

0224 St Athanasios Pilgrimage to Holyland led by Father Panagiotis Boznos

Feb 10 - Feb 19, 2024



Saturday, February 10

Depart O'Hare Airport on our way to Tel Aviv, Israel

Sunday, February 11

Welcome Home! Arrive at Tel Aviv's airport where our representative greets us and gives us an introduction about the forthcoming program. Proceed to our hotel in the Galilee for dinner and an overnight stay.

Monday, February 12

Today we tour the Sea of Galilee. Visit Capernaum and Simon Peter's House, the Mount of the Beatitudes, and Tabgha-the site of the Feeding of the Multitudes. We then take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee and enjoy a St. Peter's fish lunch in Tiberias. Visit the Monastery of the Apostles Tiberias and the recently discovered Magdala. Back to our hotel in Galilee for dinner and an overnight stay.

Tuesday, February 13

Ascend Mt. Tabor – site of Transfiguration. Continue to Cana of Galilee – the site of the first miracle. Drive along the Coast to visit Caesarea where St. Paul was imprisoned and Cornelius baptized - see the Roman-Byzantine theater and other remains: the aqueduct and the Crusader ruins. End the day in Nazareth- visit the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation, where Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and view the house of the Virgin. Dinner and overnight in Galilee.

Wednesday, February 14

Depart the Galilee en route to Jerusalem. Drive via the Jordan Valley to the Judean Desert to St Gerassimo - site of the Holy family's visit on the Flight to Egypt. Visit Qumran (site of the Dead Sea Scrolls), Experience floating in the Dead Sea. Visit Jericho: Monastery on top of The Mount of Temptation, Zacheus's Tree, and Elisha's Spring. View St. George's Monastery. Ascend to the Holy City for dinner and an overnight stay.

Thursday, February 15

Visit Bethlehem to worship at the ancient Greek Orthodox Church of the Nativity, Manger Square and Shepherds' Fields. Return to Jerusalem to explore Mt Zion: the Room of the Last Supper, and the Tomb of

David. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.
(Midnight Liturgy)

Friday, February 16

Ascend the Mount of Olives: Church of the Ascension, walk Palm Sunday Road - Russian Church of Mary Magdalene, the Garden of Gethsemane, Tomb of Mary and Church of St. Steven. Audience with His Beatitude Theophilus the 3rd Patriarch of Jerusalem. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.

Saturday, February 17

Walk into the Old City of Jerusalem. Experience the various quarters and underground excavations. Walk to the sacred Church of The Anastasis (The Holy Sepulcher), visit the Greek Orthodox Monasteries of St Nicholas and the Prison of Christ, the Church of St. Anne and the Pool of Bethesda. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem. (Midnight Liturgy).

Sunday, February 18

Sunday liturgy at the church of the Holy Sepulcher (Anastasis). Visit the Monastery of the Cross. Continue to Lydda - Monastery of St George. Explore Jafa: the Monastery of St Michael the Archangel and the house of Simon the Tanner - where St Peter revived Tabitha and had the vision on the rooftop. Walk along the streets of ancient Jafa- today an artist colony. Enjoy a farewell dinner - and farewell from the Holyland en route to the airport for our journey back home.

Monday, February 19

Morning arrival to ORD Airport.