



THE HOLY LAND

A 15-day journey through the Land of Israel

With Host: Bob Cherry of Northeast Christian Church

May 6 - 20, 2019 (Dates are confirmed on Air Canada)

This tour is not just a standard tour of the traditional Israeli sites. Instead it is a Bible Study tour where in 15 days you will gain a better understanding of Scripture, the land of the Bible, and the life of Jesus. A knowledgeable Israeli guide along with Dr. Jerry Mattingly, professor at Johnson University, will lead and teach us and do their best to make the Bible come alive! Your relationship with Jesus will be strengthened and deepened as a result of this Bible study tour.

Proposed Itinerary

Day 1: Depart USA - May 6, 2019

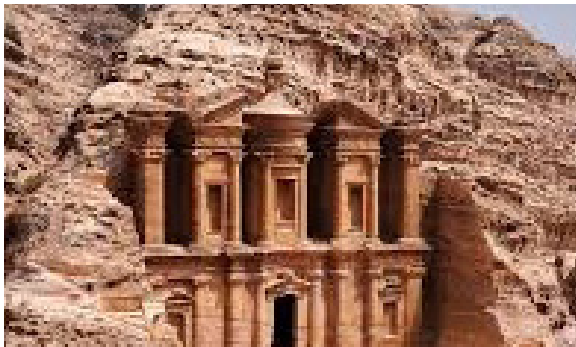
Depart USA on overseas flights to Israel. Dinner/breakfast on the plane.

Day 2: Arrive in Israel

Mid-morning arrival at Tel Aviv airport. Drive to Be'er Sheva for an overnight stay. (D)

Day 3: Be'er Sheva, Arad, Zin Canyon, Ramon Crater to Eilat.

After breakfast we will begin our "wilderness experience" with a visit to ancient Arad (Numbers 21) and Be'er Sheva, the patriarch Abraham's city. (Genesis 21-26) In the afternoon we will travel the Silk Road to Mamshit, a city that was inhabited by the Nabateans and later on the Romans. We will then hike through the beautiful Zin Canyon (Number 20) and then drive to the overlook of the Ramon Crater. We will end our day in Eilat on the shores of the Red Sea. (B, D)



Day 4: Petra-Eilat

Early morning, we will cross over into the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at Aqaba and travel north through the mountains of Edom to visit Petra, one of the ancient wonders of the world. Here we will pretend to be Indiana Jones and either walk or ride a donkey through a narrow canyon that opens up to a breathtaking view of some of the most spectacular ruins of the ancient world. If you have never been on a camel, Petra will be a great first experience. After Petra we will stop for lunch and then drive to the Arava border where we will cross back into Israel. For dinner and overnight Eilat (B, L, D)

Day 5: Eilat to the Dead Sea

This morning we will travel north through the Arava valley to Timna, the site of King Solomon's copper mines. While in this wilderness we will stop and see a fascinating replica of the Old Testament tabernacle. From here we will continue north to the lowest place on earth, the Dead Sea. Enjoy the rest of the day floating and enjoying a mud bath from this mineral rich sea. Dinner and Overnight Dead Sea hotel (B, D)



Day 6: Masada, Qumran to Netanya

Enjoy breakfast overlooking the green waters of the Dead Sea.

Then on to Masada, the imposing palace built by Herod the Great. We will ascend by cable car to observe Herod's palaces, his bathhouses and his beautiful mosaics. Here we will consider one of the disasters of the Zealot revolt against the Romans and gain a greater appreciation as to why Masada is such a meaningful site for the people of Israel. In the afternoon we will visit Qumran, the site where the famous Dead Sea Scrolls were first discovered in 1947. At the close of the day we will make our way over the Judean hills and overnight in the modern city of Netanya on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. (B, D)

Day 7: Netanya to Galilee

Today we will begin our day driving on the famous highway, called the "Way of the Sea." We will arrive at the ancient seaport of Caesarea and explore the amphitheater along with a hippodrome. While in Caesarea we

will reflect on the conversion of Cornelius (Acts 10). We will then stop at the amazing remains of the Roman Aqueduct, that was preserved under the sand dunes for 2000 years. On the way to Mt Carmel we will stop for lunch at a Druze Village for a Falafel, then visit the church on Mt Carmel where the prophet Elijah debated the 450 prophets of Baal. We will wrap up our day with a breathtaking view of the entire Valley of Jezreel, better known as the Valley of Armageddon and then Dinner and overnight at the Sea of Galilee. (B, L D)

Day 8: Galilee and Boat Ride

After breakfast, we will visit and consider the content of Jesus' famous "Sermon on the Mount" at a beautiful location known as the Mount of Beatitudes, which overlooks the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Other sites on this day keep us in the same general vicinity, and we will pay close attention to the Gospel accounts of Jesus' public ministry and personal life. Capernaum was his earthly headquarters. As Matthew and Luke indicate, Jesus must have known people in two other nearby villages, Chorazin and Bethsaida; we will see the significant remains at both these important places. We will enjoy the famous fish lunch and continue to visit Tagba, which features



one of the major mosaics in Galilee--the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes. Our group will take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and see the remains of an ancient fishing boat found near Nof Ginosar. Head back to our hotel early for a late afternoon of rest and refreshment. Dinner and overnight at the Sea of Galilee (B, L, D)

Day 9: Sea of Galilee Area

A visit to the Cliffs of Arbel provides a magnificent view of the Sea of Galilee and the towns at its northern end. The battle of Hattin, in 1187, was one of the most critical events in the Crusades, and the story of what happened here is well worth the stop! We will see the recent excavations at the seaside village of Magdala, hometown of Mary Magdalene. Though we have no record of Jesus in Tiberias, this major Roman era city provided one of the names for the Sea of Galilee--the Sea of Tiberias (John 6:1) The modern seaside resort contains important remains that reflect its long history, including remains of old synagogues (like the famous Hamat Tiberias Synagogue.) We will end our day with a Baptismal service in the Jericho river. Dinner and overnight stay at our hotel in Galilee. (B, D)

Day 10: Banias, Upper Galilee, Golan Heights

After breakfast we will journey to Israel's border with Lebanon at the base of Mt Hermon to enjoy the nature along the bountiful springs that form the upper Jordan River. We will consider the extent of Jesus' ministry in this northern part of the country. Sites will include Tel Dan, Tel Hatzor and Caesarea Philippi (Matthew 16). An overview of the modern-day strife between Israel and its northern neighbors will be discussed. (B, D)

Day 11: Galilee to Jerusalem

This morning we will leave the Galilee region and journey down the Jordan Valley to Jerusalem. Along the way we will view the principal city of Decapolis, Scythopolis (Beit Shean) where Saul's body was hung in disgrace. Continue south through the Jordan Valley to the world's oldest settlement--Jericho. Then on to Jerusalem, where we will enter the Holy City and celebrate with a traditional blessing while overlooking its old walls. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 12: The Old City of Jerusalem

We will begin the day by driving past the Garden of Gethsemane and the Kidron Valley. The rest of the day we will visit a number of important locations inside Jerusalem's Old City walls, built in the mid-16th century. This includes the "Western Wall" and its tunnels, remnants of the massive structure on which Herod the Great rebuilt the Temple in the New Testament era. This spot is regarded as one of the most sacred sites in Judaism, and Muslims also regards the "Temple Mount" as holy ground as well as The Church of St. Anne, built during

the Crusades is one of the most beautiful churches in the Old City; the Pool of Bethesda, site of one of Jesus' healing miracles (John 5) is on the same property. From St. Anne's church, we will follow the traditional Via Dolorosa (the "Way of Suffering") to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the traditional location of Jesus' crucifixion and burial. We will make our way to the Jewish Quarter, inside the Old City, and see the wellpreserved archaeological site known as the "Burnt House," amazing remnants of a mansion destroyed at the time of the first Jewish Revolt. We will also stop at the grave of Oskar Schindler, well known industrialist who saved the lives of many Jewish laborers during World War II. (B, L, D)



Day 13: Jerusalem and Bethlehem

Today we will visit the pools of Siloam and pass by Hezekiah Tunnel. In the afternoon, drive to Bethlehem (If possible) the birth town of Jesus. Visit the Basilica of Nativity and view the Shepherd's Fields before returning to our hotel for dinner. After dinner we will drive to the David Tower for a beautiful sound and light show. Overnight at our Hotel (B, D)



Day 14: The New City of Jerusalem

After breakfast, drive by the Knesset, the Israel Parliament building. Visit the model of Jerusalem at the Israel Museum showing the city as it was 2000 years ago in Jesus' time. Visit the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are exhibited and kept. On to the Holocaust Memorial Yad Vashem. We end our day at the Garden Tomb celebrating with a communion service. In the evening we will enjoy a Farewell Dinner Celebration. Overnight in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 15: May 20 Arrive Home

Early morning transfer to Tel Aviv airport and then back to the USA.

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

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.

Package cost: \$5259 per person in double occupancy.

Single room add: \$1149 per person

Included: Air ticket, Deluxe private air-conditioned bus, all entrance and touring fees, accommodations in Superior Class Hotels (4 and 5 stars), breakfast and dinner daily, and 3 lunches.

Not included: Carrier surcharge and tax (\$300) (Subject to change by airlines.) Tips \$210, 10 lunches, Jordan border fee, drinks and personal items of personal nature.

Travel insurance \$353.

*We strongly recommend travel insurance.

**Tour terms and condition can be found on registration form.

***For more information please contact Bob Cherry's assistant Shawna Donahue.

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