

BIBLICAL HOLY LAND TOUR



Walking in the steps of our Master and Discovering our Jewish Roots

With Bridges for Peace Representative Jill Czelusta
and Tour Guide Allan Rabinowitz

June 24 - July 5, 2023

Spend 12 days next summer deepening your understanding of Scripture and enriching your Faith while embarking on an adventure that will forever change your life!

This is no ordinary summer vacation.

You are invited to tour Israel with the intention of discovering and strengthening the Jewish roots of our Christian Faith. Scripture will come alive as we study the events **where they took place** while expanding our understanding as historical context is presented. Once you have walked the ancient paths, the Bible comes alive as you add your own experiences. After walking in the steps of Jesus, your spiritual life will never be the same! Whether standing at the base of the Western Wall next to stones the Romans pushed off the top as they destroyed the Temple, walking through a 2700-year-old, hand chiseled tunnel from King Hezekiah's time, standing in the ruins of the synagogue in Capernaum where Jesus taught, or enjoying a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, you place yourself in the actual locations where the accounts took place. That is life changing!

Overlook of the Davidson Archaeological Park at the base of the Temple Mount



Bridges For Peace Presentations

We will not only tour both Old and New Testament sites, we will enjoy an evening teaching or two as well as a special Shabbat dinner in Jerusalem, with a presentation by Robbie and Terry Mason of Bridges for Peace. In addition, we hope to have the opportunity to serve the Jewish Community while participating in a service project arranged by Bridges for Peace.

Itinerary (subject to change)

Embark on this adventure from JFK airport on Saturday afternoon, June 24, arriving at Ben Gurion Airport Sunday afternoon. We will be met by our amazing tour guide, Allan Rabinowitz, and a representative of Vared Tours to begin our adventure, by luxury coach bus, as we visit Caesarea. We will then be taken to Seasons Hotel on the Mediterranean Sea, in Natinia. We will have dinner and time to relax, walking along the beach or into city center.

Monday begins our travels north to the Galilee, visiting places like Mt. Carmel of Elijah's challenge. We will spend time at Megiddo to see layers of ancient cities ranging from the Canaanites to the chariot city of King Solomon, finishing the day at a living history village in Nazareth. The evening has us checking into the Kinar Galilee Hotel Sea of Galilee and relaxing on its beach.

Observing the end of Shabbat on the beach of The Sea of Galilee



The Synagogue in Capernaum

Tuesday will be spent walking where Jesus walked, exploring the Galilee Region where Jesus spent most of His ministry time. We begin the day enjoying a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, then visit the excavations of Magdala, Capernaum, Korizin, and the Mt. of Beatitudes.

Wednesday, we head north to Tel Dan on the Lebanese border and see a mud brick gate from the time of Abraham. After walking through this beautiful nature preserve, we will visit Cesarea Phillipi and Baniyas, at the foot of Mt. Hermon, headwaters of the Jordan River. We will enjoy the view from Mt. Bental and end with a visit to Gamla, the "Masada of the North," before returning to relax on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Thursday morning there will be an opportunity to be baptized in the Jordan River. Then it's on to the ruins of Beit She'an, a large Roman City that was destroyed by an earthquake in AD 749, followed by a visit to Jericho. Then we check in to the David Dead Sea Hotel and either take a relaxing dip in the Dead Sea, their pool, or book a spa session (not included). Either way, it will be a relaxing evening.

Allan Rabinowitz teaching at Ein Gedi



Friday we will enjoy a hike through the Ein Gedi National Park, with its beautiful waterfalls. This is the area where David hid from Saul. We will fit in a cable car ride to the top of Masada and a visit to the Qumran caves along the way. Then it is up to Jerusalem, stopping at an overlook on Mt. Scopus before checking into our Jerusalem hotel, Prima Kings, for the rest of our stay. This amazing day will end with a wonderful Shabbat meal with a teaching from Robbie and Terry Mason from Bridges for Peace.

Saturday begins on the Mount of Olives, where Jesus ascended into heaven, and as promised, will soon return. We will walk the pilgrim road, spending time in prayer in a private section of the Garden of Gethsemane. Then it is up to the Old City and to various sites along the Via Dolorosa, including St. Anne's Church by the Pool of Bethesda, and the Lithostrotos, ending with the Garden Tomb, where we will have Communion and reflect on the death and the resurrection of Jesus. We will then spend time at the Kotel (The Western Wall).

Sunday will begin with a visit to Shilo, the resting place of the Tabernacle once the Israelites entered the Promised Land. We will return to Jerusalem and spend time at Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Museum. The afternoon will include time spent in the Old City.

Monday we will visit Bethlehem and have time to shop in a beautiful olive wood shop. In the afternoon we will visit the Bridges for Peace Jerusalem Assistance Center, where I have volunteered for five summers. We will participate in a service project to help the needy of Israel.



Serving with Bridges for Peace, 2019

Allan Rabinowitz and I emerging from Hezekiah's Tunnel



Our exploration of the Old City of Jerusalem continues Tuesday, with a visit to the City of David and its amazing excavations, including Hezekiah's Tunnel and the Pool of Siloam. We will view more excavations around the southern steps of the Temple mount and then a visit to what is believed to be the home of Caiaphas the High Priest, where Peter voiced his denials. We will also have the opportunity to do some shopping in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City, visiting the Cardo shopping area and a special shop called Shoreshim, meaning "Roots." The day will end with a farewell dinner before flying out Wednesday. I will be saying good-bye to you at the airport since I will again be staying the summer to serve at the Jerusalem Assistance Center.

It is my prayer that, if your desire is to strengthen your faith and open your eyes to a whole new world of understanding, that you will join me on this amazing adventure to the Holy Land.

Please contact Jill Czelusta for more information at jczelusta@bfpusa.org or call 802-673-2346(cell) or 802-525-3633 (evening).

**Cost*: \$4950* from JFK Airport, New Your, double occupancy, additional \$1062.00 for single.
*Price may change due to airfare, surcharges.**

Minimum: 10, Maximum 35 people

Registration documents, Terms and Conditions can be downloaded (soon) from the Bridges for Peace website: <https://usa.bridgesforpeace.com/events/biblical-holy-land-tour-june-2023/>

Information about land package only is available, if you wish to book your own flight.