

October 23 - November 3, 2022

Jordan & Israel 2022



Dear Friends,

I am Father Steve Major, a Catholic priest of the Diocese of Lincoln Nebraska since 1987. I grew up in Nebraska, but seminary studies took me across the U.S. and gave me an appetite for travel. I was fortunate to live in Rome for studies from 1989-91 and then in Bolivia and Venezuela briefly in 2000.

Not long ago, a priest friend of mine went to the Holy Land and raved about how great his trip was. Now I will go too, and this trip gives me the opportunity to make it a religious pilgrimage.

Join me in this once-in-a-lifetime journey, walk in His footsteps, and those of His Holy Mother and the Apostles. It is such an amazing and spiritual chance to make the story of His life and His Holy Word come alive for you. You may have wished forever to be baptized in the Jordan River and visit the towns of where Jesus was born, grew up, preached, and eventually died. This will be realized through visits to many Biblical sites including the Garden of Gethsemane and the opportunity to walk along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, where our Lord walked on His last day to be crucified. Although our itinerary obviously emphasizes the spiritual aspect of Jordan and Israel, our guide is also an expert and is passionate about the miracle of the return of the Jews and the restoration of the state of Israel. This fact, along with many modern-day topics (military, politics, education, and other cultural aspects), will be woven into the commentary in order to give you well-rounded information and a great insight into today's life in both countries.

During the journey, Catholic mass and confession will be available daily for all who are interested, and I will lead devotions with you where appropriate.

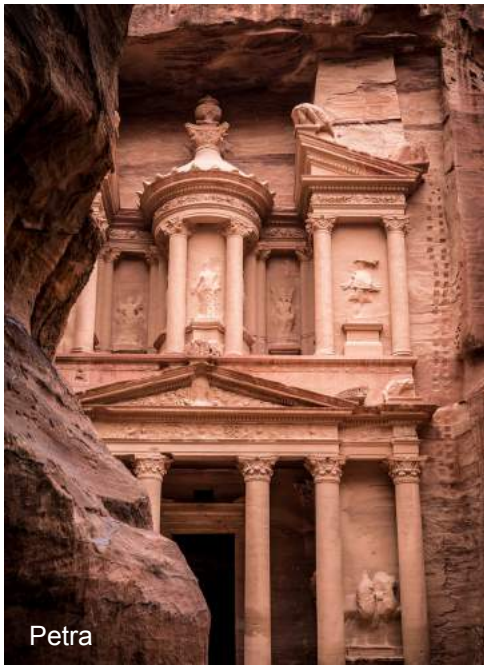
On this pilgrimage let God touch your heart and it will surprise you. You will return back home as a different person.

I look forward to what God will do for us as we walk in Jesus' footsteps together.

Sincerely, Fr. Steve Major



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.



Petra



Dead Sea Salt



Dead Sea

October 23, 2022 - Sunday

Traveling to Amman, Jordan

Our wonderful and life-changing adventure begins as we take an overnight flight to Amman, Jordan. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your dream vacation.

October 24, 2022 - Monday

Amman

We arrive in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Upon arrival, we meet our tour guide who will be accompanying us during our journey in Jordan. We transfer to our lodging for an evening in Amman. Enjoy a welcome dinner, retire to our rooms, and be ready for an early departure in the morning. D

October 25, 2022 - Tuesday

Petra

Early this morning we turn southward toward the amazing mountain fortress of Petra, known to be inhabited by the Edomites - the descendants of Esau. We travel on the King's Highway where to the west we view the hills bordering the Dead Sea. This is the area of the hilltop palace/fortress of Machaerus, where John the Baptist was beheaded. Arriving in Petra, we begin our tour with a walk through the "Siq," an immense crack in the Nubian sandstone, to the city of Petra, carved out of the rose-red rock. The Treasury, El Khazneh, is one of the most elegant remains of antiquity. Beyond El Khazneh we are surrounded on both sides by hundreds of Petra's carved and built structures. The evening is spent at a nearby hotel and dinner is served in their beautiful restaurant. B | D

October 26, 2022 - Wednesday

Mount Nebo, Madaba, Tel Aviv, Israel

Our morning tour begins in the town of Madaba, the biblical Medeba, 20 miles south of Amman. Madaba is best known for its Byzantine and Umayyad mosaics and at the Greek Orthodox Church of St.

George we view the earliest surviving mosaic map of the Holy Land. Mt. Nebo believed to be the site of the tomb of Moses, commands a spectacular view across the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea. Study the panorama as we read the scripture of God showing Moses the "Promised Land" before He brought him home to heaven. We travel west toward the Allenby Bridge and view the Plains of Moab to the North, the area where the tribes of Israel camped before crossing the Jordan and we picture the place where Jesus was baptized. Crossing the Jordan River into Israel, we say goodbye to our Jordanian tour guide and hello to our Israel tour guide. We drive to the Tel Aviv area with the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. You may wish to take a devotional time with the sunset over the "Great Sea," a time of prayer and thanks for the special blessings ahead, a prayer for the people of this land, and then enjoy a good night's rest. B | D

October 27, 2022 - Thursday

Caesarea, Megiddo, Nazareth

After breakfast, we travel along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea to Caesarea, where Gentiles first heard the Good News from Peter and were baptized. We will see the Roman Amphitheatre and aqueduct and then journey on to Mt. Carmel, where Elijah challenged King Ahab and the prophets of Baal. Next, we travel through the Jezreel Valley to Megiddo, the Armageddon Battlefield, where archaeologists have unearthed 20 levels of civilization. We drive through the area of Cana and Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus. There we visit the Nazareth Village - a wonderful recreation of Biblical times with costumed guides. Dinner and overnight lodging for the next two nights in the Tiberias area will be on the Sea of Galilee. B | D

October 28, 2022 - Friday

Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Capernaum, Magdala, Sea of Galilee Boat Ride, Mt. of Beatitudes

Following breakfast, our morning travels take us to two valuable northern sites. Dan, where the children of Israel fell to the depths of alternative sacrifice, and Caesarea Philippi, the site of Peter's Confession and pagan worship. We pass the possible site of the multiplication of loaves and fishes in Bethsaida and the Mount of the Beatitudes. Returning to Tiberias for a St. Peter's Fish Lunch, we then visit the ancient Fisherman Boat followed by a relaxing cruise on the Sea of Galilee. A brief scripture reading and devotional on board brings to life the experiences of Jesus and the fishermen disciples. In Capernaum, we view the excavations of the sea-side village and Peter's home, followed by a visit to Magdala, home town of Mary Magdalene. The recent excavation of the First Century Synagogue and the well-preserved village makes Magdala one of the most interesting Biblical sites in Israel. B | L | D

October 29, 2022 - Saturday

Jordan River Baptism Site, Beth Shean, & Dead Sea

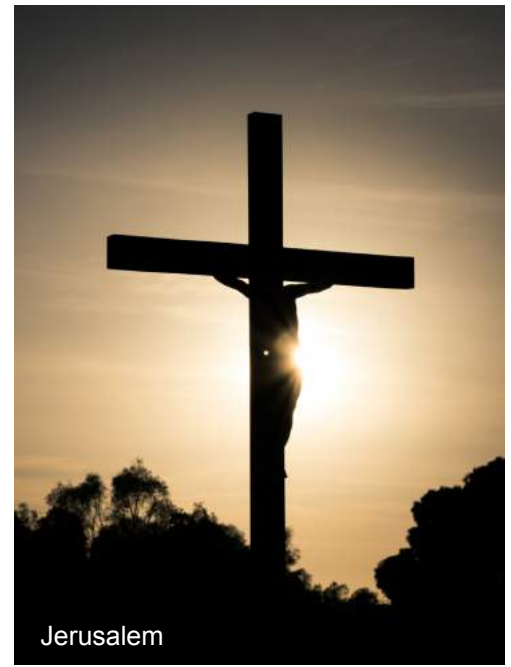
We begin our day with the opportunity to be baptized at the Jordan River Baptismal site. Next, we travel southward to Beit-Shean/Scythopolis, the most magnificent archaeological site in Israel, located at the strategic juncture of the Jezreel and Jordan valleys. Like Jericho, it has been almost continuously occupied throughout history. After defeating Saul and his sons on Mt. Gilboa, the Philistines hung their bodies on the walls of Beit Shean. During the time of Jesus, Scythopolis was one of the chief cities of the Decapolis - a league of ten cities sharing Greek culture and government. Following the fertile Jordan Valley, our guide will point out the agricultural restoration of the "Land of Milk and Honey" and Israel's intricate irrigation development. We pass ancient Jericho and view from a distance this city famed as the oldest in the world. To the east of Jericho along the Jordan River Valley



Western Wall, Jerusalem



Jerusalem



Jerusalem

(Qeser El Yehud) is the Israeli side of Bethany Beyond the Jordan. In this area, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, Elijah, and Elisha crossed the Jordan, as well as the children of Israel, led by Joshua, entered the Promised Land. Our lodging for the evening is at the Dead Sea – the lowest place on earth. Spend time in the special spa and enjoy a dip in the Dead Sea for a relaxing float before dinner. B | D

October 30, 2022 - Sunday

Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea Scrolls, Abraham's Tent

After a hearty breakfast, we take a cable car ride to the mountain top fortress of Masada. Here our guide will treat us to the history of the famous zealot stand.

Afterwards, we proceed to Ein Gedi, "Spring of the Goat," an oasis on the western shore of the Dead Sea. Because of its warm climate and abundant supply of water, the site developed a reputation for its fragrant plants and date palm groves. This is where King David hid from Saul, and where God defeated the enemies of the Israelites by praise and worship led by King Jehoshaphat. Next, we visit Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. This afternoon we will take part in the Genesis Land dinner in Abraham's Tent, where we enjoy a trip back in time: a reliving of life in the time of the Patriarchs, complete with costume, dramatic presentation, and authentic food. Our lodging for the next four nights will be in Jerusalem. B | D

October 31, 2022 - Monday

Around Jerusalem, Bible Times

Conditions permitting we will visit the Temple Mount, with commentary on the Temple Periods, and the variety of belief systems, past and present, that make this area so valuable. Next, we will visit the Wailing Wall and then the fascinating Rabbinical Tunnels leading us through the Second Temple era. The tunnel and exhibit give a clear understanding of the

amazing construction of the Temple Mount, giant stones, water supply and Roman street where our Lord was led to judgment. Before exiting the tunnel we see the immense cornerstone rejected by the builders. We move on to the Judgment Hall of Pilate, hear of those who conspired against Him, and are reminded of His brutal beating and humiliation. From here we will also be able to see the Pool of Bethesda, Stephen's Gate, and St. Ann's Church. This afternoon we visit the Southern Wall Excavations. This southern side of The Temple was the main entrance for the common folk. From here Jesus entered the Temple Mount and drove out the vendors and money exchangers who were exploiting the people. It is also likely that this is the place that Peter stood and preached and where thousands were saved and baptized on the Day of Pentecost. Those who wish, may stay in the city marketplace for shopping, while others may choose to spend the remainder of the day surrounding the birth of Christ with a visit to Bethlehem. B | D

November 1, 2022 - Tuesday

Israel Museum, House of Caiaphas, Yad Vashem

After a filling breakfast, an interesting and educational time awaits us today at the Israeli Museum. Take a walk through collections of century's old Israeli artifacts including the Dead Sea Scrolls, and then enjoy a guided walk through an accurately detailed model of Biblical Jerusalem. This model will help put into perspective all that you have seen over the previous days touring. Next, we visit the House of Caiaphas where Jesus was beaten and spit upon. See a pit where He may have been held for the evening and the ancient hillside steps He walked as He was taken to be condemned. We conclude the day with a visit to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum, for a needed reminder of what the Jews have suffered as a people. This evening we enjoy a special lecture by a

local believer prior to dinner, giving us a perspective of Messianic life in Israel.

B | D

November 2, 2022 - Wednesday

Jesus' Steps, Last Days, Way of Suffering, Garden Tomb

Today we walk where Jesus walked; beginning the day with a panoramic view of the city, Mount Moriah and the Dome of the Rock from atop the Mount of Olives and then the Garden of Gethsemane. How many have wished to be whisked back in time to get a glimpse of our Lord or hear His voice if only for a moment? To walk between the ancient olive trees, read the scriptures of Jesus' prayer and take time for personal reflection is important here. Passing by the Protestant Cemetery, we visit the "Upper Room" just outside the Zion Gate where the disciple John, whom Jesus loved, laid his head on His breast and where later Thomas cried, "my Lord & my God." While walking along the Via Dolorosa, we are reminded of His way of suffering along with a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Our guide will explain the differing opinions on the route that Christ was led and the actual place of crucifixion and burial site. The climax of the day is the area of Golgotha (place of the skull) and the Garden Tomb, where we celebrate the resurrection with communion and a time of praise. B | D

November 3, 2022 - Thursday

Traveling home

All too soon, your vacation has ended. Transfer to Tel Aviv airport in plenty of time to check-in for our flight and to clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B

Itinerary subject to change.

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner



To register contact:

Executive Travel

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 Phone: 402-435-8888 (ask for Group Department)
 Fax: 402-435-2735
 GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com
 www.executivetravel.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://fs28.formsite.com/vLu8mE/CATISR21/>

Package Price:

Per person in shared double room: \$3,595
 Per person in a single room: \$4,595

Limited number of single rooms available.

Triple rooms are not available on this trip.

We offer "Pair & Share" service for our Solo travelers. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up. Deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. Balance is due on July 1, 2022, and is non-refundable. Balance can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payment(s) (any payment applied to the tour after the deposit) will access a 3.5% fee.

Registering for this tour signifies that you agree with our terms and conditions which can be found at executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours. The tour will be materialized with a minimum of 20 travelers and a maximum of 35 travelers.

Group airfare:

Group airfare will be available by the end of December 2021. All registered travelers will be notified.

Estimate \$1,400-\$1,500 per person, economy class.

Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3 4

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes/boots are recommended.

Travel Insurance:

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

Included:

- 10 nights during the tour in Jordan and Israel at hotels mentioned or similar
- 10 x breakfast
- 1 x lunch (day 6)
- 10 x dinner
- All transportation as per tour program
- Admissions to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- Full-time English-speaking professional tour guide in Jordan and Israel
- Baggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- Headphones where required
- Gratuities to guides, drivers, and hotel staff
- Fr. Steve Major, October 2021
- All local taxes and fees as per August 20, 2021
- Jordan Visa*

***Visa/Passport requirements** (per 8/20/2021) - American citizens: A visa is issued on the spot at the arrival in Amman airport. A visa is not required for Israel. Your passport must be valid for at least six months longer than your return date. It is the traveler's responsibility to make sure all documentation needed to enter Jordan and Israel is as per current regulations. We recommend you check www.travel.state.gov at least 90 days prior to your departure.

Not Included:

- Airfare. Estimate \$1,400-\$1,500 per person, economy class
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than mentioned in the tour program
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions

Hotel Accommodations (standard rooms):

- Geneva Hotel, Amman
- Hayat Zaman, Petra/Wadi Musa
- Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Netanya
- Leonardo Hotel, Sea of Galilee
- David Resort Hotel, Dead Sea
- Leonardo Hotel, Jerusalem

Final accommodations are confirmed with the delivery of your travel documents, 30 days prior to departure.

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