Catholic Pilgrimage: Communion With the Land of the Bible

Traveling is not only about seeing new places; it’s about experiencing them.

No two congregations and no two trips are exactly alike. We take the time to understand your congregation’s unique travel needs and interests, and creatively translate them into your own faith-based travel experience. We offer places, sites and cultural interactions not offered by typical tours.

We will help you traverse the Holy Land using the Bible as a road map to spiritual discovery. We can customize your trip to your most revered Scriptures, providing time for daily worship at some of the churches most important to your faith.

Living Bible Travel: Journey with us... experience the difference
Contact us today: 847.564.1114 or info@LivingBibleTravel.com
CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE: COMMUNION WITH THE LAND OF THE BIBLE

HIGHLIGHTS
- Celebrate Mass at the Stella Maris Monastery
- Celebrate your baptism or rebaptism at the Yardenit Baptismal site in the Jordan River, and ride a boat on the Sea of Galilee
- Ride a cable car to the Monastery of the Temptation
- Marvel at the Upper Room where Jesus and His disciples ate the last supper
- Walk the path that Jesus walked on the way to His crucifixion
- Visit the Western Wall, the Southern Wall excavations and the Temple Mount
- Visit the Mount of Beatitudes and tour the remains of Capernaum
- Visit the Church of the Annunciation while walking in Nazareth
- Explore Masada
- Visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and walk the Stations of the Cross of the Via Dolorosa
- Experience Bethlehem, including Manger Square and Church of the Nativity
- Float in the Dead Sea
- Tour the City of David
- Volunteer and help the needy
- Visit the Israel Museum and view the Dead Sea Scrolls
- Take communion at the Garden Tomb
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DAY 1: DEPARTURE Sunday
Depart USA to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv

DAY 2: ARRIVE IN ISRAEL Monday
Welcome to Israel! Your tour guide will meet you at Ben Gurion Airport. After passport control your guide will escort the group through customs where you will meet the bus driver, who will take you to your first destination: Netanya on the Mediterranean coast. Overnight: Netanya (D)

DAY 3: CAESAREA, MOUNT CARMEL AND SEA OF GALILEE Tuesday
We enjoy a hearty breakfast and checkout of the hotel. We start our adventure with a visit to the impressive remains at Caesarea where Peter baptized Cornelius (Acts 10) and where Paul was brought to trial. We continue to Mount Carmel where we will celebrate Mass in the Church of the Stella Maris Monastery. We then venture to the Mukhraka, the location of Elijah’s famous battle against the prophets of Ba’al (1 Kings 18). This afternoon we drive to the shores of the Sea of Galilee, first stopping at the Mount of Beatitudes where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. We move on to Tabgha where Jesus performed the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000, and to the Church of the Primacy of Peter. We continue on to Capernaum, home of Peter and where much of Jesus’s ministry took place. We finish the day with a visit to the Yigal Allon Museum in Ginosar to view an ancient fishing vessel known as the Jesus Boat. The vessel dates back to the time of Jesus and was retrieved from the drought stricken Sea of Galilee in 1986. We finish the day’s adventure with a boat ride on the sea. Overnight: Tiberius/North (B, D)

DAY 4: CANA, NAZARETH AND MOUNT TABOR Wednesday
This morning after breakfast we drive to Cana where Jesus performed his first miracle (John 2). Those who would like to renew their wedding vows will have the opportunity to do so. We continue to Nazareth where we will visit the Church of the Annunciation (also known as the Basilica of the Annunciation). The church is located in the center of the city. It stands over what is believed to be the site of Mary’s house, where angel Gabriel appeared and announced to Mary that she was about to give birth to Jesus. We will also visit the
DAY 5: YARDENIT BAPTISMAL SITE, BEIT SHE’AN AND JERICHO  Thursday
We leave the Sea of Galilee behind us after breakfast and hotel checkout. Our first stop: the Yardenit Baptismal Site in the River Jordan. You will have the opportunity to be baptized or re-baptized, accompanied by your group’s leader. We then visit Beit She’an (Scythopolis) and tour the ancient Roman-Byzantine remains. Passing by Mount Gilboa on which “Saul took his own sword and fell on it” (I Sam. 31: 4), we continue through the Jordan River Valley to Jericho. In Jericho we will have the opportunity to visit the ancient Tel es-Sultan and the Sycamore Tree of Zacchaeus. We will take a cable car up the mountain and continue to the Monastery of the Temptation. Enjoy a relaxing dinner in Jerusalem.
Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 6: EIN KAREM, BETHLEHEM, MOUNT ZION AND JERUSALEM  Friday
After breakfast, we start our day in the beautiful Jerusalem neighborhood of Ein Karem, birthplace of John the Baptist, where we will visit the Church of the Visitation (Luke 1:39-56). We then drive to Bethlehem to visit Manger Square, the Church of the Nativity, the Cloister of St. Jerome and Shepherds’ Field. We will have time to visit a local Christian family’s shop and enjoy a traditional lunch on our own before returning to Jerusalem. This afternoon we will visit the important sites of Mount Zion, Dormition Abbey, King David’s Tomb, and the Upper Room where Jesus and His disciples ate the Last Supper and Jesus gave the ordinance for Communion. We finish the day at the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu where Jesus was imprisoned before his trial and where His prophecy was fulfilled: “It will happen today, in fact tonight. Before the rooster crows twice, you yourself will say three times that you don’t know me” (Mark 14:30). Enjoy a traditional Sabbath dinner at the hotel.
Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 7: CITY OF DAVID, TEMPLE MOUNT, WESTERN AND SOUTHERN WALLS, AND ISRAEL MUSEUM  Saturday
After breakfast we begin our day in the City of David (II Sam 5:1-12), the birthplace of Jerusalem, conquered by King David 3,000 years ago, to view remains from ancient Jebusites up to the Herodian period. We will walk underground through a Herodian water channel to the base of the Temple Mount. There, we will tour the Southern Wall excavations (The Davidson Center) and imagine how the pilgrims walked to the Temple 2,000 years ago. We will also see the surrounding Ophel Archeological Garden, one of the most significant archeological sites in the country, revealing 2,500 years of Jerusalem’s history in the many layers of ruins. We will also have some free time at the Western Wall for personal reflection before continuing on to the Temple Mount where we will view the outside of the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. This afternoon we will visit the Israel Museum where we will tour the Shrine of the Book, home to the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will also see the museum’s famous 21,520-square foot model of Jerusalem during the Second Temple Period. Return to hotel for dinner.
Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 8: VIA DOLOROSA, CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE AND MOUNT OF OLIVES  Sunday
A hearty breakfast will give us the nourishment we need as we begin the day with a viewpoint from the top of the Mount of Olives over the Temple Mount and the vista of Jerusalem. We will visit the Chapel of the Ascension and the Church of Dominus Flevit, built in the shape of a teardrop to represent when Jesus neared Jerusalem, and “… when he saw the city, he began to weep” (Luke 19:41). We continue to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations, including the Agony Rock. We will enter Old City through St. Stephan’s Gate and visit the Pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed the paralytic man (John 5). We stop at the Chapel of Flagellation, the Lighthouse and the Ecce Homo Arch as we begin our way along the Via Dolorosa. Bearing a wooden cross we will follow the route of the Via Dolorosa with time to pray at each station before coming
to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where we will see Golgotha and the place of Jesus’s burial and resurrection. Return to hotel for dinner. Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 9: MASADA, QUMRAN AND THE DEAD SEA  Monday
After breakfast, we depart Jerusalem for the Judaean Desert where we will visit the place dedicated to the Inn of the Good Samaritan. We will continue to Masada and tour this impressive fortress built by King Herod. This ancient stronghold is where Jewish zealots chose to end their lives rather than live under oppressive Roman rule following the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. We will stop at an overlook of Ein Gedi where David found refuge from the wrath of King Saul (I Sam. 24). We will also stop at Qumran to see the remains of an ascetic religious community associated by many with John the Baptist, and the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We conclude the day with a dip in the Dead Sea, the most buoyant and saltiest body of water in the world, before returning to the hotel for dinner. Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 10: ABU GHOSH, VOLUNTEERING, TEL AVIV, OLD JAFFA AND FAREWELL DINNER  Tuesday
After breakfast and hotel checkout, we depart Jerusalem for Emmaus where we visit the Benedictine Monastery in Abu Ghosh, marking where Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection (Luke 24). We go into the Judean Hills and drive to Rehovot where we will volunteer at Project Leket, an organization dedicated to feeding the hungry. Volunteers pick produce and help salvage tons of agricultural surpluses annually from fields, orchards and packinghouses for the benefit of those in need. This afternoon we return to the Mediterranean coast for a tour of Tel Aviv and Old Jaffa. We’ll then enjoy a special Farewell Dinner at a fabulous restaurant by the Mediterranean Sea with a beautiful view of Tel Aviv, and then transferring to the airport. Midnight flight back to the USA. (B, D)

DAY 11: ARRIVAL IN THE USA  Wednesday
Arrive back home in the USA

There will be sufficient time every day for your group to say Mass in a church. We will work with the group leader to plan where Mass should be said.

This group price quote includes:

- Airfare to and from Israel from your group’s selected departure city
- Group assistance by a representative of LBT who will meet your group at the airport upon arrival and help at departure from Ben Gurion Airport
- Private AC deluxe motor coach throughout your trip
- Eight (8) nights in the hotels selected by your group (Choice of Hotel plans range from 3* to 5* Deluxe)
- Nine (9) days of comprehensive sightseeing as per program led by expert government-licensed, English-speaking (or English/Spanish speaking if requested) professional tour guide(s)
- Bountiful Israeli breakfasts, and dinners daily including: Welcome Dinner, Traditional Shabbat Dinners, Farewell Dinner; and lunches only as specified
- All entrance fees to the sites visited during the group’s sightseeing as per itinerary
- Tips to driver and guide, and restaurant and hotel staffs for included meals and hotels, and hotel and airport porterage fees
- Expert guest speaker if included in your itinerary

Please see Insert Page for what is Not Included in a group’s quoted price

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