



Branzell + Noel Israel Expedition [23-11.4]

with Biblical Expeditions

 Jerusalem, Israel

View booking and trip details **here**

Trip Overview



Your host

Biblical Expeditions 

 Nov 27 – Dec 7, 2023

 Group size: 1-40

 Jerusalem, Israel



About this trip

Do you ever feel confused when you read the Bible? Do you feel like you are missing things the author intended for you to understand? Would you like to gain clarity and confidence reading the Bible? Would you like to encounter God in the lands of the Bible?

Accompany *Kathy Branzell* and *Jeff Noel* for this exciting ten day expedition of Israel. Walk in the footsteps of Jesus as you explore the lands where He and the disciples walked. Explore sites familiar from the Scriptures, such as Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, and many more.

Join us as we use the *world* of the Bible to help you understand the *words* of the Bible.

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Trip Overview

What's included

✓ Hotel Accommodations	
✓ Breakfast and Dinner	• Daily Israeli style breakfast & dinner at the hotels in Israel
✓ Local Guide	• Local English-speaking guide
✓ BE Instructor	
✓ Deluxe AC Bus	
✓ BE Private Concierge	
✓ Entrance Fees	• All entrances and activities as per itinerary
✓ Late Checkout	• Late Checkout on departure day to freshen up prior to going to the airport
✓ All Tips	• All Tips (hotels, guide, driver etc.)
✓ BE Resources	• BE devotional and educational materials.
✓ Water on the bus	• 2 bottles of water on the bus per person per day
✓ Farewell Dinner	• Farewell dinner at Jerusalem chef-restaurant, Satya
✓ Headsets	
✓ Group Transfer	• A group transfer is provided on both arrival and departure between the airport and hotel
✗ Travel/Medical Insurance	• Travel Insurance is optional. Overseas Medical coverage is required
✗ Individual Transfers	• Transfers for individual airport arrivals or departures

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Trip Overview

✕ Meals not mentioned

✕ Personal Expenses

Packages & Options

Available packages

LAND ONLY – Double Occupancy

\$5644

This cost **DOES NOT** include airfare.

Deposit: \$400

ALSO NOTE: PRICE IS CONTINGENT UPON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY FOR ROOMS. If you are traveling alone and a roommate is not available once registration closes the single occupancy fee will be added.

Please note that by booking own airfare, there may be additional cost incurred for airport transfers.

Available until Aug 09, 2023

LAND ONLY – Single Occupancy

\$6834

This cost **DOES NOT** include airfare.

Deposit: \$400

Please note that by booking own airfare, there may be additional cost incurred for airport transfers.

Available until Aug 09, 2023

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Itinerary

Day 1: Mon Nov 27 Depart USA



Day 2: Tues Nov 28 Arrival in Tel Aviv

Upon arrival to Ben Gurion Airport, our representative will meet you in the arrival hall to assist you with your luggage. You will meet your guide and bus and travel to your hotel along the Mediterranean coast. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.



Day 3: Wed Nov 29 Kingdoms and Cultures in Conflict

Our morning begins at the port-city of *Caesarea* built by Herod the Great (Matt. 2). This was the second largest harbor in the Roman Empire during the first century. At *Caesarea*, Peter visited the gentile centurion Cornelius (Acts 10), and he and his household became the first gentile followers of Jesus. The Apostle Paul remained under house arrest in *Caesarea* for two and a half years. Here he stood before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa II (Acts 23-25). From the harbor of *Caesarea*, Paul sailed to Rome leaving Israel for the last time. While at the site, we will visit the ancient theater with its magnificent view overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. We will see Herod the Great's



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palace that served as the residence of the Roman officials in the land, like Pontius Pilate. We will remember Pilate's governorship of Judaea by looking at a replica of a stone inscription mentioning Pilate dedicating a temple to the Roman Emperor Tiberius. Our visit takes us through the ancient stadium and harbor and ends looking at the ancient aqueduct of Caesarea that supplied the city with its water. After departing *Caesarea*, we travel to *Mount Carmel* where Elijah challenged the prophets of Ba'al (1 Kings 18). We then journey through the **Valley of Jezreel**. Our day concludes at the boyhood home of Jesus, *Nazareth*. We visit the *Church of the Annunciation*, built over the traditional place where the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus (Luke 1:26-37). The church is built on top of the ancient village of *Nazareth*, and we will visit a small museum that shows some of the finds and homes from the village. We will end our visit in *Nazareth* with an overlook of the *Jezreel Valley* from Mount Precipice. From this vantage point, we will see the settings for a number of biblical stories. Dinner and overnight at our hotel on the *Sea of Galilee*.

Day 4: Thurs Nov 30 The Faith of Jesus

Our journey today focuses upon the ministry of Jesus around the Sea of Galilee. Our morning begins at *Almagor*, which overlooks the *Beitsaida Valley* where the *Jordan River* flows into the Sea of Galilee, and where Jesus fed the 5,000 (Luke 9:10-17). We next journey to *Chorazin* one of the three cities cursed by Jesus (Matt. 11:21; Luke 10:13). At this site, we see the ancient homes and Jewish ritual immersion pools, as well as the magnificent basalt synagogue from the fifth century AD. Inside the synagogue is a replica of a Seat of



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Moses (Matt. 23:2). We travel next to the ancient town of *Capernaum* where Jesus made his home around the lake (Matt. 4:13). Here he healed the centurion's servant (Matt. 8:5). In our visit, we will see the modern church built over an ancient church, which was built over a first century home, identified as the home of Peter. The magnificent limestone synagogue of the fourth century AD has been partly reconstructed and looms over the site. From *Capernaum*, we travel to one of the most exciting and important ongoing archaeological excavations in Israel, *Magdala*. Here we will visit one of the few, excavated, first century synagogues in the land of Israel. Its date coincides with the time of Jesus ministry in the area. We will also see wealthy homes from the village, as well as the first century harbor. From *Magdala*, we visit the small museum at *Kibbutz Ginnosar* that houses an ancient boat discovered in the 1980s in the Sea of Galilee. This boat dates to the first century and was a boat used by fisherman on the lake. Our day concludes with an evening boat-ride on the *Sea of Galilee*. The ancient fishermen fished the lake at night. Riding on the waters of the lake in the evening offers a unique opportunity to connect with Jesus and his disciples on the lake. Dinner and overnight at the hotel on the *Sea of Galilee*.

Day 5: Fri Dec 1 Desert Refuge

Today we drive from the *Sea of Galilee*, the lowest fresh-water lake in the world, through the *Jordan River Valley*, to the *Dead Sea*, the lowest place on earth. Our first stop is the site of *Qumran*. In caves around the site, the world-famous Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. *Qumran* was the settlement of the community that produced many of the Dead Sea Scrolls. We travel next to the desert palace-fortress built by Herod the Great, *Masada*. During the First Jewish Revolt (AD



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66-73), Jewish rebels lived on **Masada** until they were surrounded by the Tenth Roman Legion. According to the first century Jewish historian Josephus, the rebels chose to commit suicide instead of slavery and death at the hands of the Romans. While visiting the site, we will see the palaces of Herod the Great, his bath houses and store-rooms. We will also see buildings converted by the Jewish rebels for their use, like the synagogue. Evidence of the Roman siege can be seen in the siege ramp and Roman camps that surround **Masada**. Our day concludes at our hotel on the **Dead Sea** where participants can rest and float in **Dead Sea**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel on the **Dead Sea**.

Day 6: Sat Dec 2 Springs in the Desert

Today we hike and explore the wilderness oasis of **En Gedi**. David hid from Saul in caves around this oasis. After hiking in the wilderness, we return to our hotel to rest and float in the **Dead Sea**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel on the **Dead Sea**.



Day 7: Sun Dec 3 In the Footsteps of Kings and Prophets

Our morning begins at the ancient Israelite fortress of **Tel Arad**. The children of Israel first sought to enter the promised land by passing through **Arad**, but the king of Arad turned them away (Numbers 21:1; 33:40). Inside of the Israelite fortress was discovered a temple to the Lord, like the temple of Solomon in Jerusalem. We journey through the **Shephelah** (Deut. 1:7), an area of rolling hills between Israel's hill



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country and the Mediterranean coast to the site of *Mareshah*, where we have the unique experience of participating in an archaeological excavation within caves. Our first stop is the *Elah Valley*, the site of the famous confrontation between David and Goliath (1 Sam. 17). We will experience this biblical landscape via ATVs. Our final stop of the day is at *Nebi Samwil*. Incorrectly identified as the tomb of the prophet Samuel, from this hill we will see the northern neighborhoods of Jerusalem. We will also look over the tribal territory of Benjamin, where two-thirds of the Old Testament took place. Our vantage point offers us a view of the modern Arab village of el-Jib, biblical *Gibeon* (Josh. 10). While defending *Gibeon* against five Amorite kings, Joshua prayed for the sun to stand still. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in *Jerusalem*.

Day 8: Mon Dec 4 Biblical Jerusalem

Our morning in Jerusalem begins with a visit to the *Israel Museum*. Here we will see a scale-model of Jerusalem on the eve of its destruction in AD 70. We will visit the Shrine of the Book, which houses some of the Dead Sea Scrolls, including some of the oldest copies of the Old Testament. Our tour of the museum concludes with a walk through the archeological wing to visit the two galleries dedicated to Israel in the Old and New Testament periods. We will see original artifacts found in sites we visited, as well as other artifacts that make the Bible come alive. Today for lunch we journey to the *Mahaneh Yehudah* market of Jerusalem where we will have opportunity to sample many cuisines. After lunch, we journey to the *City of David*, the oldest part of Jerusalem, the city David conquered and made his capital. Our day ends along the southern wall of the *Temple Mount*. On the first century street, we see the shops and markets around the



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Temple, a possible location for the money changers (Luke 19:45-48). We then proceed to the southern entrances of the Temple where we walk the steps ancient pilgrims took to ascend to the Temple. Dinner and overnight in *Jerusalem*.

Day 9: Tues Dec 5 Herodium and Bethlehem

We begin our morning at the ancient palace-fortress built by Herod the Great (Matt. 2), *Herodium*. From *Herodium*, we travel to *Bethlehem* where we remember the birth of Jesus and visit the *Church of Nativity*, the oldest church in the Holy Land, built over the traditional site of Jesus' birth. After *Bethlehem*, participants have the afternoon free to shop in the *Old City of Jerusalem* and wander through *Jerusalem*. Dinner and overnight at the *Jerusalem* hotel.



Day 10: Wed Dec 6 Jesus' Jerusalem

Our morning begins with a beautiful view of the city of Jerusalem from the *Mount of Olives*. We walk down the mountain following the modern path used by pilgrims on Palm Sunday visiting the church of *Dominus Flevit*, which remembers Jesus' weeping over the city as he rode into it, and the traditional location of the *Garden of Gethsemane*. Our journey continues at *Jaffa Gate* where in the first century Herod's palace stood. Here the story of Jesus begins (Matt. 2) with the visit of the wisemen to Herod, and here his story ended because at Herod's palace Jesus stood before Pontius Pilate (Mark 15:16). From *Jaffa Gate*, we walk into the Jewish Quarter and visit the *Herodian Quarter*, a series of priestly homes from the first century. We



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then walk along the Byzantine Cardo and see the walls of Jerusalem from the eighth century BC and the first century BC. Passing the *Gennath Gate*, we follow the historic route Jesus traveled from Pilate to his place of execution at the *Church of the Holy Sepulcher*. Our program ends stopping at the *Western Wall*, the most sacred site for Jews. After a farewell dinner, we depart Jerusalem for Ben Gurion Airport where you will return to your home country refreshed, challenged, and renewed in your faith.

Day 11: Tues, Nov 23rd Arrival back in USA

Arrive back in USA



View booking and trip details [here](#)

Your organizer



Biblical Expeditions

★★★★★ 15 reviews

We Believe: The Bible is God's revelation in time, space, and culture. Encounters with the spatial, historical, cultural, and spiritual world of the Bible answer what the Bible meant as a way for modern readers to understand what it means for us today. Onsite engagement with the world of the Bible excites, encourages, and transforms Bible reading and study. Understanding what the Bible meant can create better followers of Jesus, people who study his words, do them, and teach others what they have learned (Ezra 7:10).

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 <https://www.biblical-expeditions.com/>

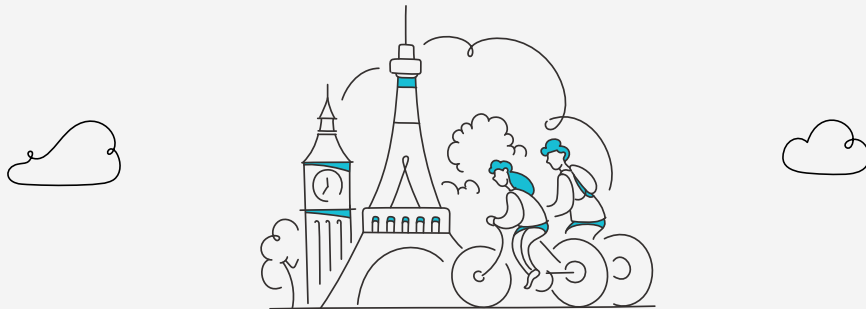
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