





# **JOURNEY**CHURCH

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Greetings Friends,

Joelene and I are blessed to invite you to travel with us to Israel, the Land of the Bible, for a life-changing experience. Ever since our previous trip in 2018, we have been anticipating the opportunity to return and share spiritual moments with our Journey Church family. We know there is a deep yearning to visit the land of our faith more than ever.

This will be our fifth visit to Israel and, as you may know, each visit is more exciting, more enlightening, and more captivating. We look forward to sharing these unique experiences with you.

When you visit the Holy Land and walk through the pages of the Bible and follow in the footsteps of Jesus, you will read and understand the Scriptures with new

meaning. Your faith will be strengthened, your belief will be fortified, and your relationship with God will be deepened.

Every time you read about places such as the Sea of Galilee, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Mount of Olives, Bethlehem, or the hillside on the Mount of Beatitudes, the Word will come alive for you in ways you cannot imagine. Throughout the program, you'll encounter God through the sites and activities planned for you where we share devotionals, recite scripture together, and pray in the very places where they occurred.

God will reveal Himself to you over and over again during our full touring days. Close your eyes and picture walking on Hosanna Road where Jesus rode into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday. As you see and come near to the 2,000 year-old olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane, you'll be captured by the serene setting. When you stand on the Southern Steps our forebears ascended to enter the Holy Temple complex to pray, you'll be transfixed by the realization that Jesus likely touched these same steps, and your life will be transformed.

You'll encounter many heroes of the faith we've come to know in the Old and New Testaments, notables, that until now, you've only read about. Picture visiting Gilgal, the place where Joshua and the Israelites landed after crossing into the Promised Land, and viewing the site where Joshua set up the 12 stones. Visualize Caesarea Maritima, on the Mediterranean Sea, the site of Peter's first Gentile convert.

Witness a 1st century synagogue in Magdala, hometown of Mary Magdalene, where it is likely Jesus taught because He taught in synagogues along the Sea of Galilee. Enjoy an Abrahamic desert experience, a 'spa'n'swathe' pampering experience in the Dead Sea. Cherish a meaningful baptismal service in the Jordan River. Touch the ancient stones of the city where King David ruled and see the place where he fought Goliath. And more. Much more.

Round-trip air arrangements are included in the program. Our hotels along the Mediterranean Sea in Netanya, along the Sea of Galilee in Tiberias, at the Dead Sea, and in the Golden City of Jerusalem are beautiful. Everything other than a few lunches is included in the program: Daily breakfasts and dinners, three lunches, gratuities to our tour guide, bus driver, and hotel staff, a private boat sail on the Sea of Galilee, transfers and entrances fee to sites and activities reflected in the tour brochure, and more.

We are offering an added, optional "Pre-Israel Trip: A Taste of Turkey and Its Significance in Early-Christianity." It's a captivating program with sites, activities, and experiences waiting for us in Ephesus, Izmir (Smyrna), and Istanbul, with the same pricing and programming as we offered in 2021! Once the center for the growing Christian movement in the early centuries, Turkey was one of the most important lands at the time of early-Christianity and is a perfect prelude to our Holy Land experience.

We're excited about this journey with its spiritually-based programming and highlighting inclusions, an integral extension of our ministry. We would love to share this great opportunity with you and believe that this, too, will be a trip of a lifetime for every person who joins us.

Pastors Kevin and Joelene Taylor





PO Box 118 Glencoe, IL 60022 847-835-0550 IsraelAdvantageTours.com

# **Highlighting Inclusions**

- All meeting and assistance upon arrival and departure at Ben Gurion Airport
- Porterage at airport and hotels
- Services of an experienced Government-licensed English-speaking Tour Guide
- Deluxe motorcoach with services of an experienced Driver
- All greetings, assistance, transfers, entrance fees per Suggested Sites
- 8-nights hotels based on double-occupancy in Netanya, Tiberias, the Dead Sea, and Jerusalem
- All Breakfasts and Dinners throughout and St. Peter's Fish Lunch along the Sea of Galilee
- 7 full days sightseeing, time for devotionals, experiencing the Holy Land with sites and activities to cherish for a lifetime
- Headsets for each passenger throughout the tour program for passenger's listening convenience
- Gratuities to tour guides, drivers, hotels' staff, scheduled restaurants reflected in Tour Brochure
- Exemplary personal attention throughout the program
- Private Boat Sail on Sea of Galilee
- Abrahamic Desert Hospitality Experience with Camel Ride and Lunch in Bedouin Tent
- Reserved Lunch at Qumran
- Farewell Dinner at off-hotel-property restaurant
- Visit biblical sites of significance and explore ancient discoveries....
  - Magdala
  - Masada Cable Car
  - City of David
  - Western Wall Tunnel
  - o Israel Museum
  - Capernaum
  - Ecce Homo
  - o Jerusalem Archaeological Park & Davidson Center
  - Bethlehem
  - Church of Nativity
  - Shepherds' Field
  - o Ancient Katzrin (Talmudic Village
  - o Gilgal
  - Elah Valley
  - o Beit Yigal Alon Museum and Ancient Sailing Boat
  - Acco Crusader Port City
- ...and more!!



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## 10-Day Spiritual Journey of a Lifetime through the Holy Land

#### **SUGGESTED SITES ITINERARY**

Pending weather, time, conditions

### Day 1 - Monday, October 24, 2022 - Depart USA

Depart USA for Tel Aviv. Dinner and breakfast are served during the flight.

### Day 2 - Tuesday, October 25, 2022

#### **Arrival in Tel Aviv**

We arrive in Israel at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv. After brief airport formalities and baggage claim, we meet our guide and are escorted to our waiting motor coach. We proceed directly to our hotel in Netanya for check-in, dinner, and overnight.

### Day 3 - Wednesday, October 26, 2022

### Caesarea / Akko Crusader Museum / Megiddo / Magdala / Tiberias

We begin the first full day of our spiritual journey in the Holy Land by traveling north along the Mediterranean Sea to visit Caesarea, the ancient seaport built by Herod the Great. Paul was imprisoned here and this was the site of Peter's first Gentile convert. Then we visit the ancient city of Akko. The remains of the Crusader town, dating from 1104 to1291, lie almost intact, both above and below today's street level, providing an exceptional picture of the layout and structures of the capital of the medieval Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem. We continue to Megiddo with its 24 layers of civilizations. This was Ahab's chariot city and one of the most strategic crossroads of the world in Old Testament times. After, we drive to Magdala, hometown of Mary Magdalene, a once prosperous fishing village with its 1st century synagogue, where, in greatest likelihood, Jesus may have taught; as the Bible tells us, Jesus taught in synagogues along the Sea of Galilee. Then on to Tiberias for dinner and overnight at our hotel located in Tiberias.

## Day 4 - Thursday, October 27, 2022

# Boat Ride on Sea of Galilee / 2,000 year-old boat at Yigal Alon Museum / Banias (Caesarea Philippi) / Capernaum / Mensa Christi / Mount of Beatitudes / Katzrin / Mitzpe Shalom / Yardenit for Baptismal service on Jordan River

After breakfast, we will enjoy a time of praise and worship as we sail on the Sea of Galilee. Following, we will visit the Yigal Alon Museum at Kibbutz Ginossar and its ancient 2,000 year old boat dating to the time of Jesus. Then we visit the Banias, Caesarea Philippi. Jesus and His disciples were here when Peter made his remarkable confession that Jesus was the Messiah (Matthew 16:13-20). Onward to Capernaum (Kfar Nachum), the center of Jesus' ministry, where we visit the ruins of an ancient synagogue from the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. We will then visit Mensa Christi, the "Table of Christ," where the resurrected Jesus prepared bread and fishes over a fire for His disciples. Next, continue to the Mount of Beatitudes. From this location, it is believed that Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. Time permitting, via Katzrin, the modern capital of the Golan Heights, a nice town, we stop at Mitzpe Shalom, an observation point overlooking the entire Sea of Galilee and the entire Galilee region. Take the curvy road of Chamat Gader to Yardenit, the baptismal site. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Tiberias.

### Day 5 - Friday, October 28, 2022

## Beit She'an / Gilgal / Ein Gedi / Qumran / Dead Sea Swathe / Dead Sea

We travel through the Jordan Valley to Beit She'an, one the ancient cities of the Decapolis dating from the 5th century B.C., now the site of the largest archaeological excavations in Israel. Continuing to Gilgal, we visit the place where Joshua and the Israelites landed after they crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land. The site is located on the east side of Jericho (Joshua 4:19-20). Joshua set up 12 stones in this area to commemorate the crossing of the Jordan. Afterwards, enjoy a hike in the nature preserves and waterfalls of Ein Gedi where King David hid from Saul. Next, we visit Qumran, the location where the famous Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered by a shepherd boy. It is here, that the entire Book of Isaiah was found in one of the many caves in the area. We will spend this night at the Dead Sea - the lowest point on earth, where we can swim and enjoy the therapeutic properties of the saltwater without the possibility of sinking. We will check into our hotel, perhaps deciding to enjoy spa treatments or to relax at the pools or to take a dip in the Dead Sea. Dinner and overnight at our hotel at the Dead Sea.



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## Day 6 - Saturday, October 29, 2022

## Masada / Kfar Hanokdim / Tel Be'er Sheva / Ela Valley / Jerusalem

Enjoy a leisurely early-morning swim at the Dead Sea before heading to Masada where we ascend by state-of-the art cable cars to visit the mountaintop palace of Herod the Great and the great fortress. It is here that the Jewish defenders, from AD 70 – 73, took their last stand against Rome. View the fascinating remains of Herod's palace, storehouses, cisterns, and an ancient synagogue. Next we visit Kfar Hanokdim where we participate in the Bedouin desert experience - living in the desert, just as our forefathers did thousands of years ago. Onward to Tel Be'er Sheva, the remains of the biblical town of Beer Sheva, mentioned in Genesis when Abimelech and Abraham swore an oath beside a well. Drive to the Ela Valley, best known as the place described in the Bible where the Israelites were encamped when David fought Goliath (1 Sam. 17:2, 19). Continue upward to Jerusalem, for dinner and overnight at our hotel overlooking the Judean Hills surrounding the Holy City.

## **Day 7 - Sunday, October 30, 2022**

Jerusalem / Mount of Olives / Palm Sunday Road / Garden of Gethsemane / Tombs of Absalom and Zachariah / House of Caiaphas / Upper Room / Cardo / Western Wall / Western Wall Rabbi's Tunnels / Pool of Bethesda / Church of St. Anne / Lion's Gate

Our first daylight view of the Holy City will be from Mt. Scopus, where we will have time to reflect. We begin our first day in Jerusalem at the Mount of Olives, with an outstanding view of the Old City walls and the Eastern (Golden) Gate. From there we descend by foot on the "Palm Sunday Road" to the Garden of Gethsemane for a service in the Garden with time to reflect in this lovely setting . . . olive trees, perhaps 2,000 years old, still stand today. We travel around the Old City walls, viewing the tombs of Absalom and Zachariah and continue to the House of Caiaphas where Jesus was held the night before His crucifixion. Here we will stand on the same stone steps Jesus would have walked up Mount Zion. We then go to visit The Upper Room (Room of the Last Supper) and have a brief service. After lunch, we walk through the Cardo, the bustling heart of ancient Jerusalem, then visit the Western Wall (the Kotel) where we may place our prayers snuggly in the crevices of this Holy Wall. We then begin our visit to the Western Wall Rabbi's Tunnels where we come to an area considered to be the nearest to the Holy of Holies. We proceed to the Pool of Bethesda and the Church of St. Anne, where we can sing in a church with a 10-second echo! We leave the Old City through the Lion's Gate. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem.

## Day 8 - Monday, October 31, 2022

# Jerusalem / Bethlehem / Shepherd's Fields / Church of the Nativity / Yad VaShem / View the Knesset / Shrine of the Book and Dead Sea Scrolls / Scale Model of Ancient Jerusalem

Today, we travel the short distance to Bethlehem. There we will view the Shepherd's Fields and tour the Shepherd's Caves and the 1,600 year-old Church of the Nativity. We will have time to shop and see the famous olive wood carvings, a specialty of the Bethlehem artisans. After lunch, we will return to Jerusalem. We proceed to Yad VaShem, the memorial to the six million Jews who perished during the Holocaust. Following, we drive through modern Jerusalem, viewing the Knesset, seat of the Israeli Parliament, then go to the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed and visit the amazing scale model of Jerusalem at the time of Christ. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem.

## Day 9 – Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Jerusalem / City of David / Davidson Museum / Southern Steps to the Temple Mount / Lithostratos / Pilate's Judgement Hall / Ecce Homo / Via Dolorosa / Church of the Holy Sepulchre / Garden Tomb and Communion / Farewell Dinner

We start today with an amazing tour of the City of David. We then re-enter the Old City to visit the Davidson Museum and the Southern Steps to the Temple Mount. We go to the Lithostratos, where we view the actual Jerusalem streets upon which Jesus would have walked, the remains of Pilate's Judgment Hall, and the Ecce Homo Arch. We then walk the Via Dolorosa, passing through intriguing markets and bazaars and visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, believed by many to be the place of Jesus' crucifixion and burial. This afternoon we visit the Garden Tomb, which is considered the highlight of our tour! There we will worship and celebrate communion beside the empty tomb. "He is risen; He is not here!" What a wonderfully meaningful conclusion to this truly memorable day! Farewell dinner at a restaurant. Prepare for early-morning flight to USA. Overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem.

### Day 10 - Wednesday, November 2, 2022

Tel Aviv / USA Today we return to Chicago, having experienced a soulfully-enriching spiritual journey of a lifetime.