



Jerusalem. Photo: Noam Chen



Ein Gedi. Photo: Israel Tourism

Celebrate God's faithfulness as you visit biblical sites with fellow pilgrims who seek the peacemaking way of Jesus. Follow the Israelites' route to Canaan and see fabulous ruins of Petra. Stand atop Mt. Nebo from which Moses viewed the land and descend to the Jordan where Joshua parted the waters. Walk where John baptized the repentant and climb to the fortress where he died. Sing carols at Bethlehem, pray at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, reflect in the Upper Room, and share communion at a first-century garden tomb. Explore the town of Nazareth where Jesus grew up. Hear beatitudes on a hill next to Capernaum, and ascend the heights of Masada. Renew your commitment to mission at Caesarea where Peter shared the gospel with a centurion. Nelson Kraybill will guide this transforming journey with pastoral sensitivity and insight on current justice issues.

Itinerary

Sun., Sept. 12 Amman

Tour begins in Amman, Jordan. Settle in to your hotel, and gather to enjoy the first of many meals together. With a population of more than 2 million, Amman is Jordan's political and cultural centre.

Mon., Sept. 13 Amman

Tour the ancient Citadel of Amman with a long history of being settled by many civilizations, as well as the Roman city of Jerash. Then meet with MCC workers at the MCC Jordan office to learn about their important work in the Near East.

Tues., Sept. 14 Mt. Nebo / Madaba / Moab / Petra

Ascend Mt. 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 that contains a 6th century map of Palestine. Follow the ancient Kings Highway into Moab—home of Ruth from the Old Testament. Learn about the Israelites' trek on their way to the Promised Land, as well as the story of Balaam and his talking donkey. Stop for the night in Petra (called Seir in the Bible).

Wed., Sept. 15 Petra / Dead Sea

Take in the grandeur of Petra, an ancient trade centre and burial grounds of the Nabataean people in biblical times. See amazing temple-like tombs chiselled from rose-coloured sandstone. Then travel to the Dead Sea and float in its salty waters.

Thurs., Sept. 16 Jordan River Valley

The Jordan River valley is the site of many pivotal events. See where the Israelites crossed into the Promised Land. View the spot where Elijah was taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot. See where John the Baptist preached in the wilderness and where the heavens opened as Jesus was baptized.

Fri., Sept. 17 Mt. Carmel / Nazareth

Cross into Israel on the Allenby Bridge. Journey up Mount Carmel, where Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal. Take in views of Jezreel Valley. Then tour Nazareth Village, a living history museum. Learn more about the life and teachings of Jesus and go on a guided parable walk. Enter a replica first-century synagogue. Explore nearby ancient Sepphoris, where Jesus may have worked

as a young man. At the Church of the Annunciation, remember Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel. Stop by Magdala if time permits.

Sat., Sept. 18 Caesarea / Sea of Galilee

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

Sun., Sept. 19 Jezreel Valley / Jordan Valley / Jerusalem

Stop at Harod Spring, where at God's direction, Gideon chose soldiers by seeing how they drank from the spring. Go to the foot of Mt 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 Mt of Temptation. Along the steep road to Jerusalem through the desert, remember the man who was helped by the Good Samaritan in the famous parable.

Mon., Sept. 20 Bethlehem / Jerusalem

Travel to Bethlehem for the Church of the Nativity and Shepherds' Field. 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 by the Old City of David. Step into a medieval building with an Upper Room commemorating the Last Supper. Take part in communion in the Garden Tomb.

Tues., Sept. 21 Masada / Qumran / Jerusalem

Head to the desert to visit Masada, site of Herod's palaces and of the last stand of 1st century Jews who rebelled against Rome. At Qumran, survey the ruins of the radical Jewish community in the desert that produced the Dead Sea Scrolls found nearby. Later, learn from MCC workers in Jerusalem. Possibly visit one of MCC's ministry sites.

Wed., Sept. 22 Jerusalem

From the Mount of Olives, get a panoramic view of Jerusalem. Pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. Pause at the Western Wall (also known as the Wailing Wall) in the Old City. Walk along the Via Dolorosa, and visit the Tower of David Museum to see the possible location where Jesus faced Pilate. Reminisce about your tour over a farewell dinner.

Thurs., Sept. 23

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

Insurance

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

Payments

Rates shown are in effect 10/19. 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.

Important note: Costs could increase if you sign up less than 90 days before a tour begins

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