



# FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

March 22 - 31, 2010

Escorted by Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M.

GEORGE'S  
INTERNATIONAL TOURS

# ITINERARY

## Day 1 - Mon., Mar. 22 :Depart U.S.A.

Our spiritual pilgrimage begins as we depart on our transatlantic flight to Tel Aviv. Meals and refreshments will be served aloft.

## Day 2 - Tue., Mar. 23: Arrive Tel Aviv / Netanya

After arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, we'll be met by our local guide who will accompany us throughout our pilgrimage to the Holy Land. After clearing Israeli customs and immigration, we'll board our bus for the drive along the shores of the Mediterranean to Netanya for overnight.

## Day 3 - Wed., Mar. 24: Netanya / Tiberias

Leave Netanya for Tiberias. Drive along the Mediterranean shores to Caesarea, the capital of the ancient Roman Procurators of Judea, where St. Peter preached and St. Paul was imprisoned for two years before being taken to Rome for trial. See the Roman Amphitheater and travel to the sparkling port city of Haifa. Ascend Mt. Carmel, home of the two prophets Elijah and Elisha for Mass. Then proceed to Cana of Galilee, where Our Lord performed the first miracle – changing water into wine at the wedding feast. Here, we'll invite couples to renew their wedding vows. Proceed to Tiberias, our home for the next two nights.



## Day 4 - Thu., Mar. 25: Tiberias

Following breakfast, drive along the Horns of Hittin, the site where Saladin defeated the Crusaders in 1187 and brought an end to the 80 year old Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. Following Mass in Nazareth visit Joseph's Workshop and the Cave of the Annunciation. This afternoon, view Nain and the Church that celebrates the raising of the dead son of a widow. Then ascend Mt. Tabor to visit the traditional site of the Transfiguration of Jesus and the beautiful scenery of the Valley of Jezreel. Afterwards drive along the shores of the Sea of Galilee to the Baptismal Site on the Jordan River to renew our Baptismal vows.



## Day 5 - Fri., Mar. 26: Tiberias / Jerusalem

This morning we'll enjoy a scenic boat ride across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, home of Our Lord during His ministry. After visiting the Synagogue where He taught, we'll proceed to Tabgha, the site of the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Nearby is the Church of Peter's Primacy where Peter was told "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep". Drive up to the Mt. of the Beatitudes for Mass at the site of the Sermon on the Mount. In the afternoon we will depart Tiberias and drive through the Jordan Valley to ancient Jericho to visit the ruins of the ancient city which was conquered by Joshua. From the top of the ancient "tel." we'll have an excellent view of Elisha's Fountain and the Mt. of Temptation. Drive through the Judean Wilderness to Bethany where Our Lord would come to recuperate in the home of His loving friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus before setting out once more on His arduous task. Continue on to Jerusalem, our home for the next five nights.



## Day 6 - Sat., Mar. 27: Jerusalem

After breakfast this morning we will drive to the top of the Mount of Olives for a spectacular view of Jerusalem. Visit the Church of Pater Noster (where Jesus taught the Lord's prayer to His disciples) and the Chapel of Ascension. Then

take a walk along the Palm Sunday Road to Dominus Flevit where Our Lord wept over Jerusalem. Continue to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations which commemorates Jesus' Agony in the Garden. After Mass, we will enter the Old City and visit the Church of Saint Anne, the Pool of Bethesda, the Chapel of Flagellation, and Arch of the "Ecce Homo". Then follow the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to visit Golgotha and the Tomb of Our Lord.



**Day 7 - Sun., Mar. 28 (Palm Sunday): Jerusalem**

This morning we will proceed to the Holy Sepulchre to take part in the Pontifical Mass marking Palm Sunday. After Mass we will visit the Temple Area which features the Dome of the Rock, el Aqsa Mosque, and the Wailing Wall. Then enter the restored Jewish Quarter and walk along the excavated Cardo, once a main street of ancient Jerusalem. Enjoy touring the Herodian Mansions, a complex of villas from 2,000 years ago before returning to our hotel. In the afternoon drive to Bethphage which marks the spot where Our Lord commenced His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the colt of an ass. From here we will take part in the Palm Sunday Procession over the Mt. of Olives to St. Anne's Church with the Latin Patriarch, the Franciscans, fellow pilgrims, and the local Christian community.

**Day 8 - Mon., Mar. 29: Jerusalem**

After breakfast, we will drive to Bethlehem for Mass at the Nativity Church which was built by the Emperor Constantine in the 4th century above the traditional grotto of Jesus' birth. Visit the Manger, the Grotto of St. Jerome, the Church of St. Catherine, the Milk Grotto, and the Shepherds' Fields. Then drive through the Judean Wilderness for a swim in the salty and mineral laden waters of the Dead Sea. Continue to Qumran to see the

caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Return to Jerusalem. This evening there will be a special Middle Eastern Dinner.

**Day 9 - Tue., Mar. 30: Jerusalem**

Drive to Mt. Zion to visit the Cenacle (Upper Room), the scene of the Last Supper. Then proceed to Dormition Abbey, St. Peter in Gallicantu where Peter denied Jesus three times, and King David's Tomb. Continue to the New City and see the city Jesus knew when we view a scale model of First Century Jerusalem. Then on to Ein Karem, the birthplace of St. John the Baptist, to see the Visitation Church where Mary proclaimed her famous "Magnificat". We will also visit the Franciscan Church of St. John the Baptist, built in 1885.

**Day 10 - Wed., Mar. 31: Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / U.S.A.**

Today our Holy Land journey comes to an end as we transfer to Tel Aviv Airport for our return flight home.

**TOUR COST**

**\$2,695.00**

per person/double occupancy

For a single room please add \$480.00.

**This price includes:**

- \* Roundtrip airfare from New York JFK
- \* Airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- \* Accommodation in First Class hotels
- \* All hotel taxes
- \* Breakfast and dinner daily
- \* Land transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- \* All transfers & baggage handling
- \* Comprehensive sightseeing with all entrance fees as per itinerary
- \* Franciscan Priest Spiritual Director
- \* Daily Mass

***Airfares from other departure cities throughout the United States are available upon request.***

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

**Reservations and Payment:** George's International Tours requires a deposit of \$300 per person at the time of booking. Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure.

**Cancellation and Refunds:** Please make all cancellations in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$35 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior, a \$150 penalty will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior, a \$350 penalty will be charged. If canceled 14 - 7 days prior a \$700 penalty will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets are issued, which will be 35 days prior to departure, 100% of air fare is non-refundable. Additional cancellation penalties may apply depending upon the cancellation terms of our suppliers.

**Travel Documents:** A passport which is valid for a minimum of 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U. S. citizens. Visas are not required for U.S. citizens. If you are not a U. S. citizen, please call to determine your visa requirement status. George's International is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

**Tour Cost:** All quoted prices are based upon airfares, tariffs and currency exchange rates at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. Should the minimum number of 20 tour members not be reached, the right is reserved to increase the tour cost accordingly.

**Tour Documents and Tickets:** Final tour documents are mailed, provided we have received full payment, within 3 weeks of departure.

**Baggage:** Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carryon. George's International is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

**Air Transportation:** Air travel is in economy class on Austrian Airlines (or any other IATA carrier). Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice.

**Hotels:** Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms with private facilities in first class hotels. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted, and should be requested at the time of booking.

**Travel Insurance:** We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance. Insurance may be purchased directly through George's International and registration forms will be provided upon receipt of your deposit.

**Not Included:** Gratuities, passport/visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of the included meals, additional baggage in excess of airport allowance, optional sightseeing tours, and all expenses of a purely personal nature.

**Responsibility Clause:** George's International Tours & Travel, Inc. and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their suppliers of services offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public, and are not responsible therefore, either directly or indirectly, for any loss, accident, or injury which may result from any act, omission, negligence in or responsible for performing or providing these component services. The transportation companies concerned take no responsibility for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not aboard their conveyances. The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. Tour operator reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries. Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions. *CST# 2035995-40*

For further information please contact:

**Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M.**

(202) 526-6800

dwfm1400@hotmail.com

**George's International Tours**

9265 Dowdy Drive, Suite 232

San Diego, CA 92126

(800) 566-7499

sales@georgesintl.com

### RESERVATION APPLICATION: Franciscan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land (March 22 - 31, 2010)

**Print Names** (as they appear on each person's passport):

**Passenger # 1:**

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

**Passenger # 2:**

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

**Address:**

Street Address

City

State

Zipcode

**Home Phone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Office Phone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Accommodations:** Double room  Single room

Please enclose a deposit of **\$300.00** per person made payable to **George's International Tours** and mail to:

**George's International Tours**  
9265 Dowdy Drive, Suite 232  
San Diego, CA 92126