

**Join Northeastern Seminary for a
Holy Land Study Tour
December 29, 2022 – January 11, 2023**

Day 1 (Thursday, December 29) – Depart USA

Day 2 (Friday, December 30) – Arrive In Israel

Transfer from Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv to our hotel on the Mediterranean Coast.
Overnight Mediterranean Coast

Day 3 (Saturday, December 31) – The Coastal Plain, Jezreel Valley, and Nazareth

Continue to enjoy the Mediterranean Sea as we tour the spectacular Roman complex and engineering feat of Herod the Great known as **Caesarea Maritima**. View the Jezreel Valley – the place imagined as the stage for the great final battle between good and evil, from **Megiddo**; Recall the childhood of Jesus at the **Basilica of the Annunciation**.

Overnight Tiberias

Day 4 (Sunday, January 1) – Jesus' Ministry Around the Sea of Galilee

Meditate on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount with Holy Communion on the **Mount of Beatitudes**; Visit Jesus' home away from home: **Capernaum**; recall the feeding of the 5000 with five loaves and two fish at **Tabgha** and John 21 at the **Church of the Primacy of Peter**; look into the life of first-century fishermen with the ancient boat at **Ginnosar**; experience a **boat ride across the Sea of Galilee**; visit the hometown of Mary Magdalene at **Magdala**.

Overnight Tiberias

Day 5 (Monday, January 2) – Ancient and Modern Religion, Life, and Politics in the Golan Heights

Experience Old Testament history that stretches from the Canaanite period to the Israelite monarchy at **Tel Hazor**. Simultaneously step back into ancient Israelite religion and politics at **Biblical Dan** amidst the natural beauty and modern political importance of its **Nature Reserve**; recall Peter's confession of Jesus as the Christ at **Caesarea Philippi**; have lunch in a **Druze village**; Visit the Old Testament city, New Testament fishing town and home of several disciples: **Bethsaida**;

Overnight Tiberias

Day 6 (Tuesday, January 3) – Journey South: The Ancient Samaritan Hill Country and Modern West Bank

Recall the story of Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4) at **Jacob's Well in Nablus (ancient Shechem)**; visit **Mt. Gerizim**, site of the 5th century BCE Samaritan Temple and on whose slopes Passover sacrifices continue to this day; explore the ruins of **Samaria**, ancient capital of the northern kingdom of Israel built by Omri and later inhabited by Ahab and Jezebel.

Overnight Dead Sea

Day 7 (Wednesday, January 4) – Sabbath in the Wilderness

Rest and renewal in the setting that was spiritually formative for both John the Baptist and Jesus.
Overnight Dead Sea.

Day 8 (Thursday, January 5) – Ancient Life in the Wilderness

Continue our experience of life in the wilderness with a visit to the 3rd century CE Ein Gedi Synagogue; see where the Dead Sea Scrolls, including some of the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world, were found at **Qumran**; visit the lowest and oldest city on earth – **Jericho**; remember our baptism at one of the places John the baptizer was active: **Bethany Beyond the Jordan**.

Overnight Dead Sea.

Day 9 (Friday, January 6) – From Wilderness to Hill Country

Visit **Masada**, grand mountain-top fortress of Herod the Great and place of the Zealots' last stand against the Romans; Travel along biblical Israel's southern frontier of the **Negev Wilderness** with stops at the ancient Israelite fortress of **Arad** with its impressive "miniature" temple complex and then the ancient city of **Beer-Sheva**. Our day concludes with a drive through some of the beautiful **Shefelah**, ending in the **Judean Hill Country**.

Overnight Bethlehem.

Day 10 (Saturday, January 7) – Bethlehem

Ponder the holy mystery of the incarnation at the **Church of the Nativity**; view the Judean Hill Country and Judean Wilderness from Herod the Great's hilltop fortress and burial place known as the **Herodium**; discuss the Christian Presence in and around Bethlehem with Pastor Ashraf Tannous; recall the angel's announcement at **Shepherds' Fields**.

Overnight Bethlehem

Day 11 (Sunday, January 8) –Ancient and Modern Jerusalem: History and Politics

Visit the **Jewish Settlement of Efrat** and dialogue with the Head of the Religious Council, Bob Lang; see some of the original Dead Sea Scrolls and a massive outdoor scale model of Jerusalem as it was at the time of Jesus at the **Israel Museum**; honor all those touched by the Holocaust at the **Yad Vashem** museum and memorial.

Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 12 (Monday, January 9) – O Jerusalem!

Immerse ourselves in four thousand years of history and faith on **The Temple Mount**; visit the place of one of Jesus' healing miracles at **Bethesda Pools**; experience Jewish prayer and meditation at the **Western Wall**; get a glimpse of ancient Jerusalem as Jesus saw it at the Davidson Center with the **Temple Mount Excavations**; lunch in the Jewish Quarter; visit the ancient **City of David** which David took from the Jebusites to establish his capital, optional walking of **Hezekiah's tunnel**.

Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 13 (Tuesday, January 10) – The Old City and the Mount of Olives

As did the women long ago and countless pilgrims since, we begin with a morning journey to the place of Christ's resurrection. After entering the **Old City** through **Zion Gate**, we begin outside what we now know was the **Praetorium**, the place of Christ's condemnation, proceeding then to **Calvary** and the empty tomb in the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**; retrace the events that led up to the crucifixion as we experience the setting of the Last Supper in the traditional **Upper Room**; recall Peter's three-fold denial of Jesus at the **Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu**. We move to the **Mt. of Olives** and recall Jesus acquiring the donkey for his triumphant ride into Jerusalem; the giving of the Lord's Prayer at **Pater Noster Church**; Jesus weeping over Jerusalem at **Dominus Flevit**; and his praying in the **Garden of Gethsemane**, commemorated by the adjacent **Church of All Nations**.

Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 14 (Wednesday, January 11) – Arrive USA.