

# HOLY LAND TOUR

**"JOURNEY THROUGH THE LAND OF ISRAEL"**

**10 Days Spiritual Itinerary**

**October 19 to 28, 2020**

(dates are confirmed with Air Canada airline)

**Price:**

**\$4,199 pp. from Columbus, OH**

**Included:** Hotels, Touring, Entrance fees, Breakfast & Dinner daily + 2 Lunches, Tips, Flight and Carrier surcharges (subject to change by airline)

**Not Included:** Optional travel insurance (\$276), Drinks and Items of personal nature

## **SPECIAL GUESTS:**

Fr. **Don Franks** and Fr. **Tom Gardner**

*We invite you to encounter Christ in a profound and life-changing way by walking in His footsteps in the Holy Land. Every stop on our tour will bring the scriptures into a new light, and deepen your faith, your prayer life, and your relationship with Jesus Christ. Feel the presence of the Incarnate Lord in the town of His birth, Bethlehem. Reflect on His words in the holy places where He taught and preached...the Mount of the Beatitudes, The Upper Room, Capernaum, Mt. Tabor and more. And finally, stand at His empty tomb where you'll hear the words "He Is Risen" resonate in your heart!*

**For more information contact:**

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**or Jerusalem Tours: 888-373-8687**

**Hold the dates. Act quickly and make your \$300.00 deposit to reserve your place. Space is limited.**

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Catholic itinerary  
**Proposed Itinerary**

**Day 1 - EN ROUTE**

Depart the USA. to Tel Aviv, Israel. Enjoy a hot dinner served aboard the airplane.

**Day 2 - Arrive TEL AVIV**

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport, our representative will meet the group by the luggage carousel and assist us on the way out through customs. You will then be transferred to your Mediterranean Seaside hotel for Dinner and overnight. (D)

**Day 3 - To the GALILEE**

We will wake up to the first day in the Holy Land. After a rich, Israeli breakfast, we will visit **St Peter's Church in Jaffa**. Continue and drive north along the famous highway, biblically known as the 'way of the sea'. We will arrive at **Caesarea**, where we will explore the ruins of the Roman and the Crusader City. We will see the reconstructed Roman city, the walls from the times of the Crusaders and the prison where St. Paul was held in captivity before being sent to Rome. This was also the place where the first gentile was converted to Christianity. As we leave the beautiful walls and moat, we will pass the remains of the Roman horse racing theater the Hippodrome. We will stop at the amazing remains of the Roman Aqueduct, which has been beautifully preserved under the sand dunes for 2000 years. After a complimentary Falafel lunch at a **Druze village**, we will continue to **Mount Carmel** and visit **Stela Maris Church** and the **Carmelite Monastery of Elijah** - the Prophet, who has debated the 450 prophets of Baal. From here you can see a panoramic view of the Israel Valley, known as **Valley of Armageddon**. On to **Nazareth** where we visit the **Church of the Annunciation** and the Synagogue where Jesus learned to read the Bible. We will visit the **Carpentry Church** and the **Gabriel Greek Orthodox Church**. On the way we visit **Cana** of Galilee, the village where Jesus performed his first miracle - the miracle at the wedding. Arrival at our hotel in Nazareth for Dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)



**Day 4 - GALILEE**

Wake up in the area where Jesus spent three years of his ministry. Today we will dedicate our time to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. After breakfast, we will drive east towards the **Sea of Galilee** and visit **Magdala** where they have excavated an ancient synagogue and built a new church. Continue north through the **Golan Heights** to **Caesarea Philipi** and the **Banias**, one of the water resources of the **Jordan River**. Continue back to the Sea of Galilee to visit **Capernaum**, 'the Town of Jesus', walk along the ruins of this Biblical Village, and see the Synagogue where Jesus preached and the house of Peter's mother-in-law. Drive up to **Mount of the Beatitudes**, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. On the way we will visit ancient **Khorazim**. Continue for a visit of the beautiful mosaic floor at **Tabgha** - the site of the miracle of the multiplication and the church of **Peter Primacy**. Then we will have the famous **St. Peter's fish for lunch** in a restaurant on the lake shores. We will visit the "**Jesus Boat**" at Kibbutz Ginosar, which is a 2000 years old wooden fishing boat and we will sail in a replica boat across the Sea of Galilee. We end the day celebrating Mass. Dinner and overnight in Nazareth. (B, L, D)



**Day 5 - GALILEE to DEAD SEA**

Today, after breakfast we drive west to **Mount Tabor**. Ascend the winding road with taxis to visit the church built on the traditional site of the '**Transfiguration**'. We will continue to **Beit Shean** - a Roman city, the largest excavation of the Middle East dating back to King Saul times. We continue to the lowest place on earth - the **Dead Sea**. 1300 feet below sea level, the Dead Sea is the lowest and saltiest body of water in the world. Our hotel is on the shores of the Dead Sea and we will have to opportunity to dip and float on this unique lake. Dinner and Overnight at our hotel by the Dead Sea. (B, D)

**Day 6 - DEAD SEA and MASADA to JERUSALEM**

Today, after breakfast, we will visit **Masada** - the site of the Zealots last stand against the Romans, which was originally built as a magnificent palace for Herod the Great. At this great fortress we will visit the bathhouse, the storage rooms, the mosaics and the **Byzantine Church**. After descending by walking along the **Ramp built by the Romans**, we will drive to a **Bedouin camp** and enjoy a special visit with Middle Eastern hospitality called "Hafla". Drive by **Tel Arad**, the Canaanite city conquered by Joshua, to **Beer Sheva**, the "Capital" of the Negev. This is the city where Abraham dug the seven water wells. We will drive via the Negev Desert to **Ela Valley**, site of the famous battle between David and Goliath. We will ascent to **Jerusalem**, 2400 feet above sea level. At the entrance to the Holy City we will celebrate with a traditional blessing, while overlooking the walls of the City of the Lord. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. (B, D)



**Day 7 - JERUSALEM**

Today will be a spiritual uplifting. We will enter the **Old City** from the **Lions Gate**. Visit the **Pool of Bethesda**, **St. Ann Church**, the **Chapel of Flagellation** and the **Via Dolorosa**. We will stop at the **14 Stations of the Cross**, ending with a celebration at the empty tomb in the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher** - the largest Church in Jerusalem. Continue to the **Kidron Valley** and enter the **Garden of Gethsemane**, the **Church of All Nations** where we can view the **Basilica of Agony**. In this area are the oldest Olive trees in the Holy Land, dating back to ancient times - a living witness to Jesus's arrest by the Romans. We continue along the Kidron Valley, viewing the Tomb of Zachariah as well as the Tomb of Absalom - King David's son. We will enter the Old City via the **Dung Gate**, then proceed to the **Wailing Wall** - the remnant of Solomon's Temple, the holiest Jewish site - and touch its ancient stones. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. (B, D)



**Day 8 - JERUSALEM and BETHLEHEM**

After breakfast, drive to **Bethany** to visit the **Church of St. Lazarus**, then continue to the **Mt. of Olives** to visit the Palm Sunday Road and **Peter Noster Church**. Continue to the **St. Peter in Gallicantu Church**, the **house of Caiaphas**, and **Mt. Zion** to see the **Church of the Dormition**, the Cenacle and the **room of the Last Supper**. Visit the **Rockefeller Museum**, the **Pontifical Biblical Institute**. Visit **Ein Karem**, the birthplace of St. John the Baptist and the **Church of the Visitation of Our Lady** to St. Elizabeth. The afternoon will be dedicated to visiting the birthplace of Jesus - **Bethlehem** (if it is open). We will cross the "border" and visit the **Church of Nativity** and the **Shepherds' Fields**. We will end the day with a special Mass. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. (B, D)



**Day 9 - JERUSALEM**

Today morning is a free leisure day, pursuing personal interests, or revisiting some sites and shopping. At about noon we will visit **Yad Vashem** - the holocaust Memorial and the **Israel Museum**, where we will see the **Shrine of the Book** storing the Dead Sea Scrolls and the **Jerusalem Model**. In the evening we will celebrate with a Banquet Farewell dinner with presentation of Pilgrimage Certificates. Late evening transfer to airport for flight back to USA (flight might be departing next day early morning). (B, D)

**Day 10 - RETURN TO USA**

Arrive back home with unforgettable memories.

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

\* Daily Mass service locations will be coordinated with Fr.

All sites listed in the itinerary will be covered but the sequence and days may be altered to adjust to religious holidays, special closings of sites, air schedules, etc. This tour is not recommended for those who have mobility limitations since it includes walking on uneven terrain.