



TEKTON MINISTRIES
Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED

PILGRIMAGE TO THE

HOLY LAND

February 3rd - 14th, 2020



A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

Tekton Ministries has been leading Catholic pilgrimages to the Holy Land for more than 20 years. Working closely with your priest and deacon to create thoughtfully planned itineraries, we help make the Catholic faith more tangible to your daily life by taking you where the seeds of Catholicism were first planted to be spread across the world. Although we visit more than 50 sites in this holy and historic region, Daily Mass and time for prayerful reflection are important parts of each day's experience.

We use only experienced Christian or Catholic guides, so you receive truthful explanations of scripture and the places we encounter. When the disciple Philip asked the Eunuch (who was reading Isaiah) if he understood what he was reading, the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (Acts 8:35) Just as Philip guided the Eunuch with "the good news of Jesus," your Tekton pilgrimage will guide you into a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. Our prayers, service, and love of our Lord go with you.

● Day 1 – Depart USA

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

● Day 2 – Arrive Tel Aviv / Netanya

After our arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, we will be met by Fr. Peter Vasko, O.F.M., who will be our guide for the duration of the pilgrimage and make the scripture come alive as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus and the Prophets. Overnight in nearby Netanya. (D)

● Day 3 – Caesarea Maritime, Haifa, Mt. Carmel, Tiberias

Your immersion in ancient Israel where Christ walked begins. Set out for a morning drive along the Mediterranean Coast to Caesarea, the capital of the Roman Procurators of Judea where St. Peter preached and St. Paul was imprisoned for two years. Visit the Roman Theater, Crusader's Moat and see the stunning architecture and art of the Byzantine Churches. That afternoon enter the port city of Haifa to ascend Mt. Carmel, the sacred mountain where the Prophet Elijah contested 450 prophets of Baal proclaiming "The Lord, He is God," and Elisha, his disciple, took refuge. Visit Stella Maris, the church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary as Star of the Sea. It sits near the cave Elijah lived in. Then make our way to our hotel in Tiberias that will be our home base for the next three nights. (B, D, daily Mass)

● Day 4 – Baptismal Site, Cana, Nazareth, Mt. Tabor

After breakfast, drive along the shores of the Sea of Galilee to the Baptismal Site on the Jordan River. Renew our baptismal vows in the very river where Christ was baptized by John the Baptist (Mark 1:9).



Then we drive to Cana in Galilee to pray where Jesus performed His first miracle, at the request of His mother, Mary, turning the water into wine. The Catholic Church points to this miracle as establishing the Sacrament of Marriage. If you wish, you may renew your wedding vows here as a lasting remembrance of this holy site. Afterwards, travel a short distance to Nazareth, the childhood home of Jesus. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation that holds the Cave of the Annunciation which is the actual room where Gabriel appeared to Mary and "the Word was made flesh." (John 1:14) and see St. Joseph's Carpentry Shop, where the foster father of Jesus worked. Our last excursion of the day is to the summit of Mt. Tabor, the site of the Transfiguration and the culminating point of Christ's public life (Matthew 17:5). (B, D, daily Mass)

● Day 5 – Tabgha, Capernaum, Galilee

This morning, drive to Tabgha, and ponder the site where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes to feed more than 5,000 people (Luke 9:13). Then visit the Church of Peter's Primacy on the shores of Galilee. A rock at the center of this church is believed to be the actual table where the apostles ate breakfast with Christ after His Resurrection. It is where Peter's role as the Vicar of Christ was further established as Christ asked him to "Feed my sheep" (John 21:16). Continue to Capernaum, the center of Jesus's three-year public ministry, where he called his first disciples, Peter, Andrew, James, John and Matthew. Here Christ healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever, brought a child back to life, cured a leper, healed the centurion's servant and cast out a demon from a young boy. Visit the synagogue where Jesus taught and spend some private, prayerful time on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. End the day with a scenic and prayerful boat ride on the Sea, reflecting upon the many moments of Christ's ministry that happened here. (B, D, daily Mass)



● Day 6 – Mount of Beatitudes, Jericho, Jerusalem

This morning visit the Mount of Beatitudes where Christ gave his famous Sermon of the Mount. Then, depart from the region of Galilee and travel south through the Jordan River Valley to Jericho, the oldest known city in the Western world. In 1250 B.C., Joshua and the Israelites encircled the city, trumpets blasting, and the walls came tumbling down (Joshua 6). Jesus passed through Jericho on his way to Jerusalem. From Jericho we have an excellent view of the Mount of Temptation, where Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days to resist the devil. After lunch, drive through the Judean wilderness to Jerusalem, our home for the next six nights. (B, D, daily Mass)

● Day 7 – Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane

We will take a morning drive to the top of the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem and visit two churches located on the mount: the Church of the Pater Noster where Jesus taught His disciples how to pray the "Our Father" and Ascension Chapel, the site where Jesus ascended into Heaven. Descend the mount on the path Christ walked on the "Palm Sunday Road" to Dominus Flevit, where He wept over Jerusalem and her future destruction. Then enter into the Garden of Gethsemane where Christ had His agony and was betrayed. Here we will pray in the Church of All Nations at the Rock of Agony, the very rock Christ prayed at and sweated blood before He was crucified. The remainder of the day will be free for personal activities. (B, D, Sunday Mass)



● **Day 8 – Old City of Jerusalem, Mt. Zion**

An exciting and jam-packed day awaits us as we explore Jerusalem further. We 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. Afterwards, see the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the paralytic man. Prayerfully walk the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and climb the steps up Mt. Calvary to pray at the site of the Crucifixion. 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 she found the true cross. This afternoon we travel to Mt. Zion, where Christ celebrated the Last Supper in the Upper Room. Together we journey to pray the rosary at Dormition Abbey, the traditional site where Mary was assumed into heaven. Our final stop is at one of the most striking churches in Jerusalem – St. Peter in Gallicantu. A golden rooster sits atop, recalling the place where Peter denied Jesus three times (Matthew 26). This was the site of the palace of the high priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was brought to jail after His arrest and kept in the dungeon that sits underneath the Church. (B, D, daily Mass)



● **Day 9 – Ein Karem, Wailing Wall, Old City Jerusalem**

This morning, we drive to Ein Karem, one of the most beautiful sites in the New City of Jerusalem where St. John the Baptist was born. Marvel at the Visitation Church where Mary proclaimed her service to God in her Magnificat prayer and pray the Magnificat together in this holy site. In the afternoon, visit the Wailing Wall, a solemn site for the Jewish people and where prayers are inserted between the stones. The rest of the afternoon is free to explore the Old City on our own. (B, D, daily Mass)

● **Day 10 – Shepherd's Field, Bethlehem, Franciscan Family Center**

Journey to one of the most joyous sites connected to the Holy Night Christ was born - the Shepherd's Fields outside of Bethlehem. Then travel into the city of Bethlehem and visit the Nativity Church above the traditional Grotto of Jesus' Birth. Ponder the Manger, Grotto of St. Jerome, and the Church of St. Catherine, the parish church for Bethlehem's Catholics. We will visit the Milk Grotto Chapel, a place where many couples pray for the Virgin Mary's intercession to conceive a child. Then visit the Franciscan Family Center, where we learn about the daily life of Christians in the Holy Land, followed by some free time for shopping before returning to Jerusalem. (B, D, daily Mass)

● **Day 11 – Jerusalem**

This morning, visit Bethany to see the House of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus and the Tomb of Lazarus where Christ raised him from the dead. Journey through the Judean Wilderness along the Dead Sea to Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We end our day with a drive to the Dead Sea to float and swim in its salty, mineral laden waters before heading back to Jerusalem. This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner at the Christmas Hotel. (B, D, daily Mass)



● **Day 12 – Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / USA**

Our time pondering the wonder and awe of the Holy Land comes to an end. We catch our return flight home from Tel Aviv

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

BASE PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy w/ airfare **\$4,025.00**

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES *(applied to final invoice)*

• **Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges** **\$703.44**
(subject to change until final ticketing)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST **\$4,728.44**

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$1,198.00
- Land-only option: \$3,328.00 *(no flights included)*

Final Payment Due **November 3, 2019**

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy airfare from Dallas-Ft. Worth to Tel Aviv on United Airlines
- 10 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Portage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels
- Comprehensive guiding by Fr. Peter Vasko, OFM; whisper headsets; deluxe motor coach transportation to holy sites; all entrance fees listed on itinerary
- All gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff
- Breakfast and dinner per itinerary (excluding drinks)
- Farewell dinner in Israel

Rates do not include: Lunches; drinks with meals

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 26 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 United Airlines. 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 in base price: Airline taxes/fuel surcharges (currently \$703.44 per person, but subject to change until the time of ticketing), 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.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if George's International Tours was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which George's International Tours failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount, which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to George's International Tours, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Responsibility Clause: Tekton Ministries, George's International Tours and/or their co-operating selling agents and/or their suppliers of services offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public, and are not responsible therefore, either directly or indirectly, for any loss, accident, or injury which may result from any act, omission, negligence in or responsible for performing or providing these component services. The transportation companies concerned take no responsibility for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not aboard their conveyances. The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. Tour operator reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries. Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.



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