

PBCC Tour of Israel & Jordan 2023

May 13-27, 2023
Leader: Bernard Bell

Flights

United Airlines, nonstop, direct, SFO–Tel Aviv.

13 May (Sat) 1955 2000+1 SFO TLV UA 954 14h05 B777-200

27 May (Sat) 0055 0600 TLV SFO UA 955 15h05 B777-200

Itinerary

13 Sat. dep. SFO 19:55 on UA 954. Duration 14h05.

14 Sun. arr. TLV 20:00. Transfer to Prima Millennium hotel, Tel Aviv (1 night)

15 Mon. dep. Tel Aviv for Galilee. Visit: Caesarea Maritima, Mt Carmel, Megiddo.
Lake House Hotel, Tiberias (by Sea of Galilee; 4 nights)

16 Tue–18 Thu. Excursions in Galilee:

1. northern Galilee: Hazor, Dan, Banias (Caesarea Philippi), Katzrin.
2. the Sea of Galilee: the “Jesus Boat,” Magdala, Tabgha, Capernaum, Corazin, Bethsaida.
3. Sepphoris, Nazareth, Mt Tabor

19 Fri. dep. Galilee. Northern crossing into Jordan. Visit Mt Nebo, Madaba.
Hotel in Petra (2 nights)

20 Sat. full day in Petra

21 Sun. dep Petra. Allenby Bridge crossing into Israel. Visit Jericho, baptismal site.
Holy Land Hotel, Jerusalem (5½ nights)

22 Mon–25 Thu. day excursions in and around Jerusalem

1. Mt of Olives, Gethsemane, Old City: via Dolorosa to Church of the Holy Sepulchre
2. Bethlehem, Herodium; ret. to Jerusalem: Mount Zion, Western Wall (of Temple Mount)
3. City of David (incl. Hezekiah’s Tunnel); New City: Yad Vashem (Holocaust Memorial), Israel Museum (incl. Shrine of the Book [Dead Sea Scrolls], Model of 1st century Jerusalem)
4. Dead Sea: Masada, the sea, Qumran

26 Fri. optional excursion in the morning; free afternoon.
After dinner at hotel, depart for TLV airport

27 Sat. 0050 dep TLV UA 955. 06:00 arr SFO. Flight length 15h05

Tour company: Tutku Tours, Izmir, Turkey (I’ve worked with this company since 2001).
Tour TUT 202319

Cost

Cost: \$4800 per person in double occupancy. Single room supplement: \$1290. Land only \$1100 less.
(of this \$4590 goes to Tutku Tours; the rest is for tips of guides, drivers etc).

Deposit: \$200 due now, check payable to PBCC. Full payment due February 12.

Included in cost:

- roundtrip airfare SFO-TLV
- Hotels: 12½ nights; half-board: breakfast and dinner.
Tel Aviv: Prima Millennium (1); Tiberias: Lake House Hotel (4); Petra (2); Jerusalem: Holy Land Hotel (5½)— or similar.
- transportation & transfers: bus + driver
- full tour itinerary: English-speaking guide; headsets; entrance fees.
- tips to guide, driver (I add \$150 for this).

Not included:

- travel insurance. You can contact Armagan Ayata, Prime Travel Services (armagan@primetravel.com), and give tour reference TUT 202319.
- lunches and drinks (e.g. wine at dinner)
- taxes at Israel-Jordan border crossings

Optional Travel after the Tour

On past tours to Turkey and Greece some participants have chosen to extend their travels on their own. Tutku would be happy to work with you on flights.

If you have plenty of time, Tutku Tours is organizing an event in Turkey, near Ephesus, starting one week after our tour ends:

Second Global Smyrna Meeting on the Seven Cities of Revelation

June 4-10 (Sun-Sat) 5 days, 6 nights. Aria Claros Resort Hotel, Ozdere (nr Ephesus). \$1590, single supplement \$300.
<https://www.globalsmyrnameeting.com>.

brochure: <https://www.globalsmyrnameeting.com/files/GSM-2023-4PAGES.pdf>.

Based at one hotel near Ephesus for six nights. Ten lectures about the Seven Cities of Revelation and the messages to the seven churches. The speakers are seminary professors, most with very considerable expertise in the Book of Revelation. A real brain trust! I know most of them and they are great people. Day trips to all seven cities. Sue and I attended the First meeting in June 2021, and I gave the talk on Sardis. If you scroll down the website you'll find a link to the talks from the first meeting, including my talk.

Tutku is also offering side tours before and after the meeting (see the website or back page of the brochure):

Pre-tours (Fri 2–Sun 4): 2 extra nights at the meeting hotel (single supplement \$140), with an all-day trip Saturday:
Patmos: \$390. A long boat ride on the Aegean sea (4 hours each way; which can be quite enjoyable) to the island of Patmos (in Greece), with about 4 hours on Patmos, including a guided tour.
Miletus: \$290. Visit Miletus, Didyma, Priene (all a little south of Ephesus).

Post-tour (Sat 10–Sun 18) Gulet boat. \$1990, single supplement \$590.

7 nights on a gulet, a traditional wooden boat putting along the s.w. coast of Turkey. A very relaxing week. Includes all meals. 1 night in the Mövenpick Hotel, Izmir.

Future tours: I hope to run a tour to Turkey in 2025 that would include the seven cities of Revelation, and a tour to Greece in 2026 that would include Patmos.