

SACRED EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP
ISRAEL TOUR **JUNE 05 – 13/14, 2021**

Day 1: Saturday June 5, 2021 - USA Departure

Our journey begins today as we depart on our way to Israel – the Land of the Bible. Sit back, relax and enjoy your flight. Get some rest...tomorrow you will be walking where Jesus walked!

Overnight: On Board Meals on Board

Day 2: Sunday June 6, 2021 - Arrival in Israel –/ Tel Aviv /Jaffa

Today we arrive at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport. Our flight arrives @ around 10am. You will be met and assisted by our Israeli tour guide and bus driver. We drive to Tel Aviv - Israel's largest and most modern city (20-30 minutes' drive from the airport). Check in at our Hotel. You'll have free time to rest and relax in your hotel room or stroll the Tel Aviv famous sidewalk. After our welcome dinner, we will explore Old Town Jaffa at night. We will arrive in Jaffa and walk through the narrow passages of Old Jaffa, believed to be the oldest port city in the world. See the amazing St. Peter Church at night and take in a spectacular view of the Tel Aviv shoreline from Jaffa's Hilltop. Return to our hotel

Meal included: Full Buffet Dinner Lodging: Herods Tel Aviv

Day 3: Monday June 7, 2021 – From Tel Aviv to the Sea of Galilee via the Mediterranean

Caesarea / Mt. Carmel / Kehilat HaCarmel congregation / Megiddo / Nazareth / Sea of Galilee / Tiberia

After breakfast we start our tour heading north to the Sea of Galilee. We will have a relaxing drive along the beautiful coast of the Mediterranean Sea and stop at Caesarea Maritime (Acts 9:30; Acts 10: 24-48), which was the center of early Christians. Here Cornelius the Centurion and his household were saved and baptized (Acts 10), and it was also here where Paul made his defense before Festus and King Agrippa prior to his final journey to Rome (Acts 25 & 26). Next, we will stop at Mount Carmel (Muchraka), where Elijah issued his challenge to the False Prophets. We will join Kehilat HaCarmel congregation for worship time. Then, on to Megiddo (1 Kings 4:28, 9:15; 2 Kings 23:29 & Rev.16:16), and the Valley of Armageddon (Revelation 16), to see the remains from Solomon's days, and view the site where the Battle of Armageddon will be fought. We continue along the Jezereel valley for our last visit of today at the town of Nazareth and the Church of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26, 4:16-29; Matthew 2:23). Drive through the Lower Galilee region to the Sea of Galilee. We'll check in at our hotel on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. **Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner**

Lodging: Magdala Hotel, Sea of Galilee

Day 4: Tuesday June 8, 2021 – Sea of Galilee and the Upper Galilee

Mount of Beatitudes / Tabgha / Capernaum / Upper Galilee / Caesarea Philippi

Today we will experience the area of Jesus' early ministry around the Sea of Galilee. After breakfast, we will drive along the shores of the Sea of Galilee and visit the Mount of Beatitudes (Matt. 5,6,7,8), where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. We will visit the famous chapel, constructed in 1939 by the noted architect Antonio Barluzzi, and enjoy the breathtaking view. We will continue to Tabgha - the site of the Feeding of the 5,000 and Primacy of Peter (Matt. 13; Mark 33-45; John 21). Here we will visit the Church of Multiplication with its 4th century mosaic floor. Continue on to the 2,000 year old remains of Capernaum (Matt. 4:13, 13:54, 17:24; Luke 7; Mark 1:2; John 4:46-54). Here we can stand in what is left of the synagogue in which Jesus ministered. It was from this city that Jesus did most of his Galilean ministry, where he performed many miracles, and where Peter's mother-in-law lived and was healed. We will drive to

the upper Galilee to visit Banias - ancient Caesarea Philippi (Matt. 16:13 and Mark 8:27), where Jesus said “on this rock I will build my Church”. We will hike through the natural Banias nature reserve to the water falls. We will drive through the natural Hula Valley and the Upper Galilee region back to the Sea of Galilee. We’ll return to our hotel for dinner and a restful evening. **Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner** **Lodging: Magdala Hotel, Sea of Galilee**

Day 5: Wednesday June 9, 2021 – Sea of Galilee and Jordan River

Sail on the Sea of Galilee / "Jesus Boat" / Yardenit / Beth Shean / Qasr el Yahud / Free time to float @ the Dead Sea / Enjoy the resort

After breakfast we will board a wooden boat and sail on the Sea of Galilee as the disciples did 2,000 years ago. We will dock at Kibbutz Nof Geonsar and visit the “Ancient Jesus Boat” - the remains of a 2,000-year-old boat that was discovered in 1986. This boat was used at the time of Jesus and his disciples. We conclude our Galilee tour with a visit to Yardenit – the wonderful baptismal site on the Jordan River. From here we will drive south along the Beth Shean valley and the ancient city of Beth Shean (Mark 5:20, 7:31) for an overview of this remarkable archeological site. It was here that after defeating Saul and his sons on Mount Gilboa, the Philistines hung their bodies on the walls of Beth Shean (1 Samuel 31). We will drive through the Jordanian Valley toward the city of Jericho and stop for a quick overview at Qasr el Yahud – the traditional site of the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. Continue to the lowest place on earth - the Dead Sea. We will check in at our hotel, located on the shores of the Dead Sea. After check in and before dinner we will enjoy relaxing free time at our wonderful Dead Sea resort hotel, conveniently located on the shores of the Dead Sea. Walk to the beach and float in the salty water of the Dead Sea. You can also take this opportunity to enjoy the Dead Sea famous mud and mineral treatments at the hotel's spa.

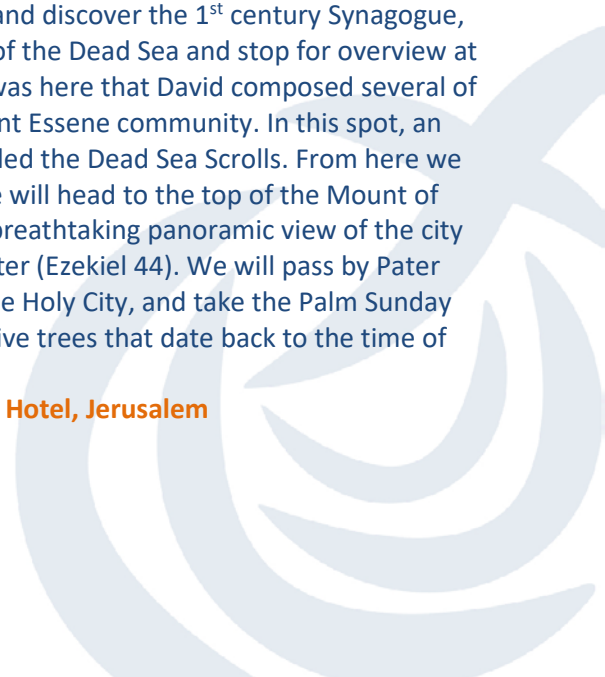
Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner **Lodging: Isrotel Resort, Dead Sea**

Day 6: Thursday June 10, 2021 – Exploring the Dead Sea and the Judean Desert

Dead Sea / Masada / Qumran / Jerusalem / Mount of Olives / Garden of Gethsemane

Today we will explore the Dead Sea and the Judean desert region and its biblical and historical sites. After early breakfast, we will drive along the shores of the Dead Sea to visit one of the most spectacular sites in Israel – the 1,50 foot mountaintop fortress of Masada. We will ascend to Masada by cable car and discover the 1st century Synagogue, Herod’s Bathhouse and many other sites. We will continue along the shores of the Dead Sea and stop for overview at Ein Gedi, where David hid in a cave when running from Saul (1 Samuel 23). It was here that David composed several of his Psalms. Next, we will visit Qumran and walk through the ruins of this ancient Essene community. In this spot, an amazing cache of ancient biblical texts was discovered in 1947 - commonly called the Dead Sea Scrolls. From here we will ascend to Jerusalem – the holy city of Zion. Upon arriving in Jerusalem, we will head to the top of the Mount of Olives to stand where the Lord ascended into heaven (Acts 1) as we take in a breathtaking panoramic view of the city across the Kidron Valley to the Eastern Gate where the Prince of Peace will enter (Ezekiel 44). We will pass by Pater Noster Church and visit Dominus Flevit where “the Lord wept” as he beheld the Holy City, and take the Palm Sunday Road down to the Garden of Gethsemane where we will see 2,000-year-old olive trees that date back to the time of Christ. Ending our day, we will check in our hotel for dinner.

Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner **Lodging: Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem**



Day 7: Friday June 11, 2021 - Jerusalem Old & New City

Temple Mount Archaeological Excavations / Southern Wall / Southern Steps / Davidson Center / Western Wall / Jewish Quarter / Mt. Zion / Room of the Last Supper / Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu

Today we walk where Jesus walked. Following breakfast, we will head to the Old City and enter via the Dung Gate to visit the Western Wall (“Wailing Wall”) – the holiest site in Judaism and one of the original ancient walls that retained the Temple. We will continue to the Southern Temple Mount archaeological excavations. Here we will visit the “Southern Steps” – the archaeological reconstruction of the Temple Steps where Jesus walked so often. From here Jesus entered the Temple Mount and drove out the vendors and money changers who were exploiting the people. We will visit the unearthed southern end of the western wall, the paved street and the Robinson’s Arch. At the Davidson Center museum, we will view a documentary of the excavation and a 10-minute film describing a visit of a pilgrim to the second temple as it was in Jesus’ time. We will walk through the historic Jewish Quarter all the way to Mt. Zion. We will visit the room of the last supper and then continue to the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. According to tradition, this was the place of the palace of the high priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was brought to jail after his arrest. (Mark 14: 72) We will return to our hotel for a festive Shabbat dinner.

Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner Lodging: Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 8: Saturday June 12, 2021 - Jerusalem Old City

City of David/ Lion’s Gate / Via Delarosa / St. Anne Church / Pool of Bethesda / Judgment Hall of Pilate / Church of the Holy Sepulcher / Christian Quarter / Garden Tomb

Following breakfast, we will explore the City of David, the birthplace of Jerusalem, the place where King David established his kingdom, and where the history of the People of Israel was written. (John 9:1-7) We will then enter the Old City via the Lion’s Gate. The Lion’s Gate, located in the eastern wall of the Old City, is the entrance marking the beginning of the last walk of Jesus from prison to the crucifixion – the Via Delarosa. We will start our walk along the Stations of the Cross to visit St. Anne Church (we’ll sing with an 11 second echo!), the Pool of Bethesda, then continuing to the Judgment Hall of Pilate and all the way to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Matt. 27:33-57, 28:10). We will enjoy some free time to rest and shop at the colorful Old City bazaars. We will end our day visiting the Garden Tomb, where we will celebrate the resurrection with communion and a time of praise. Return to our hotel for dinner.

Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Dinner Lodging: Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 9: Sunday June 13, 2021 - Bethlehem / Shire of the Book / Holy Land Model / Yad Vashem/ Farewell Dinner

After breakfast enjoy some free time. We will start our day driving to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity (Luke 2: 1-7). We venture out to the Shepherd’s Field, referenced in Luke 2:8-20, where an angel appeared to announce the birth of Jesus. From here we will continue the Israel Museum and visit the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed. We will also visit the Holy Land model to view Jerusalem as it looked like during the second temple period. We will have a Farwell dinner in a restaurant before transferring to the airport for our departure flight back to Boston. Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our departure flight back to Boston.

Meals included: Full Buffet Breakfast and Farwell Dinner in a restaurant

Day 10: Monday June 14, 2021 - Arrive back in the US

This morning we will arrive back in Boston. Our flights arrives around 7am

*** Remember to bring your Bible and notepad as we study the Scriptures at each site identified in the Bible.**

