

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Epiphany Holy Land Pilgrimage 2024

- Q. What are the dates of the 2024 pilgrimage?  
A. February 19 through March 2 (inclusive of travel time)
- Q. Can I meet the group somewhere other than the Ben Gurion Airport?  
A. All pilgrims must meet our guide at the baggage claim at the appointed time on February 20.
- Q. If I fly with the group, can I fly in the class I prefer?  
A. Yes
- Q. Will there be additional meetings before we depart?  
A. There will be several meetings where we talk about our pilgrimage, get to know each other, and sort out the details of the trip.
- Q. How much will it cost?  
A. Based on prior trips, it will be somewhere around \$5,200 (maybe a little more, maybe a little less), all inclusive except for beverages and travel to and from SeaTac Airport. There will be a VERY limited amount of single occupancy rooms available for a surcharge.
- Q. Do I have to fly with the group?  
A. No, but you must meet at the airport in Tel Aviv at the appointed time.
- Q. Can I join the pilgrimage late or leave early?  
A. The expectation is that you will be a part of the pilgrimage from beginning to end.
- Q. How strenuous is the trip?  
A. There is a fair amount of walking over uneven terrain, however all fitness levels are generally able to do this trip. We will spend a day hiking in Caesarea Philippi, but sitting at a table in the shade is also an option.
- Q. What age group is this trip aimed for?  
A. This pilgrimage is for adults. We do offer a separate trip for youth periodically.  
B.
- Q. How will we travel in Israel/Palestine?  
A. We will travel in a private, air conditioned bus and on foot.

Q. Do I need to bring money?

A. You will want some spending money for souvenirs and snacks. There is an ATM machine near where we will be staying in Jerusalem where you can withdraw money.

Q. What is the currency?

A. Shekels

Q. What will the weather be like?

A. It is generally dry, but it does rain. The weather is a bit unpredictable, but in late February early March the weather should be comfortable, in the 50s and low 60s during the day.

Q. Is there a place to work out?

A. There is room to exercise and running/walking is very possible, however there are no weight rooms or machines available.

Q. Is it safe?

A. Tourism is Israel/Palestine's main resource, so pilgrims/tourists are generally safe, but there is always some risk with any travel. Our guide will do everything in his power to keep us safe.

Q. How much free time will we have?

A. We have built time into the schedule for people to return to places they wanted to spend time at, visit places not on our itinerary, and generally be still and contemplative.

Q. My spouse/friend/other is interested in going, but they are not religious, is this a good trip for them?

A. This is a Christian pilgrimage. We will be visiting sites which were important in the life of Jesus and the history of our faith. We will pray from *Hour by Hour* at least three times a day and we will participate in multiple worship services, sometimes with our own group and sometimes in local churches.

Q. What are the accommodations like?

A. In Jerusalem we will stay at St. George's Retreat House. It is on the grounds of the Anglican Cathedral of St. George. All rooms contain one or two twin beds and have ensuite bathrooms. There is a bar and dining room as well as a beautiful garden area. In Nazareth we will stay at the Convent of the Sisters of Nazareth. The accommodations are a bit more austere, but still have one or two twin beds and ensuite bathrooms. There is a dining area, vending machines, and a nice garden area.

Q. Will I have internet access?

A. The Internet is quite reliable in Jerusalem, but a little less so in Nazareth.