

2026 Holy Land Tour

Experiencing the Land of Israel

With an Optional Extension to Jordan and Egypt

Key Facts

Dates: May 12–22, 2026; with the optional extension to Jordan and Egypt: May 12–26

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

Total Cost: \$4500 for the standard tour of Israel; for the Jordan and Egypt extension add \$2300

Tour Website: holylandtour.bju.edu

Early Reservation: complete your application by November 1, 2025, 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 to add 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 choose to purchase your own overseas flights and meet us in Israel, the *land only* cost for the Israel tour is \$3300)
- For the extension, a one-way flight from Amman to Cairo and visas for Jordan and Egypt (US and Canada citizens only; others must obtain their own visas, including one for Israel)
- All land travel by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with English-speaking local guides
- Double-occupancy hotel accommodations (private room fee: \$1200; with extension: \$1750)
- Breakfast and dinner each day
- 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
- Lunch each day, bottled water, snacks, and any beverages 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).
- When we receive your registration form, we will send you an email with a secure credit card payment link for you to use to submit your deposit.
- Download the [Tour Terms & Conditions](#) and [Release of Liability](#), open the documents to sign and date them electronically (see [instructions](#)), then submit both by email attachment to [Dr. Reimers](#). If you prefer, you can print the form, 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 each of these: your registration information, the signed forms, and your deposit.
- The deposit becomes non-refundable on January 23, 2026, and the final payment is due by March 6, 2026 (you will receive an invoice). 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.

2026 Holy Land Tour 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 sunset stroll along the **Mediterranean Sea**. *Overnight in Netanya.*

Thursday, May 14

Tour **Caesarea by the Sea**, the 1st-century Roman capital—including the theater, Herod's palace, and other highlights. Explore **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, and enjoy a 1st-century meal. From the **Mount of Precipitation**, view **Mount Tabor** and the **Jezebel Valley (Armageddon)**. Drive to the **Sea of Galilee**. *Overnight in Tiberias.*

Friday, May 15

Ascend to the Decapolis city of **Hippos**. 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. Examine the city of **Chorazin**. Proceed to **Nof Ginosar** to view a fisherman's **boat** from the time of Jesus. Visit **Magdala** to see the 1st-century synagogue and other excavations. Enjoy the beautiful panoramic view of the **Sea of Galilee** from atop the **Arbel Cliffs**. *Overnight in Tiberias.*

Saturday, May 16

Travel north along the **Hula Valley** to stroll through the **Dan Nature Reserve**. Tour the ancient city of **Dan**, including the mud-brick Canaanite city entrance, the Israelite city gate, and the high place of the golden calf. 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 in Tiberias.*

Sunday, May 17

Drive south through the **Jordan River Valley** to explore **Bet Shean**, one of the Decapolis cities. Visit the ruins of the Old Testament city of **Jericho**. Proceed to **Qumran** to see 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 in Ein Bokek.*

Monday, May 18

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. 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 in Jerusalem.*

Tuesday, May 19

Ascend the slopes of the **Mount of Olives** for a magnificent panoramic view of **Jerusalem**. Walk 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. Enjoy lunch at the Bedouin Tent restaurant. 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**. See the 1st-century **Pilgrimage Road** (now a tunnel) that led all the way to the **Temple Mount**. Drive to the **Jerusalem Archaeological Park** 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 in Jerusalem.*

Thursday, May 21

Ascend the **Temple Mount** to see the **Al-Aqsa Mosque** and the exquisite **Dome of the Rock**. Follow the narrow, winding streets to the **Christian Quarter** to see the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**. Stroll through the **Jewish Quarter** to see Hezekiah's **Broad Wall** and the **Cardo** as well as the famous **Western Wall**. If time permits, examine the recently expanded exhibits at the **Citadel of David** near the **Jaffa Gate**. Enter the serene grounds of the **Garden Tomb** to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ with a communion service. After a farewell dinner at the hotel, 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) for your connecting flight home.

Optional Extension to Jordan and Egypt

Thursday, May 21

After the farewell dinner, prepare for the additional adventures awaiting us in the biblical countries of Jordan and Egypt. *Overnight in Jerusalem.*

Friday, May 22

Cross 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**. Drive to the **Baptismal Site** where John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the **Jordan River** at the beginning of his ministry. Ascend to the top of **Mount Nebo** to view the **Promised Land** from the same place as Moses shortly before he died. Travel south into the mountains of **Edom** to our hotel near **Petra**. *Overnight in Wadi Musa.*

Saturday, May 23

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. *Overnight in Wadi Musa.*

Sunday, May 24

Drive north, including a portion of the **King's Highway**. Depending on our flight schedule, we may have time to see the **Amman Citadel**, the location of **Rabbah-Amman** that King David conquered. Transfer to the **Queen Alia International Airport** for the 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**. If time permits, drive to **Sakkara** to see the **Step Pyramid of Djoser**. Experience the fascinating culture of ancient Egypt by touring the **Great Egyptian Museum**, including the renowned artifacts of **King Tutankhamun**. *Overnight in Cairo.*

Tuesday, May 26

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