

## WALK ABOUT ZION TOUR TESTIMONIALS

*In addition to seeing the usual sites, Joan customized the trip so we could deeply taste the history and heart of both ancient and modern Israel. We were delighted to find that each hotel we stayed in was a place of beautiful elegance and wonderful food. The accommodations were simply incredible throughout the trip.*

*The unique itinerary Joan had prepared for us included an incredible day on the Golan Heights beginning with the “Magic of the Golan” model and movie that prepared us for our jeep ride on the Golan Heights where we toured a bunker and heard an insightful talk by a member of the IDF (Israeli Defense Force). **We also loved the connection with Messianic believers** and were deeply moved by our time with Gaby and Rami of Messianic Taste of Israel, where we were treated to a harp concert performed by Gaby. We were also treated to wonderful speakers such as Tass Saada in Jericho, where he runs the ministry Seeds of Hope sewing the hope of the Gospel in the Middle East, Micky Rosenfeld, Israel’s international police spokesperson, and Pastor Steven Khoury, an Arab pastor who ministers in Jerusalem.*

*I must also mention how much we all appreciated our delightful Messianic tour guide, Yoni, who complemented his vast knowledge of Israel and the Bible with his personable, fun style and his special gifting in storytelling. Yoni was amazing and we all adored him. And, it was Joan’s book “Israel for the Christian Traveler” that helped us retain what we learned with its concise overview of all the sites, along with maps and helpful biblical insights and general information about Israel.*

*There is so much more to tell about this wonderful experience but a critically important factor is the low cost Joan was able to provide to us. **While we stayed at top rated hotels and enjoyed incredible cuisine throughout our trip, the cost was amazingly affordable and far less than we had expected a trip like this would cost. Joan has done an incredible job of combining the best accommodations with the most unique itinerary and speakers for the best possible price. And the entire focus of the trip was for the glory of Jesus! This truly was a trip of a lifetime and we can hardly wait to go again!***

**Pam Frost**

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***First off I would like to thank you and your team for putting together an itinerary that was jam packed full of wonderful experiences, joyful fellowship times, and meaningful people. I absolutely loved the whole experience and thought everyday was a God given day to reflect on our lives and what they mean in perspective to the overall plan that He has for His people. I learned so much and had my eyes opened to the majesty and power of our Lord at work in the land of Israel!***

*What an amazing experience to be part of something that was from the history of the Bible. Also the time spent at the Western Wall during Shabbat was a privilege. And the extraordinary people that opened up their homes for us to join them in celebration, dinner, and dancing will forever be in my heart.*

*There are countless times of fellowship and prayer while in the Holy land that I believe God gives us to really drive that love into our hearts and minds. There was not a wasted minute of time spent there. I love Israel! Forever grateful.*

**Benjamin Downey**

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***Because I love to travel and have visited many countries over the years, I know what a good tour is and I can highly recommend this very affordable trip with Joan. If you are looking for a well planned trip to Israel that will cover all the major sites, plus many more wonderful things you hadn't even thought of - such as a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, dinner at a Messianic home, Communion at the Garden Tomb, meeting with a Holocaust survivor, and a camel ride, this is the trip for you!***

***Israel is such a beautiful country, much more beautiful than I could have imagined. Every moment I was there, I felt safe. Israel has the best security in the world and to make sure every possible precaution is taken there are young military people everywhere. Once you visit Israel, your world will never be the same again because you can relate every site and teaching with something in the Bible. Every day you will think of this trip. Thank you Joan for wonderful memories!***

**Kathy Wright**

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***I would highly recommend Joan to anybody who is considering a tour of the Holy Land. I am fully aware that the cost of a trip like this is almost always a concern for people. I don't think you will beat the cost of our tour with Joan, especially***

***considering the high quality of the hotels where we stayed, the wonderful food that we ate everywhere, and the number of sites we visited and activities we enjoyed.***

*On our tour, we were able to see virtually all the key historical sites. The experience was enhanced by having Joan's book in hand, which provides great scriptural and historical context for the places we visited. I would consult her book in the comfort of our luxury tour bus as we moved from site to site.*

***When you travel with Joan you will go beyond the standard Israel tour fare. We had several special speakers from Israel and Jordan, we visited the home of some wonderful Messianic believers, and we participated in a wide variety of activities, including, among many others, kayaking the Jordan River, a jeep excursion on the Golan Heights and the Temple Mount archaeological sifting (our people found some great stuff!).***

***We felt safe and we were safe in Israel. We loved our tour guide, a Messianic believer, who, along with Joan, made the trip not only informative but fun. It was not my first time in Israel, but it was my best time. I returned home with a new appreciation for both Israel's ancient, biblical history and the profound complexity of Israel's contemporary situation.***

**Pastor Ted Hamilton**

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***If you plan to visit Israel make sure it's with Joan and the Walk About Zion Travel . You will have the travel experience of a lifetime and really "get into the trenches" with the land, the people, and the biblical sites of Israel. I just completed a trip with Joan and a team from North Coast Church (San Diego Co this last March). It was a large group of around 40, but we had a wonderful and memorable time. In addition, as side note, I've never felt safer anywhere in the world!***

***Joan covers every detail from a smooth flight itinerary to incredible native meals and the finest of hotel accommodations during your trip. Be prepared for action-packed, adventurous schedule as Joan doesn't want you to miss anything while on your Israel adventure. It obvious Joan has carefully selected the "must see" sights and experiences for a Christian who wants to know their historical roots in Gods loving plan for the world. The visits, tours, and experiences throughout Israel from old Jerusalem to the Sea of Galilee to Masada and everything in between are historically, biblically and spiritually fascinating. I've been on numerous trips***

***throughout the world and this 10 day trip with Joan and the team is ranked amongst one of my most organized and finest adventures.***

### **S. Cramolini, Ventura, CA**

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*I recently took a trip to Israel that was planned by Joan Peace and the trip turned out to be a trip of a lifetime. From great hotels, to special activities not typical of Israel trips, to a very personable and knowledgeable tour guide who was hand-picked by Joan---I can't say enough good things about the trip. You will be blessed beyond measure to participate in a trip planned by Joan.*

### **Bill and Barbara Morrow**

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*Visiting Israel and exploring the Holy Land was a trip I dreamed about. Walking where Old and New Testament saints walked would be life changing. My dream became a reality last month. I was invited to fill a cancelled spot with a tour organized by Joan. At first, I was a little apprehensive to tour such a significant place with strangers; however, once I met all my fellow sojourners at the airport all the potential awkwardness dissipated.*

***I did not really know what to expect, yet whatever expectations I did have, Walk About Zion Travel exceeded them exponentially.*** We visited many of the typical sites, plus not so typical wonderful sites and activities! Three of my favorites were having an anti-terrorism lesson with the IDF (Israel Defense Force) at Caliber 3, walking through Hezekiah's Tunnel, and floating the Jordan River. In addition to site seeing, we had private teaching times from a local policeman, pastor, Holocaust survivor, and a former assassin (which was amazing).

*I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed being on a tour bus with forty-three other passengers. **The bus was very comfortable and our tour guide, Yoni, was exceptional! His knowledge of history and love for the land, mixed with his superb story telling capabilities made for an educational, as well as entertaining bus ride.***

*The accommodations were wonderful. The hotel rooms as well as the elaborate breakfast and dinner buffets were beautiful. All the people we encountered from site guides to store owners were very friendly and helpful. Never did I feel threatened or in danger.*

***After communicating with others who have visited Israel, the Walk About Zion Travel is by far the most unique, fun and economical way to see the Holy Land. We did more activities and paid less. I highly recommend using Walk About Zion Travel!***

**Barb Reynolds**

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*We just got back from our trip to Israel. I hope this may be our 1st of many trips to come. At first, to be honest, Israel was not high on my bucket list of places to go to. I love to study the Bible, I love to travel, and I grew up in a wonderful Polish, Jewish community in the USA. So why wasn't it on the top of my bucket list? I think the idea of visiting a country whose neighbors are in constant turmoil was a bit unsettling.*

*However, I have a passion for loving any county with an ocean! Upon stepping off of the plane in Tel Aviv, one can smell the wonderful salt air of the Mediterranean which was God's way of saying, "See I told you so, you're going to love Israel!"*

*The tour company that "The Walk About Zion Travel " uses was so helpful and friendly it made the transition from the airport to our bus a delight. Our tour guide and our bus driver were gracious and incredibly patient and knowledgeable.*

*All of our accommodations during our entire stay were wonderful! The following two weeks were a whirlwind of experiencing Israel and its people in a way I had not thought possible. Historical and biblical sights came alive for me. Being able to sit overlooking the Sea of Galilee where Jesus and the disciples sat and read the bible was a life changing moment for me.*

*In Jerusalem, we stayed one night at the only Messianic kibbutz in Israel. What a wonderful educational and emotional experience that was! Midpoint in the trip we visited and helped out at an archeological sifting. I have to say this was another highlight of the trip. Our group found pottery shards from the early temple period, a Ottoman pipe shard, and many other pieces of history. Being able to help out and work with an Israeli archeologist was truly gratifying!*

*In the evenings, we attended talks given by local community groups and speakers, which helped me to understand the people of Israel and Palestine in a whole new way. **I could go on and on, but perhaps the best thing I can say is GO to Israel and go with "The Walk About Zion Travel " if you want to experience the real Israel and the Israeli people. Hopefully I may meet you on some future trip!***

**Karen Lenhert**

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***I recently returned from a trip to Israel with Joan's tour group. Not only did she have an amazing itinerary planned for us, she executed it in such a way as to make it super fun as well as educational. And perhaps best of all, she was able to negotiate an unbelievably reasonable price for the entire package (half of what many other tours were advertised for!). Her chosen bus guide was funny, informative, fluent in Hebrew, and well versed in the background of every site on our excursion. Joan was a bundle of energy, enthusiastic about each and every part of the trip.***

***She was also conscientious about every detail with foresight, including ensuring any potential supplies were available should an unexpected need arise. Part of the success of the trip were her informative preparation meetings in the months before departure, and as a result everyone was well prepared and knew exactly what to expect in each situation -- -- even down to what to bring, how to handle money exchanges, and packing tips.***

***Additionally, Joan provided many maps and travel documents that helped us know where our sites were located in the great scheme of things, as well as significant Biblical and historical events that occurred at specific places. The hotels and food (oh my gosh, the food!) were top notch the entire trip. Joan was always proactive, and when an issue occurred as a result of a mistake made by the hotel staff, she handled it adeptly in a way which was beneficial to those of us that were involved.***

***Lastly, many of us who were initially apprehensive about visiting Israel will testify that our unease was quelled to the point of feeling not the slightest danger during the entire trip. All in all, Joan did an impressive job in every aspect, and I'm hoping to be able join a "Joan-led" tour again in the future!***

**Kathy Van Dyke**

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***Joan, your meticulous planning of our Israel trip enabled us to see more and do more than any others we have read about. Thank you so much for what you did for all of us! Our tour was an unforgettable trip of a lifetime! You have contributed to our spiritual growth as believers. Thank you for being the blessing you are!***

**Vivian and Andy Szeto**

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***To say that Israel is a life changing experience is an understatement. Before I went to Israel I researched, watched movies and films, and read many books about Israel. But to see the Holy Land in person and stand where so much history took place is mind boggling.***

***It took me at least two weeks after I returned home to absorb what I seen and felt. People would ask me how was Israel and I was at a loss for words. For me, human words cannot describe the Holy Land.***

***This was my first time visiting Israel and I can't thank Joan enough for the most amazing trip of a lifetime. Our days were filled with activities including walking through the many ruins that brought history to the current day. Walking where Christ walked, seeing the Temple Mount, touching the Western Wall, Masada, Jerusalem, Sea of Galilee, Peter's house in Capernaum, Caesarea Philippi, Abraham's gate, getting baptized in the Jordan River, riding camels...so many, many wonderful memories. The people of Israel are incredible and warm. The accommodations were first-rate and the food was delicious. I knew it would be life changing, I just never expected it to have such an impact. Thank you Joan for a trip I will never forget. I can't wait to go again!***

**Debbie Hermes**

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***My trip to Israel was my first international adventure, and although I was a bit nervous about taking such a trip to, what can appear as a hostile country, after conversing with Joan a number of times before making a decision, she eased me from the anxiety I was experiencing and assured me that it would be a trip of a lifetime and that our safety was her top concern.***

***Joan provided an amazing adventure! The itinerary provided engaging history that brought everything for me to a full circle, and the total cost of the trip was so affordable for what we did and all the places we stayed. Joan put a lot of thought into the itinerary as well as the additional optional activities.***

***The detailed itinerary we received included an amazing keep sake journal/photo book that provided a complete guide of photos and explanations as well as a spiral journal to take notes and reflect during and after each day's activities. For me, the detail in***

*which it was written made it easier for me, so that I knew more of what to expect. It allowed me to be more prepared and even do additional research on my own with regards to the various selected destinations as well as the accommodations, which were all so delightful chosen as they highlighted each of the city's hospitality and culture. The variety of accommodations and food led to the uniqueness of this experience, and I have continued to indulge many of those delicious cuisines into my food choices now that I am back in the states.*

*The many hours together on the tour bus provided a circle of new friends. Our time was well spent and proved valuable, as our tour guide, Stan, not only shared much knowledge and history, he made it entertaining as well!*

***Deciding to go to Israel is certainly a big decision, and one that will mean something different to each person who takes that step to actually go. As you consider this once in a lifetime opportunity with Joan, know that you will be in excellent hands, will do amazing things, see people and go places you could never have imagined!***

***Danielle E.***

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***I highly recommend Joan Peace's tours. I traveled to Israel with my mom and brother in March 2016 and this trip surpassed all our expectations in every way possible. When comparing the cost of this tour to others, the prices were significantly less, yet didn't lack in quality. Our hotel accommodations were wonderful and comfortable which also included bountiful and delicious breakfasts and dinners.***

*There were no surprises or unexpected expenses throughout the tour. We enjoyed seeing many of the biblical and historical sites that most tours go to, but also experienced some places and people that are not normally offered in other tours. Some of the unique sites and experiences were a jeep ride through the Golan Heights, singing Christmas carols in Bethlehem, viewing Jewish dancing and singing at the Western Wall, riding a camel in Genesis land while experiencing Abraham's hospitality. The boat ride on the Sea of Galilee was a spectacular event never to be forgotten. We danced and sang worship songs and also were given a mini concert on the boat by Daniel, a Messianic Jew, and owner of the boat.*



*Our tour guide, Stan, who is a devout Christian, was most informative and knowledgeable, making our trip more interesting and meaningful.*

***This tour was more than I could have ever imagined. Joan Peace's travel tour is a "treasure" to be remembered and a "must" for anyone seeking a biblical Christian journey through the land of Israel.***

**Mary S.**

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*I've been waiting 40 years to go to Israel (my #1 "Bucket List" item), but it was either too expensive or I would be the only single going. When our singles group at North Coast Church advertised a trip that Joan Peace was organizing, I knew that this was it! It was an incredible deal. I thought we would be staying in flea bag hotels and eating mediocre food for that price, but we stayed at very nice places with delicious food. Our last five nights there were amazing! We stayed at an awesome hotel with the most amazing spread of food I've ever experienced.*

*Joan was very well organized. The entire trip just "clicked". Looking back on my ten days there, we saw all the major sites. We had a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. We were at the Western Wall as the Jews were celebrating the beginning of the Sabbath. We stood on the same blocks that Jesus stood on at the "Teaching Steps" next to the temple walls. We took a tram to the top of Masada. Got to ride a camel, and then float on top of the Dead Sea. We went on a jeep tour of the Golan Heights. We also went to Caesarea, Jericho, Capernaum, Mt. of Beatitudes, saw the valley of Megiddo (Armageddon), and got to walk the "Triumphant Entry" route singing and waving palm branches. We saw lots of ancient ruins and excavation sites. For me, the highlight of the trip was Gethsemane, Golgotha, the empty Garden Tomb, and then communion afterwards.*

*There were only a few optional activities not included in the trip price. I went on a 1,300 foot long (400 feet off the ground) zipline, and I got to fire a rifle with Israel Defense Forces! Almost everyone in our group participated. The only thing I regretted was not getting baptized in the Jordan River (next time!).*

***I felt totally safe my entire time there. Ten days of fantastic fellowship! If you have never been to Israel (and you're a Believer), you should go, and go with Joan!***

**Mike Bunnell**

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*Joan, it has been almost two weeks since we returned from our trip to the Holy Land. The months of anticipation have now become wondrous reflection on the entire experience. The organization of this trip was outstanding, and what we saw, experienced and lived will be with us forever.*

***Where does one start to describe the time we were there...each day has experience on top of experience, made much more rich by your work in organizing the tour, and our tour guide Yoni.*** *My expectations going into the trip were to see and experience Biblical history, to walk where the giants of the faith walked, to see the land they saw. That expectation was met fully, the sites, the times of worship and singing...it didn't stop challenging the mind and driving us further into the Word to read again with fresh eyes and mind the wonder and gift of Scripture.*

*But what I didn't anticipate was what we learned of the culture and people. We met Tass Saada in Jericho and listened on the edge of chairs to how Jesus transformed him, a sniper terrorist for Yasser Arafat and the PLO, to love and minister to all, both Jews and Muslims in this land. We listened to the Israeli police spokesman, Micky Rosenfeld, describe life there, the constant threat of terrorists and how they deal with it and keep the people, including us tourists, safe. We saw and learned from the Caliber 3 experience how the IDF deals with training to defend the land, took a jeep tour of the Golan Heights and heard first-hand how the people there deal with the tension. We heard from Pastor Steven Khoury, an Arab pastor in ministering in Jerusalem, and Rami Fellemon an Egypt-born Arab, Palestinian Christian, raised and living and ministering in Old Jerusalem through Jerusalem Evangelistic Outreach...all this opened our eyes and hearts to the struggles of this region, and those who live here, and the massive need for prayers for all in this region that the love of Christ would drive out all hatred and distrust, and especially our brothers and sisters in Christ who daily live here in tension while trying to live out what Christ calls them to do. It was a wakeup call to be more fervent in our prayers for all God's people. **One could go on, but Joan, your efforts made it all possible, and by the grace of God we all are changed.***

**Gordy and Barb**

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*God spoke to Abraham in Genesis and said, "I will bless those who bless you and whoever curses you, I will curse; all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." This recent trip to Israel with Joan helped to give me a heart for the Jewish people,*

*and passion to support and bless them. I loved how Joan was able to include great sites and experiences with a mission's passion.*

*The most powerful experience for me on the entire trip was going to the Wailing Wall at Shabbat. I was able to pray at the wall with Jewish women on either side crying out to God in Hebrew....They long for God's help but don't know the Messiah. (The Wailing Wall is the closest Jewish area to the former Holy of Holies, as Muslims now have the Dome of the Rock area where temple stood.) I was surprised to find out that Jews are not even allowed to pray at the Dome of the Rock (on Muslim ground), and if they do, it is punishable by law. Being in Jerusalem was surreal, electrifying. There is so much history there, so much more to come in the end times. Just being there was indescribable. Going through the Holocaust Museum stirred my heart again for the Jewish people. It broke my heart to read that they believe that the Christians started the Holocaust. It was also heartbreaking to really understand how many countries persecuted the Jews, and to hear personal stories of many survivors (on video).*

*Another amazing experience was the Golan Heights jeep tour led by a former special forces IDF soldier. We were able to look out over the Syrian border. We were told and could see with our own eyes as to what strategic place this is for Israel to keep, even though our government has recently criticized Israel for saying that they will never give up the Golan Heights. It is said (by Joel Rosenberg) that the Golan Heights will eventually become the ground zero in the war of Magog and Gog in the end times.*

*Going on this trip is inspiring me to do my own research (Thanks to Joan's reading list;) and study about those who seek to destroy Israel and who deny that Israel has the right to exist. (It is interesting to note that the Arab states surrounding Israel are 650 times the size of the small country of Israel, but many want Israel destroyed.) It has been an eye opening experience to say the least! A huge thank you to Joan, who took us on this trip of a lifetime!*

**Cyndi Bemis**

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***Joan Peace and the Walk About Zion Travel were instrumental in getting our church group of 44 to Israel at a bargain price. Many of us were going for the first time. In addition to seeing the normal biblical-historical sites, Joan arranged for us to meet a wide array of people, representing the diversity of language, culture and faith in the Holy Land. Every day included 3-5 "wow" moments which, collectively, made for one of the most unique and inspiring trips we've ever taken.***

**Normally, when you get back from extended travel, a typical reaction is, "Whew! We need to rest!" But, in this case, we can't wait to get back. It's that poignant of a trip.**

*In addition to the life-changing experience of "walking where Jesus walked," I'd have to say that Joan did a fabulous job in ensuring that we stayed at the nicest of places at best prices. The trip was quite a bargain and certainly cost less than many that we've taken for less time, just in the U.S.*

*But to experience the land of the Bible for yourself, to get an appreciation for what life was like then and now, to meet a wide array of fascinating people, to get close to the people on both sides of the conflict in the Near East was absolutely fascinating -- something every believer should do at least once in their lifetime.*

*And the tour guides that Joan arranged, particularly Yoni Simmons, were absolutely the best - they know their history, are great story tellers, and have become good "Facebook" friends.*

**Rob & Lisa Jenks**

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*Peter and I had a marvelous trip with members of our church. I was particularly touched to have seen Tel Dan, where Moses' grandson set up the idolatrous worship center. Between that and learning to shoot with the IDF, sifting earth that the Muslims bulldozed out from under the Temple Mount when they built their Mosque, lazing in the Dead Sea, riding on camels and jeeps, hiking in and out of Petra ---the trip was amazing. We also had the chance to fellowship with Israeli believers in a variety of places. They lead a very difficult life there. I also had several God-ordained meetings and will be following up on them in prayer and via email.*

***The trip was well-organized, comfortable and packed with fascinating trips and activities. The guide was knowledgeable, friendly and flexible, working closely with Joan for a virtually glitch-free visit. I'd definitely recommend it to anyone eager to see the glorious variety of the Holy Land.***

**Rebecca Jones**

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*Hi Joan,*

*Just wanted to say thank you personally for all of your hard work in preparing and planning this wonderful Israel trip.*

*As a pastor, it was such a blessing for me to walk where Jesus walked and to see the sites mentioned in the Old Testament. Seeing Israel for myself was like upgrading from black and white TV to color.*

*I was also very touched by the time we were able to spend with Messianic Jews. While vocal here in the United States, I never thought about what Messianic Jews face in their own homeland.*

*From the impromptu singing, to the on-the-fly fellowship, to the worship times we shared together, this was surely a blessing for all of us.*

*Thank you again.*

**Pastor Jonathan Szeto**

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*Each day was unique, packed with history, teaching, and gorgeous locations. It was so wonderful to be whisked from place to place in a timely manner to be able to see where Jesus lived, taught, died, and rose. The evening local guest speakers contributed fresh contemporary perspectives as well. Yoni, our guide, was so energetic, loveable, knowledgeable, and well spoken.*

*You planned so many fascinating experiences in addition to the religious sites. The jeep trip to the Golan Heights, the night at a country kibbutz, shopping in the Old City, En Gedi, Masada, etc. were phenomenal! The accommodations were clean, comfortable, and elegant. We slept well every night. I have never eaten so many healthful, flavorful and unique dishes.*

*Seeing the Jewish people on the airplane, at the Wailing Wall, serving in hotels, the military young people, etc. awakened an even greater longing for them to know their Messiah. I frequently found myself praying and burdened for them. The Holocaust Museum likewise broke my heart to think of how much demonic hatred never ceases to plague God's chosen people. I long for the day when their eyes are opened and they are healed. I pray that they will know the Prince of Peace who will give the peace of Jerusalem!*

*We're going back now using our itinerary and rereading [The Christian's Guide to Israel](#). We can visualize each location and remember many of the corollary teachings,*

experiences. Jim and I began reading the gospel of John during the trip. Truly, scripture is taking on 3D dimensions!

Joan, this is just the tip of the iceberg. But I wanted you to know how thankful we are for your many months of creating the itinerary and carrying it out on the ground. I admire you immensely as a tireless servant of the body of Christ. I pray you will be especially blessed...He SEES! You've given us a priceless gift...which we can never repay!

### **Jim and Kathy Huff**

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*I love to travel and particularly to travel with a purpose. **Having been throughout much of Europe and on a few Christian history tours, I was looking forward to my first experience in Israel. This trip far exceeded my expectations!***

*It was a deeply meaningful trip as we traveled the steps of the saints from scripture who have gone before us. Singing on the Sea of Galilee brought to memory all our Lord taught as He stood on the shores of this very lake and walked on its water and calmed its storms.*

*Each day of the tour was entirely different from the day before. One day on a jeep ride through the beautiful Golan Heights, stopping to step inside a bomb shelter with Syria just a few miles in the distance; then laughing and splashing our rafts down the Jordan River. And another day, I will never forget seeing the caves of Ein Gedi and considering the psalms of David as a result of his days of hiding in the rock. There are places in Israel such as Masada that you can never fully appreciate or begin to comprehend until you stand on that mountaintop and feel the despair of that time in history. And then there was the incredible walk through Hezekiah's tunnels. **Worship on the Sabbath day with the messianic congregation was a glimpse of heaven where people of every tongue and tribe unite at the throne of the King.***

***If you want every day to be packed full of new and varied adventure, you won't find anything better! I had been contemplating a trip to Israel for years, but when I saw this itinerary, I knew this was THE trip. Unforgettable memories!***

### **Cathy Chapell**

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*Visiting Israel with Joan and our church group was a fabulous, amazing experience. The tour was well organized and highly illuminating. The Lord answered all our*

*prayers that things would run smoothly. Contrary to media reports, we felt safe in Israel, in fact different speakers explained the security policies that have increased safety in recent years.*

*The food, accommodations and shopping opportunities were excellent, exceeding our already high expectations. Agriculture abounds in Israel, and the variety of salads, breads, meats, fruits, wines, and other dishes were amazing. We stayed right on the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea!*

*But best of all was actually being at Biblical sites and hearing explanations of the language, culture and history from knowledgeable, articulate guides and speakers. Our main guide, Yoni, shared his knowledge with a native Israeli's insight and charm.*

***Now we are able to visualize the whole layout of the land of the Bible. We actually walked where Jesus walked and even sang in the synagogue where he taught in Nazareth. We sailed in a boat on the Sea of Galilee, and climbed the mount where he taught the beatitudes. Now we know the significance of places like Megiddo and the Golan Heights because we've been there. We heard speakers from all sides of the current situation, so we gained a first-hand perspective, forming bonds of friendship, especially with the other Christians living in Israel. Another highlight was hearing Gabriela Danieli and her friend play the harp and sing in her home.***

***Because we received so much for what we paid, this trip was an exceptional value. We would recommend this tour to anyone interested in understanding our world better and in having the experience of a lifetime.***

**Kathleen Melanokos**

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*Hi Joan,*

*Thank you for "taking" us to Israel. Ted and I had a wonderful time with everyone. We are sad it's over. It was unbelievable to see so many sights and experience culture, people, food, adventures and fun. Thank you for planning every detail so perfectly. It was amazing to think back on what we saw each day.*

***Yoni was a great story teller and guide. His grasp of facts and Biblical history was great. And we appreciated his sense of humor and patience with us all.***

***We saw so many things we didn't see on our first visit and you had adventures that made it all the more special. Experiencing the Jordan on the raft, and seeing families picnicking on the banks of the Jordan River was great.... We loved the jeep ride. It***

*was amazing to get an update from Ilan and to see Syria and the Damascus Road. I love how the families in the beautiful Kibbutz live “normally” in defiance of the dangers they face daily.*

*All of the hotels were luxurious and comfortable in fabulous locations. We loved being on the Sea of Galilee and swimming every morning. The food was also amazing. You couldn't have chosen better accommodations and restaurants. The dinner in the Holy City was truly lovely. Sitting outside, looking at ancient walls in the breezy patio was magical.*

*Best of all was visiting so many meaningful places. The ancient synagogue in Magdala, Bethlehem, the Mount of Beatitudes, Philippi, Maritima, Nazereth Village, En Gedi, Masada were all incredible. And your book is fabulous too.*

***The Lord has given you a real gift in your ability to write out the significance of each place and organize the book and trip so that others can experience what you love so much. There's no way to thank you enough for everything you did to make such a trip of a lifetime for us all.***

**Linda Hamilton**

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*As difficult as it may sound, the plans for this trip began in the fall of 1987 when my husband and I first met. Twenty-eight years later Joan helped make our plans to travel to Israel become a reality. **What we experienced on our trip to Israel FAR exceeded our expectations!***

***What made the trip so incredible for us was the variety of options Joan provided on the itinerary. Some of our favorite memories were the jeep ride through the Golan Heights area, assisting archaeologists find old artifacts at the Temple Mount sifting, walking through Hezekiah's Tunnel singing praise songs, worshipping our Lord with Daniel on the boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and kayaking down the Jordan River.***

***In addition to visiting the historical sites, Joan arranged several opportunities for guest speakers to share the various ways they are ministering to the people of Israel. Hearing the testimony of how God is working in the life of Tass Saada, a former Muslim who worked for Arafat was so moving. We'll never forget!***

*Another highlight of the trip included worshipping with our Israeli brothers and sisters at Grace and Truth. This unique opportunity provided us with an opportunity*



to witness the pastors of our church preach a sermon to the congregation while their Pastor, David Zadok translated in Hebrew. Attending a worship service at a Messianic Jewish congregation is something other group itineraries do not always offer.

***If you are considering taking a trip to Israel I highly recommend going with Joan. Her diverse itinerary, the cost of the trip/ hotel accommodations, and the fabulous tour guides she hires help make your experience of traveling through the Holy Land a live changing experience.***

**Debbie and Jon DeLucia**

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*Thanks so much for setting up our trip to Israel. My biggest fears about going to Israel were the cost and safety while there. I don't know how you packed so much in our trip for the amount that we paid. Hotels and food were top-notch. We had some fun time to rest between seeing the Biblical sites. Stan our guide was so personable and informative. I could have listened to him for hours; he is a great man of God.*

*Two places that really changed my life were the worship cruise on the Sea of Galilee and our visit to the Western Wall. The worship cruise was such a beautiful time of worship and feeling God's presence, on the Sea of Galilee!! Truly amazing! Our visit to the Western Wall was very emotional for me. Just knowing the history, the triumphs and sorrows of the Jewish people and standing at the wall brought out such an increased love for Israel that it made me cry for their country.*

***As for safety, at no time did I find myself fearful. Joan, you are so good at finding the right people for guides and the right places to visit that I look forward to joining you on another trip to Israel. Thanks again for helping make this such a memorable trip.***

**Roger Francis**

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***My heart and head are so full since returning from Israel. To say that the trip was "special" is inadequate. It was fascinating, full, fun, and (in a good way) frustrating, because the past and present circumstances of the Land are so complex. And the Walk About Zion Travel tour uniquely introduced us to that wonderful complexity.***

*We saw layers and layers of historical sites. We were moved by accounts of our Lord Jesus as we read Scripture in the very place where He spoke. **We met Israelis and***

***Palestinians working for peace, and our hearts were stirred to pray for them both. Because of Joan's terrific planning, the beauty and diversity of the land remains with me, and I have a greater admiration for the people who fiercely treasure it.***

**Rhonda Telfer**