

Day 1, Wednesday, November 8

DEPART

Check in for our flight to Israel. El Al Israel Airlines flight #2 departs at 6:45pm. Dinner and breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2, Thursday, November 9

ARRIVE. INTEGRATED LIVING IN ACRE (ACCO)

Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv at 12:25pm, where you will be met and assisted by an Abrams Travel representative. Drive along the Mediterranean Coast past the port city of Haifa to Acco (Acre), a city of mixed Jewish and Arab population. Visit the Crusader fortress and tunnels, the prison and the still active market. Cross the Galilee to Tiberias and check into the Leonardo Plaza Hotel, steps from the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Dinner and overnight, Tiberias.

Day 3, Friday, November 10

MUSLIM, CHRISTIAN, AND JEWISH PRAYER

Ascend the hills of Upper Galilee to Tzfat (Safed), a city that is the birthplace of Jewish mysticism and a center for Jewish art. Visit the synagogues where the Kabbalah started and walk through the artists quarter with time for shopping. Drive to Nazareth for Salat al-Jum'ah, Friday prayer, in a local mosque. Also visit the Christian sites in the town of Jesus' youth, including the Church of the Annunciation. Nearby, see the Wedding Church in Cana. Return to Tiberias for Shabbat dinner. Rabbi Winer will lead a discussion of the Shabbat rituals. Overnight, Tiberias.

Day 4, Saturday, November 11

CHRISTIAN GALILEE AND THE DRUZE IN THE STRATEGIC GOLAN HEIGHTS

Begin our day with a ride on the Sea of Galilee in a wooden boat similar to those of Jesus' time. See a boat that was carbon dated to the First Century. At the Mt. of Beatitudes, you will sit at the top of this natural theater to read the inspiring words of the Beatitudes. Nearby, walk through the remains of the synagogue at Capernaum, an important Jewish fishing village, where Jesus preached. Ascend into the Golan Heights, captured by Israel from Syria in the 1967 Six Day War. Look into Syria and discuss the strategic importance of the area, as well as the ramifications of the Syrian civil war. Learn about Israeli efforts to treat war wounded. In Majd a-Shams, meet with the Druze, an Arabic speaking monotheistic group. Some members of the Druze serve in the Israeli military, and many families are split between the Israeli and Syrian controlled parts of the Golan. They are directly impacted by the Syrian civil war. Return to Tiberias. Saturday evening Church service at St. Peter's Church. Dinner and overnight, Tiberias.

Day 5, Sunday, November 12

THE JEWS AND ARABS OF GALILEE AND THE COAST

Discuss the political challenges of co-existence and sharing limited resources with Ron Shani, the Head of the Misgav Regional Council. The Misgav region is known for the diversity of its communities, all of which exist peacefully and respectfully alongside each other. The region is the location of one of the country's first dual language (Arab-Hebrew) educational institutions, the Galil Jewish-Arab School. In Haifa, a major port city inhabited both Arabs and Jews and an important place for the Bahai religion, visit Beit Hagefen, the Arab Jewish Cultural and Youth Center. Discuss the difficulties and opportunities of creating a community of equality and understanding. Drive south along the Mediterranean coast to Tel Aviv. Dinner and overnight, Carlton, Tel Aviv.

Day 6, Monday, November 13

LIFE ON THE GAZA BORDER AND HOPES OF PEACE

Meet with members of Kibbutz Kfar Aza to learn about the unique challenges of living on the Gaza border. Visit the Peres Center for Peace, which pursues this important goal through peace education, assisting the Palestinian healthcare system through cooperation with Israeli healthcare professionals and institutions, and through business and environment tracks that seek to improve relations and foster sustainable economic growth. Dinner and overnight, Tel Aviv.



Sea of Galilee

First Century Boat recovered from the Sea of Galilee



Jerusalem – Southern Wall of the Temple and Al Aqsa Mosque



Rawabi

Yad Vashem



Day 7, Tuesday, November 14

RABIN, "WARRIOR FOR PEACE," AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCES IN ABU GOSH

Morning at the Rabin Center, a place that not only traces Israel's history through the life of the late Prime Minister, but also provides insight into the conflicts in Israeli society. Drive to Abu Gosh, a Christian and Muslim town known for its hospitality. We lunch in the home of Issa Jaber, the local education minister. He will explain the history of his community and the reasons they have chosen to pursue a peace path of co-operation with Jews and Christians. Ascend to Jerusalem for check in to the Inbal Hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 8, Wednesday, November 15

THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM

Ascend to the Temple Mount, the plateau housing the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque. Opportunity for Muslims to worship at Al Aqsa, with alternative activity for Christians and Jews on the Temple Mount. Explore the Southern Wall ruins of The Second Temple and learn about religious practice during that era. Visit the Western Wall, a remnant of the Temple's retaining wall, and a focal point of Jewish prayer and pilgrimage. Walk the Way of the Cross, the road that Jesus walked on his way to crucifixion. Among other stops, you will visit the Pool of Bethesda, the Chapel of Judgment and Chapel of Flagellation, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. See the ancient olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane. Free time for shopping or to return to the hotel to rest. Dinner and overnight, Jerusalem.

Day 9, Thursday, November 16

PALESTINE

Travel to Ramallah and Rawabi with leaders of The Media Line, an organization whose seasoned journalists cover daily events in the region. Ramallah is the political capitol of Palestine, and Rawabi is the first city planned and built by Palestinians, and a center for Palestinian hi-tech and business enterprises. Return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight at the Inbal Hotel.

Day 10, Friday November 17

NEW JERUSALEM AND BETHLEHEM

Drive past Israel's Parliament, the Knesset, and the Supreme Court, on our way to Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center. Walk along the Avenue of the Righteous honoring non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during World War II. Descend through the stirring Children's Memorial and consider how hatred can be turned into attempted genocide in the museum's main halls. In Bethlehem, visit the Church of the Nativity, see the Shepherds Fields and consider the meaning of being both Palestinian and Christian. Sabbath services at Kol Haneshama Congregation, a center for Progressive Judaism in Israel. Special Sabbath dinner at the Inbal Hotel. Overnight, Jerusalem.

Day 11, Saturday November 18

DESERT LIFE AND SACRIFICE

Descend through the Judean desert to the shores of the Dead Sea. At Qumran, learn how the local sect of Jews worshipped and wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls. Nearby, ascend by cable car to Masada, Herod's desert palace and fortress. In 73 C.E., Jewish zealots resisting the Romans chose death over capture atop this mountain. Drive to the shores of the Dead Sea for the opportunity to float on these unique waters. Overnight, Jerusalem.

Day 12, Sunday November 19

CHASMS AND THE BRIDGES OVER THEM

Start our day with a prayer service in the Garden Tomb of Jesus. Dialogue with members of Hand in Hand. This organization brings together thousands of Jews and Arabs in six schools and communities throughout Israel. They are proving on a daily basis the viability of inclusion and equality for all citizens of Israel. Free time for last minute shopping. Farewell dinner before transfer to Ben Gurion Airport.

Day 13, Monday November 20

RETURN FLIGHT HOME.

Our Shared Holy Land

A Muslim-Christian-Jewish Interfaith Pilgrimage

November 8-20, 2017



“Our Shared Holy Land” is an equally Muslim and Christian and Jewish pilgrimage to what all three Abrahamic religions regard as Holy Land. Together, we will envision the dream of a “shared Holy Land” and the sometimes harsh realities in the State of Israel and Palestinian Authority. Together, we will visit religious sites sacred to one or more of the three Abrahamic faiths, experience each other in worship on our three different sabbath days, explore distinctive opposing narratives about the same events, and confront conflicts among our Muslim, Christian, and Jewish co-religionists living there.

Our Shared Holy Land

A Muslim-Christian-Jewish Interfaith Pilgrimage

Package includes:

- Round-trip flights on El Al Israel Airlines between New York and Tel Aviv
- Well located luxury hotels
- Private sightseeing with outstanding educator/guide on a program specially designed by Rabbi Mark Winer
- Share the sacred sites and meet the diverse people of our shared Holy Land in the Galilee, Jerusalem, Palestine and Tel Aviv
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Tips to educator/guide, driver and porters

Please note that the tour will be limited to approximately 30 participants.



The Muslim-Christian-Jewish Interfaith Pilgrimage is led by Rabbi Mark L. Winer MBE PhD DD President, FAITH

Rabbi Mark Winer founded FAITH:

For 60 years, Mark has been an interfaith activist and scholar of the Abrahamic religions, having published in Jewish, Christian, and Muslim journals. An ordained rabbi, Mark graduated from Harvard and earned his PhD in the Sociology of Religion at Yale. He has lectured widely in universities and Muslim, Christian, and Jewish religious institutions all over the world. As President of the National Council of Synagogues, Mark coordinated official interfaith dialogue on behalf of American Jews of all denominations. For fifteen years, Mark led interfaith relations around the world on behalf of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. In 2014 Queen Elizabeth II appointed Mark a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE), for “interfaith dialogue and social cohesion in London and the United Kingdom,” the only American-born rabbi ever appointed to the “orders of knighthood.”



FAITH: the Foundation to Advance Interfaith Trust and Harmony was established in the United States in May of 1995, and is a “Public Charity” exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to FAITH are deductible for Federal income tax purposes under Section 170(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS EIN is 133846040. In accordance with current IRS requirements for charitable contributions, FAITH acknowledges that no goods or services may be provided in consideration of a charitable gift. Payment for a FAITH pilgrimage cannot be considered a charitable contribution, since the trip is purchased through the payment. FAITH is also a legal charity in the United Kingdom as an Inland Revenue approved charity. A copy of the official registration of FAITH with the State of Florida and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free 1-800-435-7352 within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State of Florida. FAITH’s registration number is CH34926.

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