not utilized by the participant.

Amendments. Any amendment(s) made after airline and land tour reservations have been acted upon will be charged an amendment fee of SG\$200 per person.

Cancellation Fees & Procedures: In the event of any cancellation, the following fees will be applicable:

60 or more days prior to departure	\$500.00 per person
59-31 days prior to departure	50% of tour package price
Less than 30 days to departure	100% of tour package price
"No Show" at departure	100% of tour package price

Tickets once purchased are subject to airline cancellation fees if the participant cannot join the trip. All participants are urged to obtain appropriate travel insurance to cover expenses related to emergency cancellation.

Cancellation Procedures: Participants who need to cancel are required to submit the cancellation request in writing with accompanying documentation (such as medical certificates). The reason for cancellation should be stated. The request must be submitted to Shalom Tour Pte Ltd on or before departure date. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd reserves the right to forfeit the deposits in its sole discretion when a participant cancels his/her booking. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd may however in its sole discretion all the deposit amount to be transferred by the participant to someone else (new sign up).

Minimum Number of Participants & Tour Cancellation: The cost of the trip is based upon a minimum of 30 participants. A supplement of SG\$220.00 will be applied for a smaller group between 25 to 29 participants. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd reserves the right to cancel a tour prior to departure for any reason whatsoever. Should this happen, all payments made less deposits will be refunded without further obligation or liability on the part of Shalom Tour Pte Ltd.

Right to Reject. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd reserves the right to cancel or withdraw any itinerary or any bookings made for a client. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd also has the right to decline acceptance or retain any person as a member of the tour if it appears that such person(s) is likely to endanger the health or safety, or impair the comfort and enjoyment of others on the tour. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd further reserves the right to cancel reservations if for any reasons whatsoever, any carrier, hotel, or contractor refuses to allow the person concerned to participate in the tour. In any of the above mention events Shalom Tour Pte Ltd's sole liability shall be limited to a refund of any monies paid, less the amount for services already utilized plus administration fees.

Responsibility. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd acts as an agent for the transportation companies, hotel contractors, and other principals involved in the tour programmes. Shalom Tour Pte Ltd and its agents are not liable for any accident, bodily injuries, loss of or damage to property unless such accident, bodily injuries, loss of or damage to property is caused by Shalom Tour Pte Ltd or its agents' willful misconduct or negligence. Every person participating in this tour does so at his/her own risk.

Shalom Tour Pte Ltd and its agents are also not liable for any losses or expenses incurred due to any delay in the form of transportation strikes, adverse weather conditions, sickness, thefts, cancellation, changes in itinerary or schedules, quarantine, customs regulations, deportation or refusal of entry of tour members by immigration authorities resulting from the possession of unlawful items or holding improper travel documents, or other causes or whose behavior and activities are considered subversive or any other causes provided that none of these losses or expenses incurred arose from the willful act or gross negligence of Shalom Tour Pte Ltd and/or its agents. Participants acknowledge that the foregoing events are beyond Shalom Tour Pte Ltd's control and any such losses and/or expenses incurred in connection with the foregoing there shall be no refund or replacement.

Shalom Tour Pte Ltd

Contact Person: Mr. Richert Kok

UEN 201207443G Travel Agent's Licence No. 02246

Changi Airport Post Office, P. O. Box 197, Singapore 918147

Phone: (65) 9777-3721 Email: shalomtour@singnet.com.sg