

11
DAYS

2020

Footsteps of Jesus

Watch the Gospels come alive on this most authentic faith journey live on location in the Holy Land of Israel. Take the chronological road of Jesus' life from Bethlehem to Nazareth and Lake Galilee to Jerusalem as we prepare for a powerful encounter into the heart of His passion.



Accompanied by
FR PAUL SMITHERS

10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS. COMMENCES SAT 6TH JUNE 2020

Bethlehem (2) • Masada • Jericho • Nazareth (1) • Cana • Sea of Galilee (3)
• Mt Beatitudes • Mt Tabor • Mt Carmel • Haifa • Jerusalem (4) • Taybeh.
Post Tour Option: Wonders of Jordan - 3 Nights



**OBERAMMERGAU 2020
PASSION PLAY LINK**

Why not extend your trip
to experience this once in a
decade spectacle?



the genuine pilgrim experience

harvest
journeys



DEAD SEA



CHURCH OF NATIVITY, BETHLEHEM



NAZARETH VILLAGE

pilgrim highlights

- + Pay homage in Bethlehem before the silver star that marks the very spot of Jesus' birth.
- + Be invited to the local homes of Christians in Bethlehem to enjoy a delicious meal during our 'Breaking the Bread' fellowship encounter.
- + Join the Evening Torchlight Procession in Nazareth to honour Mary's Yes to God.
- + Celebrate a breathtaking Mass in the centre of Lake Galilee onboard our traditional sailing vessel floating in silence and tranquility.
- + Enjoy an exclusive 'Breakfast with Jesus' in a private location by the shores of Galilee.
- + Engage in inspired People & Plight encounters in Haifa & Jerusalem and be moved by the faith and resilience of the local peoples.

- + Walk a hidden stretch of the authentic Jesus Trail through the mountain pass in Christ's actual footsteps towards Lake Galilee.
- + Enter as a group into a private gated Garden in Gethsemane for an extended time of prayer amidst ancient olive trees.
- + Celebrate a Sunday Parish Mass in solidarity with one of the last remaining Catholic Communities in the Holy Land.
- + Walk in Jesus' footsteps as we pray the Stations of the Cross at dawn along the deserted Via Dolorosa streets in the Old City of Jerusalem.
- + Bow low at the altar of Calvary and touch the very rock where Jesus was crucified.

SYMBOLS: (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch (D) Dinner

Ⓜ Time Out - Extended time for Reflection

DAY 1: SAT 6 JUN - ARRIVE THE HOLY LAND

Welcome to **Bethlehem** where we formally begin our chronological journey in the Footsteps of Jesus.

Bethlehem overnight (D)

DAY 2: SUN 7 JUN - BETHLEHEM & SURROUNDS

Theme: The Birth of Jesus

We firstly travel out to **Ein Karem** and ascend the hill to the **Church of the Visitation** where Mary visited Elizabeth and proclaimed her Magnificent prayer - 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord'. From here we come to the **Church of St John the Baptist**, built over a natural grotto identified as the saint's actual birthplace.

Continue to the **Shepherd's Field** to celebrate a joyous Christmas Mass in a local cave to commemorate the appearance of the angels to the shepherds on that first Holy night.

Back in **Bethlehem** this afternoon we will enter the spectacular **Church of the Nativity**, the oldest complete church in the Christian world (6th century) and birthplace of Our Lord and Saviour. Bow low and enter the grotto through the Door of Humility as we descend to the **Holy Manger** where a silver star in the floor marks the actual spot where Jesus was born. Ⓜ Visit the adjacent **Cave of St Jerome** where he spent 30 years translating the Scriptures.

Prepare to enjoy tonight our special **Breaking**

the **Bread Experience** as we enter the homes of local Christians for fellowship and to share in a delicious home-cooked Arabic meal.

Mass Setting: Shepherd's Field. Bethlehem overnight (BD)

DAY 3: MON 8 JUN - VIA MASADA & JERICHO TO NAZARETH

Theme: Ancient Desert Encounters

We farewell Bethlehem this morning and journey east along the **Jericho Road** where we recall the parable of the Good Samaritan. Ascend **St George's Monastery** lookout to marvel at the cliff-hanging 5th-century complex carved into a sheer rock wall.

Travelling south along the **Dead Sea** we arrive at historic **Masada** where we will embark the Cable Car offering spectacular scenery to the summit before a guided tour of Herod's fortress overlooking the Judean Desert.

We briefly pause outside **Qumran** where the Dead Sea scrolls were found by a Bedouin Shepherd boy in 1947.

Onwards to **Jericho**, the 'City of Palms', said to be the oldest inhabited city in the world dating back to around 9000 BC. Stop by the famous **Sycamore tree** used to commemorate the powerful story of the tax collector Zacchaeus. Across the valley see the **Mt of Temptation** where Jesus was tempted by the devil during his 40 day fast.

Soon we arrive at the **Jordan River Baptismal site (Qasr Al Yehoud)**, an archeological discovery said to be the **actual** location where **Jesus was Baptised**. Celebrate Mass here as we renew our own Baptismal promises.

Finally, we journey north through the Jordan valley before arriving into **Nazareth**, the hometown of Jesus' childhood.

Ⓜ After dinner we will prayerfully enter the **Basilica of the Annunciation** for a memorable **Candlelight Procession** with the locals.

Mass Setting: Jordan River Baptismal Site. Nazareth overnight (BD)

DAY 4: TUE 9 JUN - NAZARETH & CANA TO SEA OF GALILEE

Theme: The Formative Years of Jesus

We begin our day back at the **Basilica of the Annunciation** where a traditional cave becomes the focal point to Mary's response to the Angel Gabriel "Let it be done to me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). After celebrating Mass we will visit the nearby **Church of St Joseph** to commemorate the life of Mary's beloved spouse. Ⓜ We then enter the nearby **Synagogue Church**, built on the site where Jesus read the Messianic passage in Isaiah 61 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me"...

Continue onto **Nazareth Village**, an authentic non-profit re-creation of the village life of Nazareth as in the days of Jesus. Here we will take a parable-rich walk back in time along the path which brings to life the environment and atmosphere which shaped Jesus' early years and ministry. Complete our memorable visit with a fascinating **Biblical Meal** in the original setting of a first century house.

Travel east this afternoon and on to the village of **Cana** where Jesus, at the request of His Mother, performed His first miracle transforming the water into wine at the wedding feast (*Jn 2:1-12*). Here, married couples will have the opportunity to renew their wedding vows. Journey onto the panoramic **Mt Arbel** lookout to catch our first glimpse of Lake Galilee and the entire Golan Heights.

Finally we arrive at the shores of **Lake Galilee** ... "Go to Galilee and you will find him there" (*Mt 28:7*).

Mass Setting: Basilica of the Annunciation. Sea of Galilee overnight (BLD)

DAY 5: WED 10 JUN - SEA OF GALILEE

Theme: The Public Ministry of Jesus



SEA OF GALILEE



Arise and set out on a spectacular day of pilgrimage as we firstly board a traditional 'Jesus Boat' sailing vessel for a special Harvest highlight – a **Private Mass in the centre of Lake Galilee**. Here we will float in quiet tranquility and reflect upon the miracles of Jesus calming the storm and appearing to the apostles walking on this very water.

Back on shore, see the 1st century 'Jesus boat' painstakingly raised and restored from the muddy lakebed in 1986.

Continue onto **Capernaum**, the once fishing village of the first apostles Peter, Andrew, James & John which also became the home town of Jesus and the scene of many of His miracles.

After our **St Peter's Fish lunch**, we will journey north to **Caesarea Philippi** where the beautiful springs of **Banias** form the source of the Jordan River. It was here where Jesus asked the disciples "Who do you say I am?" and went on to commission Peter "On this rock I will build my Church".

Return to our hotel for a rest before dinner.

Mass Setting: *Afloat Lake Galilee. Sea of Galilee overnight (BLD)*

DAY 6: THU 11 JUN - SEA OF GALILEE Theme: *Galilee encounters with Jesus*

Set off early to a secret location down by the shores of Lake Galilee to enjoy **Breakfast with Jesus** in the spirit of John 21:12 when Jesus said to His disciples "Come and have breakfast". 'Taste and See' the Gospels as we recount together this passage of Scripture live on location!

ⓘ Rise then to the **Mount of Beatitudes** for a beautiful Mass here in the tranquil gardens to ponder Jesus' message of blessedness in the **Sermon on the Mount** (Mt 5:1-12).

Nearby visit the **Church of the Primacy of Peter** down by the shores of the lake. Here Jesus challenged Peter and each one of us 'Do you really love me? Feed my sheep.'

Onwards to the adjacent site of the **multiplication of the loaves and fishes** (Mt 14:20) to explore the 4th-century church displaying Byzantine mosaics considered to be some of the best in the Holy Land.

AFTERNOON FREE.

Fully mobile pilgrims have the opportunity in the mid afternoon to walk a spectacular stretch of the actual **Jesus Trail*** frequented by Our Lord between Nazareth and Capernaum. This well-worn shepherd's path through the

Valley of the Doves offers a rare and genuine opportunity to prayerfully tread the actual footsteps of Jesus down through the rustic pass between the mountains.

**Weather and personal fitness dependent.*

Mass Setting: *Mt of Beatitudes Outdoor Altar. Sea of Galilee overnight (BD)*

DAY 7: FRI 12 JUN - VIA MT TABOR & MT CARMEL TO JERUSALEM

Theme: *Mountains of the Lord*

We begin our day ascending by taxis up the narrow winding road leading to the majestic summit of **Mt Tabor**. Here Our Lord's divinity shone forth in the **Transfiguration** (Mt 17:1-2). After our private Mass in this breathtaking setting we will understand Peter's words 'Lord it is good for us to be here'.

Continue west to the city of **Haifa** wrapped by the intoxicating blue of the **Mediterranean Sea** on all three sides.

ⓘ Enter here the **Stella Maris Monastery at Mount Carmel** where in the lower cave, Elijah was said to have meditated on His victory over the false prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:1-40).

We then enjoy lunch in our hand-picked restaurant with spectacular views over the Mediterranean.

We soon come to the **House of Grace** to hear the inspired story of a family committed to empowering the most marginalised members of the Haifa community.

Onwards to the crusader port of **Caesarea Maritima**, built by Herod the Great on the harbour from which Paul was taken to Rome.

Finally, we journey south on and up to **Jerusalem** – the City of our God. Here on the eve of Shabbat we come to witness hundreds of devout Jews chanting prayers at the **Western Wall** (formerly the Wailing Wall).

Mass Setting: *Mt Tabor. Jerusalem overnight (BLD)*

DAY 8: SAT 13 JUN - JERUSALEM

Theme: *The Passion of Jesus*

Begin our Jerusalem pilgrimage as we proceed up to the **Mt of Olives** to visit the '**Pater Noster Church** where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer (Mt 6:7-15). Walk down the **Palm Sunday Road** as pilgrims to the **Dominus Flevit Church** for Mass, built on the site where Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Lk 19:41-44).

We then continue down to the **Garden of**

TASTE & SEE *meals*

Bethlehem: Meet the local Christians as we enjoy a delicious Arabic meal in their homes during our 'Breaking the Bread' host dinners experience.

Nazareth: 'Taste & See' a traditional First-Century style meal in a classic outdoor setting befitting the times of Jesus.

Tiberias: Experience a renowned 'St Peter's Fish' lunch freshly caught from the Sea of Galilee!

Galilee: Share together a stunning 'Breakfast with Jesus' in a secret location by the shores of Lake Galilee.

Mt Carmel: Share a beautiful meal in Haifa in a breathtaking setting overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

Taybeh: Be served up a delicious lunch by the Rosary Sisters here in the Holy Land's last remaining Christian village.

Jerusalem: Celebrate our final night together in a first class restaurant overlooking the illuminated Old City.

Gethsemane where we will enter the **Church of the Agony** containing the rock upon which Jesus is said to have prayed before His arrest. Prepare then for a memorable pilgrim highlight as we gain private group access inside the adjacent '**Garden of Betrayal**' for an extended time of prayer and reflection surrounded by ancient olive trees dating back to the time of Christ.

From here we set out by coach across town to the **Israel Museum** for a lunch break. View the **Second Temple Scale Model of Jerusalem** as it was in the time of Jesus. In the adjacent **Shrine of the Book Museum** we will soon gaze upon parts of the original **Dead Sea Scrolls**.

Continue back to **Mt Zion** to the **House of Caiaphas** and into the **Church of St Peter in Gallicantu** commemorating Peter's triple denial of Jesus. Here our pilgrimage moves towards the final phase of Jesus' passion. Enter the **Cenacle room of the Last Supper** (Upper Room) ⓘ where we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Continue to the **Church of the Dormition** where the Virgin Mary passed into Heaven.

Mass Setting: *Dominus Flevit. Jerusalem overnight (BD)*

DAY 9: SUN 14 JUN - JERUSALEM

Theme: *Solidarity & Peace*

We set off north for our adventure to the village of **Taybeh**, once Old Testament Ophrah and New Testament Ephraim visited by Jesus before facing His crucifixion (John 11:54). Taybeh is the last surviving Christian outpost here in the Holy Land and enjoying strong ecumenical bonds between its 1300 inhabitants of Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox and Melkite communities.

Our fascinating time here will begin by sharing a privileged **Sunday Parish Mass** with locals in the **Church of St George**. ① This Byzantine Church was built in the 5th century by St Helena, the mother of Constantine and widely known as the first pilgrim to the Holy Land. Also enter a **first century farmers house** with its original manger below where we will gain insight into the original Nativity reality. Visit the local **Taybeh Brewery** which serves to bring a sustainable livelihood to this vulnerable community. Sit down then to a **sumptuous meal served by the local Order of Nuns**. Before departure we take the opportunity to purchase a dove-shaped **Taybeh Peace Lamp** in solidarity with all peoples of the Holy Land.

Return to Jerusalem for a time of rest.

Before dinner we gather to listen to the courageous stories of the **Bereaved Family Forum** where both a Palestinian and Israeli representative will share their extraordinary journey from grief and loss to a stunning reconciliation that is sure to inspire us deeply.

Mass Setting: *Parish Mass at Taybeh. Jerusalem overnight (BLD)*

DAY 10: MON 15 JUN - JERUSALEM

Theme: *Death, Resurrection & Ascension of Jesus*

We rise at dawn and return to the Old City to commence our **Stations of the Cross** following in Our Lord's footsteps along the actual **Via Dolorosa**. We culminate at the site of **Calvary** where we will celebrate Mass here in the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**. Walk the stairway climbing to the actual site where the Cross of Jesus once stood. After Mass here enter the **Tomb of Christ**, the site believed to be where Our Lord lay buried for three days before rising from the dead.

After Breakfast at our hotel, continue to the **Church of St Anne** ① with its magnificent acoustics and said to be built over the birthplace of the Virgin Mary. See the adjacent **Pool of Bethesda** where Jesus healed the paralysed man (*Jn 5:2-9*).

We then return up to the **Mt of Olives** to the **Chapel of the Ascension** which is believed to mark the place where Jesus ascended into heaven. A befitting end to our chronological pilgrimage in His footsteps as we recall Jesus' Great Commission to the eleven disciples: "*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...*" – Mt 28:18

AFTERNOON AT LEISURE.

Before our final dinner, take the brief opportunity to view the **Holy Shroud Exhibit** with its full size replica of the sacred cloth.

Enjoy then a **Special Celebration Dinner** tonight in a wonderful restaurant with spectacular views over all of Jerusalem.

Mass Setting: *Altar of Calvary. Jerusalem overnight (BD)*

DAY 11: TUE 16 JUN - DEPART THE HOLY LAND (OR EXTEND TO JORDAN)

Return today to the airport OR join the Wonders of Jordan Extension. (B)

PILGRIMAGE DETAILS		
TOUR CODE	FJ0420	
STARTS	Sat 6 Jun 2020	Bethlehem
FINISHES	Tue 16 Jun 2020	Jerusalem
TOUR COST	\$4490 (twin share) *	
AIR & LAND	from \$6580 **	
SINGLE ROOM	\$1590 Supplement	
PREPAID TIPS	\$14 pp additional per day	

INCLUSIONS	
Accommodation & Meals: Based on superior standard central accommodation • 10 Dinners / 10 Full Breakfasts / 4 Lunches.	
Touring & Transportation: Deluxe Air Conditioned Coach touring • Professional Christian Escort / Local Guides • Sightseeing & Entrance Fees.	
Other: Fully Escorted by Spiritual Chaplain • Porterage at hotels • Harvest Backpack, Pilgrim Journal & Tour Wallet.	
NB: <i>Jordan Visa fee at additional expense (if required)</i>	

* *Costs are based on prices as at August 2019 and must remain subject to possible change in the event of significant exchange rate variations, airfares, hotel changes or minimum group size factors beyond Harvest's control. Refer to Harvest Terms & Conditions for more details.*

** *Group Airfare participants will travel on main group flights with meet & greet assistance & coach transfers on arrival & departure. Subject to seat availability.*

OPTIONAL JORDAN EXTENSION		
STARTS	Tue 16 Jun 2020	Jerusalem
FINISHES	Fri 19 Jun 2020	Tel Aviv
COST ADD-ON	\$1590 (twin share) †	
SINGLE ROOM	\$690 Supplement	
PREPAID TIPS	\$14 pp additional per day	
† <i>Includes: Deluxe Coach / Fully Escorted / Superior Hotel / Breakfasts & Dinners Daily / Entrances & Sightseeing. Minimum Group Size applies.</i>		



WONDERS OF JORDAN

3 NIGHT / 4 DAY POST TOUR OPTION

DAY 11: TUE 16 JUN - JERUSALEM & MT NEBO TO PETRA

Travel east this morning crossing in to Jordan. Ascend **Biblical Mt Nebo** for a spectacular Mass where Moses looked over into the Promised Land and blessed Joshua who was to lead the Israelites under God's protection (*Joshua 1:6-9*).

Visit **St Georges Church in Madaba** with its precious 6th-century mosaic map of the Holy Land comprised of more than two million pieces. Continue south this afternoon to the magnificent ancient trading city of **Petra** known as the 'Red Rose City' and one of the new **Seven Wonders of the World**.

Petra overnight (BD)

DAY 12: WED 17 JUN - PETRA EXPLORATION

Enjoy a breathtaking guided walking tour today through the **ruins of ancient Petra** – the city that the Nabateans carved out of solid rock dating back to 300 BC! Our visit will follow a passage through the **Siq**, a chasm created in a prehistoric earthquake. It is one of the special moments to walk through this canyon which dramatically opens up before your eyes to reveal the **Treasury Building** (Al-Khazneh) – a never to be forgotten experience. We will see also the **Roman Theatre**, **Corinthian tomb** along with churches, homes and many other buildings from this fascinating period. The remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure to relax back in our hotel.

Petra overnight (BD)

DAY 13: THU 18 JUN - VIA WADI RUM TO THE DEAD SEA

Departing Petra this morning we travel south to **Wadi Rum** to experience something of the vastness and beauty of this desert region.

A moonscape of ancient valleys and towering weathered sandstone mountains rise out of the pink and white coloured sand.

Join here the exhilaration of a **Bedouin-driven jeep ride** deep into the valley to witness the stunning grandeur of this place made famous in the films **Lawrence of Arabia** and **The Martian**. Onwards to ancient **Aqaba**, located on the northern tip of the **Red Sea** and dating back 5,500 years. Cross the border back into Israel and travel north to our **Dead Sea Resort Hotel** located right on the shore at Ein Bokek. Take the opportunity before dinner to relax or enjoy the experience of a float in the salty waters said to have healing qualities.

Dead Sea overnight (BD)

DAY 14: FRI 19 JUN - DEPART THE HOLY LAND VIA TEL AVIV (B)



BOOK NOW

harvestjourneys.com

info@harvestjourneys.com

Free-Call: 1800 819 156

Harvest Journeys

Polding Centre, 11th Floor

133 Liverpool Street

Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

harvest
journeys