

Pilgrimage to The Holy Land

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED

October 26 - November 4, 2025

\$5,513 per person
from Newark (EWR)

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Spiritual Director:
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Your Trip Includes

- Round-trip airfare
- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- 8 nights accommodation at centrally located first class hotels as follows: (or similar)
 - 1 nights: Oct 27 – 28: Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv
 - 2 nights: Oct 28 – 30: Sofia – Tiberias
 - 5 nights: Oct 30 – Nov 4: Hotel Inbal, Jerusalem
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner daily
- Wine and mineral water with dinners
- Transfers as per itinerary

- Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- Free Wi-fi on motor coach
- Whisper headsets where needed
- Assistance of a professional local Christian Guide(s)
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- Farewell dinner at Notre Dame rooftop
- Luggage handling (1 peace per person)
- Tips to hotel staff, restaurants, luggage handlers
- Flight bag & Portfolio of all travel documents

Sample Daily Itinerary

Day 1, Sun, Oct 26: Depart for the Holy Land

Make your way to your airport where you will board your overnight flight. Your meals will be served on board.

Day 2, Mon, Oct 27: Arrive in Tel Aviv – Transfer to Tiberias

Upon arrival in Tel Aviv, you will exit our plane and make your way to Passport Control, then to the Baggage Claim to collect your luggage(s), and then enter into the Arrival's Hall. There, you will be met by the 206 Tours representative. Once everyone has arrived in your group, you will board your bus that will then transfer to your hotel in Tiberias. You will have some free time to spend at your own leisure. In the evening, you will make your way to the "Welcome Drink Reception", followed by dinner. Return to your room for a restful overnight.

Day 3, Tue, Oct 28: Cana – Nazareth – Caesarea - Tiberias

Theme: The Annunciation

This morning, after breakfast, you will start the day with a visit to Cana where you will visit the Franciscan Wedding Church. Couples will have the opportunity participate in the ceremony of renewing their Wedding Vows, led by your Spiritual Director. Your next visit will be to Nazareth, where you will visit the Byzantine Church of St. Joseph and Mary's Well. From there, you will walk the pilgrimage train into the Church of the Annunciation to celebrate the Liturgy, and then a quick tour, including the Archaeological Garden where you will see 1st century remains of houses from the time of Christ. You will also visit the Museum where we see inscriptions left by pilgrims venerating the Virgin Mary, including the 2nd century A.D. inscription showing Xeria Maria 'Ave Maria', considered to be the oldest venerated signs of the Blessed Virgin. We will stop for lunch. After lunch, we drive to Caesarea, which was once the ancient capital of the Roman province. The tour will start by viewing the impressive archaeological remains of the Roman and Byzantine city that once dominated the region. It was at Caesarea that Peter came to understand that the Good News was not for Jews only, but for the whole world. Here he baptized the Roman Centurion, Cornelius, and his family. It was from Caesarea that Paul set sail for Rome, an event that eventually brought Christianity to the World. Return to the Sea of Galilee for dinner and overnight.

Day 4, Wed, Oct 29: Sea of Galilee

Theme: The Ministry of Christ in the Galilee

After breakfast, enjoy a boat ride on the beautiful and scenic Sea of Galilee (Luke 5:1). Upon docking, you will have the opportunity to view the remains of the boat dating back to the time of Jesus. Following the Sea of Galilee, continue to the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus proclaimed His great Sermon on the Mount (Luke 6:20-49). Near the Mount is Tabgha, one of Jesus' miracle sites. This is 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 the leadership of the Church upon Peter (John 21:9). Continue to visit the birthplace of Mary Magdalene in Magdala. During the time of Jesus, this village was a prosperous fishing village that exported fish and garum (a fish sauce reduction popular in Roman cooking). Your day concludes at Capernaum, the launching place of Jesus' ministry. In Capernaum, see the Synagogue where Jesus taught (Mark 1:21-29) and gave His sermon on the Bread of Life. We will end the day with a stop at the "Valley of the Doves". This is located at the foot of the steep cliffs of Mt Arbel and was part of the ancient Via Maris trade route linking Mesopotamia and Egypt. This route also linked Nazareth to the Sea of Galilee and would have been the path that Jesus walked when travelling between the two places. Today the valley is still undeveloped and we can imagine Jesus walking along this ancient way and resting by the stream. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 5, Thu, Oct 30: Mt. Tabor – Jericho – Jordan River - Jerusalem

Theme: The Transfiguration, The Judean Wilderness and the Baptism of Christ

Today, after breakfast, drive to Mount Tabor, the site of the Transfiguration, with time to reflect on Christ's Humanity and Divinity. Celebrating Mass here will be a good preparation for the journey to Jerusalem where Jesus suffered the crucifixion and then rose again. Drive down the Jordan Valley to Jericho, the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world, where we view Mt. Temptation and will see an example of a Sycamore Tree. Visit the Baptismal site on the Jordan River, and have the opportunity to renew your own baptism (pending weather conditions). Continue to Jerusalem, where you will check-in to your hotel in time for dinner and overnight.

Day 6, Fri, Oct 31: Holy Child Program – Church of Nativity – Shepherd's Fields

Theme: The Visitation and Nativity

We will start the day with visit to the Holy Child Program – a school for children that the Order has directly funded. After meeting with the Franciscan Sisters who run the school, we will take a tour, followed by a meeting with students. Depart to the Manger Square which stands in front of the Church of the Nativity. Enter the Church and down to the Grotto of the Nativity which marks the spot of Jesus' birth. Beneath the Altar, there is a silver star with the Latin inscription: HIC DE VIRGINE MARIA JESUS CHRISTUS NATUS (Here Jesus Christ was born to the Virgin Mary.) We will celebrate the Liturgy in the Church of Nativity, and then continue our final stop of the day, the Shepherds Fields. Return to your Hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 7, Sat, Nov 1: Qumran – Dead Sea

Theme: Early Years in Jerusalem & Wilderness

We will start the day Drive through the Judean wilderness, the site where Jesus spent His 40 days of fasting. We head to the Jordan River for some time to reflect on the Baptism of Christ Matthew 3:13-17). In the afternoon, we visit the Essene site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in Qumran. (Ezekiel 47:8-10). These writings have helped further the understanding of the Jewish background of Christianity. Before returning to Jerusalem, there is also time to swim or float on the Dead Sea, the lowest and saltiest place on Earth.

Day 8, Sun, Nov 2: Jerusalem: Mt. of Olives – Gethsemane – Mt. Zion (Upper Room)

Theme: Palm Sunday and the Agony in the Garden

Begin on the Mount of Olives with a breath-taking panoramic view of Jerusalem. Visit the Pater Noster Shrine where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4). Then, walk down the Palm Sunday Road, which reminds us of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Along this route there stands Dominus Flevit which marks the place where Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41). Continue to Gethsemane where Jesus brought His disciples to pray the night before He was crucified (Luke 22:29-53). Next to the garden is the Church of All Nations, built over the "Rock of Agony", where Jesus prayed alone before His arrest. From Gethsemane, Jesus was taken to the house of the High Priest Caiaphas on Mt. Zion, where we see the dungeons in which He was imprisoned. Also at this place, marked by the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu, is where Peter denied Christ three times and wept bitterly (John 18:15-18), repented and was forgiven. On the upper part of Mt Zion, we visit the Upper Room, where Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with His disciples, (Matthew 26:17-30).

Day 9, Mon, Nov 3, Via Dolorosa – Church of the Holy Sepulchre – St. Anne's Church – Our Lady of Palestine

Theme: The Way of the Cross, The Crucifixion, The Resurrection

Early in the morning, we will depart the hotel before breakfast and make our way to begin the Via Dolorosa (The Way of the Cross) at the Antonia Fortress. This is the spot where Jesus was condemned to death by Pontius Pilate (John 18:28-19:16). He was then taken (on the Road to Calvary) to His place of Crucifixion. Reflect upon the Stations of the Cross as you travel through the markets of the Old City to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Luke 23: 26-33). This Sacred destination is the site of Calvary (Jesus' crucifixion place) and His tomb (Luke 23: 50-55). The Liturgy your group will be celebrating this morning is High Mass at the Tomb of Christ in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. After breakfast visit the Church of St Anne, said to be built over the birthplace of the Virgin Mary. See the Pool of Bethesda where Jesus healed the paralysed man (Jn 5:2-9). Continue to the Western Wall, the holiest site to Jews. Return to hotel for breakfast, and then you will have some free time to relax. Quick lunch Included and then travel along the Valley of Elah, where the famous encounter between David and Goliath took place, reaching Deir Rafat Monastery which is dedicated to Our Lady of Palestine. The Latin Patriarchate, Luigi Barlassina, established this Monastery in 1927. The facade in the Convent Church bears the Latin inscription "Reginae Palaestinae", meaning "to the Queen of Palestine". It carries a six (6) meter statue of the Virgin Mary. The Church ceiling is decorated with a painting showing angels carrying banners with the first words of the "Hail Mary" prayer in 280 languages. Dinner & overnight at hotel

Day 10, Tue, Nov 4: Jerusalem – Return Home

After an early breakfast and heartfelt farewells, transfer to the Tel Aviv airport for return flights home.