

From Dan to Beersheva Revisitors Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Jeff & Emily Cavins

Itinerary Highlights

10 nights

Jan 26 – Tuesday ~ Depart USA

Jan 27 – Wednesday ~ Tel Aviv ~ As we arrive in Tel Aviv by air or from pre-tours, we check into our hotel on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea. After dinner we gather for orientation & Mass in hotel meeting room. ~ Overnight Tel Aviv. D

Jan 28 – Thursday ~ Beersheva/Ovdat/Kibbutz Sde Boker/Dead Sea ~ Today we head south to experience the variant scenery of the Negev Desert. Our first site is **Tel Be'er Sheva**, the southernmost city of ancient Israel. We stop for Mass in the ruins of a Byzantine church in **Ovdat**, Nabataean city on the ancient incense route from the 1st century BCE. ~ We visit Ben Gurion's grave at **Kibbutz Sde Boker**, learning about the beginning of this important system in Israel. ~ Our overnight is on the shore of the Dead Sea. ~ Dinner & overnight Dead Sea. B D

Jan 29 - Friday ~ Dead Sea/Tel Arad/Fountain of Tears/Optional Masada ~

At the archaeological site of **Tel Arad**, we see the remains of an early Jewish temple. ~ The **Fountain of Tears Monument** is a modern artistic fountain that correlates the seven last words of Christ with images of the Holocaust. ~ After our return to the **Dead Sea**, we are free to experience the Dead Sea waters directly or in the warm hotel pools. ~ An optional visit to **Masada** is available to see Herod's plateau top Palace high above the **Dead Sea**. ~ Mass will be at the hotel in the evening. ~ Dinner & overnight Dead Sea. B D

Jan 30 – Saturday ~ Jordan Valley/Jericho/Gideon's Spring/Mt Arbel/Galilee ~

This morning we drive north along the **Dead Sea** shore to the **Jordan Valley**. We stop at **Tel El Sultan**, which is biblical **Jericho**. ~ Further north we pass **Gilgal** where Joshua encamped the Israelites after entering the Promised Land. ~ We enjoy a picnic lunch at **Ein Harod & Gideon's Spring**. ~ We end the day with the view of the **Sea of Galilee** from **Mt Arbel**. ~ Arriving at our **Sea of Galilee** hotel for 3 nights, we have Mass at **Magdala**. ~ Dinner & overnight Sea of Galilee. B L D

Jan 31 - Sunday ~ Nazareth/Sepphoris/Boat ride/Capernaum/Mt of Beatitudes ~ We start the morning with Mass at the **Church of the Annunciation** & visit the **Grotto** beneath the Church. ~ Nearby we visit the archaeological site of **Sepphoris**, a city in the time of Jesus. Some traditions consider this a place where St. Joseph & Jesus worked their carpentry trade. ~ After lunch we return to **Sea of Galilee** for a boat ride to **Capernaum**. ~ We end our day at **Mt. of Beatitudes** with time for meditation. ~ Dinner & overnight Sea of Galilee. B D

Feb. 1 Monday ~ Bet Saida/Korazim/Hazor/Tel Dan/Golan Heights ~ Our morning begins with tours of **Bet Saida & Korazim**. Together with **Capernaum**, the 3 cities form the 1st century Evangelical Triangle. ~ As we head north, we stop at **Hazor**, one of the Canaanite cities conquered by Joshua. ~ At **Tel Dan** we hike to the **High Altar**, used during the divided kingdom. ~ Returning through the **Golan Heights** we stop at a Golan winery for dinner. ~ Dinner & overnight Sea of Galilee. B D

Feb 2 Tuesday ~ Samaria/Shilo/Nebi Samuel/Jerusalem ~ We travel south through Samaria to visit a life-size model of the Old Testament Tabernacle in **Ariel**. ~ Next we explore the biblical site of **Shilo** where the Tabernacle & Ark of the Covenant were located for nearly 400 years. This is the location

where Hannah prayed to have a son & God heard her prayers. Mass will be celebrated in the Byzantine Church on site. Lunch will be served at **Shilo**. ~ We are near **Mt. Gerizim**, one of the highest peaks in **Samaria**. This mountain was revered by the Samaritans. ~ Continuing toward **Jerusalem**, we stop at **Nebi Samuel**, traditionally Samuel's burial site, for our first view of the **Holy City of Jerusalem**, sharing a Shehechianu or blessing before entering the city. ~ Dinner & overnight Jerusalem. B L D

Feb 3 - Wednesday ~ Old City of Jerusalem/Herodian Mansion/Burnt House/Temple Mount area/Free afternoon ~ Exploring underground in the **Old City**, we walk beneath the **Jewish Quarter**, visiting the **Herodian Mansion & Burnt House**. ~ From the **Western Wall**, we pass underground to see excavations at the **Givati Parking Lot**. ~ The afternoon is free with many options & suggestions, including **Yad Vashem, Mt Herzl, Machne Yehuda market**, or permanent exhibits at the **Israel Museum** or **Bible Lane Museum**. ~ Dinner & overnight Jerusalem. B D

Feb 4 -Thursday ~ Temple Mount/Via Dolorosa/Church of the Holy Sepulchre/Judgement Gate ~ This morning, we hope to go onto the **Temple Mount** to see where the **Temple** was located. We start the **Via Dolorosa** nearby, ending at the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**. Our visit includes a special tour of the Armenian section of the Church & a visit & prayer time in the **St. Helena Chapel**. ~ At the Russian Orthodox **Alexander Nevsky Church**, we view the **Judgement Gate**, where Christ would have exited the city to **Calgary**. It also has an example of an Eye of the Needle gate. ~ Dinner & overnight Jerusalem. B D

Feb 5 Friday ~ Rachel's Tomb/Bethlehem/Herodian ~ We stop at **Rachel's Tomb** before entering Bethlehem. ~ After Mass we visit the **Church of the Nativity & Manger Square**. ~ We shop at Christian-owned olive wood shops, supporting local Christians, before we head to **Herodian**, a fortress of King Herod's where his tomb was recently found. ~ Dinner & overnight Jerusalem. B L D

Feb 6 Saturday ~ Kiryat Yearim/Elah Valley/Departure
Our final day touring begins at **Kiryat Yearim** with Mass at **Our Lady of the Ark of the Covenant** church. The **Ark of the Covenant** was in this area for 20 years before being installed in the **Jerusalem Temple**. ~ We continue to **Mt. Azekah** for view of the **Elah Valley**. Jeff's final teaching of the tour is here. ~ After a special farewell meal together, we end the day at the airport for our departure home. B D

Feb 7 Sunday ~ Home

We arrive home with more wonderful memories of a visit to the Land of the Bible!