

HOLY LAND 10 DAYS 9 NIGHTS

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Tour code: HL10DB2B-2020

Route: Nazareth-Akko-Haifa-Tiberia-Jericho-Bethlehem-Jerusalem

Duration: 10 days

Start from Tel-Aviv Airport

Day 1: Arrival to Tel-Aviv Airport

Today: On arrival in Tel Aviv, we will meet our private assistant in the airport and continue to be met by our guide and Bus driver that will accompany us all the period of our Pilgrimage.

Evening: Proceed to our hotel in Nazareth

Day 2: Mt Tabor – Cana – Nazareth

Today: After breakfast, we will drive to the site of the Transfiguration, Mount Tabor (30 min drive) (Matthew 17:1-50). At this site, you will have some time to reflect on Christ's Humanity and Divinity. Our next stop is at Cana of Galilee (30 min drive) to visit the wedding Church, where Jesus performed the first of his signs, changing water to wine (Mass with renewal of wedding vows for couples). We drive back to Nazareth (20 min drive) time for Lunch in Nazareth. After Lunch time, we will experience the town where Mary once lived and where Jesus lived as a child (Matthew 2:23). During the visit to Nazareth we visit the Church of the Annunciation which includes the Church of St Joseph (it's from 1914-21 built over Byzantine ruins) which tradition identifies it with the workshop of Joseph and the house of the Holy family. We will continue with a visit of the Church of the Incarnation, viewing at Grotto the remains of the house of the Blessed Virgin where the Angel appeared and announced the good news. Following Pilgrims path we visit Mary's well, where often the Virgin Mary would have walked to draw water from the spring.

Evening: Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth

Day 3: Tiberias- Beatitudes - Tabgha - Capernaum- Sea of Galilee

Today: This morning after breakfast at the hotel, we drive to the Sea of Galilee (40 min drive) to visit the Mt. of Beatitudes where our Lord gave the Sermon on the Mount (Luke 6:20-49), we celebrate a Mass upon arrival. Near the Mount of Tabgha to see the splendid mosaic of the loaves and fishes, where Jesus fed the crowd of 5,000 people from five loaves of bread and two fish (Luke 9:10-17). Also, in Tabgha is St. Peter's Primacy where Jesus bestowed church leadership upon Peter (John 21:9). We continue to Capernaum to see the house of St. Peter and the Synagogue where our Lord preached. You will have an opportunity to try the St. Peter's fish for lunch that day. One of today's highlights is a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee (Luke 5:1). We will also see the "Jesus Boat" a 2000-year-old boat found at the shores of Magdala. We drive back to Nazareth (40 min drive).

Evening: Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth

Day 4: Haifa - Caesarea

Today: This Morning, we drive west to Caesarea Maritime (45 min drive), where St. Peter Baptised Cornelius and St. Paul was a prisoner for a while before going to Rome. Here we visit the Roman Aqueducts and the Roman Theater and the palace of Pontius Pilate This is the place which officially ended the tradition of adhering to the Jewish ceremonial laws. As a result, Peter baptized a group of gentiles, the Roman Centurion, Cornelius, and his family. Then we will drive about 30 min to Haifa, visit the Beautiful city of Haifa and go on Mt. Carmel where The Carmelites started 900 years ago. We celebrate Mass at the Church of Stella Maris, "the star of the sea" The monastery is located above the cave where Elijah, the prophet, once lived. A colourful painting of this "Wonder-Worker" can be found on the ceiling of the Church. We will have a panoramic view of the city Haifa and the beautiful Baha'i Gardens. return to Nazareth (40 min drive).

Dinner: Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth.

Day 5: Jericho – Qumran – Dead Sea

Today: After breakfast, you will drive along the Jordan Valley. Visit the Jordan River to renew our baptism vows. Drive down the Jordan Valley and we stop at the oasis town of Jericho, visit the excavations of the oldest city in the world and view Mt. Temptation where Jesus fasted and was tempted by Satan. We will visit the excavations of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were uncovered. On the way, back there is time for a swim (or rather a float!) in the mineral rich waters of the Dead Sea, renowned for its healing properties. Dinner and Overnight in Bethlehem or Jerusalem

Day 6: Ain Karem / Bethlehem

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Ein Karem to visit St. John the Baptist Church and Church of Visitation (Magnificat) where the Blessed Virgin Mary visited Elizabeth. Afterwards, drive back to Bethlehem to visit the Shepherds Field, the site where the star appeared to the shepherds which lead them to the manger where baby Jesus was born. Proceed to Milk Grotto. Visit also the Basilica and Grotto of the Nativity and the Church of Nativity, the traditional birthplace of Jesus, and the Manger Square.

Overnight in Bethlehem or Jerusalem

Day 7: Jerusalem - Ain Karem - Mount Zion - Upper Room

In the morning, we drive to Ain - Karem to visit the birth place of St. John the Baptist and the Church of the Visitation Where Mary came to visit her kinswoman Elizabeth and proclaimed the 'Magnificat'.

This afternoon, go on Mount Zion to visit the Church of the Dormition commemorating our Blessed Mother falling asleep. Next, we go to visit the Cenacle /Upper Room, the place of the Last Supper and Pentecost. We also visit the Church of Saint Peter in Gallicantu. The house of the high priest of the Jews Caiaphas where Jesus was imprisoned for the night and where Peter denied our Lord.

Overnight in Bethlehem or Jerusalem

Day 8: Jerusalem - The Passion of Jesus' last hours

Today: We enter the Old city Jerusalem to visit the Dome of the Rock and El-Aqsa Mosque and the Western Wall and the Jewish quarter and the Cardo. After Lunch we will transfer to St. Anna Church for the visit of the Pool of Betesda. We continue to the Judgment Hall known as the Antonia Fortress where he was led to be condemned to

death by Pontius Pilate. At that place we start walking the Via Dolorosa through the markets of the Old City praying the Stations of the Cross, we reflect on the greatness of His sacrifice, stopping at each of the fourteen stations of the cross until we reach the church of Holy Sepulcher. Visit Calvary and the empty Tomb of our Lord and the different sections of the church. Holy Mass in the Holy Sepulchre.
Overnight in Bethlehem or Jerusalem

Day 9: Jerusalem Mt. Of Olives

Today: After breakfast, we drive to the top of Mt. Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem for a better understanding of its geography and some of the key sites surrounding the area. Visit the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus taught his disciples how to pray, and then we walk on the Palm Sunday road to the church of Dominus Flevit, where our Lord wept over the city. Continue our walk on the Palm Sunday road to the Garden of Gethsemane. At Gethsemane is the Rock of Agony where Jesus uttered his last prayer. Spend some time in reflection and meditation inside the church. In the afternoon we drive to Emmaus of the Crusaders at the Benedictine monastery.
Overnight in Bethlehem or Jerusalem

Day 10: Fly back to USA

Today: In the morning departure from Tel Aviv and flight back to the USA