

Israel 20/20 FAQs

GENERAL/ OTHER

What is the purpose of this trip?

The purpose of Israel 20/20 is to worship and serve God together as a church family as we meet people - Jews, Arabs, and others - and visit biblical sites located throughout the country. We will be spending daily time in worship, evangelism, exploration, study, service, adventure, and more! Our hope is to deepen our faith, broaden our understanding of the Bible, develop stronger relationships with one another, serve and share with others as we have opportunity, and advance the Kingdom of God.

Are there any age limits or restriction for this trip?

There are no age restrictions for this trip, however, we will maintain a fairly rigorous schedule. It is important for everyone to be physically fit, able to walk a number of miles per day, and withstand long bus rides. For those participants who are still in school, you will need to make arrangements to take off the necessary time for the trip.

Is there any prep work that is required to go to Israel?

Yes, there is! As we get closer to our departure, we will send out selected readings from Scripture and other pertinent information that will be important for you to read in advance. The information and Scripture will pertain to the specific sites we will be visiting..

Is VBC traveling independently or with a tour company?

Many of our travel arrangements are being made by a tour company. This will make planning much easier and more economical for all of us. Leaders from VBC will be conducting the majority of our biblical teaching.

What if I miss the informational meeting on February 10?

No problem. If you don't attend the meeting, you are not disqualified from attending Israel 20/20. Lindsay Rusu is our administrative coordinator for this journey and she can be contacted about what was discussed at the info meeting or for additional information (lindsayrusu24@gmail.com).

How many people will be going on this trip?

The maximum number of people we can include on our roster is 60 people. Your place can only be held after you have paid a deposit. After 60 people have paid their deposits, we will put names on a waiting list in case of cancellations.

Do I have to do every scheduled activity with the group?

Except in the case of illness, we want to stay together each day for each event of Israel 20/20. Throughout our journey, some activities will be optional, and you will always be notified of these in advance.

Can people who do not attend VBC sign up for the Israel 20/20 trip?

Absolutely! Your inclusion on the roster will be guaranteed by your deposit and ultimately, your full payment.

COST

What is the cost of the trip?

Our goal is to keep the cost as close to \$2500 as possible.

When the time comes, how/who do I pay for the trip?

You will make a deposit to VBC, but your final payment will be to the tour company (your deposit will be deducted from your balance). We will offer deadlines/benchmarks along the way to space out the cost of the trip. We will let you know more details about this as we get closer to our departure.

Do I need travel insurance?

No you do not. However, if you would like travel insurance for any reason (i.e. ability to refund your plane ticket, health issues), it is wise to secure it.

FOOD

If the cost of food included in the cost of the trip?

Yes. Each day, breakfast and dinner will be included in the our stay at our hotel. We will have to pay for your own lunches, but we will suggest places to eat lunch as a group each day. Some days, it will be possible to bring your own lunch or eat at a nearby snack bar, if you prefer.

Are there options for people with special diets?

Yes, but not as many options as we have in the US.

ACCOMODATIONS/ ITINERARY

What type of hotels will we be staying in?

We will be staying in 3-4 Star hotels which include breakfast and dinner each day. We will also hopefully be staying in a least one *kibbutz*, which are collective agricultural communities (like a farm) located throughout Israel. The food is fresh, the air is clean, and it's a delightful experience to stay there. Hotels have been built on the *kibbutzim* (plural for *kibbutz*) for visitors to enjoy the kibbutz experience for themselves.

How will we travel on land?

Since it is such a large group, we will be touring by bus (perhaps two buses). The tour company will pick us up, drive to each stop, and drop us off at our hotels at the end of each day.

What major sites will we be seeing?

On this trip, we will arrive in Tel-Aviv, drive to the Sea of Galilee, down to the Dead Sear, and and end our journey in Jerusalem (with lots of other locations in between). Our itinerary has yet to be finalized, but once it is, it will be posted on the Israel 20/20 webpage.

Will we have any leisure time to do our own sightseeing/shopping?

Yes, you will have opportunities to shop each day at gift shops associated with most of the sites we will be visiting. Every night after the scheduled tour and dinner, there will be time to join with others in our group to go exploring and shopping.

ADDITIONAL TRAVEL

Will we be going to Jordan or Egypt?

No, we will not be going to Jordan or Egypt on this trip. If you would like to go, special arrangements can be made with our tour company.

Can I stay longer if I would like?

Yes, you are more than welcome to stay longer if you would like. However, this would mean that your airfare would be a separate cost and special arrangements would need to be made through the tour company.

For more information, contact Lindsay Rusu at lindsayrusu24@gmail.com