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From the place of Jesus' birth – To the place He ascended

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9 DAYS: THE HOLY LAND



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DAY 1 - THU, MAR 16: NORTH AMERICA ISRAEL Tour members gather at the departure gate at the airport three hours prior to our departure to Israel. Dinner and breakfast are served in-flight.

DAY 2 FRI, MAR 17: TEL AVIV | JERUSALEM | MT. OF OLIVES

Upon our arrival at the Tel Aviv airport, we are met and drive to the Mt. of Olives (Matthew 24:3) for a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem (Mark 14:32-26) and the beginning of our Holy Land journey. Continue to our hotel for some time at leisure before dinner and overnight in the Holy City of Jerusalem.

DAY 3 SAT, MAR 18: JERUSALEM | BETHLEHEM After a night of rest and a hearty breakfast, this exciting day begins with a drive to Mt. Scopus and the Mt. of Olives (Matthew 24:3) visiting the Chapel of the Ascension, the Church of Pater Noster and the Dominus Flevit. Walk along Hosanna Road to the Gethsemane to visit the Church of All Nations that stands on the Rock of Agony where Jesus was betrayed by Judas (Matthew 26:36-57). See the Pillar of Absalom, the Eastern (Golden) Gate and the Pinnacle of the Temple. This afternoon, we continue our tour to Bethlehem. We visit the Church of the Nativity, the birthplace of Jesus, then Shepherds Fields (Luke 2:1-20) and the Field of Boaz and Ruth (Ruth 1:16-17 & 4:13). We return to Jerusalem passing Rachel's Tomb (if viewable). In Jerusalem we visit the Shrine of the Book that houses the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Model City of Jerusalem which depicts, in miniature, the Holy City as it appeared in the first century. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 4 SUN, MAR 19: MASADA | BETHANY | JERICHO | MT. OF TEMPTATION | VILLAGE OF THE ESSENES | QUMRAN CAVES | DEAD SEA This marging, we drive via the Judgan Desert to the

DEAD SEA This morning, we drive via the Judean Desert to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth. A beautiful new road takes



us south along the shores of the Dead Sea to Masada, truly a remarkable piece of history. On the way, we view Ein Gedi, a green oasis in the middle of the desert. Arriving at Masada, we ascend by cable car to walk among the magnificent ruins of the fortress where, from 70-73 A.D., the Jewish defenders made the last stand of the Judean revolt against Rome and where the remains of storehouses, cisterns and a 6th century Byzantine church are still on view. Return along the Dead Sea to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Visit the remains of the Community Center of the Essenes and the Caves of the Scrolls. Stop for a swim at the Dead Sea. On to Ancient Jericho where the walls came tumbling down (Joshua 6:127) and a commanding view of the Mt. of Temptation and Elisha's Fountain. We continue on the Jericho Road viewing the Inn of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) and the Judean wilderness en route to Bethany, the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 MON, MAR 20: ST. STEPHENS GATE | WAY OF THE CROSS | GOLGOTHA | HOUSE OF CAIAPHAS | MT. ZION | THE UPPER ROOM | WESTERN WALL | TEMPLE MOUNT | GARDEN

TOMB After a good night's rest and a hearty breakfast, this exciting day begins at St. Stephens Gate (Acts 7:51-60) and visit the Church of Saint Anne. Then we follow in the footsteps of Jesus through the Old City to Pilate's Judgment Hall, the Chapel of the Flagellation and the Ecce Homo Arch (John 19:13) where Jesus was tried before Pilate (Mark 15:6). We next walk the Via Dolorosa to Golgotha, the place of the skull (John 19:17), where they crucified our Lord. Onto the Western (Wailing) Wall where the faithful Jews cry their petitions to God and to the Dome of the Rock which is built on the ancient site of Solomon's Temple (Genesis 22:9-14) and over the Rock of Sacrifice where Abraham offered Isaac (Genesis 22) and the ceremonial sacrifice of animals took place. Our afternoon drive takes us through the Kidron Valley to the Pool of Siloam and Mt. Zion. We visit the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu on the site of Caiaphas' House, the Room of the Last Supper (Luke 22:14-20) and the Tomb of King David. Then on to a victory celebration at the Resurrection Tomb and Garden (John 20:1-18). Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 TUE, MAR 21: JERUSALEM - BEIT SHE'AN - MT. TABOR - GALILEE - NAZARETH - CANA - TIBERIAS ON THE SEA OF

GALILEE This morning, we depart the Holy City of Jerusalem and travel northward to Beit She'an (Beth Shean) for a visit. Continue to Mt. Tabor (Psalms 89:12) where we also view Deboriya, the hometown of the Prophetess Deborah (Judges 4 and 5) and the Village of Nain where Jesus brought life to a dead child (Luke 7:11-18). Then, we go up to Nazareth, the hometown of Jesus, in the Province of Galilee. Here, we visit the Church of the Annunciation (Luke 1:5-42) and Mary's Fountain (Luke 4:1622)



before proceeding to Cana, the site of the first miracle of Jesus (John 2:1-11) and then to Tiberias (John 6:23). Overnight and dinner at our hotel on the shore of the beautiful Sea of Galilee.

DAY 7 WED, MAR 22: TIBERIAS | SEA OF GALILEE | CAPERNAUM | MOUNT OF BEATITUDES | TABGHA | JORDAN RIVER This will

be an exciting day in the Galilee area. After a delicious breakfast, we depart the Roman hot springs resort city of Tiberias via a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum (John 6:24) to see the ancient ruins of this first century synagogue where Jesus preached (Matthew 4:1317). Then on to the Mt. of Beatitudes where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), and to Tabgha, the chapel dedicated to the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (Mark 6:34-44). We then follow the fresh mountain waters of Hermon to the Sea of Galilee and to the outlet passage at the southern tip of the sea. We stop at the beautiful Pilgrims Park (and a chance for an optional baptism) on the Jordan River. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 THU, MAR 23: TIBERIAS - TEL AVIV—**AIRPORT** Traveling westward across Galilee, we visit Mt. Carmel, the biblical site of Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal (I Kings 18). Continue southward along the Way of the Sea to Caesarea, the Roman City of Herod, where sights include Crusader fortifications and the Roman aqueducts and amphitheater. Drive through the citrus groves and farms of the rich land of Sharon to Ancient Joppa on the Sea where Jonah set sail and where Peter raised Dorcas from the dead. Joppa was also the home of Simon the Tanner. Dinner at a local restaurant and then continue to the airport for our flight home. Depending on air schedules, some will overnight in Tel Aviv on this night (TBD).

DAY 9 FRI, MAR 24: ARRIVE BACK IN USA Early morning arrival in the United States and continue home - the end of a most memorable journey. Those that spent the night in Tel Aviv arrive mid-afternoon



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