



FRANCISCAN MONASTERY  
*of the* HOLY LAND IN AMERICA



# FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

July 27-August 7, 2026

GEORGE'S  
INTERNATIONAL TOURS



# ITINERARY

## Day 1 - Monday, July 27: Depart USA

Depart from the United States on our overnight flight to Tel Aviv.

## Day 2 - Tuesday, July 28: Arrive Tel Aviv

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv we will be met at the airport and transfer by motorcoach to our hotel in Tel Aviv where we will check-in and have dinner together. (D)



## Day 3 - Wednesday, July 29: Tel Aviv / Tiberias

This morning we visit St. Peter's Church in Jaffa (a twin city with Tel Aviv) which commemorates the vision in which St. Peter saw a canvas being lowered from the sky. In this same city Peter brought Tabitha back to life. Next, we drive north to Mt. Carmel to visit the site of Elijah's Sacrifice at a shrine called Muhraqa. After lunch we drive to the small village of Nain to see the Franciscan church which commemorates the raising of the widow's son. Our journey takes us next to Mt. Tabor, the mountain where Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John. Our day ends with a short drive to Tiberias, our home for the next three nights. (B/D)



## Day 4 - Thursday, July 30: Tiberias

This morning we drive to Cana, the site of the first miracle, where couples will have the opportunity to renew their marriage vows. It's then a short drive to Nazareth, Jesus' hometown. Here we visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and St. Joseph's Church, the site of the home of the Holy Family. The Synagogue Church is about a 10 minute walk from the basilica. In the afternoon we return to the Sea of Galilee for a boat ride, followed by a visit to the Mt. of Beatitudes. Nearby are the shrines of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes

and the Primacy of Peter (both situated in a region referred to as Tabgha). (B/L/D)

## Day 5 - Friday, July 31: Tiberias

We begin with a visit to Capernaum, the site of many of Jesus' miracles and profound teachings on the Kingdom of God. Next a drive to the north will bring us to Caesarea Philippi where Jesus declares to Peter that "You are Peter and, on this Rock..." In the afternoon we will visit Bethsaida, the hometown of Peter, Andrew and Phillip, and the place of Jesus' cure of a blind man. A visit to the site of the Miracle of the Swine at Kursi rounds out the afternoon. (B/D)

## Day 6 - Saturday, August 1: Tiberias / Jerusalem

We will leave Tiberias and drive through the Jordan River Valley to Jericho where, time permitting, we will visit the Temptation Monastery which is accessible by a cable car. Here we recall Jesus being tempted by the devil while praying and fasting in the desert. Nearby is the Spring of Elisha which has provided the residents of Jericho with fresh water for thousands of years. The prophet Elisha cured this spring by throwing salt into the water. If time allows, we will also visit the site of New Testament Jericho, located on the banks of Wadi Qelt. The ruins of Herod's palace, the palace of the Hasmoneans can be seen today. This is likely the site of Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus the tax collector and the place where he cured the blind man Bartimaeus. We then drive to Jerusalem to check into our hotel. (B/L/D)

## Day 7 - Sunday, August 2: Jerusalem

Today we drive to Bethany, the home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, to view the Tomb of Lazarus. Next, we drive to the Jordan River, which is near Jericho, to recall Our Lord's Baptism by St. John and to renew our baptismal promises. This afternoon we go to Qumran, site of the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls followed by a visit to Kalia Beach for an opportunity to float in the mineral rich waters of the Dead Sea. We then return to our hotel in Jerusalem. (B/L/D)



## Day 8 - Monday, August 3: Jerusalem

Traveling a short distance south of Jerusalem, we arrive in Bethlehem. We begin our visit to 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, as well as the Manger and the Grotto of St. Jerome. We also will visit the Franciscan Church of St. Catherine, the scene of Bethlehem's Christmas Midnight Mass. This afternoon we travel to Ein Kerem to visit the Church of St. John the Baptist, birthplace of the Precursor of the Lord, and the Visitation Church, where we recall Mary's prayer of praise: the Magnificat. (B/L/D)



#### Day 9 - Tuesday, August 4: 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 Chapel of Dominus Flevit. There we have a wonderful panoramic view of the city of Jerusalem. We continue down the road to the Garden of Gethsemane and visit the Basilica of the Agony. Nearby is the Grotto of Judas' Betrayal and Mary's Tomb, the site of Mary's Assumption. This afternoon we will first visit the Church of St. Stephen, which marks the site of the first martyr. Then we drive to Bethphage to visit the Church of the Palms which marks the site where Jesus was placed on the colt for his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The remainder of the afternoon will be free for personal activities. (B/D)



#### Day 10 - Wednesday, August 5: Jerusalem

This morning we enter the Old City of Jerusalem at St. Stephen's Gate where our first stop is at the Church of St. Anne and the 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. We enter the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and within the church we visit Golgotha and complete our devotions at the Sacred Tomb of Jesus. In the

afternoon we go to the Western Wall or Wailing Wall, where prayers are offered up at these remaining holy stones of the glorious second temple compound. We are aware 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. We drive along the walls of the Old City to Mt. Zion. 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 11 - Thursday, August 6: Jerusalem

This morning we visit the City of David where we explore the oldest part of Jerusalem including the Pool of Siloam, the place where Jesus sent the man born blind to wash his eyes and recover his sight. There will be an opportunity to walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel. In the afternoon we drive a short distance to visit Emmaus (the village of Abu Ghosh), the place where Our Lord revealed himself to the disciples in the "breaking of the bread." This evening we will enjoy a farwell dinner at a local restaurant. (B/D)

#### Day 12 - Friday, August 7: Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / USA

Drive to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to catch our early morning return flight home.

### PILGRIMAGE COST

**\$4,986.00**

per person/double occupancy

For single occupancy please add \$1,175.00.

#### This price includes:

- ✂ Roundtrip airfare from New York JFK
- ✂ Airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- ✂ 10 nights accommodation in 4 star hotels
- ✂ All hotel taxes
- ✂ Meals as per itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ✂ Land transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- ✂ 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 \$3,694.00 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, however U.S. citizens are required to obtain an electronic travel authorization (ETA-IL) which can be done online for a fee of approximately \$6.00 per person. Instructions on obtaining the ETA-IL will be provided upon your registration. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to determine your visa requirement or ETA-IL status. George's International Tours is not responsible for visas, passports or other travel documents.

**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 Lufthansa/Brussels 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:** We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance. Insurance may be purchased directly through George's International Tours and registration forms will be provided upon receipt of your deposit or you may purchase online at [www.georgesintl.com](http://www.georgesintl.com). 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 (\$250.00 recommended per person), passport and/or individual visa fees, Israel ETA-IL 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:

**Holy Land Franciscan Pilgrimages**

Phone: 443-832-0350

Email: [info@holylandpilgrimages.org](mailto:info@holylandpilgrimages.org)

or

**Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M.**

Director, Holy Land Franciscan Pilgrimages

Email: [dwfm1400@hotmail.com](mailto:dwfm1400@hotmail.com)