

2024 Holy Land Tour

Experiencing the Land of Israel

With an Optional Extension to Jordan and Egypt

Key Facts

Dates: May 21–31, 2024; *with the optional extension to Jordan and Egypt:* May 21–June 6

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

Total Cost: \$4495 for the standard tour of Israel; *for the Jordan/Egypt extension add \$2595*

Tour Website: holylandtour.bju.edu

Early Reservation: complete your application by September 1, 2023 to receive a \$100 discount

Registration: \$400 deposit per person for the tour of Israel (this amount applies toward the total cost) *or \$500 deposit for Israel plus the Jordan/Egypt extension.* Once the registration application is accepted, \$100 of the deposit amount per person becomes non-refundable.

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 \$3000)
- All land travel by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with English-speaking local guides
- Double-occupancy hotel accommodations (private room fee: \$1150; *with extension: \$1700*)
- Breakfast and dinner daily at the hotels
- Jordan and Egypt visas (US and Canada citizens only)
- 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, travel insurance, 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, or laundry service

Reservation and Payment Procedures

- For all questions, contact Dr. Reimers by email (greimers@bju.edu), phone (864-907-3657), or regular mail (Seminary 217, 1700 Wade Hampton Blvd., Greenville, SC 29614).
- Submit a reservation application online on the tour website by accessing the [Registration Form](#) (a separate form for each tour participant in your family) as well as the [Credit Card Payment Form](#) (you may combine family members on one payment) to submit a deposit (American Express, Visa, MasterCard, 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 [Release of Liability](#), open the documents to sign and date electronically ([instructions](#)), then submit by email attachment to [Dr. Reimers](#). If you prefer, you can print the two forms, sign and date them, and mail to Dr. Reimers at the address above (these forms are also available on the tour website).
- Seating is limited (first-come basis). A reservation application is not complete until we have received your registration information, the two signed forms, and your deposit.
- The deposit becomes non-refundable on February 1, 2024, and the final payment is due by March 1, 2024. 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.

May 2024 Holy Land Tour Daily Itinerary
Israel May 21–31; with optional Jordan/Egypt Extension thru June 6

Tuesday, May 21

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

Wednesday, May 22

Arrive at **Ben Gurion Airport** in **Tel Aviv**. As time permits, tour the 1st-century Roman capital at **Caesarea by the Sea**—including the theater, Herod's palace, and the aqueduct. Transfer to our hotel for dinner and an optional stroll along the beautiful **Mediterranean Sea**. *Overnight Netanya.*

Thursday, May 23

Explore the excavations at **Megiddo**, including evidence of King Solomon and the Israelite kings as well as the ancient Canaanites. Drive to **Nazareth** to tour **Nazareth Village**, a re-creation of life in Bible times. View **Mount Tabor** and the **Jezreel Valley** (biblical **Armageddon**) from the **Mount of Precipitation**. Drive to the **Sea of Galilee**. *Overnight Northeastern Bank of the Sea of Galilee.*

Friday, May 24

Embark on a morning **boat ride** across the **Sea of Galilee**. Enter **Capernaum**, the center of Christ's Galilee ministry, to see the synagogue and ruins of the ancient village. Explore the city of **Chorazin**. Proceed to **Nof Ginosar** to examine a fisherman's **boat** from the time of Jesus. Visit the 1st-century synagogue and other excavations at **Magdala**. Ascend the **Arbel Cliffs** for a breathtaking panoramic view of the **Sea of Galilee**. *Overnight Northeastern Bank of the Sea of Galilee.*

Saturday, May 25

Travel north in the **Hula Valley** to enjoy the **Dan Nature Reserve**. Tour 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 view of majestic **Mount Hermon** from **Mount Bental**. Return on the **Damascus Road** through the **Golan Heights**. *Overnight Northeastern Bank of the Sea of Galilee.*

Sunday, May 26

Travel south through the **Jordan River Valley** to explore **Bet Shean**, one of the cities of the Roman Decapolis. Visit 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 place where David hid from King Saul. Continue south to enjoy a relaxing opportunity to float in the buoyant mineral waters of the **Dead Sea**. *Overnight Ein Bokek.*

Monday, May 27

Ride the cable car to the top of **Masada** to experience Herod the Great's historic mountain fortress. Continue to **Beersheba**, the home of Abraham, or if security conditions allow, tour the patriarchal burial site of **Machpelah** in **Hebron**. Drive north into the **Judean Hills** to **Azekah** for a splendid 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 Jerusalem.*

Tuesday, May 28

Ascend the slopes of the **Mount of Olives** for a magnificent panoramic view of **Jerusalem**. Stroll down the ancient lane to see the **Garden of Gethsemane**. Drive to **Bethlehem** to explore the **Herodion**, the fortress built by Herod the Great which he chose for his burial site. Visit the **Church of the Nativity** and view the **Shepherds' Fields**. Enjoy lunch at the nearby Tent restaurant. End the day with a special shopping excursion at historic **Kando Store**. *Overnight Jerusalem.*

Wednesday, May 29

Tour the **City of David** on the hill of **Ophel**, including **Hezekiah's Tunnel** and the **Pool of Siloam**. See the 1st-century **Pilgrimage Road** (now a tunnel) that led all the way to the Temple. Drive to the **Jerusalem Archaeological Park** beside the **Temple Mount** to see **Robinson's Arch**, the **Trumpet Stone**, the stairway leading to the temple, and ancient **ritual baths**. 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**. *Overnight Jerusalem.*

Thursday, May 30

Check out of the hotel this morning and stow your bags. Ascend the **Temple Mount** to see the **Dome of the Rock** and the **Al-Aqsa Mosque**. Visit the **Western Wall** and **Tunnel**. Walk along the narrow, winding streets to the **Christian Quarter** to see the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**. Enter the beautiful grounds of the **Garden Tomb** to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ with an outdoor communion service. Those concluding the tour will transfer to the airport in **Tel Aviv** for the overnight flight to New York City.

Friday, May 31

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

Optional Extension to Jordan and Egypt

Thursday, May 30

Return to our hotel to prepare for the additional adventures awaiting us in the biblical countries of Jordan and Egypt. *Overnight Jerusalem.*

Friday, May 31

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 Wadi Musa.*

Saturday, June 1

Venture into the amazing rock-city of **Petra**. Marvel at the stunning beauty of the **Siq** (the entrance passage), the **Treasury**, the **Street of Façades**, the 4000-seat **Theater**, and the various **temples** and **royal tombs** carved into the red stone. Drive north, including a portion of the **King's Highway**, to our hotel on the northeast shore of the **Dead Sea**. *Overnight Sweimeh.*

Sunday, June 2

Drive to the **Baptismal Site** where John the Baptist baptized Jesus at the beginning of his ministry. 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. Depending on our flight schedule, we may have time to see the **Amman 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 Cairo.*

Monday, June 3

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 **Great Egyptian Museum**, including the renowned artifacts of **King Tutankhamun**. *Overnight Cairo.*

Tuesday, June 4

Transfer to the airport for the flight to **Luxor**. Tour **Luxor**, capital of Egypt during the New Kingdom and the city where Moses grew up. Cross the beautiful **Nile River** to enter the **Valley of the Kings** to explore some of the amazing tombs of the Pharaohs—including **King Tutankhamun**—as well as **Queen Hatshepsut's Mortuary Temple**. Return to the east side of the Nile to admire the refined beauty of **Luxor Temple**. *Overnight Luxor.*

Wednesday, June 5

Explore the enormous proportions and meticulous carvings of the well-preserved **Karnak Temple**. Transfer to the airport for the flight to **Cairo**. *Overnight Cairo.*

Thursday, June 6

Transfer to the airport for the flight to **New York City** (JFK).