

Native Americans Fam Trip– Holy Land Itinerary

DAY 1: SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, DEPART THE US TO ISRAEL

- Depart the US on your overnight flight to Israel

DAY 2: MONDAY FEBRUARY 3, WELCOME TO ISRAEL, CAESAREA, NAZARETH

- Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport. An IGT representative will meet you after passport control, escort you through luggage identification & lead you to your tour guide
- LY 002 02FEB JFKTLV 1650 1010 03FEB
- Drive via the coastline road to **Caesarea by the Sea (Caesarea Maritima)**, Herod's showcase port city. Walk through the Roman ruins and hear the story of **St. Peter** and his **conversion of Cornelius' household (Acts 10:24)**. Caesarea is also the scene of **St. Paul's imprisonment (Acts 23:35)**, his **appearance before King Agrippa** and his **departure for Rome (Acts 25:13-26:32)**.
- Drive along the Mediterranean coastline to **Mt. Carmel**, the biblical site of **Elijah's contest** with the **prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)**.
- Drive past **Megiddo**, the regional capital of King Solomon (*1 Kings 9:15*), the New Testament's **Armageddon (Rev. 16:16)**.
- Drive through the hills of Galilee to the outskirts of **Nazareth**, the hometown of Jesus, to stand on the **Mount of Precipice** where tradition has it an angry mob attempted to throw Jesus off the precipice (*Luke 4:16-30*).
- Enter Nazareth and the **Church of the Annunciation** situated over the cave that **Archangel Gabriel** told **Mary** she would become the **mother of the Son of God**. (*Luke 1:5-42*).
- Continue east across the Galilee passing **Mt. Tabor (Psalm 89:12)**, the site of the **Transfiguration of Jesus (Matthew 17:1-9)** and where, at the mountain foothill, **Deborah rose against Sisera (Judges 4-5)**.
- Time permitting, we will stop in **Cana**, a village near Nazareth, where Jesus performed His very first miracle by turning **water into wine** at the wedding feast (*John 2:1-11*).
- Check-in to your hotel in in the Sea of Galilee
Dinner & Overnight: Leonardo Club Tiberias

DAY 3: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4, AROUND THE SEA OF GALILEE

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Take a breathtaking spiritual Galilee journey – sailing on a wooden replica of the famous **boats** that played a key role in Jesus' life in the Sea of Galilee
- Proceed to the **Mt. of Beatitudes** where Jesus preached the "**Sermon on the**

Mount" (Matthew 5 -7)

- Continue to **Tabgha** - the chapel dedicated to the **multiplication of the loaves and fishes** - (*Mark 6:34-44*) and the site of **St. Peter's Primacy** where Jesus **bestowed church leadership** upon Peter (*John 21:9*).
- **Lunch** (on own expense) at one of the region's fine restaurants to taste the local **St. Peter's fish**
- Visit **Capernaum** " the Town of Jesus "*(John 6:24)* to walk among the ancient ruins of the **first century synagogue where Jesus preached** (*Matthew 4:13-17*).
- Travel due north to the **Banias -Caesarea Philippi** (*Matt. 16.13; Mark 8.27*), where **Jesus was recognized as Messiah** by His disciples.
- Tour the **Golan Heights**, a dormant volcanic plateau, with spectacular landscapes, green valleys, grazing land and rich history.
- Atop Mount **Bental**, you will come to an observation point near the Syrian border giving you a clear view of the whole region, including **"The Road to Damascus."**

Dinner & Overnight: Leonardo Club Tiberias

DAY 4: WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5, THE JORDAN VALLEY

- Breakfast at the hotel, Check-out
- First stop will be at **"Yardenit "** for an opportunity to baptize at a baptismal site on the banks of the River Jordan
- Continue through the **Jordan Valley** to the ancient city of **Beit She'an** where the Philistines hung Saul and his sons after their defeat at the battle on Mount Gilboa. (*1 Samuel 31*). During the time of Jesus, this area became known as Scythopolis, one of the ten cities of the Roman Decapolis (*Mark 5:20, 7:31*)
- Drive through the Jordan Valley to **Qasr Al Yahud** located near Jericho on the Jordan River and the traditional spot where the New Testament narrative of the **baptism of Jesus** took place (*Matthew, 3: 13-17*). According to other traditions, it is also the place **where the Israelites crossed the Jordan River** and **Elijah the Prophet ascended to heaven**

- Ascend to Jerusalem – the Holy City, stop at **Mount Scopus**, overlooking Jerusalem & give thanks to the Lord
- Check-in to your Jerusalem hotel

Dinner & Overnight: Leonardo Jerusalem

DAY 5: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6, OLD CITY JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Enjoy a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem from the crest of **Mt. of Olives**

- (*Matthew 24:3*).
- Walk along **Hosanna Road**, 'Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord (*Luke 19:41-44*). Stop at Dominus **Flevit** (*Luke 19:37-42*) marking the spot where **Jesus wept over the impending destruction of Jerusalem**.
 - Arrive at **Gethsemane** to visit the **Church of All Nations** that stands on the Rock of Agony where **Jesus was betrayed by Judas** (*Matthew 26:36-57*).
 - Drive to **Mt. Zion** to visit the **Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu** meaning "cock's-crow" commemorating Peter's triple rejection of Jesus "... before the cock crows twice." (*Mark 14:30*)
 - Also on Mt. Zion, is the **Room of the Last Supper** (*Luke 22:14-20*) and the traditional site of **Tomb of King David**.
 - Continue to **Garden Tomb & Golgotha**, the garden and tomb where **Jesus was buried and then rose from the dead**. We will have time for our communion.
 - Today's final stop will be at the **Friends of Zion Heritage Center** which brings the stories of Christian love for Israel to life in a unique multimedia and interactive way
 - **Dinner & Overnight:** Leonardo Jerusalem

DAY 6: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7, MASADA, DEAD SEA

- Drive to the Dead Sea region
- Visit **Qumran**, administrative center of an ascetic Jewish community that flourished between the 2nd century BC and the 1st century AD. Many scholars associate **John the Baptist** with this community and Jesus may have even spent time here. The community members were mostly scribes responsible for the copying and preservation of the **Dead Sea Scrolls**,
- View the ruins of Herod's palace at **Masada**, where the Zealots fled in 70 AD after the fall of Jerusalem in the Jewish Great Revolt against Rome. Ascend by cable car up to the summit to explore the palace remains as well as cisterns, vast food stores, Mikvot [ritual baths] and the synagogue built by the Zealots as well as the remains of a sixth century Byzantine church.
- Stop for overview at **Ein Gedi**, where **David** hid in a cave when running from Saul (*1 Samuel 23*) and may have composed several of his Psalms.
- Enjoy a visit to the **AHAVA factory** that produces healing and rejuvenating products made from the Dead Sea mineral
- One of the most unique experiences the Dead Sea has to offer **floating in the Dead Sea!** It's a must do on your list! Just lay back, relax and enjoy.
- Return to Jerusalem
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Leonardo Jerusalem

DAY 7: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8– OLD CITY JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Today we will enter the Old City through **St. Stephen's Gate**, also known as **Lions Gate**. From here begins the **Via Dolorosa - the Way of the Cross**,
- Visit the **Pool of Bethesda** - site of the miraculous **healing of a paralyzed man** by Jesus (*John 5:2-9*), and the Crusader **Church of St. Anne**, where groups love to sing hymns
- Continue to traditional sites commemorating Pilate's **Judgment Hall**, the **Chapel of the Flagellation**, and the **Ecce Homo Arch** (*John 19:13*) here **Jesus was tried before Pilate** (*Mark 15:6*).
- Continue through the **Old City bazaars** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**, containing the last 5 stations, traditionally believed to be the site of **Golgotha** "the place of the skull" where **Jesus was crucified**, (*Matt. 27:33-35; Mark 15:22-25; John 19:17-24*).
- Walk in the Old City to the **Western Wall** "Wailing Wall", is the most religious site in the world for the Jewish people. Located in the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City, it is the western support wall of the Temple Mount. Prayers are either spoken or written down and placed in the cracks of the wall.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Leonardo Jerusalem

DAY 8: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 JERUSALEM NEW CITY & BETHLEHEM

- Visit **Yad Vashem**, Israel's national memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, spend time at the Museum with its Hall of Names, the Children's Memorial and Walk along the Street of the Righteous where Oscar Schindler and many others are memorialized.
- Continue to the **Israel Museum** and visit the **Shrine of the Book**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed. Visit the model of Second Temple Jerusalem to view Jerusalem as it looked during the time of Jesus.
- Drive to **Bethlehem** to visit the **Church of the Nativity** (*Luke 2: 1-7*). Venture out to the **Shepherd's Field**, referenced in (*Luke 2:8-20*), where the angel appeared to announce the birth of Jesus.
- Head back to the new city of Jerusalem and pass by the **Knesset**, Israel's parliament,
- Depart the city and drive to the village of Abu Gosh to enjoy a **farewell dinner**
- Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our departure flight back to the US.
- LY 001 10FEB TLVJFK 0030 0530 10FEB

DAY 9: MONDAY FEBRUARY 10, NOVEMBER -ARRIVE BACK TO US

- Arrive back in the US