



CENTER FOR
HOLY LANDS STUDIES

Women's Faith Journey Israel Tour

PROGRAM ITINERARY | March 6-16, 2020

Day 1 – Friday, March 6

Depart from the U.S.

Day 2 – Saturday, March 7

Arrive in Israel. Overnight in Beersheva.

Day 3 – Sunday, March 8

We will begin our tour in Israel at the crossroads of Beersheva, where we will discuss Abraham and Sarah as well as an introduction to the land of Israel. Beersheva sits at the crossroads of the faith of Israel, which provides the crucial foundation for the Christian faith that would later immerge. We will further discuss how each of us are situated at a crossroads in our own lives and that how we model our faith before others matters in ways we cannot begin to quantify. Our next stop will be the beautiful desert area of Ein Avdat, the place of Moses and the wanderings of the children of Israel. Here we will discuss the lessons we learn from the desert, applying them to our lives today. We will derive several lessons learned from biblical stories that each took place in the context of the desert. We will finish our day at the Bedouin camp of Kefar Hanokdim. We will take a camel ride through the desert, enjoy Bedouin hospitality, and share a wonderful meal together. Overnight in Beersheva.

Day 4 – Monday, March 9

We will begin our morning at Caesarea by the Mediterranean Sea. Here we will focus our attention on Judaism and the spread of the gospel in the first century. We will specifically highlight the story of Peter and Cornelius. Next, we will visit Mount Carmel and discuss its location within the context of the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. Then, we will proceed to Nazareth for a discussion on the faith of Mary as she receives news from the angel that she will give birth to Jesus. Additionally, we will see a cave-style home from the first century, which will provide an excellent opportunity to discuss the birth story as well as the important role both Mary and Joseph played in raising and teaching Jesus. Finally, we will finish our day at the Arbel Synagogue. Here we will focus on the Lord's prayer, its meaning, and its role in our lives. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 5 – Tuesday, March 10

We will begin our morning at the Jordan River, where those who desire to do so can be baptized. Afterwards, we will visit the Mount of Beatitudes, where will discuss the core message of Jesus as seen in the Sermon on the Mount. We will then proceed to Katzrin, a reconstructed first-century village. Here we will further unveil what it was like to live in the days of Jesus. From there, we will visit the ancient town of Capernaum, which is where Jesus based his ministry and where Peter is from. Then we will make one last stop to Magdala, where we will see the excavation of a synagogue from the first century. With the site in view, we will discuss the role of women in the synagogue. Lastly, we will end the evening with a beautiful boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 6 – Wednesday, March 11

This morning, we will travel through the areas of Bethel and Shiloh, where Hannah pled with the Lord for a child. From there, we will head to Machneyuda – a Jewish market in the heart of Jerusalem and then head to the old city for a walking tour and shopping. Overnight in Jerusalem.

** Please note the itinerary is subject to local conditions at the time of the tour and may change at the discretion of the tour director(s) or land operators.*

Day 8 – Thursday, March 12

We will begin our day at Herod's palace, Masada. Here we will discuss the meaning of what Jesus meant by the phrase, "Kingdom of God (or Heaven)." We will also discuss the route Ruth took on her journey to Bethlehem. Afterwards, we will visit the waterfalls of Ein Gedi, where David hid from Saul. From there, we will visit the site of Qumran, where many of the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. We will then have lunch and make our way to the Dead Sea for those who wish swim. On our way up to Jerusalem, we will stop at the Wadi Qilt (Jericho Road overlook) to discuss the Parable of the Good Samaritan and how this specific parable is crucial to understanding the core message of Jesus. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 9 – Friday, March 13

Our morning will begin at the Wohl Museum. Here we will see high priestly mansions and consider the motivations of the chief priests in handing Jesus over to Pilate to be executed. From there, we will walk to the Western Wall and continue our tour at the Southern Temple Steps, where we will discuss the events of Pentecost. Afterwards, we will proceed to the Church of St. Anne for singing followed by a visit to the pools of Bethesda. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 10 – Saturday, March 14

This morning, we will begin our day at the Israel Museum. First, we will visit a Second Temple Model of Jerusalem, which provides an idea of how the city may have looked during the time of Jesus. Secondly, we will tour the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea scrolls are housed. After our time at the museum, we will proceed to the city of Bethlehem, where will visit the birth place of Jesus as well as Shepherds' Field. We will then enjoy an afternoon of free time in the Old City of Jerusalem for those who want to explore and shop. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 11 – Sunday, March 15

We will begin our final morning on the Mount of Olives, traveling down to Dominus Flevit and the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed before being arrested. We will then head to Herod's Palace, the location of Jesus' trial before Pilate. At this location, we will also be able to view, from a high place, the route Jesus took from the palace to the place where he was executed. As we travel the ancient Via Dolorosa. Following lunch in the Jewish Quarter, we will visit the Gennath Gate, which is likely the where Jesus would have exited the city walls before being executed. Finally, we will end the day at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the traditional and archaeological place of Jesus's death and resurrection. Finally, we will end our trip together with a farewell dinner and then proceed to the Ben Gurion Airport for our departure from Israel.

Day 12 – Monday, March 16

Arrive in the U.S.