



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS

Maximum  
of just  
14 participants

# ISRAEL

## Treasures of the Holy Land

May 17 - 29, 2018 (13 days) with archaeologist Eric Cline



*"The breadth and depth of our itinerary was amazing. We were busy without being tired. I would not change a thing!"* - Deborah, California



In this extraordinary land of beauty and spirituality that has so influenced Western civilization, **join archaeologist and acclaimed author Eric Cline** and a small group of like-minded fellow travelers on this **custom-designed itinerary** to discover for yourself the kaleidoscope of Israel's archaeological riches, left behind by Canaanites, Israelites, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Crusaders, Ottomans, and others.

Highlights include five UNESCO World Heritage sites (the spectacular fortress of King Herod at **Masada**; the Biblical Tel of **Megiddo**; a view of Haifa's **Bahá'í Gardens** from Mt. Carmel; the Jewish necropolis of **Beit Shearim**; and **Bethlehem**, with its 4<sup>th</sup>-century Church of the Nativity), not to mention **lectures and informal discussions with Professor Cline**, an active field archaeologist whose more than 30 seasons of excavation and survey experience includes twenty at Megiddo. Enjoy a thoughtfully-crafted, well-paced itinerary, including six nights based in **Jerusalem** and visits to the impressive ancient trading port of **Caesarea Maritima**, Jerusalem's **Israel Museum** and **W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research**, and **Qumran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were hidden for nearly 2,000 years. Take a **dip in the Dead Sea**, a boat ride on the **Sea of Galilee**, and a stroll through Jerusalem's open-air **Mahane Yehuda** market. A **professional local guide/tour manager** will attend to all logistics and smooth the way so you can relax, learn, and enjoy the experience. **Limited to only 14 participants!**



### AIA LECTURER & HOST



**Eric H. Cline** is Professor of Classics and Anthropology, former Chair of the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and current Director of the Capitol Archaeological Institute at The George Washington University, in Washington, D.C. He has degrees in Classical Archaeology, Near Eastern Archaeology, and Ancient History from Dartmouth, Yale, and the University of Pennsylvania. A Fulbright scholar, National Geographic Explorer, and NEH Public Scholar, Dr. Cline is an active field archaeologist. He has more than 30 seasons of excavation and survey experience in Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Cyprus, Greece, Crete, and the U.S. He is a former co-director at Megiddo (biblical Armageddon), where he dug from 1994 through 2014, and has co-directed the excavations at Tel Kabri, also in Israel, since 2005.

Dr. Cline has authored, co-authored, or edited a total of 17 books. Four of them have won awards, including the Biblical Archaeology Society's "Best Popular Book on Archaeology" award in 2001, 2009, and 2011, and the American Schools of Oriental Research's "Nancy Lapp Award for Best Popular Book" in 2014, for his book *1177 BC: The Year Civilization Collapsed*, which is an international best-seller and was also considered for a 2015 Pulitzer Prize. His most recent book is *Three Stones Make a Wall: The Story of Archaeology*, published in March 2017. At GW, Dr. Cline has won both the Trachtenberg Prize for Teaching Excellence and the Trachtenberg Prize for Faculty Scholarship, the two highest honors at the University. He has also won the Archaeological Institute of America's "Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching" Award and been nominated three times for the CASE US Professor of the Year. Dr. Cline has presented more than 300 scholarly and public lectures and presentations on his work to a wide variety of audiences both nationally and internationally, and has appeared in more than twenty television programs and documentaries, ranging from ABC to the BBC and the National Geographic, History, and Discovery Channels.



Below, entering the Old City of Jerusalem via the Damascus Gate.





# ITINERARY

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

## Thursday, May 17, 2018: DEPART HOME

Today board your international flight for Israel.

## Friday, May 18: ARRIVE TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport, located just outside of the dynamic, seaside city of Tel Aviv, where you will be met by a local representative, helped through customs, and transferred to our luxurious hotel. *Overnight at the Carlton Hotel.* (D)

## Saturday, May 19: TEL AVIV | CAESAREA MARITIMA | HAIFA

After breakfast depart Tel Aviv along the Mediterranean coastal road to the major ancient trading port of Caesarea Maritima. Originally a Phoenician settlement, it was re-built in the 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. by Herod the Great as a naval base, with an impressive artificial harbor. Visit the ruins of the theater, Herod's palace, hippodrome, Crusader city, and aqueduct. Continue north along the coast to Haifa for a magnificent view of the Galilee from Mt. Carmel, including a view of the Bahá'í Gardens, a religious site of the Bahá'í faith on UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites. Check into our luxurious hotel, freshen up, and gather for a welcome dinner. *Overnight for two nights at the Dan Carmel Haifa (deluxe bay view rooms).* (B,D)

## Sunday, May 20: HAIFA | BEIT SHEARIM | MEGIDDO | HAIFA

Begin the day with a visit to Beit Shearim, an ancient city and Jewish necropolis that also served as the seat of the Sanhedrin (official Jewish council under the Romans) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D., where there are the ruins of a 2<sup>nd</sup>-century A.D. synagogue and 31 catacombs, whose sarcophagi bear inscriptions in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Continue on to Megiddo, a Biblical tel (settlement mound) inscribed on UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites. Excavations at Megiddo, which was in a very strategic location, have revealed evidence of up to 27 layers of habitation from between 4,000 B.C. and 450 B.C. Return to our hotel in Haifa in time for dinner. (B,D)

## Monday, May 21: HAIFA | SEPPHORIS | TIBERIAS

Continue our tour of Galilee with a visit to Sepphoris (Zippori), the capital of Galilee in the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D., with restored buildings and beautiful mosaics including the "Mona Lisa of the Galilee." Cross Galilee to Lake Kinnereth (the Sea of Galilee) and visit the museum at Kibbutz Ginnosar, which houses a very well-preserved, 1<sup>st</sup>-century A.D. fishing boat that was excavated from the mud at the bottom of the Lake. Continue on to Tiberias, where we check-in to our luxurious hotel and have dinner. *Overnight for two nights at the Scots Hotel.* (B,D)

## Tuesday, May 22: TIBERIAS | TABGHA | CAPERNAUM | HAMAT TIBERIAS | TIBERIAS

This morning we visit Tabgha ("The Seven Springs"), where a church commemorates the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, believed to have taken place on this spot. Continue on to nearby Capernaum, the center of Jesus' ministry in Galilee. We will see a monumental ancient synagogue in the village and a nearby church built over the site venerated as the house of St. Peter. Enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, followed by lunch. This afternoon, visit Hamat Tiberias National Park, overlooking the city of Tiberias, where the remains of a 4<sup>th</sup>-century A.D. synagogue include a beautiful zodiac mosaic. Dinner is at our hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

## Wednesday, May 23: TIBERIAS | BEIT SHEAN | BEIT ALPHA | JERUSALEM

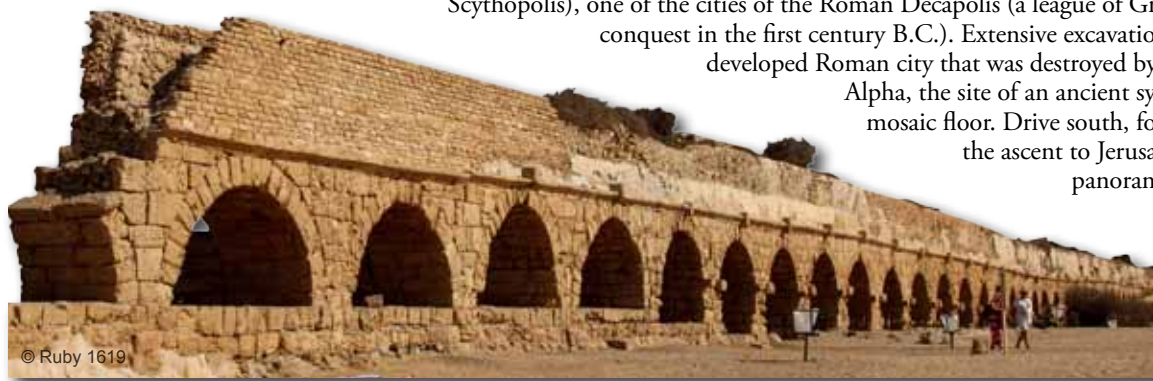
Begin the day with a visit to Beit Shean (Roman

Scythopolis), one of the cities of the Roman Decapolis (a league of Greek cities formed after the Roman conquest in the first century B.C.). Extensive excavations at the site have revealed a highly developed Roman city that was destroyed by an earthquake. Continue to Beit

Alpha, the site of an ancient synagogue with a beautiful and unusual mosaic floor. Drive south, following the Jordan River, and begin the ascent to Jerusalem. End the day with a magnificent panoramic view of Jerusalem, a city sacred to the three Abrahamic faiths. Check in to our luxurious hotel, where we have dinner this evening. *Overnight for six nights at the Mamilla Hotel.* (B,D)



Above, Tel Megiddo, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Below (1), the "Mona Lisa" of Galilee mosaic at Sepphoris. Below (2), ruins of the ancient synagogue at Capernaum. Bottom, a Roman aqueduct at Caesarea.



© Ruby 1619





**Thursday, May 24: JERUSALEM**

Spend the morning exploring the origins of Jerusalem in the “City of David” area – the original Jebusite city chosen by King David as the capital of Israel. The City of David is today an archaeological park that includes the ruins of large houses and a defensive tower. Also visit the “Southern Steps,” at the base of the steps leading up to the Temple Mount through the Hulda Gate. Lunch and the afternoon are at leisure. Gather for dinner at the hotel this evening. (B,D)

**Friday, May 25: JERUSALEM**

Begin the day by entering the Old City of Jerusalem through Jaffa Gate, by David’s citadel (the area of Herod’s palace). Walk along the Cardo, the main street of Roman Jerusalem. Visit the excavated homes of the wealthy priestly families of the Temple, and visit the remains of a home that burned as the Temple itself was destroyed. Lunch and the afternoon are at leisure. Gather for dinner at the hotel this evening. (B,D)

**Saturday, May 26: JERUSALEM**

Begin today with a morning visit to the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, housed in an historic building in East Jerusalem, north of the Old City. From there we will set out on a walking tour, following Jerusalem’s “Third Wall” from the grounds of the Albright Institute south to the Damascus Gate, where we enter the Old City. Walk along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Sisters of Zion and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the holiest site in the Christian world. Return to our hotel for dinner. (B,D)

**Sunday, May 27: JERUSALEM | BETHLEHEM | JERUSALEM**

Today visit the Israel Museum (including the Shrine of the Book, which houses some of the Dead Sea Scrolls) with its very large scale model of Jerusalem, depicting the city at the time of the Second Temple. Continue to the center of town to visit Mahane Yehuda, an open-air market where you can view (and sample) fresh produce and spices, and enjoy an independent lunch. In the afternoon, visit Bethlehem, with its Church (Basilica) of the Nativity—the world’s oldest continuously operating church, established in A.D. 326, and today a UNESCO World Heritage site—and St. Catherine’s Church next door. Return to our hotel for dinner. (B,D)

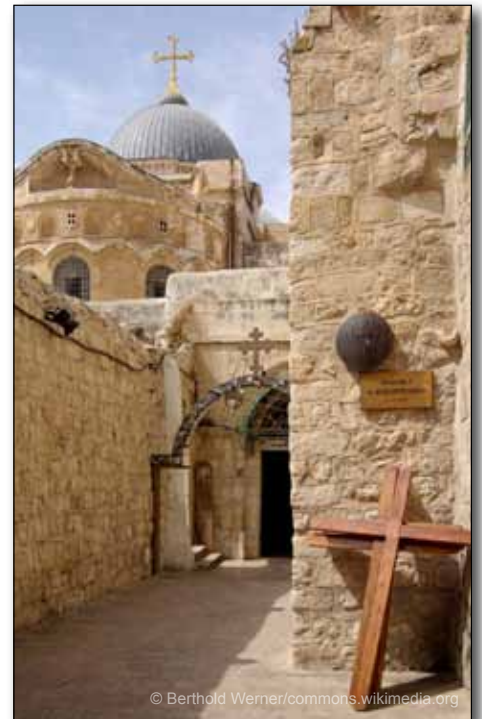
**Monday, May 28: JERUSALEM | MASADA | DEAD SEA | QUMRAN | JERUSALEM**

Today we depart Jerusalem and drive to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Masada. Built by Herod as a fortified palace, Masada later was the site of a famous “last stand” by almost 1,000 Jews, following the Roman conquest of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. At a resort in Ein Boqueq, south of Masada, you will have time for lunch on your own and you may take a dip, if you wish, in the Dead Sea—the lowest point on Earth. End the day at Qumran, where the famous Dead Sea Scrolls were hidden for nearly 2,000 years, and then return to Jerusalem. Gather for a farewell dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

**Tuesday, May 29: JERUSALEM | TEL AVIV | HOME**

Transfer to Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion Airport for your homeward flight. (B)

Above, Jerusalem’s Western Wall with the Dome of the Rock (left) and Al-Aqsa Mosque (right). Below, Station IX of the Via Dolorosa, Jerusalem. Bottom (left), St. Catherine’s Church, Bethlehem; (right) Qumran.



“The trip was very well thought out and we benefited immensely from our lecturer’s experience.”  
- Grace, Delaware



## WHAT TO EXPECT

This program involves extensive walking, often on uneven terrain or up and down stairs that may be steep and without handrails. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. Participants who are not able to walk unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour unless accompanied by a companion who will be available to assist you at all times. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you. In May, daytime temperatures tend to range from the low 60s to the low 90s Fahrenheit. *Complete pre-departure details, such as what to take with you and more of what to expect, will be sent to participants.*



## AIR ARRANGEMENTS & TRANSFERS

Airfare from/to home is not included. Individual transfers in Tel Aviv on arrival and departure will be provided. Once you have received your final payment invoice from our office you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

## ABOUT THE AIA & THE AIA TOURS PROGRAM

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.

*"This was my first AIA trip...It was worth every dollar."*

- Leslie, California

**For questions, or reservations, please contact us:**



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS

**800-748-6262**

**Fax: 603-756-2922 Toll: 603-756-2884**

**Email: [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org) Website: [www.iaatours.org](http://www.iaatours.org)**

**P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608**

© Copyright 2017 Eos. All rights reserved. Photos courtesy of: commons.wikimedia.org, Israeli Ministry of Tourism (IMT).

## TOUR PRICES (PER PERSON)

DOUBLE Occupancy (10 to 14 participants)..... \$9,245  
DOUBLE Occupancy (7 to 9 participants)..... \$9,995  
SINGLE Supplement (limited availability) ..... \$3,395

*With fewer than 7 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.  
Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.*

## PRICES INCLUDE:

- AIA study leader Eric Cline and an English-speaking Guide/Tour Manager;
- Eleven nights' accommodations as per the itinerary;
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary;
- Individual transfers on arrival and departure;
- Surface transportation by air-conditioned motor coach, with water provided;
- All excursions and entrance fees as per the itinerary;
- Local taxes and service charges;
- Gratuities to Guide/Tour Manager, drivers, and porters;
- Baggage handling;
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, including a suggested reading guide, travel guide, and packing list.

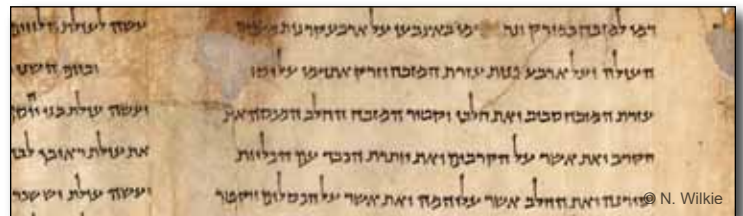
**Prices Do Not Include:** Any airfare; passport and visa fees; inoculation fees; airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

**Passenger Cancellation Penalties:** All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing. Cancellations received at least ninety (90) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) per person. Cancellations received between eighty nine (89) and sixty (60) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per person. Cancellations received within fifty nine (59) days of departure are subject to a penalty of 100% of the tour cost. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. An application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

**Note:** Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason. Prices, leader, and itinerary are subject to change.

**Payments:** A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to EOS-Passenger Account-AIA Israel5/18. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by personal check only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

**Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at [www.iaatours.org](http://www.iaatours.org).**





OTHER SELECT  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS

www.aiatours.org

**Jungle Kingdoms of the Ancient Maya**

January 27 - February 9, 2018 with Jeff Karl Kowalski



This extraordinary tropical adventure provides the best-paced itinerary available to explore ancient Maya sites in the lush jungles of Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras. Explore the sites of Palenque, Bonampak, Yaxchilán, Tikal, Copán, Yaxhá and Quiriguá; with free time to bird watch or relax and enjoy our comfortable hotels and remote jungle lodges. Limited to 12 participants.

**Absolute Egypt**

February 17 - March 5, 2018 with Stephen Harvey



Our meticulously-planned itinerary, featuring premium accommodations and a deluxe, 3-night Nile River cruise, includes all the preeminent sites of the pharaohs from Cairo to Luxor and Aswan. Highlights include the stunning tombs of Seti I and Nefertari, and a day trip to Abu Simbel. Limited to 12 participants.

**Pyramids & Temples of Yucatan**

February 17 - 25, 2018 with Virginia Miller



This luxurious winter holiday provides a week-long adventure exploring the sun-drenched Yucatan's ancient sites such as Chichén Itzá, Uxmal, Ek Balam, Dzibilchaltun, and Labná. Bird watch, shop for crafts, and relax at our comfortable resorts (two nights at Chichen Itza and three nights each at Merida and Uxmal). Limited to 12 participants.

**Sri Lanka: South Asia's Multicultural Isle**

March 11 - 26, 2018 with Nancy Wilkie



Explore Sri Lanka's archaeology, history, and culture with visits to all six of its cultural World Heritage Sites: sacred Kandy and Anuradhapura, ancient Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa, the Old Town of Galle, and the cave-temple of Dambulla. Also explore nature reserves and a national park to see monkeys, elephants, various birds and, possibly, a leopard. Limited to 12 participants.

OTHER SELECT  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS

www.aiatours.org

**Morocco: From the Desert to the Sea**

March 13 - 26, 2018 with Trevor Marchand



Join us for a unique look at the archaeology, architecture, and history of Morocco, visiting six UNESCO World Heritage sites (Volubilis, Medina of Marrakech, Rabat, Meknes, Fes, Aït ben Haddou casbah) and the ruins of medieval Sijilmassa and Aghmat (recipient of an AIA Site Preservation Grant), meeting with locals from all walks of life, and much more. Limited to 15 participants.

**Decorated Caves of the Pyrenees & the Rhone Valley**

April 19 - 29, 2018 with Ian Tattersall



Discover with acclaimed paleoanthropologist Ian Tattersall many unheralded examples of Ice Age art in Spain and France. Highlights include the original decorated caves of Isturitz and Oxocelhaya, Niaux, Bédeilhac, and Gargas; plus the newly-opened Chauvet cave replica. Enjoy fine food and accommodations while an expert trip manager handles all the logistics. Limited to 20 participants.

**Prehistoric Tombs & Standing Stones of Wessex & Brittany**

May 8 - 19, 2018 with Paul Bahn



Delve into the mysteries of the extraordinary prehistoric sites of Wessex, England, and Brittany, France. Amidst beautiful landscapes see world renowned, as well as lesser known, Neolithic and Bronze Age megaliths and monuments such as enigmatic rings of giant standing stones and remarkable chambered tombs. Explore medieval churches, charming villages, museum collections, and more. Limited to 20 participants.

**Scottish Isles and Norwegian Fjords**

May 17 - 25, 2018 with Colleen Batey



Book by October 16<sup>th</sup> and save \$2,000 per couple! Cruise from Bergen, Norway, to Glasgow, Scotland, aboard the luxurious, 110-cabin *Le Boreal*. Highlights include the Neolithic standing stones of Stennes and village of Skara Brae; Jarlshof; and specially-arranged rail journeys in the Scottish Highlands and on Norway's Flam Railway. Pre- and post-cruise extensions in Copenhagen/Norway and in Glasgow/Edinburgh are available.