



TEKTON MINISTRIES
Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED

YOU'RE INVITED ON A PILGRIMAGE TO THE

HOLY LAND



November 27 - December 7, 2023

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 - Monday, November 27**
Depart USA

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

- **Day 2 - Tuesday, November 28**
Arrive Tel Aviv / Haifa

After arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, our immersion in ancient Israel where Christ walked begins. We will be met by our guide who will guide us through the Holy Land and make the scripture come alive as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We drive north along the shores of the Mediterranean to the port city of Haifa where we will spend our first night in the Holy Land. (D)



Basilica of the Transfiguration

- **Day 3 - Wednesday, November 29**
Haifa / Mt. Carmel / Nazareth / Cana / Galilee

Following breakfast, we will visit Stella Maris on Mt. Carmel, home of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. 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 is said to have meditated before his encounter with the priests of Baal and visit Muhraqa where he triumphed over them. Then drive to Nazareth, the boyhood 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. Afterwards, travel a short distance to Cana of 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. Proceed to our hotel in Galilee, our home for the next three nights. (B, D)

- **Day 4 - Thursday, November 30**
Galilee - Mt. Tabor / Caesarea Philippi

This morning we will take an excursion to the summit of Mt. Tabor, the site of the Transfiguration and a culminating point of Christ's public life. Christ revealed his divinity here to three of his apostles as he spoke with the prophets Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17). Later, we ascend the Golan Heights, a fertile plateau with expansive views over Israel. Stop at the Banias Spring, a waterfall that rises from under a cave and is one of the sources of the Jordan River. It was here in Banias (known in Biblical times as Caesarea Philippi) where Peter made his confession of faith in Jesus as the Messiah and where Jesus gave Peter his new name, declaring him the Rock upon which He would build His Church (Matthew 16:16-19). (B, D)



Sea of Galilee

- **Day 5 - Friday, December 1**
Galilee - Sea of Galilee / Capernaum / Tabgha

Enjoy a scenic morning boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, the setting of many moments in Christ's life. We will visit the Church of Peter's Primacy on the shores of Galilee. A rock at the center of the 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). We 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. We will visit the synagogue where Jesus taught and proceed to Tabgha, where we ponder the site where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish to feed more than 5,000 people (Luke 9:13). We will have time for personal prayer and reflection here, along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. (B, D)

- **Day 6 - Saturday, December 2**
Galilee / Mt. of Beatitudes / Jordan River / Jericho / Jerusalem

We begin this morning at the Mount of the Beatitudes, where Christ gave his famous Sermon on the Mount. Then, depart from the region of Galilee and travel south through the Jordan River Valley to the traditional baptismal site of Jesus in the Jordan River. Renew your baptismal vows in the very river where Christ was baptized by John the Baptist. (Mark 1:9) Ponder how the children of Israel crossed the River Jordan opposite Jericho when they came to the Promised Land. These are the waters the prophet Elijah divided and crossed with Elisha and which Naaman the Syrian dipped in seven times to cure his leprosy. Pilgrims come every year to immerse themselves in these holy waters. Continue our journey into 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. Afterwards, drive through the Judean wilderness to Jerusalem, our home for the next five nights. (B, D)

● **Day 7 - Sunday, December 3**

Jerusalem - Mt. of Olives / Gethsemane / Ein Karem

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 the 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 Christ wept over Jerusalem and her future destruction. Then enter into the Garden of Gethsemane where Christ had his agony and was betrayed. Keep watch with Christ and pray in the Church of All Nations at the Rock of Agony, the very rock where Christ prayed and sweated blood before he was to be crucified. In the afternoon, we drive to Ein Karem, one of the most beautiful sites in the New City of Jerusalem where St. John the Baptist was born. Pray at the Visitation Church where Mary proclaimed her service to God in her Magnificat prayer. (B, D)



Via Dolorosa

● **Day 8 - Monday, December 4**

Jerusalem - Old city / Via Dolorosa / Holy Sepulchre / Mt. Zion

An exciting 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, is the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the paralytic man. We will continue to see Pilate's Judgement Hall, the Chapel of Flagellation, the Arch of Ecce Homo, where Pilate said, "Behold the man," with Jesus standing before the crowds in His crown of thorns and with His body torn after his scourging. Prayerfully, we will walk the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and have the opportunity to climb the steps up to 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 will then journey to the Church of the Dormition, 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 - that hosts a wide array of art styles. A golden rooster sits atop it recalling the place where Peter denied Jesus three times (Matthew 26). It was 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)

● **Day 9 - Tuesday, December 5**

Jerusalem - Shepherd's Fields / Bethlehem

We begin this morning at one of the most joyous sites connected to the Holy Night Christ was born - the church located in the Shepherd's Fields in Bethlehem, marking the spot where the shepherds heard the

chorus of angels proclaiming Jesus' birth. In the city of Bethlehem, meaning "House of Bread," we visit the Nativity Church that sits above the traditional Grotto of Jesus' Birth. Ponder the Manger, Grotto of St. Jerome, and the Church of St. Catherine, 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. After time for personal prayer and shopping, we return to Jerusalem, where the remainder of the day will be free for personal activities. (B, D)

● **Day 10 - Wednesday, December 6**

Jerusalem / Emmaus / Qumran / Dead Sea / Tel Aviv

After early morning prayer time at the Tomb of Our Lord, we return to the hotel for breakfast. We will then visit Abu Ghosh (Emmaus) where Jesus appeared following His Resurrection. Proceed to Bethany to see the House of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus and the Tomb of Lazarus where Christ raised him from the dead. View the site where Jesus revealed to Martha that He is "the resurrection and the life" (John 11). Continue through the Judean Wilderness to Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We then drive to the Dead Sea to float and swim in its salty, mineral laden waters before heading back to Jerusalem for some free time on our final afternoon. This evening we enjoy a traditional Middle Eastern farewell dinner. After dinner we will transfer to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to catch our late evening return flight home. (B, D)

● **Day 11 - Thursday, December 7**

Tel Aviv / USA

Depart Tel Aviv just after midnight on our return flight home, bringing with us all the graces and blessings of this pilgrimage.

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

BASE PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy w/ airfare **\$3,495.00**

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES *(applied to final invoice)*

- **Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges** **\$711.87**
(subject to change until final ticketing)
- **Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff** **\$140.00**

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST **\$4,346.87**

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add **\$825**
- Land-only option: **\$2,810** *(no flights or gratuities included)*

Final Payment Due

August 2023

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy airfare from Omaha to Tel Aviv on United Airlines
- 9 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Portage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels
- Comprehensive guiding by a Christian guide; whisper headsets; deluxe motor coach transportation to holy sites; all entrance fees listed on itinerary
- Breakfast and dinner per itinerary (excluding drinks)
- Farewell dinner at the Christmas Hotel on day 10

Rates do not include: lunches, gratuities, 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 90 days prior to departure. Reservations made within 89 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 \$150.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior to departure, \$1000.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 14 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 or cancellations made within 120 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: Currently, Israel requires proof of medical insurance coverage for the duration of your stay. 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 \$711.87 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.

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 cooperating 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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