

Your Invitation...

The Holy Land, Dead Sea, & Petra Pilgrimage

I have been very blessed to have spent significant amounts of time in the Holy Land in the last 10 years, including 2 extended stays for studying Scripture at the Dominican Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem. It is a pleasure to introduce others to the shrines which celebrate the origins of our religious heritage. The Holy Land has been called "the 5th Gospel," and it has certainly been my experience that the Bible comes alive as we wander the places whose names we have read and heard thousands of times.



Many serious and life-long Christians have found that visiting the Holy Land created God's Word anew for them. Come join me on this adventure, and as we read and pray our way through the pilgrimage, the topography, people, customs, and geography of the Bible will leap off the pages and form a 3-dimensional guide that will inform your reading of the Bible for the rest of your lives!

Father Bart Hutcherson, O.P.

For More Information Please Contact:
STEFFEN TRAVEL
Wayne D. Steffen
wsteftravel@gmail.com
925-890-0119
Travel Insurance Available



10 Days



Your Journey Features:

- Roundtrip air transportation from San Francisco, CA (SFO)
- Superior, First Class, & Deluxe Hotels
- Land transportation via deluxe, private motor coach with free Wi-Fi in Holy Land
- Taxes & fuel surcharge (\$686) and tips (\$85) included
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Entrance fees to all sites on itinerary
- A boat ride on the Sea of Galilee
- Daily Masses are included

Please Read This Important Information:

- Deposit** - \$300 due upon booking
- Second Payment due** - November 24, 2017- 50% of balance
- Full Balance due** - February 7, 2018

Each tour member must hold a **U.S. passport that is valid until at least November 15, 2018**. Application forms are available at your local Passport Office or U.S. Postal Service. Any required visas will be processed for US citizens only. **Non-US citizens are solely responsible for obtaining any required visas.**

Rates based on double-occupancy, the airline tax and fuel surcharge (\$686) and currency exchange rate(s) at the date of quotation to your host. Subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure.

Departing
April 24, 2018
from San Francisco, CA (SFO)

\$3,898.00

All Inclusive!
(except lunches)

SPIRITUAL LEADER:
FR. BART HUTCHERSON, O.P.

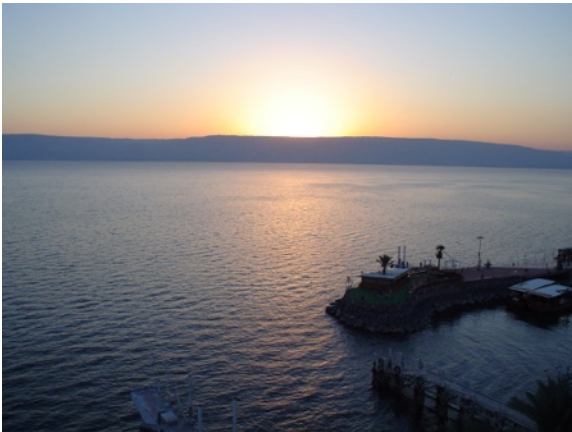


The Holy Land, Dead Sea, & Petra

DAY 01 APR 24 TUE : USA / EUROPE. Tour members will gather at the ticket counter at the airport two hours prior to the departure to Europe. Dinner and breakfast will be served in flight.

DAY 02 APR 25 WED : EUROPE / TEL AVIV. Upon arrival, we will be met and transferred to our beautiful hotel in a Tel Aviv suburb where the thrilling journey of following in the footsteps of Jesus will begin. Dinner will be served at our hotel. Weather permitting, we suggest a walk after dinner on the beach.

DAY 03 APR 26 THU : THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA / CAESAREA / MOUNT CARMEL / HAIFA / PLAIN OF ARMAGEDDON /TIBERIAS. After a good nights rest and a hearty breakfast we will begin the thrilling journey of following in the footsteps of Jesus. At ancient Caesarea by the sea we'll visit the Crusader's Castle, the Roman Amphitheater and waterduct, and the port from which the Apostle Paul sailed to Rome. We will continue northward along the Mediterranean coast to visit Mount Carmel and the **Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**. Visit the Cave of the Prophet Elijah. After Haifa we'll continue to **Megiddo** and **Armageddon** - a very important point on the Via Maris connecting Egypt and Damascus. It is a city that has witnessed many wars and suffered many destructions throughout different periods of time. Visit Nazareth where we visit the **Basilica of the Annunciation** enclosing the remains of the House of Joachim and Ann and the site where the Angel Gabriel appeared to the Virgin Mary to announce that she was to become the Mother of God. **Mass is celebrated here** followed by a visit to the Home of the Holy Family, St. Joseph's workshop, Mary's Well and the synagogue where Jesus preached. Continue to Cana, where Christ performed his first miracle, the **Transformation of Water into Wine**, and where any married couples can renew their marriage vows. Drive to Mt. Tabor, the site of the **Transfiguration**. Eastward we will arrive in Tiberias for dinner and overnight at our hotel and get our first glimpse of the beautiful Sea of Galilee.



DAY 04 APR 27 FRI : TIBERIAS / THE SEA OF GALILEE / CAPERNAUM / MOUNT OF BEATITUDES / TABGHA / CAESAREA PHILIPPI / MT. HERMON / GOLAN HEIGHTS / THE JORDAN RIVER. In the morning, we cross the Sea of Galilee by boat to Capernaum, now in ruins but once a thriving town where Peter lived and where much of the public ministry of Christ took place. See the **Church of the Primacy of Peter**, where Christ taught the Eight Beatitudes to his Disciples. **Mass is celebrated on the Mount of Beatitudes**. Continue to the ruins of **Magdala** where Mary Magdalen lived. Then to Tabgha, the chapel dedicated to the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (Mark 6:34-44). We will then proceed to Upper Galilee and the site of Peter's Confession (Matthew 16:16) at Caesarea Philippi and to Mt. Hermon (Psalm 89:12), the probable site of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8) and the present day Golan Heights where Israel, Lebanon and Syria come together. We will follow the fresh mountain waters of Mt. Hermon to the Sea of Galilee and to the outlet passage at the southern tip of the sea. We will stop at the beautiful Pilgrims Park at the Jordan River. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 05 APR 28 SAT : TIBERIAS / MT. NEBO / PETRA. Today we depart Tiberias via the Northern Bridge and cross into Jordan. We visit the Catholic Church at Mt. Nebo. **Mass is celebrated here**. Then on to Petra "The Rose Red City - Half as Old as Time". Dinner and overnight at our hotel.



DAY 06 APR 29 SUN : PETRA / DEAD SEA. Mass is celebrated at a local church. This morning after breakfast, we visit Petra. This ancient Edomite and Nabatean capital is an amazing city of prophecy. See this spectacular "City of the Dead" with its famed gorge, ancient street, temples, dwelling places and tombs carved from the solid rock. Arrive at El Ji Post and continue the one-mile journey on horseback, or walk, passing through the famous SIQ (natural gorge) and arrive at the "Treasury". Visit the ancient theater. In the Nabatean Judgment Hall, Place Tombs, famous Urn Temple and the Roman amphitheater. Those willing to climb may view the monastery, **Jebel Harun** (Mountain of Aaron), supposed to be the burial place of Aaron. Horseback journey back to El Ji Post. Continue our return to Israel via the Southern Bridge. Travel to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth, where we will spend the night at our resort hotel. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 07 APR 30 MON : THE DEAD SEA / EIN GEDI / THE QUMRAN CAVES / JERICHO / OLD JERICHO / THE MT. OF TEMPTATION / BETHANY / JERUSALEM. A beautiful new road takes us along the shores of the Dead Sea to Ein Gedi where a precipitous cliff, filled with caves, rises some 2,000 feet. Time is allowed for a float on the Dead Sea. Proceed to visit **Qumran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered by a shepherd boy in 1947. We will continue through the Judean Wilderness to Jericho stopping at the site of Inn of the Good Samaritan. Visit **Elijah's Fountain** and the ancient city of Jericho from where we can view the **Mt. of Temptation**, where Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights. On to Jerusalem stopping in Bethany, site of the resurrection of Lazarus. **Mass is celebrated here**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 08 MAY 1 TUE : MOUNTAINS OF JERUSALEM. Early this morning we visit the **Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher**, built over the site of the Crucifixion and the Tomb. **Celebrate Mass here**. Visit **Calvary** and the Tomb of Our Lord followed by a short tour of the Basilica. Then drive to the Mount of Olives and visit the Church of the Ascension, the spot where Christ ascended into Heaven; the **Pater Noster Church** commemorating Christ's teaching of the Our Father to his disciples; **Dominus Flevit**, the spot where Christ wept over Jerusalem and onwards to Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations which houses the **Rock of the Agony** of Christ on Holy Thursday. In this church is a beautiful mosaic donated by the United States. Visit the cave of the betrayal of Jesus and the Tomb of Our Lady. Drive to **Bethlehem**. Visit the **Basilica of the Nativity**, built over the site of the birthplace of Christ. Visit the cave where Christ was born and it is the occasion to sing the traditional Christmas Hymns. A visit is made to the **Chapel of St. Jerome**, who lived here for many years and translated the Bible into Latin. The nearby **Church of St. Catherine** is the venue for the midnight Mass which is broadcast all over the world from Bethlehem on Christmas Eve. Continue to the shepherds field, recalling the "great throng of the heavenly hosts" who appeared to the shepherds and told them of the birth of the Savior. Visit **Ein Karem**, the place of the Visitation where Our Lady came to visit her cousin Elizabeth on the way back to our hotel for dinner. **This evening we request a meeting with the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem (if available) after dinner.**



DAY 09 MAY 2 WED : JERUSALEM / Airport. This morning, we visit the **Church of St. Anne, built on the site of birthplace of Anne (Hanna), the mother of Our Lady, where Mass will be celebrated**. Continue to the Pool of Bethesda, where Christ healed the paralytic. We then visit the Temple area, the spot where the original temple was built and which was the scene of many episodes from the life of Christ, such as the expulsion of the money changers. Here now stands the **Dome of the Rock**, the third holiest spot in the world for the Muslim faith. View the El Aksa Mosque and then the **Wailing Wall** which is the most sacred spot in the world for the Jews. Proceed to the **Shrine of the Book**, enclosing the Dead Sea Scrolls. Continue to Mount Zion, visiting the **room of the Last Supper, Church of the Dormition** and then visit the **Church of St. Peter** in Gallicantu built on the site of the house of Caiaphas which encloses the dungeon where Christ was kept on Holy Thursday night and where Peter denied Christ thrice. This afternoon, we tour the Old City of Jerusalem visiting the **Chapel of Flagellation**, the **Chapel of Condemnation** and the Lithostrotos - the site of the Antonia Fortress where Pontius Pilate resided at the time of Christ and where Christ was tried and condemned to death. Beginning the **Way of the Cross** here, join the walk along the Via Dolorosa led by the Franciscans. Stop for dinner at a local restaurant before we drive to the airport for our flight home.

DAY 10 MAY 3 THU : Arrive NORTH AMERICA. Arrive North America and continue home - the end of our most memorable pilgrimage.

