

*The Riverside Church Education Commission and Rev. Bruce Lamb along with
The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and former TRC Education Minister
Rev. Dr. Arnold Thomas are partnering for a joint trip to the Holy Land*

Israel: A Journey of Faith

with Optional 3-Night Jordan Post Tour Extension

July 10 – 18, 2023



Book Now
& Save
\$300
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! see inside for details

For more information contact
Laura Kirkpatrick
917-267-8023 | TRCBibleWalk@gmail.com



9 Days • 15 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 7 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Caesarea, Nazareth, Cana, Tiberias, Sea of Galilee, Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, Golan Heights, Caesarea Philippi, Tel Megiddo, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Western Wall, Via Dolorosa, Mount of Olives, Mount Zion, Garden Tomb

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Day 2	Kfar Maccabiah Hotel, Tel Aviv
Days 3, 4	Leonardo Hotel Tiberias, Tiberias
Days 5 – 8	Dan Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem
<i>On some dates alternate hotels may be used.</i>	

Day 1: Monday, July 10, 2023 Overnight Flight Travel to the Holy Land on an inspirational journey that visits some of the most ancient sites in the world.

Day 2: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 Tel Aviv, Israel - Tour Begins Your tour begins in Tel Aviv, a bustling city brimming with culture and history, situated on the Israeli Mediterranean coastline. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at your hotel. (D)

Day 3: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 Tel Aviv - Caesarea - Nazareth - Cana - Sea of Galilee - Tiberias Journey to the ancient port city of Caesarea, an important center for early Christians. Walk in the footsteps of Cornelius, the first Gentile convert to the new covenant (Acts 10) by St. Peter, and see where Paul was imprisoned before being taken to Rome for trial (Acts 23). Visit Nazareth, Jesus’ boyhood home (Matthew 2:23). Spend time at the place where Joseph’s home and workshop were - Church of the Annunciation - as well as the site of the fresh water spring used by the Holy Family. Your day continues with a visit to Cana, the site of Our Lord’s first miracle, where Jesus transformed water into wine (John 2:1-11).

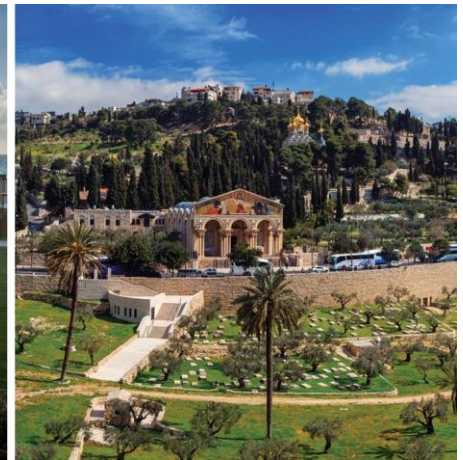
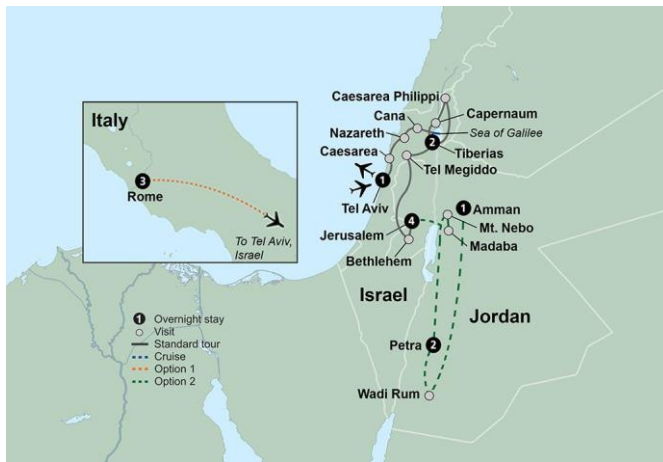
Later this afternoon, sail the Sea of Galilee aboard a boat similar to what Jesus would have sailed. Arrive in Tiberias for a 2-night stay. (B, D)

Day 4: Thursday, July 13, 2023 Tiberias - Capernaum - Golan Heights - Caesarea Philippi - Tiberias Step into another time at the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus preached the “Sermon on the Mount” (Matthew 5-7). Continue to nearby Tabgha to the Church of the Fish and the Loaves and pause for a moment of quiet prayer at the traditional location for the calling of the disciples and the feeding of the five thousand. Spend time in Capernaum, the center of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee, where Jesus performed many miracles, such as expelling demons and curing the sick. Visit the site where Jesus taught and reflect on his teaching and preaching of the gospel (Matthew 4:13, 23). Stand where Peter stood when he professed his devotion to the risen Christ (John 21) on 3 occasions. Take in the verdant scenery of the Golan Heights en route to Caesarea Philippi, where Jesus traveled with His disciples and near where Peter made his great confession to Jesus, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). Stop at the River Jordan at the Yardenit Baptismal site. During your visit to Yardenit Baptismal Site, you have the special opportunity to renew your baptismal vows during a solemn ceremony lead by your Spiritual Leader.* Relax over dinner at a local restaurant featuring traditional Middle Eastern cuisine such as assorted appetizers and grilled meats. (B, D)

Day 5: Friday, July 14, 2023 Tiberias - Tel Megiddo - Bethlehem - Jerusalem Visit Tel Megiddo (Armageddon), the site of the final battle before the coming of the Messiah. In Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus (Luke 2), enter the Church of the Nativity and pause for a moment of reflection close to the cave where Jesus was born.** Stop at Shepherds’ Field, where the angels appeared on that first Christmas night spreading good tidings of great joy for all the people. Later, arrive in one of the holiest cities in the world: Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 6: Saturday, July 15, 2023 Jerusalem - Western Wall - Old City Your time in Jerusalem begins with a visit to the Western Wall of the Temple, Judaism’s holiest site. Traverse the Old City on foot to the Church of St. Anne and the nearby Pools of Bethesda, and pause for a moment of devotion where Jesus healed the paralytic. View Lion’s Gate where St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was stoned to death. Pass by the Ecce Homo Arch (Behold the Man), the site where Pontius Pilate presented Our Lord to the crowds. Travel the Way of the Cross – the Via Dolorosa – walked by Our Lord on the way to His crucifixion. See the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of His crucifixion, burial and resurrection. This evening, discover the treasures of Jerusalem by night, a beacon of three faiths. By bus, enjoy stunning views of the Old City walls, Temple Mount and Mount Zion. On foot, walk through Jaffa gate to the Old City (UNESCO), which combines ancient beauty with timeless allure, and visit the Citadel (also known as the Tower of David). The walls of the Citadel serve as a stage for a “Night Spectacular” show which is a celebration of sight and sound. Amidst the archaeological remains in the Citadel’s courtyard and set to the sound of original music, the story of Jerusalem unfolds through giant breathtaking, virtual reality images celebrating Jerusalem’s spiritual and historical role across the centuries. (B, D)

Day 7: Sunday, July 16, 2023 Jerusalem - Masada - Dead Sea - Jericho - Jerusalem Enjoy a private full day excursion to some of the most historic regions in Israel. Depart Jerusalem and travel to Qumran for a view of the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Next, take a cable car ride to the top of Masada (UNESCO), where a small group of Jewish zealots stood up to the attack of the Roman legion and emerged victorious even in defeat. Tour the remnants of the palace fortress, complete with Roman-style bathhouses built by King Herod, as well as storehouses, ritual baths and synagogues built by the Jews.



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For bookings made after Jan 11, 2023 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from New York, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers, Round Trip Group Transportation between Riverside Church and New York

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$449 per person, Any Gratuities

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from NYC

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IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

Stand on the summit plateau for stunning views of the Dead Sea and the surrounding Judean Desert. Pause for a buffet lunch at a restaurant. Enjoy an opportunity to experience the Dead Sea's natural buoyancy (due to its high salt concentration) and indulge in its beauty and health benefits. On your return to Jerusalem, stop at the oldest city on earth, Jericho, for a distant view of the Mount of Temptations. (B, D)

Day 8: Monday, July 17, 2023 Jerusalem - Mount of Olives - Mount Zion - Garden Tomb Your day begins with a visit to the Mount of Olives and the nearby Church of the Pater Noster – the site where, according to tradition, Christ taught the Lord's Prayer. Pause for a moment of devotion at the Church of All Nations, built over the rock on which Jesus is believed to have prayed in agony the night before He was crucified. Take a moment to reflect among the olive trees of the Garden of Gethsemane – the site of Christ's betrayal by Judas. Travel to Mount Zion and stand in the Upper Room, near the traditional site of the Last Supper (Mark 14). "He is not here; he has risen!" (Luke 24:6). Your day concludes with a visit to the Garden Tomb, the possible site of the garden of Joseph of Arimathea and the resurrection of Jesus. "He is not here; he has risen!" (Luke 24:6). Set within a peaceful and contemplative garden, find an ancient Jewish tomb that many believe is the site of the burial and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. During your visit to the Garden Tomb, you have

the special opportunity to share Holy Communion, blessed by your Spiritual Leader.*** Celebrate the end of this unforgettable and holy journey during a farewell dinner at a local restaurant**** featuring ingredients inspired from the Bible. (B, D)

Day 9: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 Jerusalem - Tour Ends Say goodbye to Israel as your tour comes to a close today. (B)

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Jan 11, 2023, valid on air inclusive packages only. IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Modest dress is required when visiting religious sites, sanctuaries, basilicas, etc.

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1139270>

Triple accommodations are not available in all hotels. When this is the case, a twin and single room will be assigned.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

In addition to Israel, this tour travels through the occupied Palestinian territory of the West Bank.

**Time will be allotted while in Bethlehem for entry into the Nativity Grotto. There is often a wait time that can exceed 2 - 3 hours; therefore, you must be prepared to stand in line for the entire time.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by observance of religious or local holidays. If traveling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from March 10-April 10, 2024.

All meals taking place at the hotels in Tel Aviv, Tiberias and Jerusalem are served buffet-style, including dinners.

****The day of the farewell dinner in local restaurant may differ due to local holidays and religious observances. In some rare instances, when your tour falls over the Jewish High Holidays, the dinner in local restaurant may have to be replaced by an additional meal at the hotel.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so to fully experience this itinerary, you must be able to walk unassisted for 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) and stand at least 15-60 minutes at a time with no opportunity to sit down. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. In particular, while touring in Jerusalem, you will be required to walk over cobblestones and up/down steep roads for an extended amount of time. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. In this destination, temperatures may exceed over 105° F (40.5° C) with high levels of humidity, especially while in Tel Aviv, Caesarea and Tiberias. You should bring adequate sun protection and be prepared to walk and stand in the heat with limited to no shade.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Air passengers will depart from Tel Aviv airport and all transfers will depart from Jerusalem for Tel Aviv airport.

*** A private Communion for your group can be arranged if you are travelling in a group with a Pastor/Spiritual Leader. If travelling in a group without a Pastor/Spiritual Leader, we cannot guarantee the Holy Communion as a local Pastor/Spiritual Leader may not be available to perform the ceremony, in which case you will be refunded for this option.

* If travelling in a group without a Pastor/Spiritual Leader, we cannot guarantee the renewal of the baptismal vows as a local Pastor/Spiritual Leader may not be available to perform the ceremony, in which case you will be refunded. Each participant receives a baptismal kit including a robe, towel and access to locker rooms and shared showers.



Due to flight schedules, you may require a very early morning departure from the hotel on your last day. Travel distance from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport is approximately 1.5 hours (depending upon traffic conditions). Due to security checkpoints, it is recommended that you arrive at Ben Gurion Airport 3 hours prior to departure.

The sound and light show in Jerusalem is an outdoor event. This option will operate weather permitting. Due to strict reservation requirements, this option is non-refundable unless cancelled due to weather conditions.

Passports are required to enter Jericho and should be brought with you. Our visit to the Dead Sea includes time to float on the Dead Sea and access to shower facilities.

Departure time is subject to change, according to seasonality.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of January 04, 2023 are based upon availability. Final payment due by May 11, 2023. Deposits are refundable up until January 11, 2023.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1139270>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.

Extend your vacation with

Optional 4 Days 3-Night Jordan Post Tour Extension

Rate: \$1,199.00 USD per person, double, land only

\$1,499.00 USD per person, single, land only

5 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner

Day 9: Jerusalem - Border Crossing - Madaba, Jordan - Mt. Nebo - Petra

This morning, travel to the Jordan Valley, crossing the border* into Jordan. Journey on the Desert Highway to the city of Madaba, the “City of Mosaics.” Visit the Church of St. George to see the famous 6th-century Byzantine mosaic map of the region, one of the oldest in existence, and the museum where many other spectacular mosaic examples are on display. You will also visit Mt. Nebo, where Moses saw the Promised Land – present day Israel – and is believed to be laid to rest. Continue to the ancient city of Petra for a 2-night stay. This evening, experience the flavors of the region during dinner at a local restaurant. *Today dinner will be included.*

Day 10: Petra

Enjoy a full day tour of the remarkable stone-carved city of Petra (UNESCO), one of the new Wonders of the World. A treasure of the ancient world, Petra was “hidden” behind rugged mountains prior to its discovery in 1812 after being lost for over 500 years. Explore this breathtaking city, carved from sandstone by the Nabataeans, with an expert guide and learn about the importance of Petra to the ancient trade routes, the history of its prominence and decline, its rediscovery, and efforts at preservation. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 11: Petra - Wadi Rum - Amman

This morning depart for the immense desert of Wadi Rum, stunning in its natural beauty and home of the famous film, *Lawrence of Arabia*. Experience desert life and learn about the fascinating history of the Bedouin people who have lived for generations in the Wadi Rum’s stark, fragile and unspoiled desert. Pause for lunch at a local campsite before relaxing on an afternoon-long transfer to Amman, known as the “White City” because of white limestone used to construct the majority of the buildings. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included.*

Day 12: Amman - Depart for Home

Transfer to the airport for your flight home. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

*Israel exit fee is approximately 110 NIS (32 US Dollars) per person, paid in local currency when crossing the border into Jordan at the Allenby Bridge (King Hussein) border crossing. When using the shuttle buses at the border crossings, a 3 US Dollar fee per person, paid in local currency or US Dollars, is collected on the bus by each driver. A Jordanian entrance visa is arranged by our local Jordanian agent in advance. The Jordan exit fee is approximately 15 US Dollars per person, paid in local currency. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time without notice, based on governing authority. Money can be exchanged at the border crossing. The border crossing is mandated by the government and may have unpredictable wait times and longer lines. This process is similar to security and customs at an international airport. Due to security regulations, your guide cannot assist you in the border crossing. You will be responsible for handling your luggage from the bus drop-off point (on the Israeli side) to the bus pick-up point (on the Jordanian side). With your luggage, you will take the shuttle bus from the Israeli Terminal to the Jordanian Terminal located 3 miles away, where your Jordanian guide will meet you.

Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by observance of religious or local holidays. If traveling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from March 10-April 10, 2024.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

The space on this extension is extremely limited and will be available on a first come first served basis. Applicable charges may apply at time of request.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.