

13 Days Oberammergau including Dachau and Israel – Proposed Itinerary June 2020

Day 1 Depart USA to Germany – June 4, 2020

Depart the USA. Board your international flight to Israel and enjoy dinner and entertainment aboard the airplane.

Day 2: Arrival - Dachau concentration camp - Munich - Upper Bavaria

Upon arrival at **Munich** International airport from Athens, we are met by our tour guide who will accompany us throughout. Our journey starts with a visit to the **Dachau Concentration Camp**. We tour the ground with a museum, its reconstructed barracks and crematorium where the holocaust is documented. Then on to a briefing sightseeing tour which leads us to the major and most beautiful sights of Munich, such as King's Square with its three temple buildings in the classical Greek style, the Pinakotheken Art Museums, the Hall of Generals, the Angel of Peace monument, Maximilianeum (Bavarian state parliament), the Royal Palace, the traditional Viktualienmarkt, an open air food market with colorful outdoor stalls, Karl Square (called "Stachus") and the medieval city gates, Palace of Nymphenburg - former summer residence of the Bavarian kings, the Rathaus and its famous Glockenspiel. We continue on to Upper Bavaria for dinner and overnight. (D)

Day 3: Passion Play Oberammergau

After a late breakfast, we drive to **Oberammergau**. World-renowned, this quaint Bavarian town is the site of the extravagant Oberammergau Passion Play – performed only once every ten years. Take part in this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Beginning in the afternoon and involving almost all residents of the village, the play has a running time of approx. five hours with a three-hour intermission. Dinner and overnight in the Oberammergau area. (B, D)



Day 4: Neuschwanstein Castle - Andechs - Munich

This morning, an enchanting drive through Bavaria's forests and lakelands takes us to the elaborate **Neuschwanstein Castle**, surely the crown jewel of Bavaria Castles. Next, we drive to **Andechs Klosterbrauerei** a popular pilgrimage site offering amazing views from Holy Mountain overlooking the shimmering blue waters of Lake Ammersee and the 17th-century Gothic church with onion-domed tower. Time for lunch on our own at the beer garden before we arrive in Munich area for dinner and overnight. (B, D)



Day 5: Depart Germany - Arrive in Tel Aviv

Early morning depart Germany on a flight to Israel. Upon arrival at Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv, meet and assist through customs by our representative. Transfer to your hotel on the Mediterranean Sea shores. If flight arrives early, we visit the Old Town of **Jaffa** and the house of Simon the Tanner. Dinner & overnight. (D)

Day 6: Caesarea - Haifa - Nazareth - Tiberias

Wake up to the beautiful view of the Mediterranean Sea. After breakfast, drive north to **Caesarea**, visit the amazing Herodian port city. We will gather for fellowship at the ancient Roman Theatre. View the impressive archeological finds of the Roman Hippodrome, the Crusader's fortifications and the 2000 years old Aqueduct, built by King Herod. Continue along the Mediterranean, on the road known as the Biblical via Maris - "Way of the Sea" to **Haifa**. Overlook the amazing panoramic bay view from **Mount Carmel**, famously known for the Biblical story of Elijah and Baal priests. We invite you to your first lunch in Israel - a typical Israeli Falafel. Continue to visit **Nazareth** - the town where the Angels' Annunciation to Mary took place. Visit the **Church of Annunciation** and the **Old Synagogue**. We will also stop at **Cana** of the Galilee - traditional site of the miracle at the wedding. On to our Tiberias hotel for dinner & overnight. (B, L, D)



Day 7: Galilee - Tiberias - Golan Heights

Today we explore the surroundings of the **Sea of Galilee**, where Jesus spent 3 years of his ministry. We will start with a visit to **Magdala** where the new excavation of an Ancient Church and an Old Synagogue, this is the town of Mary Magdalen. Visit **Capernaum**, the "Town of Jesus". Walk along the ruins of the ancient Synagogue and St. Peter's home. On to **Tabgha**, the traditional site of the miracle of Multiplication of the Fish and Loaves. Drive up to the **Mount of Beatitudes** for a breathtaking view of the Sea of Galilee and the Golan Heights. This is a perfect place to read "The Sermon on the Mount". Enjoy Lunch with the famous St. Peter Fish at a restaurant by the lake. Drive north and visit the Biblical town of **Dan** where we can see an alter and the Canaanite gate and walls from Abraham times. We return to our hotel through the Golan Heights and visit **Caesarea Philippi** located on the **Banyas Stream**, one of the sources of the Jordan River. Back to the Sea of Galilee for a special fellowship on a wooden boat, cruising on the Sea at dusk. Dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)



Day 8: Jordan Valley - Beit Sheaan - Dead Sea

After breakfast, we will drive to the **Baptismal site - Yardenit**, at the **Jordan River**. Drive to **Beit Sheaan**, the largest archeological excavation in Israel. Walk along the reconstructed Cardo, sit on the ancient basalt benches at the Roman theatre and see the remains of the luxurious "Spa center". Continue south along the Jordan River. View Jericho, the most ancient settlement in the world and the Mount of Temptations. Continue along the **Dead Sea** - the lowest point on earth, to **Qumran**, the town where the famous Dead Sea Scrolls were written, and were found in 1947. Drive by **Ein Gedi Oasis**, where King David fled and hide from King Saul in a cave. Continue south to our Spa-hotel on the shore of the Dead Sea for dinner and overnight. (B, D)



Day 9: Masada - Jerusalem

Morning is at leisure to enjoy the Spa facilities as well as floating on the Dead Sea, the lowest and saltiest lake in the world. At mid-morning, we will drive to **Masada** - one of the World Heritage Sites declared by UNESCO. Ascend by cable car. Visit the Palaces, the storage halls and the bath house, built by King Herods. See the synagogue built by the Zealots Jews, who rebelled against the Romans. We will walk down on the Roman Ramp, built 2000 years ago. On to a special experience riding **Camels** and enjoy the a **Bedouin hospitality** called Hafla. We will drive to the **Negev**. On the way view **Tel Arad**, one of the ancient cities conquered by Joshua. Continue to the **Elfa Valley**, the site where the Philistine Goliath was defeated by David, the young shepherd. Learn about the unique ancient weapon - the deadly slingshot. On to Jerusalem passing the Biblical town of **Beit Shemesh**. As we enter to the city of **Jerusalem** we will stop for a vista point overlooking the Old City and make the traditional blessing of arriving to the Holy City. Check-in to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)



Day 10: Old City of Jerusalem - Herodion

Today we will explore the Holy-City. Visit **Mount of Olives**, from here there is a breathtaking view of the Old City. Visit the ancient olive trees at the **Garden of Gethsemane**, where Jesus was hiding and the **Basilica of Agony**. Visit the new excavations of the **City of David** and the **Pool of Siloam**. Enter the **Old City** on the underground ancient street, running beneath the Old City Wall. Visit **Davidson Center**, the **Walling Wall**, **St Ann Church** and the **Pool of Bethesda**. Walk along the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**. Visit the Jewish Quarter, the Cardo and the Herodian Quarter excavations. On to Zion Gate and **Mt. Zion** to visit the **Upper Room** and David's Tomb. Visit the prison where Jesus was held, at the foundations and basement of the church of **St. Peter Gallicantu**, built on the site of the House of the High Priest Caiaphas.
In the afternoon visit one of the largest project of King Harrods - **the Herodion**. An artificial mound built as a refuge place for the King. Recent excavation also uncovered **King Herod's tomb**. Drive back to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight. After dinner, walk & shop the famous Ben Yehuda Street, where you can meet Israeli's and absorb the local culture. (B, D)



Day 11: The New City of Jerusalem – Bethlehem

After breakfast drive to the **Knesset**, the Israeli Parliament. See the Menorah with its beautiful carving of Biblical scenes. Visit the **Israel Museum** and the **Shrine of the Book**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are exhibited. See the **Model of Jerusalem** as it was 2000 years ago, at Jesus time. Continue to **Yad Vashem** – The Holocaust Memorial.
After a complimentary lunch, continue to the **Judean Wilderness**, to **Bethlehem** the birthplace of Jesus for a visit to the **Church of Nativity** and **Shepherds Fields**. In the evening, after dinner at the hotel, enjoy the fascinating **Sound & Light Show** at the Tower of David (if it is not raining). (B, D)



Day 12: Jerusalem

Morning, after breakfast, is free for personal activities, shopping or revisiting sites. Early noon drive to **Rama**, the place where Prophet Samuel used to "sit" and judge the people of Israel. Visit the **Tomb of the Prophet**, which today is a mosque and a synagogue. We will conclude our Pilgrimage by visiting the **Garden Tomb**, where we will have a memorable service at the empty tomb.
In the evening celebrate with a **Farewell Dinner** at a nice restaurant and presentation of the Pilgrimage Certificate. Overnight in Jerusalem hotel. (B, D)

Day 13: Back to USA – June 16, 2020

Early morning, depart the hotel to Ben Gurion airport for our flight back to the USA. Arrive home.

All sites listed in the itinerary will be covered but the sequence and days may be altered to adjust to religious holidays, special closings of sites, air schedules, etc. This tour is not recommended for those who have mobility limitations since it includes walking on uneven