

## VISIT PALESTINE

Several Rediscovering Palestine member organisations offer unique opportunities to visit the real Palestine, not just the tourist sites. As well as experiencing the Biblical and cultural history that is their heritage, you will also meet the Living Stones – local Palestinians – as they go about their daily lives under occupation. The Palestinian people warmly invite and need you to visit them and hear their stories; an experience that will allow you to express your solidarity with them, become witnesses to their struggle and share that story with others when you return.

Join one of the following trips happening in the next twelve months. You will bring blessing to all those visited and you will have an unforgettable experience which might just result in changing the course of your life, too!

**AMOS TRUST** will be taking an annual pilgrimage in June 2008. They spend ten days divided between Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Galilee, and as well as visiting the key sites with the guidance of a local Palestinian Christian tour guide, they also meet local peacemakers – Christian, Muslim and Jewish and discover the concerns of local church leaders and NGOs. Led by Garth Hewitt, the trip includes reflections and music.

**Email:** [info@amostrust.org](mailto:info@amostrust.org)

**Web:** [www.amostrust.org](http://www.amostrust.org)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)20 7588 2638

**BIBLELANDS** will be leading a pilgrimage in the Summer Term 2008 half-term that will visit projects that they support in Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Their three key areas of activity are education, health and community development. The pilgrimage will visit BibleLands-supported hospitals, schools and rehabilitation centres, as well as all the major holy sites.

**Email:** [jennie.watts@biblelands.org.uk](mailto:jennie.watts@biblelands.org.uk)

**Web:** [www.biblelands.org.uk](http://www.biblelands.org.uk)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)1494 897950

**CHRISTIANS AWARE** - Pilgrim Journeys of Encounter. Participants are challenged to be flexible and open to different ways of living and doing things, to be patient and sensitive, and to be happy to listen and learn as well as to give. The words of Ronald Wynne are included on all our travel leaflets: "Do not try to teach anyone anything until you have first learnt something from them". We offer new experiences, new friendships, new understanding and shared work. We offer visit to many parts of the developing world. Our 2008 visits to the Middle East are shared with '**Wider Horizons**'. They are:

**Visit to Israel and Palestine**

**Mon. 28<sup>th</sup> April – Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

**A Brief Encounter with People of Faith in Egypt**

**Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> June – Sat. 14 June 2008**

**Ancient Civilisations and Christian Communities In Syria and Eastern Turkey**

**Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Sep – Mon. 14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2008**

**Email:** [barbarabutler@christiansaware.co.uk](mailto:barbarabutler@christiansaware.co.uk)

**Web:** [www.christiansaware.co.uk](http://www.christiansaware.co.uk)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)116 254 0770

**ELIJAH TRUST** works specifically with the often forgotten 20% Palestinian minority who are citizens within the State of Israel. We lead small fact finding trips within Israel to meet these second class citizens from the Palestinian Arab villages of Galilee in the north to the unrecognized Bedouin villages of the Negev in the south. Contact us through RP directory, or

**Email:** [office@elijahtrust.org](mailto:office@elijahtrust.org)

**Web:** [www.elijahtrust.org](http://www.elijahtrust.org)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)1234 295195

**EXPERIENCE TRAVEL TOURS** partners with the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions to offer study tours to Israel/Palestine with the next ones scheduled for 4 – 13 November 2007. Led by Christian Linda Ramsden with input from Jewish Jeff Halper, the tours guide participants in understanding the situation on the ground through encounters with people on both sides of the divide – Israelis and Palestinians, Jews, Christians and Muslims. Study aspects of life today and receive in-depth analysis regarding the political situation and what is necessary for a just and sustainable peace.

**Email:** [ett@ramsdens.me.uk](mailto:ett@ramsdens.me.uk)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)1737 843408

**FRIENDS OF BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY** support this university near Ramallah in its fortnight-long summer workcamp, giving international students and others the opportunity to work alongside Palestinian students on community-oriented projects. From the campsite participants visit other parts of the West Bank, working on projects for schools, municipalities, refugee camps, special needs centres and more. Friends of Birzeit University also organize an Easter educational study tour to Palestinian universities, schools and educational, cultural and human rights organizations, while Birzeit University offers summer and year-round programmes of Palestine and Arabic Studies.

**Email:** [fobzu@fobzu.org](mailto:fobzu@fobzu.org)

**Web:** [www.fobzu.org](http://www.fobzu.org)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)20 7832 1340

**HIGHWAY PROJECTS** look for volunteers who are committed Christians in regular fellowship with their local church, 18+ years old and ready to work for God and share His love with others through practical short-term mission work over 2-3 weeks. Whilst their emphasis is on younger adult volunteers in their 20's and 30's, some projects allow for fit adults of middle years, who can cope with heat and hard work. Projects planned for 2008 cover a variety of partnerships and work, details of the trips can be found on the website.

**Egypt** (in April)   **Israel/Palestine** (in July)   **Jordan** (in September)

**Email:** [info@highway-projects.org](mailto:info@highway-projects.org)

**Web:** [www.highway-projects.org](http://www.highway-projects.org)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)114 274 7547

**ICAHD UK** takes participants to East Jerusalem to join other internationals in the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD) summer camp to rebuild a home for a Palestinian family who had their house demolished by Israeli bulldozers. Work alongside Palestinians and Israelis who refuse to be enemies. A full programme with tours, talks and films is also included. The camps are held every July. Throughout the year, ICAHD offers half and full day tours, especially concerning the Matrix of Control that has been implemented over the Palestinian people.

**Email:** [director@icahduk.org](mailto:director@icahduk.org)

**Web:** [www.icahduk.org](http://www.icahduk.org)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)207 383 3893

[Click here for www.rediscoveringpalestine.org.uk](http://www.rediscoveringpalestine.org.uk)

**LIVING STONES – of The Holy Land Trust** will occasionally host and occasionally recommend particular pilgrimages and study tours of the Holy Land and of the Christian Community in Palestine and other countries in the Middle East. These pilgrimages and study tours not only visit sites of historical interest but also engage with current political and social context of the Christian community, and with meeting local people of Christian and other faiths to support, understand and encourage. For more information contact:

**Email:** [info@livingstonesonline.org.uk](mailto:info@livingstonesonline.org.uk)

**PALESTINE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN** is a source of further information for people wanting to do more than go on a short visit or pilgrimage. Contact them for information on university courses, summer schools and camps, olive picking programmes and teaching projects. They can also advise on travel and longer term volunteering through **Alternative Tourism Group, Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme and Christian Peacemaker Teams.**

**Email:** [info@palestinecampaign.org](mailto:info@palestinecampaign.org)

**Web:** [www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)20 7700 6192

**SABEEL** will be holding its 7<sup>th</sup> international conference from 12 – 19 November 2008

**SABEEL 2007 FALL WITNESS VISIT** – October 11 – 20, 2007

This visit to the Holy Land organized by Sabeel offers a window into the daily lives of Palestinians living under the Occupation of the West Bank and Gaza as well as into the experiences of second-class citizenship of Palestinians who are citizens of Israel.

**SABEEL 2008 SPRING WITNESS VISIT** – March 3 – 12, 2008 (Dates to be Confirmed)

**Email:** [fosuk@fish.co.uk](mailto:fosuk@fish.co.uk)

**Web:** [www.friendsofsabeel.org.uk](http://www.friendsofsabeel.org.uk)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)1453 544655

**THE HOPE CHRISTIAN TRUST** encourages various small group visits to support the people and communities of the West Bank and Gaza – clinics in Bethlehem and training in first aid and trauma counselling with qualified doctors and nurses and also inservice teacher training in Bethlehem and Gaza with experienced educationalists.

The Trust is also organizing a two week tour – **The Best of Egypt and the Holy Land from 4<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April 2008** visiting Cairo, Luxor, Sinai, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Galilee.

**Email:** [hopebethlehem@btinternet.com](mailto:hopebethlehem@btinternet.com) - contact **Rev John Angle**

**WIDER HORIZONS** – Pilgrim Journeys of Encounter (shared with Christians Aware and others). The focus is on journeys that represent a meaningful encounter with people, cultures and faiths, seeking to engage with local populations and learn not only of their history, but also of the issues that affect their lives today

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**Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Sep – Mon. 14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2008**

**Email:** [Victoria@evib.net](mailto:Victoria@evib.net)

**Web:** [www.wider-horizons.org](http://www.wider-horizons.org) (under construction)

**Tel:** (+44) (0)1264 357032

**ZAYTOUN** organizes visits in October/November every year to coincide with the Palestinian olive harvest. We run a harvest trip along the lines of a study tour where we meet with the cooperatives from which Zaytoun source their fairly traded Palestinian products. We spend time with the farmers to learn about their production, their situation and enjoy festival celebrations. Zaytoun also coordinates a volunteer team who spend two weeks accompanying farmers in harvesting their olives.

**Email:** [contact@zaytoun.org](mailto:contact@zaytoun.org)

Further details of the above can be obtained by contacting the organisations whose details can be found on the Rediscovering Palestine website – [www.rediscoveringpalestine.org.uk](http://www.rediscoveringpalestine.org.uk)

***DISCLAIMER:*** *Rediscovering Palestine is an umbrella group that includes the above mentioned organisations. Rediscovering Palestine therefore provides the above information in good faith. It is not responsible for any of the programmes or trips listed. This leaflet is merely provided as a source of information as to what might be available.*

