



Dave and Ashley Willis Holy Land Experience +Egypt

Day to Day itinerary

04 Jun Tue - DAY 1

We board our flight to Israel from JFK airport to Tel Aviv via Istanbul. Dinner and breakfast will be served on board.

- Dinner

05 Jun Wed - DAY 2

Welcome to Ben Gurion International Airport, where your guide and driver will meet you. on our way up north we will stop in the ancient port city of Jaffa, from where Jonah set sail, which has served those entering and leaving the Holy Land for nearly 4,000 years. Today we will explore the old city of Jaffa, including the house of Simon the Tanner. Following the coastal plain, we arrive in Caesarea Maritima, built by King Herod. Here Cornelius was converted and Peter was imprisoned. We will see the Roman Theatre, aqueduct, and palace of King Herod, as well as a Byzantine church. Continuing into the Lower Galil we will visit Nazareth, stopping at Mount Precipice, before driving to Cana for Marriage vow renewal ceremony at Cana. We end the day at our hotel in Tiberias for dinner and overnight

Dinner and overnight are at Kibbutz Lavi hotel

- Dinner

06 Jun Thu - DAY 3

Today we will explore the northeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus spent most of his ministry. We will visit the Mount of Beatitudes, the traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount, where we can appreciate the beautiful surroundings and views unchanged since Jesus delivered his seminal sermon. We will continue to Tabgha, where Jesus performed the miracle of feeding the 5,000. Here we can walk on the lake's shores and visit the chapel commemorating the primacy of Peter. We will visit Capernaum or Kfar Nahum, where Jesus spent much of his ministry. We will view the archaeological remains, including the house of Peter and the ancient synagogue believed by many to have been built atop the synagogue where Jesus would have preached. Next, we will visit the new and ongoing excavations of Magdala. The probable home of Mary Magdalene, we will explore the ancient fishing town with its synagogues that Jesus undoubtedly would have taught in. We will finish the day with a visit to Kibbutz Ginosar, where we can see the Galilee Boat, a sailing vessel dated to the time of Jesus preserved for two millennia in the mud of the Sea of Galilee. Finally, we will take our boat, a replica of an ancient vessel, to sail on the Sea of Galilee.

Dinner and overnight are at Kibbutz Lavi hotel

- Breakfast
- Dinner

07 Jun Fri - DAY 4

After breakfast, we check out of our hotel and start our way to Jerusalem at the Yardenit Baptismal Site, where those who wish can emerge themselves in the waters of the Jordan River.

We drive through the Jordan Vally until we arrive to the city of Bethlehem where we will walk through Manger Square, to visit the Church of Nativity, the oldest Church in the Holy Land; admire the ancient limestone columns and remains of mosaic floors; descend to the Grotto of Nativity, where a silver star in the floor marks the spot where Christ is believed to have been born. Proceed to the Church of the Milk Grotto where the Virgin Mary nursed baby Jesus and according to tradition, a drop of her milk spilt and turned the stones white. Next, visit the Shepherds' field.

We check in at our hotel in Jerusalem for overnight and check-in

- Breakfast
- Dinner

08 Jun Sat - DAY 5

We start the morning on top of the Mount of Olives, following the Palm Sunday route down the mountain walking in the footsteps of Jesus. Coming to the Garden of Gethsemane, we will have some private time in the Garden before entering into the Old City of Jerusalem through St. Stephen's Gate also known as the Lion's Gate. We will visit the Pools of Bethesda and follow some of the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa ending in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. We continue to the area surrounding Mount Moriah where we will visit the Western Wall and the Ophel Archaeological Park and Museum with remains of the city streets that Jesus would have walked on, as well as structures dating back to the times of King Solomon. We visit the City of David and Hezekiah's Tunnel ending at the Pool of Siloam, before ascending Mount Zion to visit the Upper Room, the Room of the Last Supper. We end the day at the Garden Tomb also known as Gordon's Calvary, believed by Protestants to be the true place of The Crucifixion, burial, and The Resurrection of Jesus; here we will see Calvary and Jesus' burial tomb and take communion.

Drive to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight

- Breakfast
- Dinner

09 Jun Sun - DAY 6

We will spend today exploring the Judean Desert. We will pass the "Inn of the Good Samaritan" on the ancient

route pilgrims would have followed to Jerusalem, on our way to the shores of the Dead Sea; the lowest point on earth. Following the coast of the Dead Sea, we will arrive at Masada, the tabletop fortress built by King Herod and used by Jewish Zealots for their last stand against the Roman Empire. Having toured the site we will continue to the desert oasis of Ein Gedi, prominent in King Saul's pursuit of the young David. Following lunch, you are invited to take a short float in the mineral-rich lake of the Dead Sea, before continuing to Qumran, where an ancient Jewish sect chose to live at the time of Jesus and where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered.

Return to hotel for dinner and overnight.

- Breakfast
- Dinner

10 Jun Mon - DAY 7

We check out from our hotel and Continue to Tel Azeka, one of the strongholds of the tribe of Judah, overlooking the Ela Valley, where David fought against Goliath. From the top of Tel Azeka, we can enjoy sweeping views of the Judean foothills, the valleys that made up the battlegrounds between the Israelites and the Philistines, and many other adversaries.

After lunch, we will start going to the airport to depart our second part of the tour - Egypt!

We land in Cairo and meet our guide for the next two days.

Transfer and dinner to our hotel in the center of Cairo.

- Breakfast
- Dinner

11 Jun Tue - DAY 8

After breakfast, we arrive at the Giza Plateau and visit the Pyramids of Giza. These are the oldest and largest of the pyramids and are truly awe-inspiring. Your guide will tell you about the history of the pyramids and how they were built. You will also have the opportunity to climb inside one of the pyramids. We continue to the Sphinx, a massive statue of a reclining lion with the head of a human. The Sphinx is one of the most iconic landmarks in Egypt, and it is said to guard the pyramids. We will Visit the Valley Temple, located at the Sphinx's foot. This temple was built to serve as a funerary complex for the pharaoh Khufu. After lunch, we continue to the Egyptian Museum, home to the world's most extensive collection of Egyptian antiquities. See the treasures of Tutankhamun, including his golden death mask and coffins.

- Breakfast
- Dinner

12 Jun Wed - DAY 9

After breakfast, Visit the Hanging Church, also known as the Suspended Church. This Coptic Orthodox church is one of the oldest churches in Cairo, and it is said to be built on the site of a Roman temple. Continue to Abu Serga Church, also known as the Church of the Holy Family. This Coptic Orthodox church is said to be where the Holy Family stayed during their flight to Egypt. Visit Abu Sevin Church, the Church of Saint Simon the Tanner. This Coptic Orthodox church is said to be the place where Saint Simon the Tanner was martyred. Visit the Ben Ezra Synagogue, one of the oldest synagogues in the world. This synagogue is said to be the place where Moses was found in the basket among the bulrushes. Drive to Mokattam to visit the Samaan al-Kharaz Monastery. This Coptic Orthodox monastery is located on top of a hill and offers stunning views of Cairo. We will have a farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Cairo, drive back to our hotel, and get ready for our flight back home filled with unique experiences and life time memories.

- Breakfast



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