



TEKTON MINISTRIES

Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED

Fr. Mel O. Portula, CICM and Fr. Roy Milton Quiogue, CICM

INVITE YOU ON A PILGRIMAGE TO THE

HOLY LAND & JORDAN



March 4 - 15, 2024

A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

Tekton Ministries has been leading Catholic pilgrimages to the Holy Land for more than 25 years. Working closely with your priest 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, March 4 Depart USA

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

• Day 2 - Tuesday, March 5 Arrive Tel Aviv / Netanya

After arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, our immersion in ancient Israel where Christ walked begins. We will be met by our local guide who will journey with us through the Holy Land and make the scripture come alive as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Stay overnight in the Mediterranean city of Netanya. (D)

• Day 3 - Wednesday, March 6 Netanya / Caesarea Maritime / Mt. Carmel / Galilee

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 where St. Paul was imprisoned for two years. We will visit the Roman Theater and the Crusader's Moat and see the stunning architecture and art of the Byzantine Churches. This afternoon we will 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. We will visit Stella Maris, the church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary as Star of the Sea, located near the cave in which Elijah lived. We then continue along our way to our hotel in Tiberias, our home base for the next three nights. (B, D)

• Day 4 - Thursday, March 7 Galilee - Capernaum / Tabgha / Bethsaida / Magdala

Enjoy a scenic morning boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, the setting of so 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. After Mass we will visit the synagogue where Jesus taught. At Tabgha, we ponder the site

where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes to feed more than 5,000 people. Finally, in Bethsaida we visit the home of Andrew and Peter and marvel at the humble beginnings of two of the greatest disciples, and then drive to Magdala, birthplace of Mary Magdalene, known as "the Apostle to the Apostles" where we will visit the chapel and surrounding ruins. (B, D)



• Day 5 - Friday, March 8 Galilee - Cana / Nazareth / Mt. Tabor

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. 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 Church of the Annunciation that holds the Cave of the Annunciation just behind the altar. This is the actual room where Gabriel appeared to Mary and "The Word was made flesh." (John 1:14.). See St. Joseph's Carpentry Shop, where the foster father of Jesus worked and Mary's Well, where the Virgin Mary drew water with her son for their daily living. We will take our last excursion of the day to the summit of Mt. Tabor, the site of the Transfiguration and the 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. It is also the second time and place where God told people from Heaven that Christ was his beloved Son to whom they should listen. (Matthew 17:5) (B, D)

• Day 6 - Saturday, March 9 Galilee / Ajloun / Anjara / Jerash / Amman



This morning we celebrate Mass at the Mt. of Beatitudes, where Christ gave his famous Sermon on the Mount. Depart this region and travel south towards the Sheikh Hussein Bridge where we will cross from Israel into Jordan. Drive to Tell Mar Elias near Ajloun to visit the archaeological site and ruins of Byzantine churches, believed to be the birthplace of the prophet Elijah. Close by is Anjara and Our Lady of the Mountain Church, where tradition says Jesus stopped with His mother and disciples to rest in a cave when they traveled between Jerusalem and Galilee. Today this cave is a holy place for pilgrims - the site of a miracle validated by the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, in which a statue of Our Lady of Anjara wept tears of blood in 2010. Continue to Jerash, founded by the soldiers of Alexander the Great in 300 B.C. Jerash now stands as the most complete and best-preserved ruins of a provincial Greco-

Roman city in the world. Along a two-mile stretch we'll see the oval shaped forum encircled by 56 graceful Roman columns, Hadrian's Arch, the Temples of Artemis and Zeus, and the massive Roman amphitheater. Finally, we head to Amman, the capital of Jordan, and proceed to our hotel for check-in. (B, D)

• Day 7 - Sunday, March 10

Amman / Jordan River / Mt. Nebo / Petra

This morning we will depart Amman and visit Bethany beyond the Jordan, the Baptismal Site of our Lord (on the Jordanian side of the 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. Drive south to Mt. Nebo where Moses viewed the Promised Land, but was not permitted to enter, due to his disobedience (Deut 34). Drive to Madaba, a Byzantine center of master mosaics, to see the oldest surviving map of the Holy Land. Pass through Machaerus, site of the Fortress of Herod the Great. It was here that John the Baptist was imprisoned and later beheaded (Matthew 14). Continue our descent into the magnificent Petra, one of the Seven Wonders of the World and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (B, D)

• Day 8 - Monday, March 11

Petra / Dead Sea

This morning will be spent exploring the "Red Rose City" of Petra which is literally carved into the sides of a deep gorge. Riding on horseback (the horseback ride is optional, and no riding experience is required) between the 100-foot cliffs we will see a remarkable sight: temples, tombs, and dwellings chiseled right into the limestone walls. We'll be awed as we view the masterpieces of the Treasury, the Monastery, the Triumphal Arch and the Roman Amphitheater. It was just outside of Petra where Moses struck the rock to bring forth water (Numb 20). After our tour of Petra, we will travel north, passing by the burial place of Aaron, brother of Moses and first High Priest of the Israelites. Cross the Allenby Bridge from Jordan back into Israel and drive a short distance to our hotel near the Dead Sea. (B, D)

• Day 9 - Tuesday, March 12

Dead Sea / Bethlehem / Ein Karem / Jerusalem

We begin this morning by checking out of our hotel and journeying to 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, 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. 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. Check into to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

• Day 10 - Wednesday, March 13

Jerusalem - Mt. of Olives / Gethsemane / Mt. Zion

We start this morning with a 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 the Garden of Gethsemane where Christ had his agony and was betrayed. Here we have Mass in the Church of All Nations at the Rock of Agony, the very rock Christ prayed at and sweated blood before he was to be crucified. This afternoon we travel to Mt. Zion, where Christ celebrated the Last Supper in the Upper Room. Together we will then journey to pray the rosary at 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 11 - Thursday, March 14

Jerusalem - Old City / Via Dolorosa / Calvary

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. The balance of the day will be free for personal exploration of the Old City. This evening we will enjoy a traditional Middle Eastern farewell dinner. (B, D)

• Day 12 - Friday, March 15

Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / U.S.A.

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

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare	\$3,825.00
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges	\$771.00

(subject to change until final ticketing)

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff	\$160.00
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(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$4,756.00
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OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add **\$1,140**
- Land-only option: **\$3,526** *(no flights or gratuities included)*

Final Payment Due

January 2024

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Washington Dulles to Tel Aviv on Austrian Airlines
- 10 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Porterage 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)
- Israel/Jordan border crossing taxes (currently \$51.00 but subject to change)
- Jordanian entry visa (currently free but subject to change)

Base rate does not include lunches, gratuities, air taxes/fuel surcharges*, drinks with meals (* added to final invoice)*

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. Late payments may be subject to a late fee and/or possible removal from the pilgrimage. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 22 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 - 46 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 45 - 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 Austrian 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: 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 \$771.00 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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