Amazing Grace Holy Land Tour, "Baptized in Adventure!" October 9-17, 2023

Click for printable PDF itinerary (ISRAEL)

Our Glorious AFS Itinerary

Oct 9 DEPART USA

Fly in as you like but we will be presenting group air from Atlanta soon.

Oct 10 ARRIVE TEL AVIV

Arrive Tel Aviv. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Welcome to the Holy Land, where scripture comes to life! Welcome Dinner at the hotel to get to know your fellow travelers.

Meals Included: Dinner

Overnight at Tal By the beach Hotel or similar

TEL AVIV - JAFFA - JERUSALEM Oct 11

After a briefing, we begin with a tour of uber-cool Tel Aviv and Jaffa lined with sandy beaches on the turquoise Mediterranean Sea. After a scenic panoramic view of modern Tel Aviv, we stroll the artsy shops and cafés on Shankin Street, the "Greenwich Village of Tel Aviv". Visit a colorful open-air market for some unique craft items. Next we visit the old port city of Jaffa, the first Jewish city, established in 1909.

Journey on to Jerusalem with a stop for sweeping views from atop the Mount of Olives. At Temple Mount, you'll get the best Instagram photos here of all the Old City. Then visit the heart touching Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed the night before he was crucified.

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner Overnight at Leonardo Hotel, Jerusalem

Oct 12 FULL DAY TOUR JERUSALEM

Visit the City of David and see the newest and exciting excavations of Jerusalem during the time of the first Temple period. Here we'll also walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel which still flows with water through the Herodian drainage system that will lead straight to Robinson's Arch & the Southern Wall Excavations.

Then we take a walking tour of the atmospheric Old City; wander through the Armenian and Jewish quarters to the Cardo (ancient Roman road). We continue on to the Christian quarter and the Arab Bazaar, where haggling has been raised to an art form. It's a sacred moment to walk along a portion of the Via Dolorosa 12 stations of the cross to the 4th Church of the Holy Sepulcher - most sacred sight in the world for millions of Christians. This is the sight of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus. (Free time to enter the Holy Sepulcher.) With time permitting, we enter the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) next to the Dome of the Rock. Tuck your prayer in the wall and observe the orthodox Jewish people in their rituals here.

Overnight at Leonardo Hotel, Jerusalem

Oct 13 VALLEY OF ELAH / BETHLEHEM / JERUSALEM

Today we visit the lush Valley of Elah from the biblical books of Judges and Kings. This was a border between the Philistines and the Judean mountains where the Israelites camped. Young David began his military service here and conquered the Philistine Goliath with only his slingshot.

Later we cross the security border into the West Bank to tour the beautiful town of Bethlehem. The birthplace of Jesus is a top destination for Christians and we make it seamlessly easy to explore this peaceful holy site. Visit Mangers Square and Church of the Nativity, that is built around the Holy Grotto where Christ was born. Continue to the Church of Saint Catherine to view the ancient altars below the church. We depart passing Shepherds Field and the biblical field of Ruth.

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner Overnight at Leonardo hotel, Jerusalem

Oct 14 FREE DAY TO PLAY - JERUSALEM

Jerusalem is mentioned over 800 times in the Bible. So much to explore here, so leisure time is a must for you. Everyone loves the fabulous Yehuda Market, famous for the finest culinary delights in all Israel. So colorful, one can spend hours here among the spices and sweets. You can also visit Yad Vashem and Israel's finest new museum – Shrine of the Book housed inside the expansive Israel Museum. See here the great manuscripts of the Dead Sea Scrolls and a life-size model of Jerusalem in the time of Jesus. Your guide can offer you dozens of suggestions on how to enjoy this city to the fullest.

Included Night time experience at the Tower of David - The City of David's Evening Presentation tells the story of our return to rebuild ancient Jerusalem. A thrilling, outdoor cinematic experience projected onto the ancient ruins in the actual site where this story unfolded. Under the stars of Jerusalem's night sky, cutting-edge video mapping technology, the first of its kind in Israel. It reveals a story 2,500 years in the making where you watch how Jerusalem was destroyed and the Babylonian Exile began.

Seventy years later and against all odds, Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah, with the support of Persia, then the world's greatest empire, embarks on a dangerous journey to rebuild ancient Jerusalem. This show is spectacular.

Meals Included : Breakfast & Dinner Overnight at Leonardo hotel, Jerusalem

Oct 15 JERUSALEM / TIBERIAS / JORDAN RIVER

After breakfast, we drive towards Cana (John 21:2) where the first miracle of Jesus took place, and then to Nazareth (Matt 2:23) to visit the place where he lived as a young boy and visit a typical house of his time.

Drive to Caesarea (Acts 10:1), the port city built by King Herod. Apostle Paul was put in prison here until he was expelled to Rome and then took the gospel message to reach the whole world.

We continue over Judean hills to the Baptism site on the Jordan River where John baptized Jesus. Those who wish may renew their baptism in this uniquely special place! We reach Tiberias (John 6:1; 21:1) for dinner.

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner Overnight at Leonardo hotel, Jerusalem

Oct 16 TIBERIAS, GALILEE, JEZREEL VALLEY

Beautiful Galilee was the center of Jesus's ministry and where he performed many miracles. In the morning we board a wooden boat and enjoy the ride with teachings on the Sea of Galilee. In the middle of the sea we shut the engines to read moving scriptures: Matthew 14:26-27.

We reach Capernaum (Luke 4:31) to visit the ruins of an ancient synagogue and the Byzantine chapel at the site of Peter's House. Today, this region looks the same as it did in biblical time. Soak in the beauty of the land where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. We then continue to Tabgha (Matt 14:17, 19), the site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and the Fish, Mount of Beatitudes (Matt 5-7) and Magdala - home of Mary Magdalene.

We will then ascend to Mt.Tabor under a golden sunset – the site of the transfiguration of Jesus (Matt. 17:1-8).

Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight stay. Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner Overnight at Leonardo hotel, Jerusalem

Oct 17 DEPART TEL AVIV

After breakfast, we are transferred back to Tel Aviv airport for our departing flights home with our hearts filled overflowing. You will reflect for years to come on this powerful journey that brought the Word of God to life!