

THE HOLY LAND

14 DAYS IN ISRAEL AND THE WEST BANK



MARCH 14-27, 2022

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

215 RICHMOND RD, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185

TRIP ITINERARY

Day 1 Monday, March 14 Depart from Dulles Airport, Transportation arranged from Williamsburg to DC.

Day 2 Tuesday, March 15 Arrival in Israel

Be met by our guide at Ben Gurion Airport after customs and baggage claim. Tour Jaffa and see the Gate of Hope Monument. Proceed to hotel to check in and relax. Herod's Hotel in Tel Aviv (D)

Day 3 Wednesday, March 16 Along the Mediterranean Coastline and on to Galilee

We depart Tel Aviv heading north along the coast to Caesarea and its Roman antiquities. On to Megiddo and Nazareth. View the Basilica of the Annunciation and the Church of St. Joseph. Drive to Cana in the Galilee region. Nof Ginosar Hotel in Tiberias (B, D)

Day 4 Thursday, March 17 The Hills of Galilee and the Cradle of Christianity

After breakfast, board a boat and enjoy a boat ride around the Sea of Galilee. Travel to the Mount of Beatitudes where we celebrate Holy Communion. Drive to Tabgha and see the traditional site of the "Feeding of the Multitudes." Visit the Church of Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes and Capernaum. Visit Magdala, hometown of Mary Magdalene. Nof Ginosar Hotel in Tiberias (B, L, D)

Day 5 Friday, March 18 Beauty and History

Travel to Caesaria Phillipi, one of the sources of the Jordan River. Appreciate the beauty of this enchanting spot located in a Nature Reserve at the foot of Mt. Hermon, believed by some denominations to be the site of Jesus' transfiguration. After lunch, we stop at Assaf Boutique Winery. Hotel – MEEI Guesthouse in Ibillin (B, D)





Day 6 Saturday, March 19 Living Stones in Palestine

Today we visit with former Archbishop Elias Chacour (twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize). We visit Biram (Chacour's home town) and take a tour with author and journalist Jonathan Cook. We visit classes and teachers at Mar Elias Schools and tour the MEEI campus. Finally, we visit the Melkite Sermon on the Mount Church in Ibillin built with gifts from around the world. We will drive to Bethlehem at the end of the day. Hotel – St. Gabriel Hotel in Bethlehem (B, D)

Day 7 Sunday, March 20 Bethlehem Tour

Today we worship at Christmas Lutheran Church (10:30 am) then have lunch and visit the gift shop and arts program at Diyar/ICB, a Lutheran-based, ecumenically-oriented organization serving the whole Palestinian community. We will see Shepherd's Fields, Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity. St. Gabriel Hotel in Bethlehem (B, D)

Day 8 Monday, March 21 Living Stones in Bethlehem

We spend the day with Salameh Family visiting the Aida Refugee Camp, Al Rowwad Center, and meeting Laurie

and Estephan, founders of the Seraj Library Program for an extended library visit and program. St. Gabriel Hotel in Bethlehem (B, D)

Day 9 Tuesday, March 22 Living Stones that Work for Peace.

Visit Wi'am, the Palestinian conflict resolution center to learn about its work, political socio-economic situation, and how there can be hope for a future of justice, peace and reconciliation. Visit the Tent of Nations.

St. Gabriel Hotel in Bethlehem (B, D)

Day 10 Wednesday, March 23 In and Around Jerusalem

Today we visit the Church of Pater Noster and the Dominus Flavit Church. We stop at the Garden of Gethsemane for worship at the foot of the Mount of Olives near the magnificent Church of All Nations (Basilica of Agony). Next, we go on to the Room of the Last Supper. St. George's Hotel in Bethlehem (B, D)

Day 11 Thursday, March 24 The Old City of Jerusalem

We begin the day with a visit to Al Aqsa Mosque. We then walk to the Western Wall, the Christian Quarter, walk along the Via Dolorosa and the Stations of the Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Lunch in the Old City. Worship in the Garden Tomb. St. George's Hotel in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 12. Friday, March 25 Kings and Rebels in the Desert of Judah

This morning we depart Jerusalem and drive east through the Judean Desert to the caves of Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. We also visit the oasis of Ein Gedi and Masada, Herod's fortress of majestic beauty overlooking the Dead Sea. We finish our day with a float in the Dead Sea. St. George's Hotel in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 13 Saturday, March 26 Jordan River, Ramallah

Visit Qasar El Yahud, the place the Israelites crossed the Jordan River on their way to the Holy Land and where John the Baptist baptized Jesus. We then travel on to Ramallah for a visit to the Seraj program to visit the new cultural center. Lunch in Ramallah. Farewell dinner in Tel Aviv and fly home to Washington DC that night arriving home on the morning of March 27. (B, D)

All dates, locations, and times are subject to change, but we will do our best to make sure you see it all!

**COST DETAILS**

Cost includes all ground transportation, airport transfer to the hotel with the group, all hotels and guesthouses (double occupancy), all the breakfasts and dinners and 1 lunch, guide, driver.

Not included: Airfare from Washington DC, lunches, tips for the guide and the driver, any Covid-related testing

Cost for the Holy Land portion of the trip:

\$2650 per person double occupancy.

Single supplement: add \$800

The trip is limited to 30 people, with first priority for WPC members and their spouses. Travel insurance is highly recommended. Kathy and CW recommend using Faith Ventures (faithventures.org)

Details:

- \$300 non-refundable deposit with registration
- Checks made out to Sunlight Tours.
- Full payment due by January 1, 2022
- Costs for cancellation within 90 days of departure are as follows:
 - 50% of land costs if cancelling in January
 - 75% of land costs if cancelling in February
 - 100% of land costs if cancelling in March



Sarah Raymond

701-740-1651

PO Box 361

Thompson, ND 58278

website: www.sunlighttours.org

email: info@sunlighttours.org

Trip hosts: CW Stacks and Kathy Matsushima
 Sunlight Tours owner: Pastor Sarah Raymond
 Trip Guide: Iyad Khweis
 Williamsburg Presbyterian Pastor John Morgan