



RIVER OF LIFE WORSHIP CENTER 12-DAY “LIFE AND TIMES OF JESUS” TOUR IN ISRAEL

DAY 1: MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 - DEPART FOR TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

The group departs for Tel Aviv, Israel. Dinner served on the overnight flight from the US.

DAY 2: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020 - ARRIVAL IN TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

Our flight arrives at Ben Gurion Airport (TLV) where we are greeted by our guide and assisted with arrival procedures. Dinner and overnight beside the beautiful Mediterranean Sea.

Dinner

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020 - CAESAREA MARITIMA / MT. CARMEL / MEGIDDO / TIBERIUS (SEA OF GALILEE)

Following breakfast, we depart for the Galilee enjoying stops at the extensive ruins of Caesarea Maritima, an ancient port city, built by King Herod, center for the Roman governors including Pontius Pilate, where Peter baptized the first Gentile convert (Cornelius) and where the Romans held Paul prisoner (Acts 10 & 25). We will visit the Roman and Crusader ruins, the Crusader City, the well-preserved Theatre, the Harbor, and the Roman Aqueduct. We travel through the Carmel Mountains, stopping at Mt. Carmel to visit Muhraqa, the site of sacrifice where Elijah confronted the false priests of Ba'al (1Kings 18:17-40). We continue on to Megiddo located in the valley of Armageddon. Dinner and overnight on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020– NAZARETH VILLAGE / MT. PRECIPICE / MT. TABOR / MT. ARBEL / TIBERIUS (SEA OF GALILEE)

This morning we travel to Nazareth Village, – a re-created village offering detailed explanation of what life was like during the time of Jesus. Following this visit, we take a short ride to Mount Precipice, the traditional site believed to be where an angry mob attempted to throw Jesus off the cliff after his bold proclamation in the Nazareth synagogue. From here we continue to Mt. Tabor, believed by many Christians to be the site of the Transfiguration of Jesus (Matt. 17: 1-9). Returning to the Sea of Galilee area (Tiberius), we will enjoy a stop and short hike up to Mt. Arbel enjoying the beautiful panoramic view of the Galilee. Dinner and overnight in Tiberius on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2020- MT. OF BEATITUDES / CAPERNAUM / TABGHA (PETER'S PRIMACY) / BOAT RIDE ON THE SEA OF GALILEE / YARDENIT

Following breakfast we depart for a visit to the Mt. of Beatitudes where we enjoy time for spiritual reflection and

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meditation as we reflect on Jesus' teachings from the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5: 1-15). We then continue along the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum (Mark 1: 31-38), the base of Jesus' early ministry, the home of Peter, and the site of many healings. We take short ride to Tabgha - the traditional site of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes and to Peter's Primacy - located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. In the afternoon, we enjoy a ride on the Sea of Galilee aboard a replica "Jesus Boat"; a fishing boat of the kind used by the disciples of Jesus. Late afternoon will find us at the Yardenit (the baptismal site on the River Jordan) for those desiring to be baptized. *(please note: robes must be worn at this site and a fee of \$10 will be charged for those desiring baptism)*. We return to the hotel for dinner and overnight in Tiberias.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2020 - GOLAN HEIGHTS / TEL DAN / CAESAREA PHILIPPI (BANIAS) / MOUNT BENTAL

Today is nature day as we travel up into the beautiful Golan Heights to visit Caesarea Philippi (Banias) where Jesus asked His disciples "who do men say that I am?" (Mark 8: 27-30, Matt. 16:13). Driving a short distance north we will visit the Dan Nature Reserve. A gentle hike will take us through the reserve to view (1st Kings 12:28-29) the Canaanite-era gate as well as an impressive ritual site, most likely built by King Jeroboam. This area belonged to the tribe of Dan in the northern kingdom of Israel. Continuing north, we will drive up to Mount Bental, the overlook providing stunning views of Mt. Hermon, the Golan and the peaceful borders of Syria. This visit will allow us to gain a better geo-political understanding of the current political situation between Israel and Syria. This is the site of a courageous battle fought during Israel's war for the Golan in 1973. Return to Tiberias for dinner and overnight.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020- JERICHO / ZACCHAEUS TREE & MT. TEMPTATION VIEW / BETHANY BEYOND THE JORDAN / EIN GEDI / DEAD SEA AREA

Leaving Galilee this morning, we will travel through the Judean Wilderness to Jericho, the most ancient city in the world! We will view Tel es-Sultan, the mound containing the remains of more than 20 successive settlement over the centuries. While in Jericho, we will get a glimpse of the Sycamore Tree, which is believed to be the one that Zacchaeus climbed to catch a glimpse of Jesus. We will stop to view Mt. Temptation, where Jesus spent forty days and forty nights fasting and meditating during the temptation of Satan (Matt 4:1-11). From Jericho, we take a short drive to Bethany Beyond Jordan, believed to be the location where John the Baptist baptized Jesus. We then continue south along the Dead Sea to Ein Gedi, a lovely oasis in the desert and believed to be where David hid from King Saul- cutting off a piece of his garment. We continue along the Dead Sea to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8: MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020 – MASADA / DEAD SEA AREA

We begin our day with a visit to Masada, the fortress built by King Herod and site of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in 73 AD. Ascending the area by cable car, visitors can survey the ruins of the fortifications, waterworks, synagogue, temples and palaces. We return to our hotel on the Dead Sea for a time of rest and the opportunity to float in the Dead Sea. Dinner and overnight.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 9: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020 – QUMRAN / THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER IN GALLICANTU AND THE HOUSE OF CAIAPHAS / JERUSALEM

Following breakfast, we begin our journey to Jerusalem with stops at Qumran, where the Dead Sea scrolls were written over 2000 years ago and discovered in 1947. Continuing north, we soon ascend to the magnificent city of Jerusalem. Before checking in to our hotel, we will visit the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu and Caiaphas's House followed by the Upper Room, where Jesus shared His last meal with His disciples. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020 - MT. OF OLIVES / PALM SUNDAY ROAD / GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE / WESTERN (WAILING) WALL / HOLY SEPULCHER / BETHLEHEM

We begin our day on the beautiful Mt. of Olives to behold the breathtaking panorama of the Holy City. Our pilgrimage will proceed down the Palm Sunday Road to the Garden of Gethsemane with its ancient olive grove, and the Church of All Nations, where tradition holds that Jesus prayed on the night of His betrayal (Matt. 26:36, John 18:1). Entering the Old City of Jerusalem through the Zion Gate, we walk to the most holy site of the Jewish people, the Western (Wailing) Wall of Herod's temple. Beyond the wall lies the 35-acre temple area purchased by King David (2 Samuel. 24:18-25). On this site now stands the golden Dome of the Rock (the third holiest shrine in all Islam) and the El-Aksa Mosque. From the temple area, we make our way along the Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross) the road which Jesus walked after being sentenced by Pontius Pilate— including stops at St. Anne's Crusader Church, the Pools of Bethesda, where Jesus healed a paralytic (John 5:1-15), the Pavement (where Jesus stood while being tried by Pilate), Ecce Homo Arch, and the ancient Cardo-reaching the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. We end our day with a visit to Bethlehem visiting the Church of the Nativity-the birthplace of our Lord and Shepherd's Field, where the angel of the Lord proclaimed the Good News of the birth of the Savior (Luke 2:8-18). Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020 - DUNG GATE / TEMPLE MOUNT / ISRAEL MUSEUM / CITY OF DAVID (INCLUDING HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL & POOL OF SILOAM) / GARDEN TOMB

Following breakfast, we return to the Old City and enter through the Dung Gate to await entrance to the Temple Mount, one of the most important religious site in the Old City as well as one of the most contested sites in the world! The 35-acre area for the Temple, purchased by King David (2 Samuel. 24:18-25), lies beyond the Western Wall. This is the site of the First (957 BCE) and Second (516 BCE) Temples as ordained by God. On this site now stands the golden Dome of the Rock (the third holiest shrine in all Islam) and the El-Aksa Mosque. Following our time on the Temple Mount, we will visit the City of David-excellent archeological remains of David's period and that of the Kings of Judah (2 Samuel 5: 8-10). Enjoy the fun experience of walking (potentially wet!) through Hezekiah's Tunnel, the 2,700-year old water tunnel dug during the reign of King Hezekiah (2 Chron. 32:30) and remaining as one of the wonders of early engineering. Our walk ends at the Pool of Siloam where Jesus healed the blind man by spitting on the ground. To complete our day, we will drive to the Israel Museum to visit the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed. Additionally, the 1:50 scale model of Jerusalem, as the city would have appeared in Jesus' time, will fascinate you! We end our day at the lovely and quiet Garden Tomb for a time of worship, reflection and communion. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem (*A flashlight and good water shoes will be helpful should you choose to walk through Hezekiah's tunnel.*)

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 12: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020- DEPART FOR USA

Following breakfast, we check out of the hotel by 11:00 AM and depart for airport for return flight to USA.

Breakfast

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