

# Sílver Spríng, MD - Holy Land Tour February 12-24, 2014 <u>Led by</u>: **Rev. Curríe Burrís**

## Price with Round-trip Airfare

Land + Air Rates	25-32	18-24
Per person	travelers	travelers
P.P in a	\$3196.00	\$3288.00
Double/Twin		
Room		
Single Supplement	\$549.00	\$549.00

- ✓ Price is based on double-occupancy
- ✓ Price includes estimated \$700 fuel/tax cost
- ✓ If you wish to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> passenger to a room please contact us for reduced cost.
- ✓ Single supplement is: \$549.00
- ✓ All major debit or credit card payments accepted (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Amex)

# What's included?

- Round-trip Airfare from Baltimore or Dulles (domestic portion to be announced)
- Transfers to and from Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion International Airport
- Luggage & Airport services upon arrival/departure
- 10 days of nice air-conditioned tour bus & driver

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- <u>10 touring days</u> with licensed Israeli Tour Guide (Eitan Chamberlin, M.A. in Biblical Archaeology and Ancient Languages, Hebrew University)
- <u>9 nights</u> in High 3/Low 4-star accommodations
- Full Buffet Breakfast & Dinner each day (soft drinks & alcohol not included)
- All park fees & scheduled activities and entertainment
- Gratuities for hotel staff
- Traveler's Kit (hat, map, 2 starter water bottles)
- Bus Banners and Name Tags
- All Credit Card Fees
- All Visa & Border Fees (if needed)

# What's not included?

- Lunches
- Fuel surcharges or tax increases for flights (currently \$700)
- Personal expenses such as telephone calls from room, mini bar, room service, etc.
- Gratuities for guide & driver (recommended minimum: \$110)
- Optional Traveler's Insurance through Travel Guard. Age-Based Plans: (ages 0-59) \$139.00 or for (ages 60+) \$219.00

## Traveler Insurance

Samson Tours partners with **Travel Guard** to provide a customized optional travel insurance group package for our clients. Not only does the insurance package cover 100% trip cancellation, but even covers such instances as "a Terrorist Incident in a City listed on the Insured's itinerary within 30 days of the Insured's scheduled arrival."

- Price is based on group of 10 or more who purchase traveler insurance.
  - For ages 0-59 : \$139.00
  - For ages 60+ : \$219.00
- The tour leader has elected that travel insurance be required for this tour. If you wish to opt-out, you will have the option to do so at time of final payment.

### **Coverage Benefit Amount**

Trip Cancellation	
Trip Interruption	
Trip Interruption- Return Air Only	
Trip Delay (\$150 max/day)	\$750
Missed Connection	\$250
Baggage & Personal Effects Loss (Secondary)	\$1,500

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Baggage Delay	\$250	
Medical Expense (Secondary)		
Dental		
Emergency Evacuation & Repatriation of Remains	\$250,000	
Accidental Death and Dismemberment		
*Coverage for Trip Interruption and Trip Interruption-Return Air Only cannot be combined		

For further details about coverage, request the Group Protection Plan Description of Coverage

# The kind of experience to expect...

On a scale of 1-10, this is a Level 7 or 'medium/heavy-paced' Samson tour. Keep in mind that your journey is not a 'vacation' *per se*; it's a pilgrimage to the most sacred land of the Bible. Every step will certainly have its reward, but some days will require a great deal of walking (up to 3 miles per day on average) and sometimes it will require a bit of exertion (some sites up to 100 steps (Megiddo, Jerusalem's Old City, etc).

Throughout the nearly 100 sites you will visit throughout the tour, you can expect to learn not only the biblical relevance of each site, but its modern importance as well. Your tour educator will weave into this journey a comprehensive knowledge of history (biblical and modern), archaeology, geology, botany, current affairs and other diverse subjects, as well as introduce you to the many diverse peoples who make up this sacred land, being Jews, Muslims, Druze, Christians, Bedouin and other minority groups.

## Itinerary

\* Final Itinerary: This itinerary is subject to minor changes. A final itinerary will be provided no later than 2 months before departure.

\*\* Hotels: Alternative hotels of similar or better class may be substituted. Final hotel arrangements will be posted no later than 4 months before departure.

Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> - Departure Day

- Departure from (Baltimore OR Dulles) to be announced (connect to JFK)
- 18:00 Depart from (JFK) on LY002 (Total flight time: 10 hr. 35 min)

Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> (B/D)

- Arrive at **11:15** arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport, Israel (Biblical Lydda)
- VIP Airport Service and Baggage Handlers
- Visit the all-important **Jaffa**: the biblical port city

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- Walk in the footsteps of Peter and Paul at Caesarea Maritima (Model, Roman Theatre, Movie, Praetorium – Pilate's House & Paul's Prison, Hippodrome, Aqueduct)
- Check-in to our hotel
- Overnight & Dinner: <u>Colony Hotel, Haifa</u>

Friday, February  $14^{th} - (B/D)$ 

- Enjoy a spectacular view of the **Bahai Gardens** and visit **Stella Maris**.
- Visit the **Muhraka Monastery** (Elijah vs. Prophets of Baal)
- Visit **Tel Megiddo** in the Valley of Armageddon
- Visit Nazareth (City Square, Church of the Annunciation, Church of St. Joseph)
- Time permitting, we'll stop in **Cana of Galilee** and visit the Church of the Wedding.
- Overnight & Dinner (Sea of Galilee): <u>Mt. of Beatitudes Guest House</u>

Saturday, February  $15^{th} - (B/D)$ 

- Enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee from Ginosar
- Visit the 1<sup>st</sup> century boat at **Ginosar**
- Walk through the Arbel Pass, Jesus' passageway into the Galilee
- Visit the excavations at Magdala, the home of Mary Magdalene
- Experience the scene of John 21 at the **Church of the Primacy of Peter**
- Visit **Capernaum**, mentioned more times than any other city in the NT.
- Experience **Bethsaida** (home to 5 of the 12 disciples)
- Enjoy a time of prayer at the **Mount of Beatitudes**
- Weather permitting, walk down the Mount of Beatitudes
- Overnight & Dinner (Sea of Galilee): <u>Mt. of Beatitudes Guest House</u>

Sunday, February  $16^{th} - (B/D)$ 

- See **Safed**, the city of Kaballah
- Visit Tel Hazor, the capital of the Canaanite Kingdom and the destroyed city of Joshua 11
- Explore **Tel Dan** and walk through the ruins of Jeroboam's temple.
- Visit Caesarea Phillipi ("Upon this Rock")
- Visit the **Mt. Bental Volcano** in the Golan Heights and lookout over the Road to Damascus.
- Overnight & Dinner (Sea of Galilee): <u>Mt. of Beatitudes Guest House</u>

Monday, February  $17^{th} - (B/D)$ 

• Visit Mount Tabor, the Mt. of Transfiguration (private taxis up/down)

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- Visit **Tel Yizrael** (ancient Jezreel & Naboth's Vineyard)
- See the Harod Spring, where Gideon chose his men
- Drive down the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea
- Visit **Qasr el Yahud Baptismal Site**, the most likely spot where John the Baptist baptized early disciples.
- End the day at **Qumran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered.
- Evening swim in the **Dead Sea** and spa time
- Overnight & Dinner (Dead Sea): Prima Oasis

Tuesday, February  $18^{th} - (B/D)$ 

- Enjoy a restful morning at the Dead Sea or the hotel's private spa.
- Depart hotel at 10:30 am
- Visit Masada, Herod the Great's desert fortress
- Have a nature walk to the lower waterfall of **Ein Gedi**, where David hid from Saul.
- Visit **Jericho**
- Drive up to Jerusalem
- Lookout over the city from **Mount Scopus**
- Overnight & Dinner: <u>Prima Kings</u>

Wednesday, February  $19^{th} - (B/D)$ 

- Lookout from the **Mount of Olives**
- Walk down the mountain to visit **Dominus Flevit** where Jesus wept
- Visit the **Garden of Gethsemane** at the Church of the Agony
- Walk onto the **Temple Mount** to see the site of the former temple and today's Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque
- Visit the **Church of St. Anne** and the Pools of Bethesda
- Walk the Via Dolorosa (stations I & II), stopping at the Lithostratos at the Ecco Homo Convent
- Enjoy a lunch break at a Christian Armenian restaurant.
- Continue along the Via Dolorosa (visiting each stop)
- Visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher
- Exit the Old City via **Damascus Gate**
- Visit the Church of **Pater Noster** and read the Lord's Prayer
- End the day at the Chapel of Ascension on the Mt. of Olives
- Overnight & Dinner: Prima Kings

Thursday, February  $20^{\text{th}} - (B/D)$ 

 Visit St. Peter en Gallicantu – the House of Caiaphas and the traditional jailhouse where Jesus was kept the night before his trial.

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- The Church of the Last Supper and David's Tomb on Mount Zion
- Zion Gate
- Visit the Jewish Quarter to see (Hezekiah's Broad Wall & The Herodian Quarter)
- Visit the **Temple Institute** and see the many objects that have already been made for the future Third Temple.
- Have lunch on your own in the Jewish Quarter
- Visit the Southern Wall Excavations to walk up the 1<sup>st</sup> century steps of the Temple
- Visit the Western "Wailing" Wall
- Time Permitting, we'll visit the ancient tunnels and excavations in the City of David
- Special Evening Event (19:00): Tower of David Sound & Light Show <u>OR</u> The Western Wall Tunnels
- Overnight & Dinner: <u>Prima Kings</u>

Friday, February  $21^{st} - (B/D)$ 

- Visit the **Israel Museum's** Shrine of the Book and 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Period model
- Drive to **Beth Shemesh and by** Zora and Eshtaol, where Samson grew up
- Visit Tel Beth Shemesh, where the Ark of the Covenant was returned by the Philistines
- See the **Elah Valley**, where David vs. Goliath
- End the day in Bethlehem (The Church of the Nativity, Manger Square & Kando's Shop)
- Enjoy a Sabbath dinner together.
- Overnight & Dinner: Prima Kings

Saturday, February  $22^{nd} - (B/D)$ 

- Morning of leisure
- 10:30: Visit the **Garden Tomb** (**Gordon's Calvary**), an alternative site for the crucifixion and resurrection.
- Visit **Ein Kerem**, the traditional birthplace of John the Baptist
- Follow the **road to Emmaus** and the Church of the Resurrection in Abu Ghosh
- 18:30 Enjoy a Middle Eastern style Farewell lunch/early dinner together.
- 20:00 Transfer to Airport.

Sunday, February 23rd – (B/D)

- 01:00 Aboard El Al Airlines Flight LY001 (via JFK) for your journey home.
- T.B.A. Depart for Baltimore or Dulles

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# Polícies

#### Refund & Other Policies (Samson Tours)

- **Group Minimum:** This program is based on an absolute minimum of **18** participants. The price goes considerably down with the more passengers who join. If the group minimum is not met within 4 months of departure, a new pricing structure may be applied.
- Your Health: All participants <u>must</u> be in good health and walking condition. This program is active and involves a lot of walking over uneven surfaces and climbing stairs. All locations may not be accessible for the disabled. Any condition that may require special accommodation must be reported at the time of your reservation.
- **Group Airfare:** Samson Tours works alongside the tour leader to find the best airfare and best price for the group. In order to request a group airfare price, there must be at least 10 passengers on the group flight. The airfare will be paid to the airline in full upon their request and subject to their cancellation/refund policies.
- **Deposit & Payments for Land & Air:** To ensure your spot on the tour, we request **a \$200.00 deposit** be paid upon signup. The deposit and any payments made are refundable up to 90 days before departure (less any credit card and/or bank fees). After that, the deposit is non-refundable, but can be used as a future credit with Samson Tours. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, money order, bank transfer, debit or credit card.
- Final Payments: The final payment will be made 90 days before departure. Payments made by check or cash will be made in US\$ to Samson Tours, Inc. Payments made by debit or credit card to Samson Tours, Inc. will be charged the full balance. If there are any unpaid fuel surcharges for the group flight, they will be billed to you at cost per the group airline contract either before or after the tour.
- **Diversions**: If you arrive either before or after the recommended group departure/arrival time, or if your flight is delayed beyond a reasonable waiting period, or if you elect to divert or add-on additional days to the trip, then it is understood that you will arrive at the hotel or to the airport at your own expense.
- **Refunds (Land):** The following refunds for the **land portion** of the price will apply: Full refund (less deposit, credit card and/or banking fees) if cancelled 90+ calendar days before departure. 75% refund if cancelled 89-60 days before departure. 50% refund if cancelled 59-30 days before departure. 0% refund if cancelled 29 or less days before departure.
- **Refunds (Air):** Per group contract with airline
- Force Majeure: If Samson Tours decides to postpone the tour do to political unrest, then your balance will carry over to the new tour dates. Depending on the new dates, there may be an increase in costs, for tours that are rescheduled within 1 year. If you are unable to join the new tour dates, then you will be entitled to a full refund, less the deposit, credit card and/or banking fees. The deposit amount can be applied to any future tour.
- **Travel Insurance** Samson Tours does not require travel insurance. It is, however, strongly advised that **all travelers** equip themselves with a comprehensive travel insurance plan through a private carrier, like <u>Travel Guard</u> or through your credit card company. See the Group Leader for more details.
- **Single Supplement:** For single travelers, a single supplement fee for the hotels is required. This usually amounts to around 90% of the Double Room cost. If a person has ordered a double room and his or her roommate cancels his or her tour, then the individual holding a double room must find a new roommate or pay the single supplement.

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- **Exchange Rate:** The current exchange rate is 3.7 shekels to the dollar. Samson Tours, Inc. reserves the right to charge a supplement to the price if the dollar falls below the 3.5 threshold. Note: Samson Tours will only do this if the hotels and other agents require it to do so. As of April. 2012, we have never yet had to charge an exchange rate surcharge.
- Responsibility Samson Tours, Inc. and or its agents and representatives shall be, in no way, liable or responsible for any personal or property loss, damage or injury howsoever caused.
- Update These policies may be updated from time to time. Upon update, you will be notified by Samson Tours, Inc. or its group leader.

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