



# FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

October 8-17, 2023

GEORGE'S  
INTERNATIONAL TOURS

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 - Sunday, Oct. 8: Depart USA

Our pilgrimage begins as we board our overnight flight to Tel Aviv.

### Day 2 - Monday, Oct. 9: Arrive Tel Aviv / Netanya

At our arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, we will be met by our Franciscan guide who will be with us throughout our pilgrimage in the Holy Land. We will then board our motorcoach and drive to our hotel in the nearby beach resort town of Netanya for check-in followed by dinner. (D)



### Day 3 - Tuesday, Oct. 10: Tel Aviv / Tiberias

This morning we head to Nazareth. Just a short distance before our destination, we stop in Cana, where Jesus' first miracle took place. Those who wish may renew their wedding vows, and all can remember Mary's words: "Do whatever he tells you." In Nazareth, where Jesus spent most of his life, we will visit its beautiful Basilica of the Annunciation. We will also visit St. Joseph's Church, the site of the home of the Holy Family. After a lunch break, we ascend the heights of Mt. Tabor to visit the sacred site where Jesus took Peter, James and John and was gloriously transfigured in their sight. Nearby we will visit the church in the village of Nain, which recalls Jesus raising the widow's son to life. (B/D)

### Day 4 - Wednesday, Oct. 11: Tiberias

This morning we drive to the Mt. of Beatitudes, which overlooks the Sea of Galilee. In this scenic setting, Jesus preached his Sermon on the Mount. Down along the lakeshore, we are at a site called Tabgha (Seven Springs), where our first stop is at the site of the Multiplication of Loaves and Fishes. We go on to Capernaum, known as the Second City of Jesus, where our tour will show us the ruins of the 4<sup>th</sup> century synagogue (John: 6). Our Lord called several Apostles in this city, delivered his Bread of Life Discourse, and cured many people of their afflictions. In the afternoon, we embark on a boat ride on the Sea of

Galilee, remembering the Scripture passages of Jesus and his apostles on this lake. (B/L/D)



### Day 5 - Thursday, Oct. 12: Tiberias / Jerusalem

This morning we will celebrate Mass in front of the Chapel of the Primacy of Saint Peter. After Mass, we will visit Tel Dothan and the site of Joseph's Well. We will then drive to the West Bank through the city of Jenin to see a Greek Orthodox Church in Burqin, which is said to be the place where Jesus cured the ten lepers. Next, it's to Samaria (Sebastia), which was at one time the capital of the northern kingdom of Israel; our lunch will be at Sebastia. In the afternoon, we drive to Nablus (Shechem) to visit Jacob's Well and recall Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman. Then we go to Jerusalem to check into our hotel. (B/L/D)



### Day 6 - Friday, Oct. 13: Jerusalem

Travelling a short distance south of Jerusalem, we arrive in the Town of Bethlehem. We begin our visit in the countryside at Shepherds' Field to remember the angels' glad tidings to the shepherds. Within the town of Bethlehem, we go to venerate the Holy Grotto of the Nativity, the Manger and the Grotto of St. Jerome. We will also visit the Franciscan Church of St. Catherine of Alexandria, the scene of Bethlehem's Christmas Midnight Mass. Mass will be in one of the local chapels. This afternoon we travel to Ein Karem to visit the Church of St. John the Baptist which is the birthplace of the Precursor of the Lord and the Visitation Church where we recall Mary's prayer of praise: the Magnificat. (B/D)



### Day 7 - Saturday, Oct. 14: Jerusalem

Today we visit Jericho, which connects with both the Old Testament and the Gospels. Tel Jericho was the site of Joshua's conquest of the city. Across the road is the spring Elisha cured by throwing salt into the water. A short distance down the road is a Sycamore tree which reminds us of Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus, the tax collector. Near Jericho is the Jordan River, which we will visit to recall Our Lord's Baptism by St. John and renew our Baptismal Promises. From here, we drive to the Dead Sea, the lowest spot on earth, for a swim in its salty, mineral-laden waters. We conclude the day with a stop at Bethany for Mass. Bethany was the home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. Here we can see the Tomb of Lazarus. (B/L/D)



### Day 8 - Sunday, Oct. 15: Jerusalem

This morning we enter the Old City of Jerusalem at St. Stephen's Gate, where our first stop is at the beautiful Crusader Church of St. Anne and the adjacent biblical 'Pools of Bethesda.' Next, we make our way to the Church of the Flagellation, which marks the beginning of the Way of the Cross (Via Dolorosa) ending on Calvary. Enter the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and within the church, we visit Golgotha and complete our devotions at the Sacred Tomb of Jesus. Next, we visit the nearby traditional site of the Upper Room, remembering the Last Supper, a post-Resurrection appearance and Pentecost. Nearby we see Dormition Abbey Church that honors Mary's "falling asleep." We end the day with a visit to St. Peter in Gallicantu, which marks the site of Peter's denial. (B/D)

### Day 9 - Monday, Oct. 16: Jerusalem

This morning we drive to the summit of the Mt. of Olives to visit the Chapel of the Ascension and the Church of Pater Noster. Walking the Palm Sunday Road, we will next visit the moving Chapel of Dominus Flevit, the location where Jesus cried as he looked down at the City of Jerusalem. This location will afford us a spectacular panoramic view of the City of Jerusalem. Next, we continue down the road to the Garden of Gethsemane and visit the Basilica of the Agony for Mass. Nearby is the

Grotto of the Judas' Betrayal and Mary's Tomb, the site of Mary's Assumption. We then go to the Western Wall or Wailing Wall, where prayers are offered at these remaining holy stones of the glorious second temple compound. We know that now the only structures standing on the Temple Mount are the Moslem Shrines of the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque. This evening a special farewell dinner will be arranged in our honor at a typical Middle Eastern restaurant. (B/L/D)



### Day 10 - Tuesday, Oct. 17: Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / USA

Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to catch our return flight to the United States.

## PILGRIMAGE COST

**\$3,995.00**

per person/double occupancy

For single occupancy please add \$795.00.

#### This price includes:

- ✠ Roundtrip airfare from New York JFK
- ✠ Airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- ✠ Accommodation in 4 star hotels for 8 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 \$2,879.00 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 (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:** Obtaining medical insurance that covers 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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