

If payment received by 8/31/17

DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21: DEPART U.S.A.

Tour members depart the U.S.A. on our flight for modern day Israel. Sit back, relax and enjoy the on-board in-flight service. Meals will be served according to the airline flight schedule.

DAY 2 – THURSDAY, MARCH 22: ARRIVAL AT BEN GURION AIRPORT, DEAD SEA

We arrive in Israel and meet our Israeli tour guide and board our air-conditioned coach for our drive to the Dead Sea. Along the way, we will enjoy a brief stop in Jaffa. We will enjoy a light lunch and then continue to our hotel for dinner and overnight at Herod’s Dead Sea Hotel.

DAY 3 – FRIDAY, MARCH 23: EN GEDI, ARAD, JUDEAN WILDERNESS

We depart from our hotel to En Gedi where David hid from King Saul. For lunch, we enjoy a rest at the Bedouin Experience, including a camel ride. We then head to the City of Arad which holds the only ever discovered “House of Yahweh” in the land of Israel. We will be back at our Dead Sea hotel in time for a swim in the therapeutic waters. Dinner and overnight are again at Herod’s Dead Sea Hotel.



DAY 4 – SATURDAY, MARCH 24: MASADA, QUMRAN, SEA OF GALILEE, BEIT SHEAN

After an early breakfast, we begin our drive from the Dead Sea region, the lowest place on earth, up to the Galilee. Our first stop will be at Masada. It was here in A.D. 70 that 960 Jewish zealots made their last stand against Rome and took their own lives rather than become slaves to the Romans. We will ascend this mountain fortress via cable car and our guide will take us on a fascinating tour of the site. We will descend Masada and make our way to Qumran, the home of the Essenes, where many of the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered. We will stop for lunch in Qumran before making our way to Beit Shean, where King Saul was killed. In Beit Shean, we see the expansive archaeological ruins of an

ancient city inhabited for 5000 years and one of the Roman cities through which Jesus passed during travels from Galilee to Jerusalem. After a special overlook at Ophir, we will finish our day with a drive to Kibbutz Nof Ginnosar, Sea of Galilee for dinner and overnight.



DAY 5 – SUNDAY, MARCH 25: SEA OF GALILEE, GOLAN HEIGHTS, TEL DAN, MOUNT OF BEATITUDES

There is nothing quite like sunrise on the Sea of Galilee. After breakfast, we will head north into the Golan Heights for an incredible view of Caesarea Philippi. We will have a short hike/walk to Tel Dan where we will see the Banias waterfall and the altar of Jeroboam. For lunch, we will stop at a local restaurant, which includes the option of ordering the special St. Peter’s Fish. Then we will visit the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount. From there, we will drive to the Jordan River where we will have the option to be baptized and then we head out on an inspiring private boat ride. Dinner and overnight are at Kibbutz Nof Ginnosar, Sea of Galilee.

DAY 6 – MONDAY, MARCH 26: NAZARETH, MEGIDDO, MT. CARMEL

After our fabulous Israeli buffet breakfast, we drive to Capernaum, Jesus’ ministry center and the home of Peter, Andrew, James, and John. Here we see the first century synagogue where possibly Jesus performed several miracles. Next, we begin traveling to the Nazareth ridge for a magnificent view of the Jezreel Valley – the Valley of Armageddon. Then we continue to Megiddo, a fortress city of King Solomon and the site of 21 superimposed cities. Before we visit Mount Carmel - Muchraka, we will stop for lunch at the Druze village. On the highest point of the Carmel in the place where (according to tradition) the prophet Elijah competed with the 450 pagan prophets (1 Kings 18), an impressive Carmelite Monastery was built. From the balcony, an amazing 360-degree panorama can be seen: in the east – the valleys; in the north – the Galilee; in the west – the sea;

and in the south – the Carmel, the Samaria and the coastline. Dinner and overnight are at Dan Carmel Hotel, Haifa.

DAY 7 – TUESDAY, MARCH 27: CAESAREA BY THE SEA, BETHLEHEM, JERUSALEM

After breakfast, we drive to Caesarea by the Sea where Peter proclaimed the good news to the Roman centurion, Cornelius. This was the Roman capital of Israel at the time of Jesus and dates back to the time of Pontius Pilate. We will sit in the ancient amphitheater, explore the remains of a Crusader fortress, and see the spectacular Roman aqueduct. We then drive via the coastal road and the Judean Hills toward Jerusalem. This afternoon we will pass by Rachel’s tomb on the outskirts of Bethlehem, visit the Church of the Nativity and view a Shepherd’s Field. We stop in Bethlehem at an olivewood store. Dinner and overnight are at the Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem.

DAY 8 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28: MOUNT OF OLIVES, GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE, VIA DOLOROSA

Our day begins at the Mount of Olives. From there, our pilgrimage descends to the Garden of Gethsemane with its ancient olive grove. We will visit the Church of Agony, where tradition holds that Jesus prayed the night he was betrayed. We will enter Jerusalem through the Dung Gate and walk to the holiest site in the Jewish world, the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) of Herod’s temple. From the temple area, we make our way to St. Stephen’s Gate, St. Anne’s Crusader Church, Pools of Bethesda, the Sisters of Zion Convent (to see the Pavement where Jesus stood as he was being tried by Pilate), Ecce Homo Arch, and then continue the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. We will enjoy a falafel lunch during the tour in the Old City of Jerusalem. We conclude our day with a visit to the Davidson Center to view the Temple area as it would have appeared during the time of Christ. Dinner and overnight are at the Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem.



DAY 9 – THURSDAY, MARCH 29: JERUSALEM, RABBI’S TUNNEL, CITY OF DAVID, SOUTHERN STEPS, HEZEKIAH’S SHAFT, POOL OF SILOAM, YAD VASHEM

After breakfast, we will walk the Rabbi’s Tunnel, a section of the ancient retaining wall of Solomon’s Temple. Then we visit the Old City of Jerusalem, where we will sit on the Southern Steps - the actual steps that Jesus used when he visited the Temple. Before walking through the ancient Cardo, Jerusalem’s main street from the second century, we will stop for lunch at a local favorite spot. We will then wade through Hezekiah’s Tunnel and see the Pool of Siloam. Then we visit the Israel Museum and the model of Jerusalem (1:50 scale model of Herodian Jerusalem as it would have appeared in Jesus’ time). Here we will also see the Shrine of the Book where some of the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed. Our day concludes with a memorable visit to Yad Vashem, Israel Holocaust Museum and the Children’s Memorial. Dinner and overnight are at the Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem.

DAY 10 – FRIDAY, MARCH 30: GARDEN TOMB, OLD CITY

We begin our day at the Garden Tomb with a private communion service. Then we will head back to the Old City to see the Palace of the High Priest. The group will then have some time to eat lunch and shop in the Old City. We depart the city for the Elah Valley to see the brook where David slew Goliath. From here, we continue our drive to Tel Aviv for a special Farewell Dinner. We then transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our flight back to the U.S.A.

DAY 11 – SATURDAY, MARCH 31: TEL AVIV, U.S.A.

With stirring memories of our walk with Jesus and history, we arrive back in the U.S.A.

**While we do our very best at making sure all items listed in your itinerary are included, there are times when conditions beyond our control affect your program/itinerary, including but not limited to air carrier changes, delays, weather, political climate, time constraints, or changes by your tour leader and tour guide.*