



# **FRANCISCAN EASTER PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND**

**March 29-April 10, 2023**

**GEORGE'S**  
INTERNATIONAL TOURS

## **Day 1 – Wednesday, March 29: Depart USA**

Our pilgrimage begins as we fly on our overnight flight to Tel Aviv. Meals and refreshments will be served on board.

## **Day 2 – Thursday, March 30: Arrive Tel Aviv**

After our arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv we'll be met by our Franciscan spiritual director who will accompany us throughout our pilgrimage and make the Scripture come alive as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Board our motorcoach and drive to our hotel in Tel Aviv. (D)



## **Day 3 – Friday, March 31: Tel Aviv / Nazareth**

This morning we will depart Tel Aviv and drive along the Mediterranean coast to Haifa and Mount Carmel, home of the prophets Elijah and Elisha, to visit Muhraqa, which is the site of the sacrifice of Elijah. Ascend Mt. Tabor to visit the traditional site of the Transfiguration of Jesus. At the conclusion of our sightseeing for the day will drive to Nazareth and will check into our hotel. (B/D)



## **Day 4 – Saturday, April 1: Nazareth**

This morning we proceed to Cana of Galilee where Our Lord performed the first miracle - changing water into wine at the wedding feast. Here, we'll invite couples to renew their wedding vows. Then continue on to Nazareth, Our Lord's boyhood town, where we will visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and visit Joseph's Workshop. After lunch, we will enjoy a scenic boat ride to Capernaum, the

home of Our Lord during His ministry, to see the Synagogue where He taught. We will then proceed to Tabgha, the site of the miracle of the loaves and fishes, followed by a visit to the Church of Peter's Primacy where Peter was told "feed my lambs, feed my sheep". Next drive up to the Mount of the Beatitudes to visit the site of the Sermon on the Mount. We will then return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

## **Day 5 – Sunday, April 2: Nazareth / Jerusalem - PALM SUNDAY**

Following breakfast depart Nazareth and drive to the Baptismal Site on the River Jordan where we will have an opportunity to renew our baptismal vows. Then continue to Jerusalem to celebrate Palm Sunday. Join fellow pilgrims from across the world in the Palm Sunday Procession from Bethphage to St. Anne's Church as we follow Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem. The procession takes us along the same route that Jesus walked and is lined by people with palm branches. We will be among thousands who make their way up to the Mount of Olives. Afterwards, drive a short distance to Jerusalem, our home for the next eight nights. (B/D)

## **Day 6 – Monday, April 3: Jerusalem**

Enter the Old City through St. Stephen's Gate. Visit the Church of St. Anne, the Pool of Bethesda and the Chapel of Flagellation. Then follow the Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross) to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to visit the Golgotha and the Tomb of Our Risen Saviour. In the afternoon we'll drive to Bethlehem to visit the Nativity Church which was built above the traditional Grotto of Jesus' birth, the Manger, the Grotto of St. Jerome, the Church of St. Catherine and the Shepherds' Fields. (B/L/D)

## **Day 7 – Tuesday, April 4: Jerusalem**

This morning we'll travel through the Judean Wilderness to the Dead Sea for a swim in its salty, mineral-laden waters. View the hills of Moab and Mount Nebo and then proceed to Jericho, the oldest known city in the Western world. From the top of the ancient "tel" we'll have an excellent view of Elisha's Fountain, the Qarantal, the Mount of Temptation and the sycamore tree that recalls the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector. On the way back to Jerusalem we will make a stop in Bethany where Our Lord would come to recuperate in the home of His loving friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus before setting out once more on His arduous task. (B/L/D)





### Day 8 – Wednesday, April 5: Jerusalem

After breakfast this morning we will drive to the top of the Mount of Olives for a spectacular view of Jerusalem. Visit the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus taught the Lord's prayer to His disciples and the Chapel of Ascension. Then walk along the "Palm Sunday Road" to Dominus Flevit where Our Lord wept over Jerusalem. Continue to the Garden of Gethsemane to visit and celebrate Mass at the Church of All Nations which commemorates Jesus' Agony in the Garden. We will then proceed to Emmaus where Our Lord appeared following His resurrection. Continue on to the hermitage of St. John in the Desert before returning to Jerusalem. (B/D)

### Day 9 – Thursday, April 6: Jerusalem – HOLY THURSDAY

Today we will drive to Mt. Zion to visit the Upper Room which was the location of the Last Supper, Dormition Abbey where Mary "fell into eternal sleep" and St. Peter in Gallicantu where Peter denied Jesus three times before the rooster crowed. This afternoon we will participate in the Holy Thursday Liturgy at the Notre Dame Center. After dinner there will be an opportunity to participate in a Holy Hour in the Basilica of the Agony at Gethsemane. (B/D)



### Day 10 – Friday, April 7: Jerusalem – GOOD FRIDAY

This morning we will visit the City of David archaeological excavations. Later in the afternoon we will participate in the Good Friday Liturgy at the Notre Dame Center. If permitted we will join the "Funeral Procession" in the Holy Sepulchre later this evening. (B/D)

### Day 11 – Saturday, April 8 – HOLY SATURDAY

This morning we will travel to Ein Karem to visit the Church of the Visitation where Mary visited her cousin, Elizabeth, and proclaimed the "Magnificat". We will also visit the Franciscan Church of St. John the Baptist, built in 1885. In the afternoon we will visit the Israel Museum to see the Shrine of the Book which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls and a scale model which depicts Jerusalem as it appeared 2,000 years ago. There will be an opportunity to attend the Easter Vigil Mass at the Notre Dame Center this evening. This evening enjoy a Middle Eastern dinner. (B/L/D)

### Day 12 – Sunday, April 9: Jerusalem – EASTER SUNDAY

Alleluia! He is risen! After Easter Mass the remainder of the day will be free for personal activities. (B/D)

### Day 13 – Monday, April 10: Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / USA

Very early this morning transfer to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to catch our return flight home.

## PILGRIMAGE COST

**\$4,428.00**

per person/double occupancy

For single occupancy please add \$1,065.00.

#### This price includes:

- ✝ Roundtrip airfare from New York JFK
- ✝ Airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- ✝ Accommodation in 4 star hotels for 11 nights
- ✝ All hotel taxes
- ✝ Meals as per itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ✝ Land transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- ✝ All transfers and baggage handling at hotels
- ✝ Comprehensive sightseeing with all entrance fees
- ✝ Daily Mass

*Airfares from other departure cities throughout the United States are available upon request.*

*For those who prefer to arrange their own flights the Land-Only cost is \$3,347.00 per person.*

Please visit [www.holylandpilgrimages.org](http://www.holylandpilgrimages.org) for information on additional pilgrimages being organized by the Franciscan Monastery.

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

**Reservations and Payment:** Please complete the attached Reservation Application and return it with your deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations received after 5PM Pacific Time or on weekends/holidays will be processed the next business day. The following per person cancellation charges will apply: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 61 days prior to departure, \$250.00 will be charged. If canceled 60 - 31 days prior to departure, \$450.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 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. Additional cancellation charges may apply depending upon the cancellation terms of our suppliers.

**Refunds:** Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger 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 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, 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 the Seller of Travel 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 the Seller of Travel 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 the Seller of Travel, 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.

**Travel Documents:** A passport which is valid for a minimum of 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U.S. citizens. Visas are not required for U.S. citizens. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to determine your visa requirement status. George's International Tours is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

**Tour Cost:** All quoted prices are based upon airfares, tariffs and currency exchange rates at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. Should the minimum number of 20 tour members not be reached, the right is reserved to increase the tour cost accordingly.

**Tour Documents and Tickets:** Final tour documents are mailed, provided we have received full payment, within 3 weeks of departure.

**Baggage:** Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. You will be responsible for paying to the airline any additional charges for additional checked baggage or overweight baggage (if excess weight is permitted). George's International Tours is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

**Air Transportation:** Airfare is in economy class on Swiss Air/Lufthansa (or any other IATA carrier). Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares/flight schedules are subject to change without notice.

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

**Travel Insurance:** Purchasing comprehensive travel insurance that covers medical treatment for COVID-19 is currently mandatory for entry to Israel. Information on the policies we offer is available at [www.georgesintl.com](http://www.georgesintl.com) or you may purchase a policy through a third party if desired. George's International Tours acts only as an intermediary between you and the insurance provider and in no event shall George's International Tours be liable to any person or entity whatsoever for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, compensatory, consequential, or punitive damages related to insurance coverage purchased.

**Not Included:** Gratuities (\$200.00 recommended per person), COVID-19 testing (if required), passport and/or individual visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of the included meals, additional baggage in excess of airport allowance, optional sightseeing tours, and all expenses of a purely personal nature.

**Responsibility Clause:** 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. George's International Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries.

**Limitation of liability:** The airlines, hotels, and other suppliers (jointly: "travel suppliers") providing travel or other services sold by George's International Tours are independent contractors and not agents or employees of George's International Tours. George's International Tours and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their travel suppliers 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. To the extent permitted by law, George's International Tours does not assume liability for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay due to an act or omission of a travel supplier, including, without limitation, an act of negligence or the default of a travel supplier. To the extent permitted by law, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage and/or delay due to force majeure, sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, bankruptcy, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or any causes beyond George's International Tours' control. Further, no responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions, delays, failure to make connections, non-performance or poor performance, loss of revenue, loss of anticipated profits, any additional expenses or lost business, attributable to you yourself, acts or omissions of any third parties, or acts of any governmental authority, even if George's International Tours has been advised that such damages were possible or probable.

Please refer to [www.georgesintl.com](http://www.georgesintl.com) for further disclosures concerning travel risks, travels with special needs or disabilities, and arbitration.

Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.

*George's International Tours - CST# 2035995-40*

For further information on this pilgrimage please contact:

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