

The Holy Land Experience

Trip of a Lifetime!

April 28 ~ May 14, 2023
17-Day Trip

Approximate Cost: \$4,250

Hosted by:

Pastor Dr. Todd M. Fink
Holy Land Site Ministries

HolyLandSite.com



The Holy Land



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Would you like to have a life-changing and never-to-be-forgotten experience? If so, it is our joy to invite you to join us on a trip of a lifetime to the Bible Lands, where you will find a new dimension in understanding Christian history and the life of our Lord. We will visit places where Jesus walked, lived, taught, performed miracles, was crucified, and raised from the dead. We will take a most memorable boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and immerse ourselves in what the disciples experienced as Jesus walked on water and calmed the sea. Dr. Fink will give Bible and historical teachings at each place we visit in the Holy Land. Therefore, this trip is designed to provide an in-depth study and perspective from the Scriptures of the events and places of the Bible.

COST OF TRIP – \$4,250.00 (Approx.)

Holy Land Site Trip Fee – \$1,750 Per Person (This is a fixed cost)

Items covered by Holy Land Site Trip Fee:

- Transportation in Israel – Deluxe A/C Motorcoach
- All Park & Entrance Passes
- Holy Land Site Tour Guide and Bible Teacher (Todd Mike Fink)
- Wireless Headsets for a Better Listening Tour Experience

Individual Costs – \$2,500 Per Person (This cost can change depending on individual preferences and location)

To keep our trips as affordable as possible, we allow individuals to book their own lodging and airfare. Also, to see as many sites as possible, and again, keep costs down, we have folks pack a sack lunch. The hotels will provide breakfast. For dinner, folks can enjoy the culture by eating out at the local restaurants of their choice.

Items to be covered by each individual:

The costs below are close estimates. Your price may vary depending on airfare from your location, room selections, and how expensive you want to eat.

- Sack Lunch & Dinner Meals in Israel \$400 per person (approx.)
- Lodging in Israel (found on itinerary) \$1,100 per person (private, double occupancy rooms, approx.)
- Airfare \$1,000 per person (approx.)
- Travel from Ben Gurion Airport to Kfar Maccabiah Hotel & Suites in Tel Aviv, and from Prima Park Hotel in Jerusalem to Ben Gurion Airport. A taxi can be taken from the airport to our hotel in Tel Aviv for about \$12.00 per person, and a light-rail train or shuttle can be taken from Jerusalem to the airport for about \$7.00 on the light-rail train, or \$20.00 on a shuttle bus. Due to multiple arrivals and departures from passengers, it is not possible for us to attend everyone's various time schedules. However, we are happy to help in any way possible with these arrangements.

THIS IS A PRIVATE, CUSTOM-DESIGNED TRIP

If you want to spend more time in Israel and see more holy sites, then this trip is designed for you. Most trips to the Holy Land allow only around 7-8 full days in Israel. This severely limits what can be seen. Therefore, most who go to the Holy Land miss out on many significant holy sites as a result. This trip will have you in Israel for 14 days. You will, therefore, see about everything significant there is to see in Israel.

A 17-day trip like this normally is quite expensive (if you can find one). Why can we do it so inexpensively? Because we are eliminating tour companies, travel agencies, tour guides, etc., and are providing these services instead. We are also allowing you to book your own airfare, lodging, and some of your meals. And lastly, we are staying in nice, clean hotels/hostels instead of expensive hotels. It is our pleasure to serve you and our Lord Jesus Christ in offering you this special and affordable trip of a lifetime.

Because this is a custom trip, each participant will be required to book their own airfare, lodging, and purchase some of their own meals.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

This trip is not for the weak and faint of heart! There will be a fair amount of walking, some hiking, times when it could be warm (Dead Sea area), etc. Those considering this trip need to be in pretty good shape and able to withstand some discomfort at times due to heat, walking, hiking, etc. We will be walking approximately 1-2 miles a day.

GROUP SIZE LIMIT

We are limiting the group size to 30 people in order to be efficient and see more places in Israel. Larger teams bring a different dynamic that slow things down and make travel more difficult.

AIR TRAVEL

Each person will be responsible for booking their own air travel to Israel (to and from Ben Gurion Airport). Please make plans to arrive with plenty of time to attend our mandatory orientation and get-acquainted meeting at 7:00 pm at our Kfar Maccabiah Hotel & Suites in Tel Aviv. Due to customs and obtaining visas, please allow 3 hours from airport arrival to hotel arrival. The hotel is about 15 minutes from the airport depending on traffic.

TRANSPORTATION IN ISRAEL

We will be transported around in a large, air-conditioned motorcoach while in all areas of Israel except Jerusalem. When in Jerusalem, we will be transported to and from our hotel to the Old City (Jaffa Gate) via light rail. We will then be walking in and around the Old City from there.

LODGING IN ISRAEL

We will be staying at large hotels with private rooms and bathrooms during our time in Israel. Our itinerary shows the hotels where we will stay (a total of three: Tel Aviv, Tiberias, Jerusalem). Please go to our website at HolyLandSite.com for hotel registration links.

LUGGAGE

You will be allowed one carry-on piece of luggage and one suitcase. Because each person will be responsible to transport their luggage from the motorcoach to the hotels, it is highly recommended to keep your suitcase under 50 pounds. This will also prevent you from an extra charge by airlines for heavy luggage.

MEALS IN ISRAEL

Each person will be responsible for paying for their own lunches and dinners.

- **Breakfast** – The hotels will provide breakfast if desired. Some will provide dinners as well. These can be paid for when you book your lodging or at the hotels.
- **Lunch** – Because eating out is quite expensive in Israel, and eating with a large group can occupy one or more hours of the day, plus, we will be on the go and not always close to a restaurant, each trip participant will prepare themselves a daily sack lunch. Each day at noon we will take a break, eat, and then carry on. Lunch items can be purchased at local grocery stores, and the hotels will have refrigerators in the rooms.
- **Dinner** – On your own. Enjoy the local culture as you eat at local restaurants, etc.

PARK & ENTRANCE PASSES

Holy Land Site Ministries will pay for all park and entrance fees to all sites. You will be responsible for paying any entrance fees you want to see during your free time.

WHAT WILL OUR VISITS TO EACH HOLY SITE BE LIKE?

Our visits will normally last around two hours. We will begin with some orientation of the site. Then we'll do a walking tour to see the site and its points of interest. Afterward, we'll find a quiet spot to reflect on the main events from the Bible that happened at the site and close with a faith lesson to learn the key truths God would desire to teach us. Some of the Bible teachings might be filmed for publishing on our website. We'll then end our visit with some free time.

DOCUMENTS

A valid U.S. Passport is required. Passports must have at least six months left before they expire for travel to Israel.

TRIP PREPARATION

Please utilize the videos and info on our website that provide help and orientation to better understand many of the biblical sites we will be visiting, the history of Israel, and other helpful info. In addition, we will provide helpful info leading up to our trip that will help prepare you to get the most out of your holy land experience.

We also ask that you acquaint yourself with our Travel Orientation Material found on our website. You will find it extremely helpful.

DAILY ITINERARY

Please take into consideration that there might be slight adjustments to the schedule depending on things out of our control. Additionally, if the team would like some flexibility in seeing sights, we are happy to do this if possible.

MONEY IN ISRAEL

Credit cards and Dollars are readily accepted, Shekels can be drawn from ATM's.

INTERNET IN ISRAEL

All of the hotels we will be staying at will provide free Internet. Phone SIM cards can be purchased for around \$39.99 if you want Internet service at all times while in Israel.

DAILY SCHEDULE

We will leave our place of lodging each day at 8:00 am and return around 4:00 - 5:00 pm. From this time on, you will have free time to eat, relax, see the local sites and culture, etc.

AGE LIMIT

The minimum age for trip participants is 12 years old unless other arrangements have been made with tour hosts.

REGISTRATION & PAYMENTS DEADLINE **FEBRUARY 1, 2023**

Trip registration deadline is **February 1, 2023**. Tourism is growing quite rapidly in Israel, and things need to be done earlier than in previous years. Therefore, booking lodging, bus transportation in Israel, etc., needs to be done no later than 3 months before trip departure to ensure availability. Additionally, airfare and other details are best done earlier rather than later. For these reasons, we have set **February 1, 2023**, as the deadline for trip registration. Thank you for your understanding.

For those who desire to attend this trip after **February 1, 2023**, we will handle each person on a space availability case basis. For more info on registration and confirming your spot, please visit HolyLandSite.com.

WHEN TO BOOK AIRFARE & LODGING

Please **do not book any flights and lodging** until you receive tour trip confirmation from Holy Land Site Ministries.

CANCELATIONS

Please refer to our website for more info: HolyLandSite.com



Todd & Letsy Fink - Tour Hosts

OUR DAILY ITINERARY

FRI, APR 28 DEPART FOR THE HOLY LAND

Please make plans to arrive at Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, on Oct. 22, 2022. Please arrive by 3:00 pm. This will give you plenty of time to attend our mandatory orientation and get-acquainted meeting at 7:00 pm. We'll meet at the main check-in lobby of the Kfar Maccabiah & Suites Hotel and then find a meeting place.

SAT, APR 29 TEL AVIV

After arriving at the Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, Israel, you will proceed and go through customs. Please don't lose your small tourist visa provided to you. Afterward, you can take a taxi to Kfar Maccabiah Hotel & Suites, 7 Peretz Berenstein Street, Ramat Gan, Tel Aviv. Due to customs and obtaining visas, please allow approximately 3 hours from airport arrival to hotel arrival. The hotel is about 15 minutes from the airport depending on traffic. **Lodging at Kfar Maccabiah Hotel & Suites, 7 Peretz Berenstein Street, Ramat Gan, Tel Aviv. One night total.**

SUN, APR 30 TEL AVIV – SEA OF GALILEE AREA

Refreshed from a good night's sleep, we'll visit **Old Jaffa** (Joppa), the traditional home of Simon the Tanner, the port from which Jonah sailed, and the logs arrived for construction of the Temple in Jerusalem. We'll then pass through the fast-growing towns and farms of the Plain of Sharon en route to **Caesarea Maritima**, site of major events in the lives of Peter and Paul. We'll drive through the rolling hills of Galilee to **Nazareth**, site of the Church of the Annunciation, and Mt. Precipice. Time permitting, we'll Visit **Mt. Carmel**, where Elijah the Prophet had his great showdown with the false prophets of Baal. From Mt. Carmel, we'll look upon Megiddo (Armageddon) and the Jezreel Valley, where part of the last battle will be fought upon Christ's return, and where archaeological digs reveal 20 layers of civilization, including fortifications of King Solomon and the water tunnel of King Ahab. Megiddo is in the fertile, Jezreel Valley, prophesied site of Armageddon, at the crossroads of the ancient Via Maris. Then it's on to Tiberias and the Sea of Galilee, which will be our base for the next 4 nights. **Lodging at Prima Galil Tiberias Hotel, El Hadif Street 1, Tiberias. Four nights total.**

MON, MAY 1 SEA OF GALILEE AREA

This day alone is worth the trip! We are now literally walking in the footsteps of Jesus. We will take a most memorable **boat ride on the Sea of Galilee**, in a replica of the ancient wooden boat used in Jesus' day. We'll visit **Mount of Beatitudes**, location of the beautiful Sermon on the Mount where Christ preached his longest and most famous sermon. Then on to **Capernaum**, where Jesus set up His home ministry base and preached often in the ancient synagogue. We will continue our drive around the Sea of Galilee to **Kursi**, the place where Christ cast out a legion of demons out of a demon-possessed man. We'll hike up to the caves at Kursi where we'll view the site of the **feeding of the 5,000** and the **mountain from where Jesus prayed** afterward. Time permitting, we'll then visit the excavations at the newly discovered site of biblical **Bethsaida**.

TUES, MAY 2 SEA OF GALILEE AREA

We'll journey north to **Caesarea Philippi** where Peter confessed, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God*" (Matt. 16:16). We'll visit **Tel Dan**, the place that became the downfall of Israel. Then it's on to **Tabgha**, the place Peter was restored to ministry, and the location where Christ likely called some of His disciples. We'll end the day visiting **Magdala**, the hometown of Mary Magdalene, from whom Christ cast out seven demons.

WED, MAY 3 SEA OF GALILEE AREA

We'll drive along the Jordan Valley to **Beth Shean**, a stunning Roman Decapolis city and the place where Saul and his son's bodies were hanged after defeat in battle. We'll visit **Gideon's Spring**, where Gideon selected his soldiers to do battle against the Midianites. We'll return to the Sea of Galilee and finish the day on top of **Mt. Arbel**, the believed place where Christ gave the Great Commission, and which provides a breathtaking view of the **Sea of Galilee**.

THURS, MAY 4 JORDAN VALLEY AREA

We'll drive south along the Jordan Valley following the footsteps that Jesus and His disciples would have walked, arriving at the **Baptismal Site of Jesus** where John baptized Jesus. Then to **Jericho**, the oldest known walled city and first place Joshua and the Israelites conquered upon entering the Promised Land. We'll then visit **Qumran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947. Then, we'll ascend and enter **Jerusalem** as pilgrims did since ancient times to fulfill the words of the prophet "*I was glad when they said unto me: 'Our feet shall stand within thy Gates, O Jerusalem'*" (Psalms 122:1-2). **Lodging at Prima Park Hotel Jerusalem: 2 Vilnay Street, Jerusalem. Nine nights total.**

FRI, MAY 5 DEAD SEA AREA

We'll begin the day with a drive to **Ein Gedi**, a gorgeous oasis spring with waterfalls where David hid from King Saul. We'll then visit **Masada**, which overlooks the Dead Sea (the lowest spot on earth), where we ascend by cable car to visit the remnants of Herod's Palace, and where in 73 AD the Zealots made their last stand against the might of Rome. We'll visit ancient **Gomorrhah**, one of the cities God destroyed by fire and brimstone due to their wickedness. Then, what would a visit to Israel be without taking a dip, or rather a float, in the **Dead Sea**? Free time in Jerusalem afterward.

SAT, MAY 6 BETHLEHEM – JUDAH AREA

We will visit **Bethlehem**, see Manger Square, the Church of the Nativity, and ascend the magnificent Herodian Fortress to view the Shepherds' Fields, the Fields of Boaz and Ruth, and **Bethlehem**. We'll then travel to the **Valley of Elah**, the place where David slew Goliath. Then on to **Beth Shemesh**, a place where key events in the life of Samson took place and where the Ark of the Covenant miraculously was returned to the Israelites by the Philistines.

SUN, MAY 7 SAMARIA AREA

Today we'll travel north to the ancient **Samaria** region of the Bible. We visit **Shechem**, the place Abraham first entered the Promised Land and erected an altar. We'll see and drink out of **Jacob's Well**, the place where Jesus talked with the Samaritan woman. We'll see where Joseph's bones were buried at the **Tomb of Joseph**. We'll see ancient **Shiloh**, the place the tabernacle resided for 369 years, and where Hannah prayed for a son (Samuel). Then it's on to ancient **Bethel**, where Jacob saw a ladder to heaven, where the tabernacle resided, and where Jeroboam erected a Golden Calf. We'll visit the site of ancient **Ai**, the second city Joshua and the Israelites destroyed. Time permitting, we'll finish the day at **Gibeon**, a famous high place where the tabernacle resided and where Solomon had an encounter with God who promised him wisdom, wealth, and power. Free time in Jerusalem afterward.

MON, MAY 8 NEGEV AREA

Today, we'll travel to **Hebron**, the place where God appeared to Abraham, and from where King David reigned over Judah for 7 1/2 years. While in Hebron we'll visit the place where the patriarchs are buried in the **Cave of Machpelah**, and tour the ruins of ancient **Tel Hebron**. We'll then travel to **Beersheba**, where Abraham lived and made a covenant with Abimelech. We'll end the day with a visit to **Lachish**, the last town destroyed during the Assyrian conquest, and we'll learn about how God miraculously saved Jerusalem from the Assyrians. Time permitting, we'll visit the **Oaks of Mamre** while in Hebron. Free time in Jerusalem afterward.

TUES, MAY 9 JERUSALEM

We'll start the day with a magnificent view of the **Old City from the top of the Mt. of Olives** and orient ourselves to the **layout and places of Jerusalem** (maps of the models of Old City Jerusalem will be utilized). We'll then visit the **Chapel of Ascension**, the place where Christ ascended back to heaven and where His feet will touch down at His glorious second coming. We'll visit **Pater Noster Church**, a place Christ taught His disciples how to pray. We'll take the **Palm Sunday Walk** to the **Garden of Gethsemane and Church of All Nations**. Along the way, we'll visit **Dominus Flevit**, the place where Christ wept over Jerusalem. We'll see **Mary's Tomb** and then enjoy free time in Old City Jerusalem.

WED, MAY 10 JERUSALEM

Today, we'll visit and walk upon the **Temple Mount**, the location where Solomon's Temple was and the holiest and most battled-over piece of land in the world. We'll visit the **Southern Stairs**, which was the main entrance to the Temple Mount, a place Christ and His disciples would have often been, and the likely place where Pentecost took place. We'll walk through the **Cardo**, the original Roman street, and see the amazing remains of the massive **Broad Wall** built by King Hezekiah. We'll go to **Mt. Zion**, the location of the **Upper Room** of the Last Supper. We'll then visit the **House of Caiaphas**, where Christ was tried before Caiaphas and Ananias, the high priests. While at the House of Caiaphas, we'll see a **model of Jerusalem** from Jesus' time. Free time afterward.

THURS, MAY 11 JERUSALEM

We'll visit the **Church of St. Anne** where the **Pool of Bethesda** is located. We'll walk along the **Via Dolorosa** and see the Stations of the Cross. We'll visit the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** and then see the **Western Wall**, the Jew's most holy site in Israel. We'll finish the day by seeing **Pilate's Palace** and judgment place where Christ was condemned to crucifixion. Free time afterward.

FRI, MAY 12 JERUSALEM

We'll begin the day at the **Garden Tomb** where we'll have a special time of reflection on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

We'll then walk through **Old City Jerusalem** to the **City of David**, where everything began in Jerusalem. We'll walk through **Hezekiah's Water Tunnel**, which diverts the water from the Gihon Spring to the Pool of Siloam. For those who don't want to get wet, they can walk through the **Canaanite Dry Tunnel**. We'll see **King David's Tomb**, then make our way to the **Pool of Siloam**, where Christ healed a blind man. We'll then walk up the **Kidron Valley** (Valley of Jehoshaphat) where God's winepress of wrath will be poured out on the gathered nations at Christ's second coming and from where the blood (the height of a horse's bridle) will flow to the Dead Sea and beyond. While walking up the Kidron Valley we'll visit **Absalom's Tomb** (monument). Free time afterward.

SAT, MAY 13 ISRAEL – HOME

Today, unless you have alternate plans, you'll transfer to the airport and arrive home with wonderful memories of a visit to the Land of the Bible! A shuttle service (which takes about an hour) will transport you to Ben Gurion Airport. Because of Israel's security measures, you will need to arrive at the airport at least 3 hours before boarding time.

SUN, MAY 14 ARRIVE HOME

Return home filled with an overflowing heart knowing that you walked in the footsteps of Christ and experienced the actual places where many of the events in the Bible took place.

You have three options for transport to Ben Gurion Airport: (1) Light Rail (takes about 20 min., cost \$7.00), (2) Shuttle service (takes about an hour, cost \$25.00), or (3) taxi (takes about an hour, cost \$100). Because of Israel's security measures, you will need to arrive at the airport at least 3 hours before boarding time.

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