



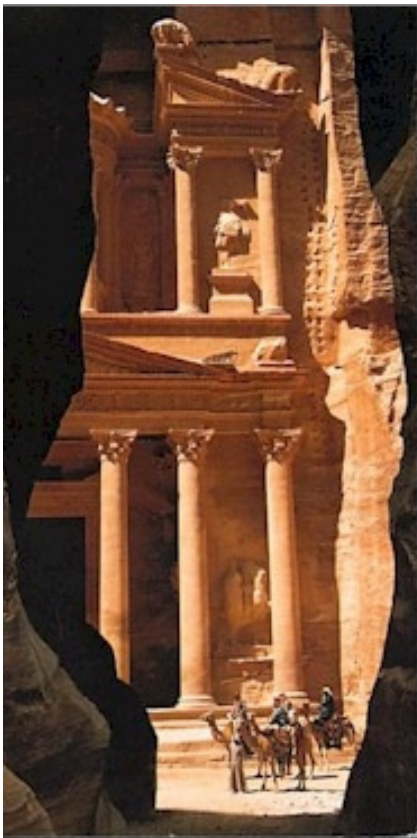
Petra & the Pyramids

Led by Canon John Green

9th - 19th October 2012

A PILGRIMAGE TOUR TO JORDAN AND EGYPT

An 11-day tour through Jordan, the Sinai peninsula and on to the pyramids of Cairo



McCabe Pilgrimages



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This two-country pilgrimage combines a journey through the Royal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with a visit to the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt and the pyramids of Cairo. Petra is the high point of any visit to Jordan and we include a two-night stay there, but we will also visit Jerash; the best preserved city of the Decapolis, Mount Nebo from where Moses viewed the Promised Land, and Bethany Beyond the Jordan, where Jesus was baptised by John.



A two-hour sail across the Red Sea from Aqaba takes us to the Sinai desert where we have the opportunity to climb Mount Sinai (at a leisurely pace!) and visit the ancient Monastery of St Catherine before ending our journey with three nights in Cairo featuring visits to the pyramids and the treasures of Egyptian Museum.

In both Jordan & Egypt we will meet the Bedouin, traditional dwellers in these ancient lands living nomadically in tents with herds of camels, sheep and goats and hugely enriching our visit.



TOUR INFORMATION

The cost of this tour is £1,780 per person sharing a twin-bedded room. Three of the five hotels we will stay in are first-class. The exception is our hotel beside St. Catherine's monastery in the Sinai which is of a lesser standard but still offers rooms with private facilities. The other exception is the romantic King Aretas IV - a luxury camp in the wonderfully atmospheric setting of Wadi Rhum where we sleep in (comfortable!) tents and enjoy traditional Bedouin-style hospitality. In Amman, the Regency hotel is business style with well-appointed rooms and in Petra we stay in a converted village (the traditional old houses are now the bedrooms!). In Cairo the Pyramids Park Hotel is another large international hotel, with pool, very near the pyramids. The tour is on a **FULL-BOARD** basis with a buffet breakfast and evening meal included daily. We have also included lunches at restaurants en route. Touring is in air-conditioned coaches and in the Sinai you will have the opportunity to board a camel! Local guides will accompany us and all entrance fees are included. [We sail from Jordan to Sinai by catamaran.](#) We have included all airport, port and border taxes. Visas are obtained on arrival in each country and visa fees are included in the price. Our journey is by air with BRITISH MIDLAND AIRLINES flights from London Heathrow to Amman and returning from Cairo back to Heathrow. Travel through Jordan and Egypt is by air-conditioned coach accompanied by a local guide in each country. All entrance fees are included.



The extras to budget for are the insurance premium (£59) and an amount of approximately £40 for a group gratuity fund, to be collected in Jordan by the tour leader.

Single rooms are available and the supplementary charge is £290. Please, however, see our note 'Travelling Alone' overleaf. Any special requests should be printed on the booking form. A deposit is payable now with the balance due eight weeks prior to departure. Full flight and accommodation details will be sent out with your travel wallets, two weeks before you leave.



TO MAKE A RESERVATION

To reserve your place on this tour, please complete the enclosed booking form and send it, with a deposit of £100 per person plus £59 for the insurance premium (cheques made payable to 'McCabe Pilgrimages'), to the pilgrimage organiser:

Canon John Green,

The Parsonage, Church Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 7NW

Tel: (01905) 345242 Email: ddocroft@waitrose.com





DAILY PROGRAMME

Tuesday 9th October JOURNEY TO JORDAN

We fly from London Heathrow to Amman. Our flight BD917 leaves London Heathrow at 1350 hours and arrives into Amman at 2105 hours. [We then transfer to the Regency Palace Hotel in the city of Amman for a two-night stay.](#)

Wednesday BETHANY & JERASH

This morning we visit Bethany beyond the Jordan, a wonderfully evocative site on the banks of the Jordan River. Many experts now believe that John baptised Jesus here. Crossing the Jabbok River, where we recall the story of Jacob wrestling with the angel, [we continue to Jerash and lunch in the nearby Lebanese Restaurant.](#) Jerash is the best preserved of all the Decapolis cities and our visits include the oval forum, the colonnaded street and the theatre.

Thursday THE KINGS' HIGHWAY

We drive to Mount Nebo where we celebrate Holy Communion on the mountain where Moses of the Bible viewed the Promised Land. On a clear day there are wonderful views over the Jordan Valley to Jericho and sometimes even Jerusalem. We continue to Madaba and the Orthodox Church of St George with its famous mosaic floor map of the Bible Lands and also call at the Mosaic School where young people are learning the ancient art. [Lunch is at the Haret Jdoudna restaurant.](#) We drive south along the Kings Highway, where we view Wadi Mujib - 'Jordan's Grand Canyon'. Our final visit is to Kerak Crusader Castle. [Two night stay at the Taybet Zaman Hotel, a uniquely designed hotel in what were former traditional houses.](#)

Friday THE CITY OF PETRA

Petra's fame is well deserved and you will be struck by the scale of the site and the extraordinary beauty of the rock-cut tombs and temples. At the time of Jesus, Petra was a magnificent Nabatean city of enormous wealth which controlled much of the trade that passed through the region. We enter Petra through the Siq on foot and then suddenly stand before the rock-cut Treasury, hewn out of the red sandstone. We spend the entire day here and visit many of the breathtaking monuments, including some of the Royal Tombs. [Lunch is at the Basin Restaurant.](#)

Saturday WADIRHUM

We drive south (calling briefly at Little Petra) to Wadi Rhum which was made famous by its associations with Lawrence of Arabia. [We have a Bedouin-style lunch in the King Aretas IV Camp.](#) In the afternoon we will take Jeeps into the desert. [Overnight in the King Aretas IV Camp,](#) accommodation in tents in a magical setting, but with a bit of comfort and luxury thrown in !



Sunday SAIL TO SINAI

After breakfast before we leave Wadi Rhum and the camp and drive to the port of Aqaba on the Red Sea. We take the catamaran service to Nuweiba in the Sinai. [Picnic lunch on board.](#) We have a two hour drive into the heart of the desert. [Two nights at the Morgenland Hotel close by St Catherine's.](#)

Monday ST CATHERINE'S MONASTERY

This morning we celebrate Holy Communion in a desert setting and visit St Catherine's Monastery, the oldest continuously active monastery in the world, whose Abbot is the Patriarch of the world's smallest self-governing Orthodox Church. We see the icons, the chapel of the Burning Bush and the charnel house. [We return to the hotel in good time for lunch.](#) This afternoon, either relax by the pool or enjoy a walk into the Valley of the Forty Martyrs where we will have tea with the Bedouin in a spectacular setting between Mount Moses and Mount Sinai.



Tuesday MOUNT SINAI

We make an early start to climb Mount Sinai. We make the ascent slowly and enjoy the spectacular views and silence of the mountain. The last part of the climb is fairly strenuous and our guide will have the final say as to whether you should attempt it. Much of the ascent can be done by camel but the last 400 steps are on foot. Everybody walks down. In our experience most travellers are able to manage at least part of the ascent. [Late morning we drive through the desert to the Suez Canal and on to Cairo for a three night stay beside the pyramids at the Pyramids Park Hotel.](#)

Wednesday THE PYRAMIDS

This morning we visit the Great Pyramid, the only survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, set amidst its sister Pyramids and the Sphinx. [After lunch in a local restaurant,](#) we continue to Memphis, once the capital of ancient Egypt, and visit the Step Pyramid of King Zoser at Saqqara. In the evening there is an (optional) *Son et Lumiere* performance at the Pyramids.



Thursday COPTIC CAIRO

Morning visit to the Egyptian Museum, one of the great museums of the world containing the golden death mask and other treasures found in the tomb of the boy King Tutankhamen. [After lunch at a local restaurant,](#) we visit Coptic Cairo including the Hanging Church and the Church of Abu Serge where tradition says the Holy Family took refuge in a cave under the altar when they fled from Herod. We also visit the Khan al-Khalili bazaar. We also visit the Anglican-run Deaf School to witness some of the great work they are doing there.

Friday 19th October CAIRO - LONDON

A leisurely breakfast and a free morning before we depart for the airport early afternoon to fly home. British Midland flight BD772 leaves Cairo at 1700 and arrives in Heathrow at 2110. (Lunch not included today).



TRAVEL TO JORDAN AND EGYPT

McCABE PILGRIMAGES

The pilgrimage is being organised in association with McCabe Pilgrimages, a company well-known in church circles and recognised as Britain's foremost religious tour operator. Now coming up to its 25th anniversary, McCabes have been responsible for organising hundreds of parish and diocesan pilgrimages to the Bible Lands.

TRAVELLING ALONE

Many of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive single room supplements. McCabe Pilgrimages will accept individual bookings on a 'guaranteed share' basis. We charge the basic price and accommodate you with a person of the same sex also requesting shared accommodation. If we do not find someone to share with you, you will be accommodated in a single room at only 50% of the usual single room supplement. For single travellers who do require single accommodation this should be requested when booking and, if available, the normal supplement will be payable.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND HEALTH

Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after the time of this pilgrimage. If you need a new passport apply early as there can be considerable backlogs at the passport offices. We will arrange a group visa on your behalf in advance for Jordan and the Sinai region of Egypt. If you are holding a non-British passport, or require further advice, please consult the McCabe office. No inoculations are required. We, however, do advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

McCabe will arrange comprehensive travel insurance cover for each passenger unless otherwise indicated on the booking form. We have negotiated the premium (see 'Tour Information' section inside for rate) which as well as offering full medical and baggage cover also gives cover against loss of deposits. Cover is arranged by Preferential Insurance Services Ltd and is underwritten by Optimum Underwriting Limited as underwriting agents for Groupama Insurance Company Limited – each aforementioned organisation is authorised and regulated by The Financial Services Authority (FSA). The policy wording sets out full details of cover and will be sent to you with your confirmation invoice. This document also acts as your insurance certificate so that your booking reference number is also your insurance policy number.

A special feature of the McCabe insurance is that there is no age limit. Please, however, note it is a requirement that all insured persons must adhere to the Medical Health Requirements section on page 5 of the Policy wording document (which we will send you with your confirmation invoice). If you answer yes to any of the questions asked within this section you must contact the [HELPLINE 0843 208 1461](tel:08432081461). This is a confidential service that will decide whether or not this insurance is appropriate for you. If they decline to offer cover, or if you are unhappy with any aspect of the cover, you can return the policy within 14 days of issue and receive a full refund. In cases of difficulty, we have specialist insurers we can introduce you to.

McCabe Travel Ltd is an appointed representative of Preferential Insurance Services Ltd which is authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) as are both Optimum Underwriting Ltd and Groupama Insurance Company Ltd.

AITO Quality Statement

McCabe Pilgrimages is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. McCabe abides by the Association's Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed on www.aito.co.uk. Visit the website to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

This pilgrimage is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. The McCabe ATOL number is 2920.



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