



Petra, Jordan. Photo credit: Dennis Jarvis



Olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane. Photo credit: Ian Scott

*Visit biblical sites with fellow pilgrims seeking the way of Jesus. Follow the Israelites' route to Canaan and see Petra's fabulous ruins. Stand atop Mt. Nebo and descend to the Jordan River. Walk where John baptized, sing carols at Bethlehem, pray at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, and go to the Upper Room. Explore Nazareth, hear beatitudes on a hill by Capernaum, and ascend to the heights of Masada. Nelson Kraybill will guide this journey with pastoral sensitivity and reflection on current justice issues.*

*This tour can be paired with once-in-ten years Oberammergau Passion Play tickets & a 2-night hotel stay, June 8-10, 2020. PLAY TICKET PACKAGE MUST BE BOOKED ASAP.*

## Itinerary

### **Wednesday, June 10 Amman**

Arrive in Amman, Jordan, settle in to your hotel, and gather to enjoy the first of many meals together. Amman is the political and cultural centre of Jordan, and one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world.

### **Thursday, June 11 Amman**

Tour the ancient Citadel of Amman and the Roman city of Jerash. Depending on availability, you may have the opportunity to watch a chariot race in the ancient Jerash Hippodrome. Then meet with MCC workers at the MCC Jordan office to learn about their important work in the Near East.

### **Friday, June 12 Petra**

Ascend the heights of Mount Nebo, where Moses surveyed the Promised Land. See Herod the Great's fortress of Machaerus, likely where John the Baptist was killed. Stop at the Byzantine Church containing the oldest map of Palestine. Travel into the biblical land of Moab. Learn about the Israelites' trek on their way to the Promised Land, and the story of Balaam and his donkey. Stop for the night in Petra (Seir in the Bible).

### **Saturday, June 13 Dead Sea**

Take in the grandeur of Petra, an ancient trade centre and burial grounds of the Nabataean people during New Testament times. See amazing temple-like tombs chiselled from rose-coloured sandstone at this world-famous site. Then travel to the Dead Sea and if time allows, relax as you float in its buoyant salty waters.

### **Sunday, June 14 Dead Sea**

Enjoy the Jordan River valley, site of many pivotal biblical events. See where the Israelites crossed into the Promised Land. View the spot where Elijah was taken up to heaven. See where John the Baptist preached and where Jesus was baptized. Visit Lot's cave and museum to remember the story of Lot at Sodom.

### **Monday, June 15 Tiberias, Israel**

Cross from Jordan into Israel. Journey up Mount Carmel, where Elijah met the prophets of Baal, and take in views of the splendid Jezreel Valley. Then tour Nazareth Village, a living history museum of a first-century hamlet. Learn more about the life and teachings of Jesus as we see what his childhood hometown might have

looked like and go on a guided parable walk. Enter a replica of a first-century synagogue. Explore nearby ancient Sepphoris. At the Church of the Annunciation, remember Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel.

### **Tuesday, June 16 Tiberias**

Journey to Caesarea, where Peter shared the gospel with the centurion. See the aqueduct built by Herod. Survey the land of Jesus' ministry from a boat on the Sea of Galilee. Recall episodes from Jesus' life as you visit the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, and Church of the Loaves & Fishes. Enjoy a St. Peter's fish lunch.

### **Wednesday, June 17 Jerusalem**

Stop at Harod Spring. Go to the foot of Mount Gilboa, where Saul fell in battle, and to ancient Jezreel. After passing through the Jordan Valley to ancient Jericho, ride a cable car up the Mount of Temptation. Along the steep road to Jerusalem through the desert, remember the Good Samaritan of the famous parable.

### **Thursday, June 18 Jerusalem**

Travel to Bethlehem for a look at the Church of the Nativity and Shepherds' Field. Visit the Herodion fortress, with Herod the Great's tomb. At the Israel Museum, an extensive model will give you a bird's eye view of ancient Jerusalem. Also, see the Shrine of the Book. See the Pool of Siloam. Step into a medieval building with an Upper Room commemorating the Last Supper. Take part in communion in the Garden Tomb.

### **Friday, June 19 Jerusalem**

Visit Masada, the magnificent site of Herod's palaces and of the last stand of the Jews who rebelled against Rome (AD 66-73). At Qumran, survey the ruins of the first-century radical Jewish community in the desert that produced the Dead Sea Scrolls found in caves nearby. Later, learn from MCC workers in Jerusalem.

### **Saturday, June 20 Jerusalem**

From the Mount of Olives, get a panoramic view of Jerusalem. Pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. Pause at the Western Wall. Walk along the Via Dolorosa, and visit the Tower of David Museum to see the *Kishle*—the possible location where Jesus faced Pilate. Reminisce about your tour over a farewell dinner together.

### **Sunday, June 21**

Depart Tel Aviv for North America. Travel home with rich new insights about your faith and the Bible.

#### **Fare per person:**

CAD: Double Occupancy \$4,323; Single Supplement \$971

USD: Double Occupancy \$3,325; Single Supplement \$710

#### **Fare includes**

- Land transportation within the tour
- Group airport transfers
- Hotel accommodations
- Entrance fees included in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, 1 lunch, all dinners
- Expert tour leaders, knowledgeable local guides
- Gratuities for drivers, guides, and group meals

#### **Fare excludes**

- International airfare
- Airport transfers if separate from group
- 10 lunches, Drinks with meals
- Chariot race at Hippodrome if available
- Travel medical (out-of-country emergency) and cancellation/interruption insurance

#### **Insurance**

Travel medical (out-of-country emergency) and cancellation/interruption insurance are not mandatory but are highly recommended.

#### **Payments**

Rates shown are in effect 01/19. Though every effort is made to maintain established prices, TM reserves the right to adjust prices should it become necessary. The price is guaranteed when paid in full. We accept cheque and credit card payments. Credit card payments are charged a 3% fee.

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