

# LIVING BIBLE *Travel* ITINERARY *Sample*



## INTERFAITH EXPERIENCE: SHARING ROOTS OF FAITH

*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 customized travel experience. We offer places, sites and cultural interactions not offered by typical tours.*

*DISCOVER AND EXPERIENCE THE SHARED ROOTS OF YOUR FAITH. Our customized trips will help you forge new connections amongst your fellow travellers and their faiths, as well as reaffirm your own beliefs.*

**LIVING BIBLE TRAVEL:** JOURNEY WITH US... EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

Contact us today: 847.564.1114 or [info@LivingBibleTravel.com](mailto:info@LivingBibleTravel.com)

## INTERFAITH EXPERIENCE: SHARING ROOTS OF FAITH

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Take a tour of the City of David
- Visit to the Western Wall, the Southern Wall excavations and the Temple Mount
- Visit the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered
- Attend a private lecture presented by an expert or scholar on a topic selected by your group
- Ride a boat on the Sea of Galilee
- Visit Mount of Beatitudes (Sermon on the Mount) and Tabgha
- Explore Masada
- Participate in communion service at Garden Tomb
- Float in the Dead Sea
- Visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial • Enjoy a Shabbat dinner in the homes of local Israelis
- Visit the Israel Museum and Shrine of The Book
- Visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- Volunteer to help the people of Israel through Project Leket
- Participate in a “Dig for a Day” archaeological program

### DAY 1: DEPARTURE Thursday

Depart USA to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv

### DAY 2: ARRIVE IN ISRAEL – JERUSALEM ... KABBALAT SHABBAT Friday

Welcome to Israel! Your tour guide will meet you at Ben Gurion Airport. After passport control, our representative will escort you through customs where you will meet your tour guide and bus driver. The driver will take you to your first destination: Jerusalem, the City of Gold, for a festive welcoming ceremony at the Mount of Olives. Next we go to our hotel for check-in.

After check-in, we will walk to the Kotel ha-Ma’aravi (Western Wall), one of the holiest places of the Jewish faith, and experience some of the exotic sights, sounds and smells of this ancient city. We’ll enjoy a traditional Kabbalat Shabbat service near this holiest site of the Jewish people. Afterwards, we return to the hotel for a sumptuous Welcome Shabbat Dinner, welcoming the Sabbath, Oneg celebration, icebreaker activities and itinerary review with our guide.

Overnight: Jerusalem. (D)

### DAY 3: SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM Saturday

Mornings are beautiful in this ancient city where we will enjoy a traditional Israeli breakfast. After-

ward, those who wish can attend Shabbat service at a local synagogue or return to the Kotel to pray by the ancient retaining wall of the Second Temple. This afternoon, we’ll have lunch on our own and free time to relax and walk around Jerusalem. This evening will be our Havdalah Service, marking the end of the Sabbath, after which, the day’s itinerary ends. This is your time to explore the Holy City, enjoy dinner on your own, shop or just relax at the hotel.

Overnight: Jerusalem. (B)

### DAY 4: JERUSALEM – SOUTHERN WALL EXCAVATIONS, MASS (OPTIONAL), ISRAEL MUSEUM AND YAD VASHEM Sunday

After an early breakfast we will tour the Southern Wall excavations (Davidson Center) and imagine how pilgrims walked to the Second Temple 2,000 years ago. We also will see the surrounding Ophel Archeology Gardens, one of the most significant archeological sites in the country, revealing 2,500 years of Jerusalem’s history in the many layers of ruins. Following, we have the option to attend a 10 a.m. Mass at St. George’s Cathedral. Next stop: The Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book where the original Dead Sea Scrolls are on display. We then drive to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum. Dine on your own

for lunch in the museum cafeteria. We'll meet at a pre-designated location after lunch to tour this national memorial to the 6 million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. There will be separate tours for first-time visitors and for those who previously visited the site.

Our group will then travel to Mount Herzl National Cemetery, a burial place for Zionist leaders such as Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir and Yitzhak Rabin. We return to our hotel where a scholar will present a private lecture on the history and archaeology of the city of Jerusalem. We relax over dinner at a Jerusalem restaurant.

Overnight: Jerusalem. (B, D)

### DAY 5: JERUSALEM – CITY OF DAVID AND THE OLD CITY Monday

After breakfast at the hotel we'll visit the City of David, birthplace of Jerusalem and conquered by King David 3,000 years ago, to view the remains from the ancient Jebusites up to the Herodian period. Dress appropriately as we slosh through the waters of the ancient Hezekiah's Tunnel. We proceed to the Temple Mount and walk along the Kotel. We'll then follow the path along the Via Dolorosa, ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, one of the holiest sites in the Christian world. There we will see Golgotha, the traditional place of the Crucifixion, and continue on through the narrow streets to Mount Zion to visit King David's Tomb and the Upper Room, site of the Last Supper. We end the day at the Garden Tomb, believed to be where Jesus was resurrected, for reflection, prayer and communion. Enjoy dinner together at the hotel.

Overnight: Jerusalem. (B, D)

### DAY 6: DEAD SEA, MASADA, QUMRAN CAVES AND TIBERIAS Tuesday

After breakfast and hotel checkout, we'll drive along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth, as we proceed to Masada. Ascend to the top of the mountain by cable car and view the breathtaking vistas. Walk along the ruins, and explore this ancient stronghold 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 also see the desert oasis of Ein Gedi. Enjoy lunch on your own and float in the salty waters of the

Dead Sea, the most buoyant and saltiest body of water in the world. Our adventure continues as we visit Qumran where we will see the remains of an ascetic religious community and the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We then drive north along the Jordan Valley, the border between Israel and Jordan, passing by the ancient city of Jericho en route to Tiberias in the northern part of the country. We'll check into our hotel in Tiberias near the shimmering Sea of Galilee and enjoy a group dinner.

Overnight: Tiberias (B, D)

### DAY 7: BANIAS, GOLAN HEIGHTS, CAPERNAUM AND SEA OF GALILEE Wednesday

After breakfast we visit Banias National Park, site of ancient Caesarea Philippi where Peter confessed his faith in Christ. We'll take a short hike, and then drive to Mt. Bental in the Golan Heights for a panoramic view of the area, including the "Valley of Tears" (Site of a critical tank battle between Israel and Syria in the 1973 Yom Kippur War) and the Syrian city of Kuneitra. Nearby, we will watch the powerful short film, "Oz 77," and hear moving stories of the battle for this strategically important plateau. Enjoy lunch on our own in Katzrin.

We continue to the Mount of Beatitudes where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. From there, a brief stop at Tabgha where the miracle of the loaves and the fishes occurred, and then onto Capernaum where Jesus lived in the house of Simon Peter and preached from the synagogue. There we will also view the ruins of a late 4th century CE synagogue. Afterwards, experience a relaxing boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. We conclude our day of exploration and inspiration with a special dinner at a lovely restaurant in Tiberias.

Overnight: Tiberias (B, D)

### DAY 8: SAFED, NAZARETH, CAESAREA AND TEL AVIV Thursday

Our day begins with breakfast and a drive to Safed (Tzfat), the Jewish Kabbalistic center of the 1600s. Explore its winding streets and picturesque alleys, historic sites and mystical synagogues. We'll visit some of the local galleries and meet with an artist who explains Kabbala through his art. We then drive to Nazareth to visit some of the sites in and around the city, including Mount Precipice and Nazareth Village. Lunch on our own. We proceed

to Caesarea for a visit of the harbor ruins and the Hippodrome, and then we'll continue to Tel Aviv, check into our hotel and enjoy dinner at a popular local restaurant.

Overnight: Tel Aviv (B, D)

## DAY 9: JAFFA, KABBALAT SHABBAT ... SHABBAT DINNER IN ISRAELI HOMES

Friday

We eat a hearty breakfast at the hotel, and then you get to choose one of two options: (1) Visit the Palmach Museum or (2) Short walking tour and free time for shopping and exploring Jaffa.

All participants will visit the art fair on Nachalat Binyamin Street. Lunch on our own. We return to the hotel to rest and freshen up before our bus takes us to a Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service at Kehillat Bavat Ayin, a progressive congregation in Rosh Ha'Ayin. Participants will then divide up for a festive Shabbat dinner at Bavat Ayin members' homes.

Overnight: Tel Aviv (B, D)

## DAY 10: SHABBAT IN TEL AVIV AND NEVE TZEDEK Saturday

We have breakfast and then an optional Shabbat service/text study session. Lunch on our own. Enjoy the day on your own in Tel Aviv to relax, lie on the beach or stroll down the Promenade. There will be an optional afternoon walking tour of Neve Tzedek, Tel Aviv's first neighborhood. Dinner together and then enjoy time on your own to explore the exciting city of Tel Aviv.

Overnight: Tel Aviv (B, D)

## DAY 11: VOLUNTEERING, BEIT GUVRIN AND FAREWELL DINNER Sunday

After our final breakfast together we offer you one of two options:

- Drive to Rehovot and 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 or
- Drive to Beit Guvrin to participate in the "Dig for a Day" archaeological

program. The current digging shows significant evidence of underground industrial complexes dating from the Hellenistic period. At Beit Guvrin we will also crawl through some man-made caves dating back 2,100 years.

We then return to the hotel to rest and freshen up. From there we travel to the Jaffa port, where we enjoy a special Farewell Dinner at a fabulous restaurant by the Mediterranean Sea with a beautiful view of Tel Aviv. For a nightcap, we reflect on the unique experiences we shared together on this journey of a lifetime. Depart to USA.

Midnight flight back to the USA (B, D)

## DAY 12: ARRIVAL IN THE USA Monday

Arrive back home in the USA

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### 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
- Nine (9) nights in the hotels selected by your group (Choice of Hotel plans range from 3\* to 5\*Deluxe)
- Ten (10) 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 portage 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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