

2020 BJU Holy Land Tour

A Study Tour in the Land of Israel

With an Optional Extension to Jordan and Egypt

Key Facts

Dates: May 12–22, 2020; with the optional extension to Jordan and Egypt: May 12–26.

Tour Hosts: BJU president Steve Pettit and Dr. Sam Horn, BJU’s executive vice president for enrollment and ministerial advancement.

Tour Coordinator: Gary Reimers, BJU seminary adjunct professor and pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

Total Cost: \$3800 for the standard tour to Israel; for the Jordan/Egypt extension add \$1700.

Tour Website: holylandtour.bju.edu

Early Reservation: complete your application by October 4, 2019, to receive a \$100 discount.

Registration: \$400 deposit per person for the standard tour (this amount applies toward the total cost) or \$500 deposit for Israel plus the Jordan/Egypt extension.

Components of the Tour Package

- Round-trip, economy-class air travel from New York City (if you want to purchase your own overseas flights and meet the group in Israel, the *land only* cost for the Israel tour is \$2900).
- All land travel by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with English-speaking local guides.
- Double-occupancy hotel accommodations (private room fee: \$950; with extension: \$1250).
- Breakfast and dinner daily at the hotels.
- Entrance fees at all itinerary sites as well as tips for tour guides, drivers and hotel staff.

Not Included in the Tour Price

- Transportation between your home and JFK.
- Passport fees, excess baggage fees, or service charges for special needs.
- Lunches, bottled water, snacks, and any beverages that are not included with the hotel meals.
- Souvenirs, personal items, phone calls, laundry service or travel insurance.

Reservation and Payment Procedures

- For all questions, contact Dr. Reimers by email (greimers@bju.edu), phone (864-907-3657), or regular mail (Seminary 219, 1700 Wade Hampton Blvd., Greenville, SC 29614).
- Register online through the [Registration](#) page of the tour website, where you can access the Registration Form as well as the Credit Card Payment Form to submit your deposit (American Express, Visa, MasterCard or Discover). To pay by check (payable to *Bob Jones University*), remit to Dr. Reimers at the address above.
- Download the [Tour Terms and Conditions](#) and the [Release of Liability](#) to your hard drive, open the documents to sign and date electronically ([instructions](#)), then submit by email attachment to [Dr. Reimers](#). If you prefer, you can print the forms, sign and date them, and mail to Dr. Reimers at the mailing address above (you can also access this form on the Registration page of the tour website).
- Seating is limited (first-come basis). A reservation is not confirmed until we have received the two signed forms and your deposit (\$100 of the deposit amount is not refundable).
- Final payment is due by Thursday, February 20, 2020. Please do not submit partial payments.
- Those desiring three hours of college or seminary credit must register through the BJU Registrar’s Office (in April), which will charge a \$65 tuition fee to your student account.

2020 Holy Land Tour Daily Itinerary

Tuesday, May 12

Board the plane in **New York City** (JFK) for the overnight flight to **Israel**.

Wednesday, May 13

Arrive at **Ben Gurion Airport** in **Tel Aviv**. Transfer to our hotel for dinner and an optional stroll along the beautiful **Mediterranean Sea**. *Overnight in Netanya.*

Thursday, May 14

Tour **Caesarea by the Sea**—including the theater, Herod's palace and the aqueduct. Ascend **Mount Carmel** to a site commemorating Elijah's confrontation with the prophets of Baal. Explore the excavations at **Megiddo** and then drive to **Nazareth** to tour **Nazareth Village**, a re-creation of life in Bible times. View **Mount Tabor** and the **Jezebel Valley** (biblical **Armageddon**) from the **Mount of Precipitation**; then drive to **Tiberias** on the shores of the **Sea of Galilee**. *Overnight in Tiberias.*

Friday, May 15

Embark on a morning **boat ride** across the **Sea of Galilee** to **Capernaum**, the center of Christ's Galilee ministry, to see the synagogue and ruins of the ancient village. Explore the city of **Chorazin**; then proceed to **Nof Ginosar** to examine a fisherman's **boat** from the time of Jesus. Visit the recent excavations at **Magdala**; then enjoy the breathtaking panoramic view of the **Sea of Galilee** from the **Arbel Cliffs** and the option to descend the precipice to see the caves below. *Overnight in Tiberias.*

Saturday, May 16

Travel north through the **Hula Valley** to the beautiful **Dan Nature Reserve**. Tour the excavations at the city of **Dan**, including the high place for the golden calf, the mud-brick Canaanite city entrance and the Israelite city gate. Visit **Caesarea Philippi**, where Peter made his great confession of faith in Jesus Christ. Explore **Nimrod Fortress** and enjoy the majestic views of **Mount Hermon** and **Mount Bental**. Return on the **Damascus Road** through the **Golan Heights**. *Overnight in Tiberias.*

Sunday, May 17

Travel south through the **Jordan River Valley** to explore **Bet Shean**, one of the cities of the Roman Decapolis, and then the ancient city of **Jericho**. Proceed to **Qumran** to examine the excavations of the Essene community and view the **Dead Sea Scrolls caves**. Hike the nature trail at **Engedi** to see the cave where David hid from King Saul. Continue south to our hotel to enjoy a relaxing opportunity to float in the buoyant mineral waters of the **Dead Sea**. *Overnight in Ein Bokek.*

Monday, May 18

Ride the cable car to the top of **Masada** to experience Herod the Great's mountain fortress. Continue to **Beersheba**, the home of Abraham. Drive north into the **Judean Hills** to **Azekah** for a magnificent view of the **Valley of Elah** and the opportunity to select your own five smooth stones where David defeated Goliath. Continue to **Jerusalem**, the city of the Great King. *Overnight in Jerusalem.*

Tuesday, May 19

Begin the tour of the **Holy City** with a magnificent panoramic view of **Jerusalem** from the slopes of the **Mount of Olives**, then stroll down the ancient lane to see the **Garden of Gethsemane**. Enter the **Old City** and walk along the narrow, winding streets to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**. Drive to **Bethlehem** to visit the **Church of the Nativity** and view the **Shepherds' Fields**. End the day with a special shopping excursion at historic **Kando Store**. *Overnight in Jerusalem.*

Wednesday, May 20

Tour the **City of David** on the hill of Ophel, including **Hezekiah's Tunnel** and the **Pool of Siloam**. Enter the recently opened tunnel to walk on a first-century **Pilgrimage Road**, emerging at the base of the **Pinnacle of the Temple**. Visit the **Jerusalem Archaeological Park** beside the **Temple Mount** to see **Robinson's Arch**, the **Trumpet Stone**, the **stairway** leading to the temple, and an ancient **ritual bath**. *Overnight in Jerusalem.*

Thursday, May 21

Ascend the **Temple Mount** to see the **Dome of the Rock** and the **Al-Aqsa Mosque**; then visit the **Western Wall** and **Tunnel**. Enter the beautiful grounds of the **Garden Tomb** to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ with an outdoor communion service. Drive to modern west Jerusalem to examine the **Model of Jerusalem** at the **Israel Museum**—where you will also see the museum’s archaeological exhibitions and the **Shrine of the Book**, home to some of the **Dead Sea Scrolls**. Finally, enjoy a delicious **farewell dinner**. Those concluding the tour will transfer to the airport in **Tel Aviv** for the overnight flight to New York City.

Friday, May 22

Arrive in **New York City** (JFK) in the morning for your connecting flight home.

Optional Extension to Jordan and Egypt

Thursday, May 21

After the farewell dinner, return to the hotel to prepare for our additional adventures in the neighboring countries of Jordan and Egypt. *Overnight in Jerusalem.*

Friday, May 22

After breakfast, cross the **Jordan River** at the **King Hussein/Allenby Bridge** to enter the **Kingdom of Jordan**. Visit **Tall el-Hammam**, the site recently suggested as the ancient city of **Sodom**. Cross the **Jabbok River** to explore **Jerash**—including the **Hippodrome**, the **Southern Theater**, the **Oval Plaza**, the **Cardo Maximus**, the **Temples of Zeus** and **Artemis**, and various **Byzantine churches**. Drive south into the mountains of **Edom** to our hotel near **Petra**. *Overnight in Wadi Musa.*

Saturday, May 23

Venture into the rock-city of **Petra**. Spend the day marveling at the stunning beauty of the **Siq** (the entrance passage), the **Treasury**, the **Street of Façades**, the 8000-seat **Theater**, and the various **temples** and **royal tombs** carved into the red stone. Drive north along the **King’s Highway** to our hotel on the northeast shore of the **Dead Sea**. *Overnight in Sweimeh.*

Sunday, May 24

Ascend to the top of **Mount Nebo** to view the **Promised Land** from the same perspective as Moses shortly before he died. Visit **Madaba**, the site of the oldest map of Palestine in the world. Go to **Amman** to visit the **Citadel**, the location of **Rabbah-Amman** that King David conquered. Conclude our excursion in Jordan with a delicious afternoon meal at a local restaurant before transferring to the **Queen Alia International Airport** for the late-day flight to **Egypt**. *Overnight in Cairo.*

Monday, May 25

View the **Great Pyramids** on the **Giza Plateau** (ancient **Memphis**) as well as the amazing **Sphinx**, one of the most distinctive symbols of **Egypt**. Experience the fascinating culture of ancient Egypt by touring the **Egyptian Museum**, including the renowned artifacts of **King Tutankhamun**. Conclude our time in Egypt by visiting **Coptic Cairo**, including the beautiful **Hanging Church**, before enjoying dinner at the hotel. *Overnight in Cairo.*

Tuesday, May 26

Transfer to the airport for the early-morning flight to **New York City** (JFK) and your connecting flight home.