

ISRAEL TOUR IN JESUS' STEPS
With Pastor Andy Nash & Local Christian Guides
March 9-18, 2025
(Optional Jordan, Egypt, Luxor extensions March 18-26)

- Sun., March 9 Overnight flight to Tel Aviv, Israel.
- Mon., March 10 Arrive in Tel Aviv. Transfer to hotel on the Mediterranean Sea, in view of Joppa. Upon arrival, rest or enjoy the beach. Buffet supper at 7:00. Evening worship and overnight in Tel Aviv on the Mediterranean Sea.
- Tues., March 11 Breakfast buffet. Depart for Joppa, Caesarea, Megiddo, Nazareth, Cana, and the Sea of Galilee. Supper and overnight on the Sea of Galilee.
- Wed., March 12 Visit to Magdala and boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Lunch. Bus to Mount of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Capernaum, Bethsaida. Visit Jordan River baptismal site. Free time for resting and swimming at the Sea of Galilee. Supper, worship, and overnight at the Sea of Galilee.
- Thurs., March 13 Depart Galilee. Bus Jericho and the Judean wilderness. Float at the Dead Sea. Supper and overnight at the Dead Sea.
- Fri., March 14 Depart for Masada, Qumran, Good Samaritan Road, and the Old City of Jerusalem. Supper and evening walk to western wall to welcome Shabbat. Overnight in Jerusalem.
- Sabbath, March 15 Worship and communion at the Garden Tomb. Lunch provided. Visit Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Pool of Bethesda/St. Anne's Church, Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Supper and worship. Nighttime outdoor "Light & Sound" celebration of Jerusalem at Citadel/Herod's Palace. Overnight in Old City of Jerusalem.
- Sun., March 16 Old City sites: Temple Mount, Jerusalem Archaeological Park, Southern Steps. Lunch and visit to Bethlehem and Valley of Elah (David & Goliath). Supper, worship, and overnight in Old City of Jerusalem.
- Mon., March 17 Old City sites: Citadel/Herod's Palace (site of Jesus' trial) and Upper Room. Lunch. City of David, Hezekiah's Tunnel, Pool of Siloam. Afternoon free time. Depart for Ben Gurion International Airport, arriving at 6:00 p.m. for overnight flights departing at 10:00 p.m. or later. (Travelers continuing to Jordan will stay in Jerusalem.)
- Tues., March 18 Israel-only travelers arrive home.

OPTIONAL JORDAN EXTENSION: MOUNT NEBO-PETRA-WADI RUM

- Mon., March 17 Supper and overnight in Old City of Jerusalem.
- Tues, March 18 Depart for Jordan via Allenby Border Crossing. Visit Mount Nebo and arrive at Petra. Overnight in Petra.
- Wed., March 19 Morning visit to Petra. Lunch and afternoon departure for Wadi Rum (two-hour jeep tour). Overnight at luxury tented camp in Wadi Rum.
- Thurs., March 20 Depart Wadi Rum for Amman (for those not going to Egypt). Arrive Amman airport by 5:00 p.m. for international flights. (Optional hotel overnight in Amman.)
- Fri, March 21 Arrive home.

OPTIONAL EGYPT EXTENSION: MOUNT SINAI-CAIRO-PYRAMIDS/SPHINX

- Thurs, March 20 Bus from Wadi Rum to Taba border/Egypt. Cross into Egypt; dinner and overnight at the Red Sea.
- Friday, March 21 Relaxing morning at Red Sea (Gulf of Aqaba), with opportunity for world-class snorkeling. Lunch and afternoon departure for Mount Sinai. Supper, Friday night vespers, and overnight at the base of Mount Sinai.
- Sabbath, March 22 Sunrise camel-climb of Mount Sinai. Descend for breakfast and visit to St. Catherine's monastery. Drive to Cairo. En route, stop by Rafedim, Elim, and Marah (Exodus route). Supper and overnight in Cairo.
- Sunday, March 23 Visit the Nile River and Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Lunch. Visit the new Grand Egyptian Museum displaying ancient Egyptian treasures including that of Tutankhamun. Supper and overnight in Cairo.
- Monday, March 24 Fly out. (Airport transfer provided.)

OPTIONAL LUXOR EXTENSION

- Monday, March 24 Fly to fabulous Luxor to visit Valley of the Kings and Tombs of the Royals, Overnight in Luxor overlooking Nile River.
- Tuesday, March 25 [Optional sunrise hot air balloon ride over Valley of the Kings, weather-permitting.] Breakfast and tour of Luxor/Karnak temples and Queen Hatshepsut Temple. Fly back to Cairo, arriving by 10:00 p.m. Optional overnight at airport hotel.
- Wed., March 26 Fly home.

Israel Tour: \$2650/person (based on dbl. occupancy); \$3290/single room; \$2500/third person in triple room; \$2250/child under 12 staying with two adults. Tour includes: first-class hotels/resorts, ground transportation, sightseeing and admissions, gratuities, breakfast and supper daily, Shabbat lunch, post-departure trip insurance. (Not included: daily lunches; initial taxi to hotel.)

Trip Insurance: Post-departure trip Insurance is included. The insurance covers post-departure emergencies, including hospitalization and lost luggage.

Optional Jordan Tour: \$950/person (double occupancy); \$1100/single room; \$900/child under 12 staying with two adults. Includes: two nights in hotels and one night in Wadi Rum desert camp, transportation (including jeep tour in Wadi Rum and horseback ride in Petra), sightseeing and admissions, local guide, gratuities, two meals, Jordan entry visa, exit tax. (Not included: daily lunches.)

Optional Egypt Tour: \$1150/person (double occupancy); \$1350/sgl; \$900/child staying with two adults. Accommodations at Red Sea, Mount Sinai, and Cairo; entrance fees and sightseeing; transportation in AC Deluxe coach; all meals except initial lunch; gratuities; local guide; Taba border tax, Sinai tax, and entry visa.

Optional Extension to Luxor/Valley of the Kings (includes flight): \$725/person (double occupancy); \$825 single; \$650/child staying with two adults. Includes all admissions, meals, gratuities, overnight in Luxor on the Nile River, and roundtrip flight from Cairo-Luxor. (Optional airport hotel March 25 at \$200/dbl room or \$150/sgl room.)

International Flight (Israel-Only Tour): est. \$900-\$1200 round-trip to Tel Aviv. Fares are published 11 months prior to tour dates, and a group flight will be suggested. Travelers preferring to book their flights can book your departing flight from your home airport March 9 to Tel Aviv (arriving March 10, preferably mid-day). Our group will meet for supper on March 10 at 7:00 p.m. For the return flight from Israel, we will arrive at the airport March 17 at 5:00 p.m. for flights departing after 8:00 p.m. and later (most leave after midnight March 18). Travelers choosing to stay overnight March 17-18 can book the Sadot Airport Hotel online.

International Flight (Israel + Jordan): est. \$900-\$1200. If you're including the Jordan extension, you should book a multi-city itinerary as follows: March 9: Home to Tel Aviv; March 21: Amman to home. We'll return to the Amman airport by 5:00 p.m. on March 20 for flights departing after 8:00 p.m. If your flight doesn't depart until later the next day, an Amman hotel can be reserved for you for \$200/dbl room or \$150/sgl.

International Flight (Israel+Jordan+Egypt travelers). est. \$900-\$1200. If you're including the Egypt extension, you should book a multi-city itinerary as follows: March 9: Home to Tel Aviv; March 26: Cairo to home. Those including the Luxor extension will return to the Cairo airport March 25 by 10:00 p.m. An optional airport hotel is available at \$200/dbl \$150/single.

Registration and Timeline

This tour will be filled on a first-come basis. To hold space on this tour, email your name(s) to tabghatours@gmail.com and indicate which portions of the tour you're choosing. Within 10 days, please pay your nonrefundable deposit of \$250/person at tabghatours.com via debit/credit card. (No fee is added for debit cards; a fee is added for credit cards.) Your deposit will be deducted from your final tour payment due Nov, 1, 2024.

Nov. 1, 2024 Final tour payment due.

March 9, 2025: Depart for Israel

Questions? Email tabghatours@gmail.com or call 423-298-2141.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PASSPORTS. Your passport must be valid for at least six months after our return date. Please take a photo of your passport and email it to yourself as a back-up. (No visas to Israel are needed for citizens of the U.S. and many other western countries. Group visas are included for Jordan and Egypt.)

VACCINATIONS & Testing: None required.

CHECKED BAGGAGE. Most international carriers allow one free checked suitcase (up to 50 pounds).

PACKING TIPS: People typically overpack, not underpack. On most days in Israel you can wear pants, Capri pants, or modest skirts. On two of the days, you can wear modest shorts all day, along with most evenings. (No sleeveless shirts, please.) For our visit to the Temple Mount, you'll need long pants or a full-length skirt. Women must also wear long sleeves and avoid scooping neck lines. (A scarf is also a good idea.) For those continuing to Jordan and Egypt, you can wear modest shorts. Wear comfortable footwear all days, and bring your swimming suit for our Dead Sea float and other swimming opportunities. There are paid laundry services at the hotels. You may find it helpful to carry a small daypack containing a water bottle, sunscreen, tissue paper, hand sanitizer wipes, a Bible, pen and paper.

HAIRDRYERS, SOAP, AND SHAMPOO, AND SAFES are provided in our hotel rooms.

ELECTRONICS. Israel uses European-style outlets (round prongs), so you will need a round-prong adapter for electronics. (You can buy these for about \$15 at Best Buy.) Israel uses a 220-volt electric current, rather than 110 as used in the U.S. If your appliances are suitable for both 110 and 220 volts, you won't need to buy a transformer. Most laptops and phones work fine.

WATER: Tap water is safe to drink in Israel. Bottled mineral water is also readily available, and travelers are encouraged to drink a lot. (Tip: drink even before you're thirsty.)

WI-FI. Our hotels and bus have free WI-FI.

PHONE SERVICE. You can set up an international calling plan with your mobile phone provider ahead of time.

MONEY. American dollars and debit/credit cards are welcome most everywhere. You'll want to alert your debit/credit card bank ahead of time that you'll be traveling to Israel. ATMs are widely available, and dispense local currency (with a fee). Many travelers bring about \$200 in cash, as well as their debit/credit card. Lunches cost about \$15, and bottled water \$1. Your other primary expense will be any shopping you choose to do.

SHOPPING: Our main shopping opportunity will be in Jerusalem's Old City markets. Haggling on price is part of the culture, so enjoy the process.

WHAT TO BRING

- _____ Bible/books/notebook
- _____ Passport (carrying pouch)
- _____ Money/Credit Cards
- _____ Toiletries/Medication/Sunscreen

CLOTHING

- _____ Casual pants/modest skirts
- _____ Modest shorts
- _____ Socks/underwear
- _____ Shirts/t-shirts
- _____ Modest skirts (ladies)
- _____ Long-sleeve blouse—ladies
- _____ Swimsuit
- _____ Light jacket/sweatshirt
- _____ Walking shoes
- _____ Beach/water shoes
- _____ Hat/Sunglasses

LUGGAGE

- _____ 1 checked suitcase (limit 50 lbs.)
- _____ Carry-on (limit 22" x 14" x 9")
- _____ Daypack for excursions

ELECTRONICS

- _____ Cameras
- _____ Laptop computer/Ipad
- _____ Phone (set up international plan)
- _____ Electrical adapter

ISRAEL SITES IN SCRIPTURE (IN ORDER OF VISIT)

Joppa/Jaffa: Joshua 19:46-47; 2 Chron. 2:16; Jonah 1:3; Ezra 3:7; Acts 9:36-43; Acts 10

Caesarea: Acts 8:40; 9:30; 10; 12:19-24; 18:22; 21:8-16; 23:23 to 27:2

Megiddo: Josh. 12:7, 21; Judges 1:27; 5:19-20; 1 Kings 4:12; 9:15, 27; 10:26; 2 Kings 23:29-30; 2 Chron. 35:20-24; Rev. 16:13-16

Nazareth: Luke 1:26-33; Luke 2:1-7; Matt. 2:21-23; Luke 2:41-52; Luke 4:16-30; Mark 6:1-6

Mount Tabor (transfiguration): Joshua 19:12,22,34; 1 Chron. 6:77; Judges 4:6,8:18-21; 12:16; Psalm 89:12; Jer. 46:18; (Matt 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-9; Luke 9:28-37).

Cana: John 2:1-12; John 2:1-2

Sea of Galilee: Num. 34:11; Deut. 3:17; Josh 13:27; 19:35; Isa. 9:1-2; Matt. 4:12-25, Matt. 8:23-27; 14:22-33; Mark 4:35-41; 5:1-21; 6:45-52; Luke 5:4-11; 8:22-25; 8:26-39; John 6:16-21; 21

Magdala: Matt. 15:39; Luke 7:36 to 8:3; Mark 16:9

Tabgha: Mt. 4:18-20; Mk 1:16-20; Elk 5:11; John 21

Mount of Beatitudes: Matt. 5-7; 28:16-20

Capernaum; Mat. 4:13-16, 4:18-22, 8:5-13, 8:16-17, 9:1-8, 9:9-13, 9:18-26, 9:27-35, 9:36-38; Mark 1:16-21, 1:21-34, 2:1-12; 2:14; 3:20-22; 5:22-43; Luke 4:31-41; 5: 17-26; 7:1-10; 8:40-56; 11:14-26; John 4:46-54

Bethsaida: Matt. 11:20-22; Mark 8:22-26; Luke 9:10-17; John 1:44

Jordan River: Gen. 13:10-11; Num. 22:1; 34:10-12; Joshua 3:1 to 4:18; Judges 3:28-30; 7:24-25; 12:1-7; 1 Sam. 31:7-10; 2 Sam. 17:15-22; 2 Chron. 4:16-17; 2 Kings 2:7-14; 5:9-15; 6:3-7; Psalm 114:3-5; Micah 6:5; Jer. 12:5; Eze. 47:18; Zech. 11:3; Matt. 3; Mark 1:1-13; Luke 3; John 1; 10:40-42

Jericho: Joshua 2, 6; Judges 3:12-30; 2 Sam. 10:4-5; 1 Kings 16:34; 2 Kings 2:4-22; 2 Kings 25:4-6; Jer. 39:4-6; Ezra 2:34; Neh. 3:2, 7:36; Luke 19:1-10; Matt. 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 8:35-43

Judean Wilderness: Joshua 7:24-26; 10:7-9; 15:61-63; Judges 20:47; 1 Samuel 24:26; 2 Sam.. 16:5-14; Song of Songs 3:6-11; 2 Chron. 20-1-24; Isa. 40:1-11; Hosea 2:14-15; 2 Kings 25:4-6; Jer. 17:5-8; Jer. 39:4-6; Eze. 47:8-12; Matt. 3:1-3; 4:1-11; Mark 1:1-13; 1:12-13; Luke 3:2; 4:1-13, 10:25-37; John 11:54

Dead Sea: Gen. 14:3; Gen. 18-19; Numbers 34:3,12; 1 Sam. 22:3-5; 2 Chron. 20; Joel 2:20; Jer. 17:6; Eze. 47:8-11

En Gedi: Josh.15:62; 1 Samuel 23:29; 24; Ps. 57, 142; Song of Songs 1:14; 2 Chron. 20:1-30; Eze: 47:10

Masada: 1 Samuel. 22:3-5; 1 Chron. 12:1-16

Bethany: Matt. 21:17; Mark 11:11, 14-39; Luke 10:38-42; John 11:1-44; 12:1-8; Matt. 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8

Jerusalem: Gen 14:17-24; 1 Kings 14:21; Joshua 10:1-11; Judges 1:1,8; 19:10-11; 2 Sam. 5:5-16; 6:1-12, 2 Kings 25:1-6; Jer. 39:1-6; Ezra 1-6; Neh. 1-6; Acts 7; 9; 15; 21:17-23; 23

Mount of Olives; 2 Sam. 15:30-37; 1 Kings 11:7-8; Zee. 11:22-23; 43:1-5; Zech. 14:3-5; Matt. 21:1-11; 24-25; Mark 11:1-11, 13:1-37; John 12:12-19; Luke 19: 28-44; 21:5-36; 24:50-53

Garden of Gethsemane: Matt. 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-52; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11

Pool of Bethesda: John 5

Golgotha/Tomb: Matt. 27:32 to 28:10; Mark 15:21 to 16:11; Luke 23:26 to 24:12; John 19:17 to 20:18

Broad Wall: Nehemiah 3:8; Isaiah 22:9-10

Temple Mount: Gen. 22; 2 Sam. 24:18-25; 1 Kings 6-9; 2 Chron. 3:1; Psalms 120-134; Luke 2:22-52; John 2:12-25; Luke 19:45-48; Acts 3:2-11; 5; 21

Southern Steps/Psalms of Ascent: Psalms 120-134

Bethlehem: Gen. 35:16-20; 48:7; Book of Ruth; 1 Sam. 16:1-13, 17:12-37; 2 Sam. 23:13-17; Micah 5:2; Luke 2:1-7, 8-20; Matt. 2:1-18

Valley of Elah (David & Goliath): Joshua 10:10-11; 15:35-36; 1 Samuel 17:1; 1 Chron. 4:31; 2 Chron. 11:9; Jeremiah 34:7; Neh. 11:30

Citadel/Herod's Palace: Matt. 27:11-31; Mark 15:1-20; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28 to 19:16

The Upper Room: Matt. 26:17-25; Mark 14:21-31; Luke 22:7-38; John 13

Hezekiah's Tunnel: 2 Kings 20:20; 2 Chronicles 32

Pool of Siloam: Isaiah 8:6; 22:9; John 9