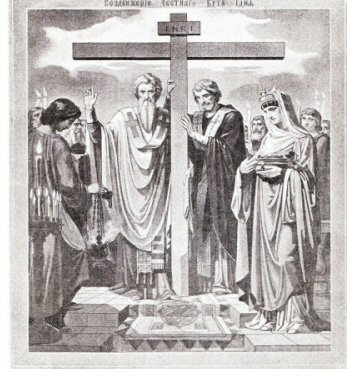




*McCabe*  
PILGRIMAGES



# Syriac Christianity in Eastern Turkey with the Anglican and Eastern Churches Association

17-25 October 2020

A nine day pilgrimage to Tur Abdin, Eastern Turkey  
led by The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark  
& Mar Polycarpus, Syriac Orthodox Archbishop of the Netherlands







## A PILGRIMAGE TO THE SYRIAC CHURCHES OF EASTERN TURKEY WITH THE ANGLICAN AND EASTERN CHURCHES ASSOCIATION

**17-25 October 2020**

We are delighted to be leading this pilgrimage to the holy places of south-east Turkey. This area has played an important part in Christian history. After the First World

War, Turkey became a mainly Muslim country, but we will visit the flourishing Syriac church of Tur Abdin, an area which after decades of decline has shown signs of dynamic growth.

We will share in the life of two monasteries, with their classical Syriac worship, as well as visiting towns and villages where Syriac Christianity is central to people's lives. We will also see the ancient cliff-side Monastery of Mor Augin, re-opened after decades of being abandoned.

We shall stop at many holy places, to pray and to reflect, listening both to the voice of history and to the people we encounter along the way. There will be formal times of worship, but also space to be still.

## TOUR INFORMATION

**The cost is £1,775 per person** sharing a twin/double room with ensuite bathroom.

This pilgrimage is on half board; breakfast is included daily and dinner at our hotels with the exception of arrival and departure days.

Flights are with Turkish Airlines from London Heathrow and all airport taxes and charges are included.

We will be accompanied by a local guide/tour manager throughout and will travel by private air-conditioned coach.

All entrance fees to sights mentioned are included as well as tips to guide, driver, hotels and restaurants.

### Not included

Travel insurance: our recommended insurance policy is £65 per person aged up to 75 years at the time of travel and

£115 per person aged 76-90. A special feature of this policy is that you do not need to declare medical conditions (see back page). We require all travellers to have adequate cover for the trip and you may have annual or another suitable insurance.

The single room supplement is £445 but please read 'Travelling Alone' overleaf if you would like to share.

Any special requests should be noted on the booking form.

A deposit is payable now with the balance payable eight weeks prior to departure. Your final travel information will be sent two weeks before departure.

A Turkish visa is required for this trip. This is available online for \$20/£16. The process is very straightforward but can be done on your behalf for a fee of £25. Full details will be sent with your final invoice.



## TO MAKE A RESERVATION

To reserve your place, please complete the booking form and send it with a deposit of £200 plus the relevant insurance premium, to the tour organiser. Cheques are payable to 'McCabe Pilgrimages' but if you prefer to pay by card, please make a note on the booking form and McCabe staff will contact you to take payment over the phone.

**Revd Andrei Petrine**  
38 Claremont Road  
Basildon  
SS15 5PZ

Tel : 07723 026925  
Email: pater@me.com



# DAILY PROGRAMME



## Saturday 17 October | [DIYARBAKIR](#)

We meet at London Heathrow. Turkish Airlines flight TK1980 to Istanbul departs at 11:30 and arrives at 17:20. Transfer to flight TK2610 to Diyarbakir departing at 19:30 and arriving at 21:40. **Overnight at the Novotel in Diyarbakir (no dinner).**

## Sunday | [SANLIURFA & MARDIN](#)

Drive to Sanliurfa (ancient Edessa) for a city tour including Balıklı Göl (sacred carp) in the old town, the Church of St Petrus/St Paulus (Reji Church) and the Archaeology Museum, one of the best in Turkey. Continue to Mardin to visit the Church of 40 Martyrs (Kirklar Church). **Dinner and overnight in Sanliurfa at (hotel TBA).**

## Monday | [MARDIN & DARA](#)

Today we visit Deir ul Zaferan, one of the most important centres of the Syriac Church, as well as the recently excavated historic town of Dara. **Dinner and overnight in Mardin.**

## Tuesday | [MIDYAT](#)

We drive towards Nusaybin (Nisbis) where we visit St Jacob's Church (Mor Yakup). Continue to Midyat where we spend **five nights at the Turabdin Hotel.**

## Wednesday | [MIDYAT](#)

Today we visit Mor Augin, one of the oldest Syriac churches, and Mor Melke as well as the village of Haberli, once home to over 25 churches and schools which produced a wealth of priests and bishops. Mor Dodo, the most impressive building here, is a fortified Syrian Orthodox church dating back to the 7th century.

## Thursday | [MOR GABRIEL](#)

Today we visit Mor Gabriel, the world's oldest surviving Syriac Orthodox monastery believed to have been built 1,600 years ago.

## Friday | [MIDYAT](#)

A free day to explore Midyat. It's not a tourist town and you will find the locals very friendly and hospitable.

## Saturday | [HASANKEYF & KAFRO](#)

Located on the Tigris River, Hasankeyf has a fascinating history with plenty to see. It's considered to be one of the oldest sites of Mesopotamia. The cliffs that surround the city contain thousands of caves as well as rock cut churches and mosques and ancient cemeteries.

We visit the village of Kafro which, according to tradition, had its origins before the birth of Christ. During the Assyrian genocide, its entire population fled to the nearby monasteries and it was abandoned for many years until the population slowly returned in the latter half of the 20th century.

## Sunday 25 October | [DEPARTURE](#)

Transfer to Mardin Airport. Turkish Airlines flight TK2675 to Istanbul departs at 10:25 and arrives at 12:55. Connecting flight TK1971 to London Heathrow departs at 14:50 and arrives at 16:15.



# OUR PILGRIMAGE

## THE McCABE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The McCabe Educational Trust is an independent registered charity with the aim of helping inspiring people we meet on pilgrimage. As 'the haves' encounter the 'have nots' the Trust has become a practical tool for one to help the other. McCabe Pilgrimages invite all travellers to become partners in this work. A £15 voluntary donation to the Trust's work is added to every pilgrim's invoice and all money raised in this way is given in full to the projects the Trust supports. This scheme is voluntary and confidential with nobody put under any pressure to participate.

## A TURKISH VISA IS REQUIRED

A visa is required for this holiday and has to be purchased in advance from the Turkish Embassy website [www.evisa.gov.tr/en](http://www.evisa.gov.tr/en). The McCabe office will advise and assist with this. Do check that your passport is valid for at least six months beyond the duration of this tour. If you need a new passport apply early as there can be considerable backlogs at the passport offices. No inoculations are required but we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

## 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.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

**A special feature of the policy recommended by McCabe is that you do not need to declare medical conditions or call a medical screening service. Most pre-existing health conditions are covered as long as your doctor agrees that you are fit to travel.**

We have arranged a holiday insurance policy underwritten by AWP P&C SA and administered in the UK by Allianz Global Assistance which is a trading name of AWP Assistance UK Limited, AWP Assistance UK Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. AWP P&C SA is duly authorised in France and the United Kingdom and subject to limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority. McCabe Travel Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (firm reference 305686) being permitted to advise and arrange general insurance contracts. Our status can be checked on the Financial Conduct Authority Register by visiting [www.fca.org.uk](http://www.fca.org.uk) or calling 0845 606 9966.

The policy has been specifically designed so that it covers all McCabe holidays; protecting you in full if you have to cancel and providing you with the very best and most effective protection if you are unfortunate enough to require medical attention whilst away. Standard exclusions apply and are listed on the summary document which is available on request. Please check that you are not affected by the Main Health Exclusions. You will not be covered for any ongoing tests or treatment of an undiagnosed condition, or for any terminal illness, or if you claim as a result of a condition arising within the past twelve months. If you have a medical condition, you must obtain verbal confirmation from your medical practitioner that there is no reason why you should not travel and you must ensure that this confirmation is recorded in your notes.

Note that you will be required to pay an excess of £1,000 on any claim that results directly from a pre-existing medical condition.

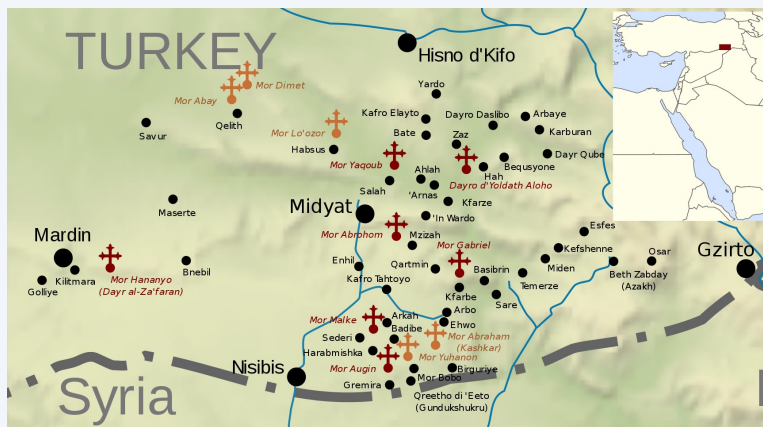
A full policy wording will be sent to you with confirmation of your booking, or ask us and we will send you a summary now. Full details are also on our website. If you would like more information or are unsure of any details, please call Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for further advice on 01903 235042. This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident in the UK.

## 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](http://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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