

# Orthodox Holyland Tour Itinerary

## Day 1 - Arrive in Israel

Once you land at Ben Gurion Airport your personal guide from Tabar Tours will take you to Lod to visit the most famous St. George's Church. The next destination is the ancient port of Jaffa where Prophet Jonah embarked on God's mission to Tarshish. The evening will be followed by dinner and rest in Tel Aviv.

## Day 2 - Caesarea, Haifa, Akko, Nazareth

After breakfast, the drive to Caesarea along the Mediterranean coast takes you to the excavations of the capital city of Herod the Great. The next stop is Mount Carmel (1 Kings: 18) and Haifa. Here you will see the sites and other places that show the historic location of the Prophet Elijah. From here you will go to the historic sites at the old and picturesque port of Akko to see the sites from various periods. A short drive to Nazareth will take us to the hotel for dinner and rest for the night.

## Day 3 - Nazareth, Cana, Mount Tabor, Tiberias

Morning dawns on Nazareth and you start with a visit to the St. Gabriel's Church (Luke 1:26-38). Our guided tour takes you to see the Basilica, the ancient Grotto of the Annunciation, the Church of the Holy Family, and the Church of Mary's youll. Another short ride into Kfar Cana takes you to the Marriage Feast and the First Miracle (John 2:1-11). To visit the Church of the Transfiguration you take the beautiful and scenic route into Tabor. you rest at Tiberias for the night with dinner on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

## Day 4 - Mt. of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Capernaum, Banias

The day starts at the Mount of Beatitudes where the mount saw Jesus preach the sermon (Luke 6:20-49). you will move to Tabgha which is the site of the Miracle of the Multiplication. you will next see Jesus's base in Galilee, the Orthodox church in Capernaum. Before you end the day enjoy the wind in your face on the boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. The visit to Banias where the River Jordan originates will calm your day's tiredness. You can have dinner and spend a restful night at the hotel.

## Day 5 - Jordan Valley, Jericho, Dead Sea, Jerusalem

To visit the place where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist you will go along the mesmerizing and ever-changing landscapes of the Land of Monasteries to Qasr-el-Yohud. You can get baptized again over here. The ancient city of Jericho has modernized by the use of a cable-car to get to the Qarantal Monastery on Mount of Temptation. You have earned some time for fun and frolic to float and swim the strange waters of the Dead Sea. Relax on the drive back to Jerusalem to dine and retire for the night.

## **Day 6 - Jerusalem**

After a hearty breakfast, Jerusalem's old city awaits you to see the incredible scene before you from the Mount of Olives. Here you will also visit the Chapel of Ascension, the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-56), the tomb of the Virgin Mary, and the Convent of Mary Magdalene. Take an emotional walk in the afternoon, along the Stations of the Cross and Via Dolorosa. The last visit of the day is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Relax for the night after dinner in Jerusalem.

## **Day 7 - Jerusalem, Bethlehem**

you will drive to Bethlehem through the Mar Elias Monastery and then the Basilica of the Nativity. To see Mount Zion, King David's Tomb, the Dormition Abbey, and the Hall of the Last Supper you go back to Jerusalem. You will see Israel's Parliament the Knesset and continue to the Greek Orthodox Monastery and the Cross, after which you are almost at the end of the trip with only one more day to go.

## **Day 8 - Jerusalem, Bethany, Wadi Kelt**

Your last day of the trip starts at the Temple Mount, the spot where the Temple originally stood. Today Muslim Holy Shrines have been built over this. The Wailing Wall is a huge attraction here. Our next stop will be Bethany the biblical village which was the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. You will go to the St. George's Monastery through Wadi Kelt taking the old Jericho Road where Prophet Elijah was brought food by the Ravens (1 Kings 17:6). Your trip is over now and you spend your last night in Jerusalem at your hotel.

## **Day 9 - Fly Back Home**

After this memorable visit, you will feel the emotions on the trip to Ben Gurion Airport to return home.