

Holy Land Classic

February 13 - 22, 2023

Here is the current itinerary – subject to change

Day 1 (M) Feb 13 Depart USA

Your pilgrimage begins as you depart the USA on an overnight flight. Leaving from Chicago will set that portion of pricing.

Day 2 (T) Feb 14 Arrive in the Holy Land

You will be welcomed at the Tel Aviv airport by our representative and transferred to your hotel to enjoy dinner before retiring for the night.

Day 3 (W) Feb 15 The Galilee

Worship as you sail across the Sea of Galilee. Visit Capernaum, center of Jesus' ministry in the Galilee, and visit the synagogue built on the site where Jesus taught (Matthew 4:13, 23). On the Mount of Beatitudes, contemplate the "Sermon on the Mount" (Matthew 5-7). Explore the Church of the Fish and the Loaves at Tabgha, traditional site of the feeding of the 5,000 (Luke 9:10 -17). See the Chapel of the Primacy, where Peter professed his devotion three times to the risen Christ (John 21). In Magdala, home to Mary Magdalene, visit a recently discovered first-century synagogue. Recall Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist at the Jordan River.

Day 4 (H) Feb 16 Cana, Nazareth, Tel Megiddo & Caesarea

Visit the Franciscan Wedding Chapel in Cana, site of Jesus' first miracle, before continuing on to Nazareth, Jesus' boyhood home (Matthew 2:23). Look out over Tel Megiddo (Armageddon) to view one of the most important archaeological sites in Israel. Today's last stop is Caesarea, a center of the early Christians where an angel visited Cornelius, the first Gentile believer (Acts 10), and where Paul was imprisoned for two years before appealing to Caesar.

Day 5 (F) Feb 17 Jericho, Qumran & Mount of Olives

As you stop in Jericho to view the ruins of the city conquered by Joshua (Joshua 6:1, 2, 20), in the distance you can also see the traditional site of the Temptation of Jesus (Matthew 4:1 -11). Continue to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947. End your day with a group picture taken from the Mount of Olives, where Jesus ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9-12).

Day 6 (Sat) Feb 18 Jerusalem & Bethlehem

In Bethlehem, visit the cave revered as Jesus' birthplace and see the Church of the Nativity constructed over the site (Matthew 1:18 -25, Luke 2:1 -7). Gaze out over Shepherds' Field before returning to Jerusalem. Pray in the Garden of Gethsemane and envision the scenes of the night before Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 26:36 -44). Continue to Mount Zion to visit the House of the High Priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was questioned the night of His betrayal (Matthew 26:57). Meditate on the events of the Last Supper as you visit the traditional location of the Upper Room (Mark 14:12 -26).

Day 7 (Sun) Feb 19 Jerusalem & the Old City

Walk the Cardo, the ancient main street of the Old City. Explore ancient Jerusalem at the Teaching Steps and the Western Wall. View the Pool of Bethesda where Jesus performed the Sabbath miracle (John 5:1-18). Sing a hymn in the Church of St. Anne and experience its rich acoustics. Visit Herod's Antonia Fortress, where Jesus appeared before Pontius Pilate (Luke 23:1) and follow in Christ's steps on the Via Dolorosa ("the Way of the Cross"). At the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, take time to reflect on His sacrificial love.

Day 8 (M) Feb 20 Leisure Day (Masada/Dead Sea Option - \$75 additional)

Today you have free time to explore on your own or you may choose to visit Masada and the Dead Sea (additional charge). Ascend by cable car to Masada, Herod's legendary mountaintop fortress which became the last desperate stronghold of the Jewish Zealots against the Romans. You can still look down on the remains of the Roman camps and the siege ramp below. End your day with a dip in the salt and mineral laden waters of the Dead Sea.

Day 9 (T) Feb 21 Jerusalem

Travel to Ein Karem, birthplace of John the Baptist and where Mary visited Elizabeth (Luke 1:26-40). Explore the poignant exhibits of Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial. Visit the Garden Tomb for a time of reflection and communion.

Day 10 (W) Feb 22 Return to the USA or Enjoy an Extension.

**Custom Jordan Extension
February 22 - 24, 2023**

Day 10 (W) Feb 22 - Allenby Bridge - Bethany Beyond Jordan / Mount Nebo / Dead Sea Resort

Day 11 (H) Feb 23 - Free morning at Spa / Madaba - Byzantine Map of Jerusalem / Roman Ruins of Amman / Dinner / Transfer to airport

Day 12 (F) Feb 24 Return to USA from Jordan

Of course other extensions are available...Egypt...Dubai... etc etc