

Itinerary

Day 1

Sunday - April 28 - Departure for Israel

Make your way to your local airport where you will board your overnight flight(s). Your meals are served on board.

Day 2

Monday - April 29 - Arrive in the Holy Land

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, you will make your way to the baggage claim area and collect your luggage. Proceed to the Arrival's Hall, where you will be greeted by your tour guide and/or driver. You will board a Group Transfer to your hotel in Tel Aviv in time to check-in. You will gather for a "Welcome Meeting" in the evening - where you will meet the Guides and Spiritual Directors, as well as get an overview one how each day will go from there. From there, you will make your way to the restaurant for dinner at the hotel, before retiring for the evening.

Day 3 - 9

Tuesday to Monday - April 30 to May 6th - Experiencing the Holy Land

Today, you begin your pilgrimage through the land where Jesus walked. Over the next eight (8) days, you will have may opportunities to not only better understand the Bible, but the geography and lifestyle within this great land. Votive Masses will be celebrated daily, along with time for prayer and reflection at these sacred sites. You Guide will be with you each day, as the Bible transforms from words on paper - to a three-dimensional Book!

The sites you will visit on your journey will include the following:

- Abu Ghosh:** Tradition says this is the site where the Ark of the Covenant rested for 20 years
- Bethlehem:** The site of the birthplace of Jesus (including a visit to the Grotto - marking the spot where he was born.)
- Caesarea:** Former capital of Judea. Visiting the Ancient Port, Aqueduct, Hippodrome (Home to the first Olympics), and Amphitheatre.
- Cana:** The Franciscan Church where Jesus turned water into wine. Couples will be able to renew their Wedding Vows during the Ceremony
- Capernaum:** Jesus launched his ministry from here, including a visit to the Synagogue where He taught (Mark 1:21-29)
- Church of Dormition:** Marking the very site where Mary, the Mother of Jesus, "fell asleep"
- Church of the Holy Sepulchre:** The sacred destination is the site of Calvary (Jesus' crucifixion) and His tomb (Luke 23: 50-55)
- Dead Sea:** You will have free time to take a "Float" in the Dead Sea - as well as go shopping at the Dead Sea Spa
- Dominus Flevit:** The very site where Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41)
- Ein Karem:** This marks the birthplace of St. John the Baptist - with two Churches representing the two houses of Elizabeth and Zachariah.
- Garden of Gethsemane:** This is where Jesus prayed during the last night with His disciples before He was crucified (Luke 22:29-53)
- Israel Museum:** Shrine of the Book and scale model of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus
- Mount of Beatitudes:** This is the site where Jesus proclaimed His great Sermon - also known as the "Sermon on the Mount"
- Mount of Olives:** Not only the best panoramic view of the Old City, but a mandatory transit site for Jesus during many iconic moments
- Mt. Zion:** location of the Upper Room where Jesus the His disciples celebrated the Last Supper (Matthew 26: 17-30) and where he appeared to them after His Death and Resurrection (Mark 16:14).
- Nazareth:** The town where Mary was visited by the Angel, and where Jesus studied and prayed (Matthew 2:23)
- Palm Sunday Road:** We will grab our palms and walk down the same road that led Jesus to Jerusalem
- Pater Noster Church:** Christ taught the Lord's Prayer to his disciples here, which is why it is written in the world languages.
- Pool of Bethesda:** the site where Jesus healed the crippled man
- Qumran:** The famous caves for where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered
- Rock of Agony:** This Rock is where Jesus prayed, alone, on the night of his arrest.
- Sea of Galilee:** This is the place the place Jesus lived - this portion also includes a Boat ride out onto the sea (Luke 5:1)
- Shepherds Fields:** This is where the Angels announced the Redeemer's birth - and explore Caves that still have soot marks of fires from Shepherds (Luke 2:8)
- Stella Maris:** Located above the cave where the prophet, Elijah, lived. It is also the Founding Monastery of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- St. Peter in Galicantu:** House of the High Priest Caiaphas, and where Jesus was examined and eventually imprisoned before the Council in Jerusalem.
- Tabgha:** This is where Jesus fed the crowd of 5,000 people - also known as the multiplication of the "loaves and fishes" (Luke 9:10-17)
- Western Wall:** The only remains of the Second Temple of Jerusalem
- Via Dolorosa:** Marking: The true "Way of the Cross", we will walk this and pray the "Stations of the Cross" through the markets, ending at Calvary.



*Return flights to the US depart between 11:30 P.M. on May 7th - and - 12:40 A.M. on May 8th.

Day 11

Wednesday - May 8th - Arrive Home

This morning after a late breakfast, you will have free time to spend at your own leisure before and early dinner and your return flight home. With heartfelt farewells, you will gather on to your bus for your transfer to Tel Aviv Airport for your return flight(s) home.