

A Journey Of Faith to the Bible Lands

March 14 – 29, 2009

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 -

Depart Newark with Continental Airlines flight # 84 **nonstop, nonsmoking** to Tel Aviv, leaving at 4:25PM.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 – TIBERIAS (D)

Arrive Tel Aviv at 9:20AM. Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport by a **Ya'lla Tours USA** Israel representative and drive to the ruins of **Caesarea**, a large port city built by Herod the Great to honor Roman Caesar Augustus. Herod built a port in the bay and erected all the cultural institutions found in every great Greco-Roman city - a theater, a hippodrome, and a luxurious bathhouse. In order to supply water to the city's ever-growing population, he built an aqueduct system stretching from the springs of Mt. Carmel to Caesarea. Part of this system is still visible today. The book of Acts refers repeatedly to Caesarea as the city Peter visited (Acts 10).

Continue to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Our hotel, **SCOTS HOTEL**, is a new 4-star property (opened in summer of 2004) situated in the heart of Tiberias with a breathtaking view of the Sea of Galilee. All 69 standard rooms are equipped with private bath, direct dial phones, hair dryers, and air conditioning. Once serving as a hospital and later as a guesthouse for more than 100 years, the hotel has access to the Sea of Galilee, offering a perfect place for peaceful reflection. www.scotshotels.co.il

MONDAY, MARCH 16 – TIBERIAS (B,D)

We'll take a private boat ride around the Sea of Galilee to **The Genosar Boat** found in 1986. The boat dates back two thousand years.

We continue our pilgrimage to Mt. Carmel where we visit the Carmelite Monastery of **Muhraka** to survey the site where God caused Elijah to defeat the priests of Ba'al.

On to **Megiddo**, the "Hill of Battles," where archaeologists have uncovered 20 civilizations built one upon another. At this site, King Solomon built his vast stables and, in 609 BC, good King Josiah died in battle. Look over the peaceful Jezreel Valley.

Continue to **Tzipori**, and see one of the most spectacular ruins of a Galilean Village from the days of Jesus.

Return Tiberias for dinner and overnight.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17 – TIBERIAS

(B,L,D)

Drive to **Peter's Home** in **Capernaum** which reveals the domestic life of a New Testament fisherman.

Drive to the **Mount of the Beatitudes**, site of the Sermon on the Mount and the Miracle of the Fishes.

Continue north and arrive at Kibbutz Hagoshrim. Enjoy a **St. Peter's fish** lunch.

Then, at a unique location on the **River Jordan**, we will remember our own baptism.

Next, drive to the Upper Galilee to Baniyas (**Caesarea Philippi**) to see the source of the Jordan River and the site of Peter's confession "...you are the Christ" (Matt. 16:18).

Return Tiberias for dinner and overnight

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18 – TIBERIAS

(B,D)

Drive to **Mt. Tabor**. Take a taxi to the top of the mountain and visit the Church of the Transfiguration. Enjoy an outstanding view of the Jezrael Valley where the battle of Deborah and the Midianites took place (Judges 5).

Drive to **Cana** on your way to **Nazareth**, where our Lord spent most of his life. Today, Nazareth is home to the largest Arab population in Israel. Visit the Church of the Annunciation and St. Joseph's Grotto.

Then visit the **Nazareth Village**, meet your private local guide and experience first hand the life in the Galilee in the days of Jesus.

Return to Tiberias for dinner and overnight.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19 – PETRA

(B,L,D)

Leave Tiberias early in the morning and drive to Northern border crossing between Israel & Jordan. Cross to Jordan.

In Jordan, you will meet by **Ya'lla Tours USA's** representative and your Jordanian tour guide.

Visit **Bethany beyond the Jordan** where John the Baptist preached and baptized and quite possibly the baptism site of Jesus (recent excavations have uncovered baptismal pools). It is also the place from which Elijah ascended to heaven in a chariot of fire.

Enjoy lunch on the shores of the Dead Sea.

Then on to **Mt. Nebo**, the traditional site of the tomb of Moses. Visit an ancient church located atop the hill overlooking the Dead Sea and the Jordan Valley. The Church is run by the Franciscan monks in the area and houses magnificent 6th century mosaics.

Drive along the King's Highway to Petra for dinner and overnight.

Our hotel, **MOVENPICK NABATEAN CASTLE**, is located just 10 minutes from the entrance to the ancient site of Petra. The hotel is set on a hillside with spectacular views over the Great Rift Valley. Designed by award winning architect Rasem Badran, the hotel offers 90 guest rooms, spacious and elegant public areas and extensive recreational facilities. All guest rooms have air-conditioning, cable TV, direct-dial phone, mini-bar and hair dryer. Hotel facilities include two restaurants, indoor pool and a fully equipped gym. http://www.moevenpick-hotels.com/hotels/Petra_Nabatean_Castle/welcome.htm

FRIDAY, MARCH 20 – PETRA**(B,D)**

This morning we will tour the city of **Petra**. Travel on horseback through the Siq (canyon), and then on foot to Petra. Known as "Sela Edom" or red rock city, Petra was the capital of the Nabateans from the 3rd century B.C. to the 2nd century A.D. Petra's most elegant monument, El Khazneh (The Treasury) comes dramatically into view as you emerge from the Siq. Beyond The Treasury an entire city is carved into the canyon walls. Other outstanding structures include The Monastery and Urn Tomb. Wander through the field of tombs and obelisks to Al Madhbah (the altar). From this point you can view the whole of the rock city. (As a great deal of walking is included in the visit, we suggest good walking shoes and a lightweight jacket). The most adventurous will be invited to hike up to the spiritual "High Place," site of the sacrificial altar and offering a spectacular view of the ancient city and surroundings.

Dinner - 7:30PM drive to Petra Kitchen where you will learn how to cook Jordanian food and then dine on your own creations.

Return to your hotel for overnight.

SATURSDAY, MARCH 21 – DEAD SEA**(B,L,D)**

Depart for **Wadi Rum**. Take a short 4 X 4 vehicle ride into the oasis with its awesome moon-like landscape. The film Lawrence of Arabia was shot here.

Enjoy a Bedouin lunch with the locals, in the tradition of the Patriarchs.

Continue to one of Jordan's most significant recent archaeological discoveries, **Lot's Cave**. Lot and his daughters are said to have sought refuge here after the destruction of the city of Sodom. Continue to the Jordan River Valley.

Arrive the hotel for dinner and overnight.

You are confirmed in a Deluxe Room

Our hotel, **MOVENPICK DEAD SEA RESORT & SPA**, is a deluxe 5 star property located on the shores of the Dead Sea. The resorts close to nature, traditional stone village ambiance enhances a world of enchantment. From the elegant main building, a man made river runs through valley gardens, past a central court yard, towards the shady village square, shops, restaurant, recreational facilities and spa at the shores of the Dead Sea.

The resort consists of 232 well appointed guest rooms and suites, 8 restaurants and bars, several pools, and many sport facilities. www.movenpick-deadsea.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 – DEAD SEA**(B,D)**

Free day to relax and enjoy the facilities of the Dead Sea.

Dinner and overnight included.

MONDAY, MARCH 23 – JERUSALEM (B,D)

At 11:00AM, drive to the Allenby Bridge border crossing with Israel.

Cross back to Israel, and drive to **Jericho**, the oldest city in the world, and take the cable car to Mt. of Temptations.

Then climb the Judean Hills to the most beautiful city in the world, JERUSALEM, for dinner and overnight.

Our hotel, **INBAL**, is located within walking distance of Jerusalem's historical and religious sites. The hotel's design uniquely incorporates Jerusalem stone in both its interior and exterior. The Inbal offers a high level of comfort and service. Facilities include 294 elegantly furnished air-conditioned rooms.

The Inbal Spa features a fully equipped fitness room, exercise classes, and wet and dry saunas. The heated, chlorine-free pool, covered during the winter, is available to guests year-round. A fully integrated business center provides office services including fax, phone, e-mail and copier. www.inbal-hotel.co.il

TUESDAY, MARCH 24 – JERUSALEM (B,D)

In the morning, drive 6 miles south to **Bethlehem** and the **Church of the Nativity**, the oldest church in the holy land still in use. Construction was begun in 326 AD with the aid of the local tradition which told that Jesus was born in a cave at the edge of the village.

Return to Jerusalem and the **Mount of Olives** for an awe inspiring, panoramic view of the city.

Walk to the Garden of Gethsemane. Along the way, visit the **Church of Pater Noster**, located on the hill where it is said that Jesus taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer. The prayer is written on the walls of the church in more than 85 languages.

Continue on foot to one of the newest churches in Jerusalem, **Dominus Flevit**. During construction in 1955, archaeologists uncovered artifacts dating back to the Canaanite period as well as tombs from both the Second Temple and Byzantine eras. Also unearthed were the remains of a lovely Byzantine shrine with an elaborate mosaic floor that was incorporated into the church.

Originally built in 379 AD, the **Church of Gethsemane** was rebuilt in 1919 – 1924.

Long considered one of the most beautiful in Jerusalem, it was called the Church of all Nations because 16 nations contributed to its construction.

The Garden of Gethsemane lies at the foot of the Mount of Olives. Today it appears as it did 20 centuries ago and within it are some of the world's oldest olive trees.

Next, enter the **Christian Quarter** of the **Old City** through the **Lion Gate**. See the **Pool of Bethesda**, where Jesus healed the blind man; and St. Anne's Church, perhaps the finest example of Crusader architecture in Israel and possessing amazing acoustics.

Walk the **Way of the Cross, the Via Dolorosa**, to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**.

In 325 AD, Constantine's mother Helen first requisitioned the area for a church. The 4th century church was largely destroyed by the Turks in 1009 AD and partially restored in 1048 AD.

Return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 - JERUSALEM (B,D)

The morning drive takes us to the **House of Chiaphas**, chief priest of the Jews, where we explore the dungeon where Jesus was held prior to his trial.

Visit **David's Tomb** and the **Last Supper Room**.

Enter the **Old City** through the **Zion Gate** for a walking tour of the Jewish quarter. The **Burnt House** and the **Herodian Quarter** remind us of the Roman conquest and the destruction of the Jewish Temple in 70 AD.

Walk down the stairs to the **Western Wall**, the only visible remains of the Second Temple and the holiest site in all Judaism.

See the **Temple Steps**, the original steps leading to the Temple's entrance.

A visit to the **Davidson Center** with its new, multi-media presentation reveals Jerusalem in the days of Jesus.

At 7:00PM, visit the recent excavations of the **Western Wall Tunnel**, huge arched spaces just north of the Western Wall.

Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 - JERUSALEM (B,D)

At 9:00AM, arrive at **Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial** for a Yizkor Service (Remembrance) at the **Valley of the Communities**.

Visit the **Shrine of the Book** to glimpse the incredible Dead Sea Scrolls. Also, view a model of Jerusalem in Jesus' time.

Arrive back in Jerusalem in time to stroll the shopping streets of Jerusalem, especially Ben Yehuda St.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27 - JERUSALEM (B,D)

We end our pilgrimage with a visit to the **Garden Tomb**. Many Protestant denominations hold the Garden Tomb to be the location of the Resurrection. We will have a special time for prayer and meditation.

Return to the hotel for a free afternoon and Shabbat dinner and overnight.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 - JERUSALEM (B,D)

Depart Jerusalem and drive east to the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth.

Continue for **Masada**. Take the cable car to the top of the rock and see the Roman palaces, store houses, synagogues and bath house, which witnessed the Jewish resistance to the Romans approximately 2,000 years ago.

Descend by cable car and drive to the Dead Sea for a float in the water.

See **Qumran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947.

Return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 -

(B)

You will be transferred to the Ben Gurion Airport around 8:00AM for your **nonstop** Continental Airlines flight # 85, depart Ben at 11:05AM and arrive Newark at 4:50PM.

Price per person in a double room: \$5,995

Price for a single room supplement: \$1,395

Prices are GUARANTEED for March 2009

PRICE INCLUDES:

- * Round-trip, economy class airfare from Newark to Tel Aviv with Continental Airlines.
- * 13 nights of accommodations in the listed hotels with Israeli buffet breakfast and dinner daily.
- * Transfers to/from Ben Gurion Airport.
- * 14 days of tours in a private, luxurious, air-conditioned bus with a licensed, English-speaking guide.
- * All entrance fees as per itinerary.
- * Private boat ride across the Sea of Galilee.
- * St. Peter's Fish lunch in the Galilee.
- * Lunch in the Dead Sea
- * Jeep ride and lunch in Wadi Rum.
- * Portage at airport and hotels, service and local taxes.
- * **Ya'lla Tours** special information kit and travel bag.
- * Entry visa to Jordan.
- * Border tax between Israel & Jordan.
- * Tip to guides and drivers.

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- * Departure taxes (\$345 based on April 2008).
- * Meals unless specified.
- * Travel insurance (\$349 per person in a double room, or \$502 in a single room), highly recommended.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- * Continental offers full mileage credit on their Mile Plus program.
- * A \$750 per person deposit is required at the time of booking. The deposit is FULLY REFUNDABLE up to 90 days prior to departure.
- * Final payment is due on **December 23, 2008**.
- * **Ya'lla Tours USA, Inc.** accepts credit cards at no extra charge.
- * All monies paid to **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** are held in a trust account until paid to our suppliers.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PRICE:

- * The price of the tour is: **\$5,995** per person in a double room based on a minimum of **30** participants in the tour. The price is guaranteed but if due to unforeseen circumstances beyond **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc's** control, our suppliers increase the price, **Ya'lla USA Inc.** will adjust the price accordingly.
- * Price of the airfare portion of the tour is subject to change until the air ticket has been issued.
- * Should a single traveler wish to share a room with another traveler, and **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** is unable to match him/her with a roommate, the single room supplement will apply.
- * Should the number of participants, **90** days prior to departure, be lower than the published minimum number of participants to operate the tour, the price will be adjusted accordingly, or the tour will be canceled.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT POLICY:

- * A deposit of **\$750** per person is due as people register for the tour.
- * Final payment is due **90** days prior to the group departure, on **December 23, 2008.**

CANCELLATIONS & REFUND:

- * **For cancellation of 89 to 45 days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 50% of the tour cost will apply.**
- * **For cancellation of 44 to 15 days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 75% of the tour cost will apply.**
- * **For cancellation of 14 days and less prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost will apply.**
- * No refund will be paid for unused services such as: transfers, sightseeing, meals, hotel accommodation, entrance fees, and others that are listed in the tour program.
- * **The travel insurance is NON-REFUNDABLE once purchased.**

LAND ARRANGEMENTS:

The Tour Operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances. In all cases, **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** will do its best to maintain the content of the tour.

The Tour operator reserves the right to change the hotels listed on the tour for others of similar quality.

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

Whereas **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** and the participating airlines and tour operators operate the land tours offered under this program only as agents of the aircraft, railroads, car rental contractors, steamship lines, hotels, bus operators, sight-seeing contractors and others who provide the actual land arrangements, we are not liable for any act, omission, delay, injury, loss or damage or nonperformance occurring in connection with these tours.

The Passenger contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of these tours and/or passenger.

Ya'lla Tours USA Inc. reserves the right to bring legal action to collect damages in the event that purchaser fails to pay any fees due and owing for services, including cancellation fees as set out in the section entitled 'Cancellations & Refunds'. The parties agree that should legal action be commenced, the prevailing party will be entitled to his/her or its reasonable attorney fees and court costs in addition to the actual damages sustained and proven.

PASSENGER RESPONSIBILITY:

Passenger has read the above terms and conditions and agrees to each of them. Passenger hereby warrants that he/she fully understand each of them. Specifically passenger understands that should he/she cancel their trip for any reason, passenger will be charged the cancellation fee set out in the 'Cancellations & Refunds' section.

PASSPORT AND DOCUMENTATION:

Your passport must be valid for at least six months following your entry date to your travel destination.

For more specific visa requirement, please contact the relevant consulate for update information.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT SEVERABILITY:

This is the entire agreement of the parties and it may be amended only by written agreement signed by both **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** and the client. If any part of this agreement is held unenforceable by a court of law, the rest of this agreement will nevertheless remain in force and effect.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is not included in your tour price.

It is the passenger's responsibility to verify whether his / hers local health insurance covers you out of the USA. Please contact your insurance carrier for details.

Ya'lla Tours USA Inc. highly recommends the purchase of comprehensive travel insurance, which covers health, luggage and trip cancellation. A waiver must be signed if insurance is declined.