

# Rock Academy

Join Us!

## Israel Trip 2023

### 10th - 12th Grade



10 Day Tour of the Holy Land with Mr. Wenzel



March 17 - 26, 2023

\$4,000

Limited to 30 students



**ROCK ACADEMY**  
A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

# Trip Itinerary

## **Day 1: Departure**

Today we embark on our Journey to the Holy Land. Prepare yourself for a life-changing experience. Get some rest on the flight... Tomorrow you will be walking where Jesus walked!

## **Day 2: Arrive Israel**

Arrive in Israel and travel northward to our hotel for one night in the coastal area near Tel Aviv. The remainder of the day is free to walk along the Mediterranean, relax, and have dinner. The time is right for a personal devotional with the sunset over the "Great Sea." Meet your Israeli guide, enjoy a time of prayer of thanks for safety and the special blessings ahead, a prayer for the people of the "Promised Land", and a good night's rest.

## **Day 3: Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Megiddo & Gideon's Spring**

After breakfast, we travel by private motor coach along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea to Caesarea, where Gentiles first heard the Good News from Peter and were baptized. We'll see the Roman Amphitheatre, hippodrome, a film on history and the remains of this famous port city, and aqueduct, and then journey on to Mt. Carmel, where Elijah challenged King Ahab and the prophets of Baal. Next we travel through the Jezreel Valley to Megiddo, the Armageddon Battlefield, where archaeologists have unearthed 20 levels of civilization. Lastly, we stop at Gideon's Spring, where God drastically reduced the number of Gideon's soldiers. We will have dinner and overnight lodging for the next two nights in the Tiberias area on the Sea of Galilee.

## **Day 4: Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Capernaum, Magdala, Sea of Galilee Boat Ride**

Following breakfast, our morning travels take us to two valuable northern sites. Dan is where the children of Israel fell to the depths of alternative sacrifice and Caesarea Philippi, the site of Peter's Confession and pagan worship. We pass the possible site of the multiplication of loaves and fishes in Bethsaida and the Mount of the Beatitudes. Returning to Tiberias for a St. Peter's Fish Lunch (other selections available), we then visit the ancient Fisherman Boat followed by a relaxing cruise on the Sea of Galilee. A brief scripture reading and devotional on board brings to life the experiences of Jesus and the fishermen disciples. In Capernaum we view the excavations of the sea-side village and Peter's home, followed by a visit to Magdala, home town of Mary Magdalene. The recent excavation of the First Century Synagogue and well preserved village makes Magdala one of the most interesting Biblical sites in Israel.

### **Day 5: Jordan River Baptism Site, Beth Shean, & Dead Sea**

We begin our day with the opportunity to be baptized at the Jordan River Baptismal site. Next we travel southward to Beit-Shean/Scythopolis, the most magnificent archeological site in Israel, located at the strategic juncture of the Jezreel and Jordan valleys. Like Jericho, it has been almost continuously occupied throughout history. After defeating Saul and his sons on Mt. Gilboa, the Philistines hanged their bodies on the walls of Beit-Shean. During the time of Jesus, Scythopolis was one of the chief cities of the Decapolis - a league of ten cities sharing Greek culture and government. Following the fertile Jordan Valley southward, your guide will point out the agricultural restoration of the "Land of Milk and Honey" and Israel's intricate irrigation development. We pass ancient Jericho and view from a distance this city famed as the oldest in the world. To the east of Jericho along the Jordan River Valley (Qeser El Yehud) is the Israeli side of Bethany Beyond the Jordan. In this area Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, Elijah and Elisha crossed the Jordan, as well as where the children of Israel, led by Joshua, entered the Promised Land. Our lodging for the evening is at the Dead Sea — the lowest place on earth. Spend time in the special spa and enjoy a dip in the Dead Sea for a relaxing float before dinner.

### **Day 6: Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea Scrolls, Abraham's Tent**

Our day begins with a cable car ride to the mountain top fortress of Masada. Here our guide will treat us to the history of the famous zealot stand. Afterwards we proceed to Ein Gedi, "Spring of the Goat", an oasis on the western shore of the Dead Sea. Because of its warm climate and abundant supply of water, the site developed a reputation for its fragrant plants and date palm groves. This is where King David hid from Saul, and where God defeated the enemies of the Israelites by praise and worship led by King Jehoshaphat. Next, we visit Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. This afternoon we will take part in the Genesis Land/Dinner in Abraham's Tent, where we enjoy a trip back in time: a reliving of life in the time of the Patriarchs, complete with costume, dramatic presentation, camel ride and authentic food. Our lodging for the next four nights will be in Jerusalem.

### **Day 7: Around Jerusalem, Bible Times, Bethlehem**

Conditions permitting we will visit the Temple Mount, with commentary on the Temple Periods, and the variety of belief systems past and present that make this area so valuable. Next we will visit the Wailing Wall and then the fascinating Rabbinical Tunnels leading us through the Second Temple era.

The tunnel and exhibit give a clear understanding of the amazing construction of the Temple Mount, giant stones, water supply and Roman street where our Lord was led to judgment. Before exiting the tunnel we see the immense cornerstone rejected by the builders. We move on to the Judgment Hall of Pilate, hear of those who conspired against Him and are reminded of His brutal beating and humiliation. From here we will also be able to see the Pool of Bethesda, Stephen's Gate and St. Ann's Church. This afternoon we visit the



Southern Wall Excavations. This southern side of The Temple was the main entrance for the common folk, whereas the Priests and Levites had their own entrance from the higher eastern side. Parts of the giant stairs, which led to the Temple Mount from the courtyard have been unearthed along with the purification pools. From here Jesus entered the Temple Mount and drove out the vendors and money exchangers who were exploiting the people. It is also likely that this is the place that Peter stood and preached and where thousands were saved and baptized on the Day of Pentecost. We spend the remainder of the day surrounding the birth of Christ with a visit to Bethlehem.

### **Day 8: Jesus' Steps, Last Days, Way of Suffering, Garden Tomb**

Today we walk where Jesus walked; beginning the day with a panoramic view of the city, Mount Moriah and the Dome of the Rock from atop the Mount of Olives and then the Garden of Gethsemane. How many have wished to be whisked back in time to get a glimpse of our Lord or hear His voice if only for a moment? To walk between the ancient olive trees, read the scriptures of Jesus' prayer and take time for personal reflection is important here. Passing by the Protestant Cemetery, we visit the "Upper Room" just outside the Zion Gate where the disciple whom Jesus loved laid his head on His breast and where later Thomas cried, "my Lord & my God." While walking along the Via Dolorosa, we are reminded of His way of suffering along with a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Our guide will explain the differing opinions on the route that Christ was led and the actual place of crucifixion and burial is a very interesting study. The climax of the day is the area of Golgotha (place of the skull) and the Garden Tomb, where we celebrate the resurrection with communion and a time of praise.

### **Day 9: Southern Steps, City of David, Hezekiah's Tunnel, House of Caiaphas, & Yad Vashem**

Our day will start with a time of lessons from Mr. Wenzel on the southern steps. We will continue our sightseeing just outside the Dung Gate on the southeastern hill below the Temple Mount in the City of David. It was during the time of Solomon that the city limits extended past this part of Jerusalem. We visit Gihon Springs, the original water source for Jerusalem, view new excavations including a typical Israelite four-room house, and the lower city wall. A highlight today will be a water walk through the incredible Hezekiah's Tunnel to the pool of Siloam, the place of Jesus' miracle in John 9. Ascending up to the Jewish Quarter we see the gold Menorah built for the next Temple, a wall built by King Hezekiah, and the Roman Cardo. Next we spend time at the House of Caiaphas where Jesus was beaten and spit upon. See a pit where he may have been held for the evening and the ancient hillside steps he walked as he was taken to be condemned. We conclude the day with a visit to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum, for a needed reminder of what the Jews have suffered as a people. This evening we enjoy a special lecture by a local believer prior to dinner, giving us a perspective of Messianic life in Israel.

# TRIP INFORMATION

Friday, March 17 - Sunday, March 26

## Payment and Due Dates:

Deposit of **\$300** due upon registration.

Final Payment due January 10, 2023

## Price Per Person

**\$4,000.00**

## Included:

- Round trip air fare from San Diego to Tel Aviv
  - Transportation to and from hotels
  - Four to Five Star hotel accommodations
  - Full buffet breakfast and dinner daily
- Sightseeing in a luxury air-conditioned coach with services of English-speaking, licensed guides
  - Entrance fees according to the itinerary

Taxes and Tips are included in trip price: [hotel, drivers, guides, porters, airport, fuel surcharges] based on the current rates (Should the airlines impose any additional fuel surcharges these will be passed on to the tour participants.)

## Not Included:

- Lunches
- Excess baggage and forwarding of baggage
  - Tips of personal nature
- Souvenirs and other incidentals

## Student Fund Raising:

**Students will be able to utilize our online fund raising platform to help raise financial support for this trip.**

# REGISTRATION

## *The Rock Academy High School Israel Trip 2023*

This trip is for High School students 10th - 12th grade. There are 30 spots available. First priority will be given to students, and unused spots will happily be offered to parents.

We expect this trip to fill up quickly. Please register and submit deposit using this link to reserve your spot. Deposit and payment plan will be set up using your FACTS account

[Register Here](#)

Email Mr. Wenzel with questions at [bud.wenzel@sdrock.com](mailto:bud.wenzel@sdrock.com)

