



**PILGRIMAGE TO THE** 

# HOLY LAND

September 4th- 14th, 2018

### PILGRIMAGE ITINERARY

#### Day 1 - Sep. 4: Depart U.S.A.

Our pilgrimage begins today as we depart on our flight to Israel. Meals and drinks served aloft.

#### Day 2 – Sep. 5: Arrive Tel Aviv / Netanya

After arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv this morning we will be met by our local guide who will arrange the schedules of our visits and make the scripture come alive as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Then proceed to the resort town of Netanya where we will spend our first night in the Holy Land on the shores of the Mediterranean.

#### Day 3 - Sep. 6: Netanya / Tiberias

Leave Netanya for the Sea of Galilee. Drive along the Mediterranean coast to Caesarea, capital of the ancient Roman Procurators of Judea. Here, St. Peter preached and St. Paul was imprisoned for two years. Visit the Roman Theater, Crusader's Moat, and the Byzantine Churches. Continue to Megiddo, the jewel in the crown of biblical archaeology. Strategically perched above the most important land route in the ancient Near East, the city dominated international traffic for over 6,000 years - from 7,000 B.C. through to biblical times. Its Greek name, Armageddon, is spoken of in the Book of Revelation as a final apocalyptic battle. Continue to the sparkling port city of Haifa. Ascend Mt. Carmel, home of the prophets Elijah and Elisha, for Mass. Visit the Carmelite Monastery, the largest Carmelite Monastery and world center of the Order. We will find ourselves in the very cave where the prophet Elijah set up his altar and triumphed over the false prophets of Baal. Proceed to our hotel in Galilee.

#### • Day 4 - Sep. 7: Tiberias

This morning, we will enjoy a scenic boat ride across the Sea of Galilee and proceed to the Church of Peter's Primacy (John 21:16). Here on the shore of Galilee, Jesus appeared to the Apostles after His Resurrection and confirmed Peter in the role as Vicar of Christ with the words, "Feed My sheep." The rock emerging from the center of the church is the actual table at which they ate breakfast. We will proceed onto Capernaum which for three years was the center of Jesus' public ministry. Here our Lord met his first disciples – Peter, Andrew, James, John and Matthew – and worked many miracles. He healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever, brought a child back to life, cured a leper, healed the centurion's servant, cast out a demon from a young boy and healed all that were sick (Matt 8:16). We will celebrate Mass, visit the synagogue where Jesus taught,





and then drive to Tabgha – the site where Jesus multiplied the Loaves and Fishes and fed over 5000 people (Luke 9:13). Next, we will drive to the Mount of Beatitudes the site of the Sermon on the Mount.

#### Day 5 – Sep. 8: Tiberias

Following breakfast, we will drive to Cana of Galilee where Jesus, at the request of Mary, performed His first miracle... changing water into wine. It was here also that He blessed marriage and raised it to the dignity of a sacrament. If you wish, you may renew your wedding vows as a lasting remembrance of this holy site. From there, we go a short distance to Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus. In the Church of the Annunciation we will celebrate Mass. Just behind the altar, at the Cave of the Annunciation, we will see the actual room in which Mary said "yes" to the angel Gabriel. From there we will visit St. Joseph's Carpentry Shop and Mary's Well. In the afternoon, we will take an excursion to the summit of Mt. Tabor where Jesus transfigured himself and revealed his Divine Glory to the apostles (Matt 17:2).

#### Day 6 - Sep. 9: Tiberias / Jerusalem

This morning we will depart Tiberias and travel south through the Jordan valley to the traditional baptismal site on the River Jordan to renew our baptismal vows. The Bible tells us that the Children of Israel crossed the River Jordan opposite Jericho when they came into the Promised Land. The prophet Elijah divided its waters and crossed with Elisha on dry land. Naaman the Syrian dipped in the waters seven times and was cured of his leprosy. And Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan (Mark 1:9). Each year, pilgrims from far and wide come to the Place of Baptism to immerse themselves in these holy waters. From here, we will visit ancient Jericho, the oldest known city in the Western world. In 1250 B.C., Joshua encircled the city and at the blast of the priests' trumpets, the walls came tumbling down (Joshua 6). Many times Jesus passed through this city on his way to Jerusalem. The sycamore fig, the tree which Zacchaeus climbed in order to catch a glimpse of Jesus, still grows in this area. From the ruins of ancient Jericho, we will ascend the Mount of Temptation where Jesus fasted and prayed forty days to resist the devil. Then drive to the Dead Sea for a swim in its salty, mineral-laden waters. Lastly, we will stop in Bethany to visit the site of the House of Mary, Martha & Lazarus and the Tomb of Lazarus. After Mass, we will continue on to Jerusalem, our home for the next five nights.

#### Day 7 – Sep. 10: Jerusalem

This morning we will drive to the top of the Mt. of Olives for a spectacular view of Jerusalem. We will visit the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus taught his disciples how to pray, Ascension Chapel the site where Jesus ascended into Heaven, and then walk the "Palm Sunday Road" to Dominus Flevit, where Our Lord wept over Jerusalem. Then we will proceed to the Garden of Gethsemane to visit the Church of All Nations for Mass on the Rock of Agony. In the afternoon, we will drive through the New City of Jerusalem to Ein Karem, birthplace of St. John the Baptist, to see the Visitation Church where Mary proclaimed her famous "Magnificat".

#### • Day 8 - Sep. 11: Jerusalem

This morning we will enter the Old City of Jerusalem through St. Stephen's Gate to visit the Church of St. Anne, where the Blessed Virgin Mary was born. Next to this site is the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the paralytic man. We will then walk the Via Dolorosa finishing prayerfully in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher where we will have Holy Mass. There we will climb Mt. Calvary and pray at the site of the crucifixion. We will venerate the site where Jesus' body was anointed, the tomb where he was buried and rose from the dead, and the Chapel of St. Helena where the true cross was found. While in the Old City, we will also see Pilate's Judgment Hall, the Chapel of Flagellation, the Arch of Ecce Homo, the "Wailing Wall", and we will view the Temple Mount. Afterwards, we exit the city to visit the Pool of Siloam, where Jesus healed a man born blind.

#### Day 9 – Sep. 12: Jerusalem

We will drive to Bethlehem and have Mass at the Shepherd's Fields. Above the traditional Grotto of Jesus' birth, we will visit the Nativity Church, built by the Emperor Constantine in the 4th century. Also tour the Manger, Grotto of St. Jerome, and the Church of St. Catherine. Return to Jerusalem and go to Mount Zion to visit the Upper Room, the site where Jesus celebrated the Last Supper. We will then pray the Rosary together in the Church of Dormition, where Mary was assumed into heaven. Our final stop of the day will be at the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu where Peter denied Jesus three times.

#### Day 10 - Sep. 13: Jerusalem

This morning we will celebrate an early morning Mass at the Tomb of our Lord. After Mass, we will spend some private time in prayer and reflection at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre before returning to our hotel for breakfast. The remainder of the day is free for personal prayer and exploring the Old City.

#### Day 11 - Sep. 14: Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / U.S.A.

Today our Holy Land pilgrimage comes to an end as we transfer to the airport in Tel Aviv to catch our return flight home.



## PILGRIMAGE PRICE: \$2,895.00

per person/double occupancy
For a single occupancy please add \$684.00
For land only, please subtract: \$617.00

#### These rates include:

- Arrangements for daily Mass
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Chicago O'Hare on Lufthansa
- 9 nights accommodations
- All hotel taxes and service charges
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Middle Eastern farewell dinner
- Comprehensive sightseeing with a licensed Christian guide
- All entrance fees as per itinerary
- Whisper headsets
- Land transportation by deluxe motor coach
- Arrival and departure transfers; group flights only
- Porterage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels

#### These rates do not include:

- Airline taxes/fuel surcharges (currently \$478.17 per person, but subject to change until the time of ticketing)\*
- Gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff\*
- Lunches, drinks with meals, extras at hotels and any expenses of a personal nature

\*added to your final invoice Departures from other airports available upon request.

Register online at:

www.tektonministries.org

**Register Now!** 







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#### **TEKTON MINISTRIES**

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Reservations and Payment: Tekton Ministries requires a deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. This deposit forms a part of your final payment which is due 75 days prior to departure. Reservations made within 74 days of departure must be accompanied by payment in full. Payments made by credit card will incur a convenience fee. Any reservations received within 45 days of departure will incur a late booking fee of \$100.00 per person. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 21 total pilgrims. Surcharges may be assessed for a smaller group size.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply in addition to any airline penalties and charges incurred by our suppliers: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$75.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior to departure, \$175.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior to departure, \$450.00 will be charged. If canceled 14 - 7 days prior to departure \$700.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking.

**Travel Documents:** A passport which is valid for 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U. S. citizens. However, U.S. citizens do not require visas for Israel. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to find out if you need a visa. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

**Hotels:** Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms with private facilities. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

**Air Transportation:** Air travel is in economy class on Lufthansa. Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice. Note that any ticketing changes made within 90 days of your departure date will incur airline penalties.

**Baggage:** Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

**Travel Insurance:** We strongly recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Registration information will be provided upon receipt of your deposit.

**Not Included:** Airline taxes/fuel surcharges (currently \$478.17 per person, but subject to change until the time of ticketing), gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff, passport/visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of included meals, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing and expenses of a personal nature.

**Refunds:** Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a

refund. In such a situation, Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

**Trust Account Disclosure:** California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

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Services for this pilgrimage are provided by George's International Tours, CST# 2035995-40.