

Oberammergau and The Holy Land 2021 – 7th – 16th September 2022

Dear Friend,

This may seem a strange time to be thinking about overseas travel, but as we try to emerge from the grip of the pandemic with the hope of a vaccine on the horizon, perhaps now is the time to be making some tentative plans for 2022. Our rearranged combined Oberammergau and Holy Land trip will now take place in September 2022 with the same originally planned itinerary, and I am delighted to be able to share those details now.

Some who originally booked for 2020 have already opted to leave your initial deposit with Maranatha Tours and so this is confirmation that the trip will go ahead and Maranatha Tours will separately request a further stage payment. But we hope there may be others who will wish to join the trip. You may also be aware of our other planned trip in October 2021, just to the Holy Land, and I can also provide details of this on request.



We will stay 2 nights in Oberammergau, Bavaria, attending the Passion Play, followed by a 7 night stay in the Holy Land. **The Passion Play** is performed every 10 years by the residents of the village of Oberammergau but has been delayed by 2 years as a result of the pandemic. The first play was performed in 1634 in thankfulness for their salvation from the Plague. With 2000 people involved, it is truly an amazing experience. **The Holy Land** has become a much loved place for me. My reading of the Bible has been transformed as a result and my understanding of the modern day situation of the Middle East has been enhanced. Throughout the 90's I travelled every year to Israel/Palestine, spending a 3 month sabbatical living there in 1993. **There is also an opportunity to extend the trip by an extra 3 days** back in Jerusalem, to visit places of personal interest, some shopping or to relax and reflect. We will also be able to enjoy fellowship together as a group on tour together, experiencing and sharing what we discover as we travel.

Places for this trip will be limited as bookings for the Passion Play are extremely popular and will be more so because of the pandemic delays, so I urge you to confirm your booking very soon to secure your place. Please use the enclosed booking form and **return direct to me** with your initial deposit and/or stage payment (depending on if you have already booked and placed a deposit. Alternatively, both the Brochure and the on-line Booking Form can be accessed and perhaps passed to interested friends, as follows:

On-Line Brochure: <http://www.maranatha.co.uk/PassionPlay2022RevPaulSnell/e-brochure.pdf>

On-Line Booking Form: <http://www.maranatha.co.uk/PassionPlay2022RevPaulSnell/RegForm/index.html>

The enclosed brochure gives all you need to know, including the price and other details on the separate booking form. I think you will agree it is great 'value for money' considering the high standard of accommodation, the inclusion of all entrance fees, a personal local guide and air conditioned coach.

Having ministered in 3 URC churches over 22 years and then as a hospital chaplain for 15 years, I now work part time as County Ecumenical Officer for Churches Together in Devon and have a little more time to travel to one of my favourite places. Linda is a retired practice nurse and enjoys sharing in the leadership of these trips. We hope you will be able to travel with us in 2022. If you have any questions or wish to discuss the trip, please get in touch.

With every blessing

Paul