

Blue Heart Travel Co.
Catholic tours and pilgrimages worldwide
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www.bluehearttravel.com

Holy Land Pilgrimage
October 12 – 22, 2009

TO JOIN THIS TOUR SEND US E-MAIL
info@bluehearttravel.com

DAY 1 Departure from USA

Departure will be from to you closest International airport. Flight is overnight to Israel to Tel Aviv. Meals served on board the plane.

DAY 2 Arrival to Israel, Tel Aviv

Upon arrival at "Ben Gurion" Tel Aviv airport, group will meet with the guide and proceed to hotel for Mass, dinner, free time and first overnight in holy land. –

- 1 EXACT ITINERARY FOR DAY 2 WILL DEPEND ON THE FLIGHT SCHEDULE AND ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL

DAY 3 Mass at the Church of Stella Maris – Cana

After a good night's rest you will leave the hotel in Tel Aviv and drive north along the Mediterranean Sea on the way to the Crusader port city of Caesarea and the Roman Capital of Israel. Here, we will see the archaeological ruins of the Roman amphitheatre from the days of King Herod. Our next stop is in Haifa, and on to Mount Carmel. We will visit Carmelite Monastery, Chapel of the Holy Family and Elijah's cave where we celebrate the Holy Mass. After lunch we drive to Cana, the site of Jesus' first miracle. In this beautiful little town we will have the Renewal of the Marriage Vows and blessing of families. Local souvenir shops will offer us a taste of the Cana wine, and the opportunity to purchase some to bring home. Overnight and dinner is in our hotel, city Tiberias or Nazareth.



DAY 4 Nazareth – Church of the Annunciation – Mt Tabor

We will leave our hotel and drive to Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus and the place where He spent the first 30 years of His life. We will pray in the church of St. Joseph and celebrate Mass in the Church of the Annunciation where the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that She would be the Mother of God. A short walk through old Nazareth brings us to see the Well where Mary went for water. After lunch we will drive to Mt Tabor. We will take a short taxi drive up to the mountain to visit the Church of Transfiguration. Return to our Hotel in Tiberias/Nazareth for dinner and over night.



DAY 5 Capernaum – Mass at the Church of Mt. Beatitudes –Sea of Galilee – Jordan River

Today we will literally follow the "Footsteps of Jesus". We will visit Capernaum where Jesus spent most of His preaching; new church built at the site of the Home of St. Peter, ruins of the synagogue that had being built in the time of Jesus. Through story of our guide we will get to know more of the Life of Jesus in Capernaum. Than we drive to Mt. Of Beatitudes where the Lord Jesus preached Sermon on the Mountain celebrate the mass here.

continue to Tabgha the site of the Multiplication of the loaves and fishes and the church of St. Peter's Primacy. We will enjoy a boat ride from Capernaum to Tiberias. For our last stop of the day, we will visit River Jordan's Yardenit Garden for a renewal our baptismal vows, remembering how John the Baptist baptized Jesus. (Bring a swimsuit.) Finally, we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 Nazareth – Qumran – Masada – Jericho

After breakfast, we depart Nazareth. We will be heading south through the Jordan Valley to Jericho, the oldest known continuously inhabited city in the world. After a stop to tell the story of Zacchaeus and lunch, we drive through Judean Desert, passing by the Mt of Temptation. Same late morning continue to Qumran, the place where Dead Sea Scrolls were found, more than 900 pieces in 30 caves. In the wilderness of Judea stands the rock fortress of Masada, built in the second century BC and also in the year 40 BC by Herod the Great. There we learn an amazing story of the fortress and people died here during the occupation by Romans. Our last stop is for a dip in the Dead Sea. (Bring a swimsuit.) The high percent of solids will make our swimming in the Dead Sea very "interesting". Then it is back to Jericho for dinner and overnight at the hotel.



Day 7 Jericho – Jerusalem – Mt. of Olives – Mass in Bethlehem

In the morning after breakfast we drive to Bethlehem (house of bread in Hebrew), to see the church of Nativity built over the tomb of St. Jerome. In the Grotto under the central altar one can see the Holy Manger, and the Silver Star with the Latin inscription "Hic de Maria Virgine Jesus Christus Natus est". After the visit to a birthplace of Jesus we will celebrate Mass at the Shepherd's Field where Angels appeared to the shepherds (Luke 2), to announce the Birth of Jesus. Here there is a beautiful view on Mt. Herodian and Judean Hills. Later in the afternoon we are on the way to Jerusalem and visit the Upper Room where the Last Supper took place, and the church of Dormition where the Blessed Virgin Mary fell into Eternal Sleep. Our travel day ends in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 – Old City of Jerusalem and “Via Crucis”



After breakfast we start our day with a view of the Holy City from atop the Mount of Olives. We then walk down the Palm Sunday Road, the road Jesus followed on His way to Jerusalem. We stop at the chapel of Dominus Flevit where our Lord wept and shed a tear for the city of Jerusalem (Luke 19: 37- 42). We than proceed to the Garden of Gethsemane and pray at the church of All Nations (Church of Gethsemane), where Jesus prayed: "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me, nevertheless, not my will but your will be done". As Jerusalem is our destiny, today you will enter the Old City and follow the Stations of the Cross the **Via Dolorosa**, from Pilate's fortress to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, site of Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, where we will have Mass. Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

DAY 9 – Ein Karem

In the morning we will drive towards Ein Karem. We will visit the Church of Visitation the site of the Blessed Virgin Mary's visit with her cousin Elizabeth. This is the place where Our Lady said Her "Magnificat". Mass will be at the birthplace of St. John the Baptist. We will pray the pool of Bethesda where Jesus Christ healed a man who was crippled for 38 years. The Church of St Anne one of the rare churches that was spared from destruction of Moslems because was built over the crypt venerated as a birthplace of Mary and a home of her parents Joachim and Anne. At the end of the day we will visit the Temple Mount area with the Western Wall of Solomon's Temple, with the Al Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock mosque above it. Dinner will be at the hotel.

DAY 10 – Peter Gallicantu – Free afternoon

Our final day begins after a good night's rest with a visit to the church of St. Peter Gallicantu, the church built on the site of the house of high priest Caiaphas. This is where Jesus spent night in the dungeon after his arrest. On this site Peter denied Jesus three times and the cock crowed (Gallicantu). We will celebrate Mass here. After Mass we will have time to either catch up with the itinerary or to expand our visit to Bethany to the church of St. Lazarus. Last afternoon will be planned to make best use of it. Dinner at the hotel.



DAY 11 Jerusalem – DEPARTURE

Group has transfer to Tel Aviv airport for flight back home to the US, arrival same day.

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Rates Include:

- Round trip airfares from your gateway city to Tel Aviv, Israel
- 9 nights in 4* hotels...see hotel list below
- Full buffet breakfast and dinner daily
- All entrance fees
- Transportation by tourist high class air-conditioned motor coach
- Full sightseeing with professional Christian guide
- Porterage in/out hotel
- Daily holy mass arrangements, private mass with priest in the group

Rates Exclude:

- Airport tax
- Tips for guide driver and hotel staff
- Personal items and beverages
- Travel insurance

Tel-Aviv : 4* first class Metropolitan or similar

Nazareth: 4* first class Nazareth Crown Plaza or similar

Jericho: 4*+/5* hotel Intercontinental Jericho

Jerusalem: 4 first class Grand Hotel, Olive Tree or Prima Kings

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YOUR OWN GROUP, PARISH OR FAMILY

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