

2020 Exodus Vision Tour

March 15 — April 1

This is a tentative schedule. Things can shift depending on best flights and best coordination for people. The closer we get to the start date, the firmer the schedule will get but there can be changes and issues that come up during the tour that are out of our control. On our last tour, for instance, there was a forest fire by a site—we canceled and added another site that day.

March 15: Arrival Day. We will check into our hotel on the Giza Plateau for dinner and eat on a balcony overlooking the Sphinx and Pyramids. We will watch the sound and light show giving us the history of the Plateau and the kings who built them. We will attempt to wrap our minds around the fact that they were already almost 2000 years old when Abraham saw them on his visit to Egypt.

March 16: Saqqara and Giza. We will tour the first pyramids of Saqqara and the Step Pyramid complex built by the architect Imhotep. Little is known about this third-dynasty builder but his work is still seen 4000 years later. Some believe Imhotep and Joseph were the same character with many similarities to their lives but it is unlikely with the current pervasive timeline, but interesting connection between the two men. Evening flight to Luxor

March 17: Luxor. Luxor West Bank: Valley of the Kings, Habu Temple, Rameseum, Worker Village, and Colossi of Memnon. At these locations we will discuss the beginning of the Exodus, the scattering of the Hebrews all through the land, the Pharaoh of the Exodus, and even see scripture written on the walls of these ancient tombs and temples.

March 18: Luxor. Luxor East Bank: Karnak Temple, museum, and Luxor Temple. Here we will see the largest temple complex in the world (64 acres) and see its history through biblical eyes. We will see that Joseph, Moses, and even King David were here and the evidence of it. We will see the destruction of most of Judah under Pharaoh Sheshak and see the structure of the temples and their impact on biblical Temple's.

March 19: Morning flight to Sharm el Sheikh. Here we will have a travel day where we will fly to Sharm and from there take a bus to the foot of Mt. Sinai. We will drive through the wilderness where the children of Israel wandered and see the desolation and end up at the Mountain of the Lord.

March 20: EARLY in the morning we will take our first adventurous group who wish to climb the mountain to see the sunrise. Around 4am we will take the second group who wish to take a camel up to Elijah's look out and see the sunrise from there. The rest of us will have a leisurely morning and meet the group at the foot of the mountain for breakfast. We will follow that up with a tour of St. Catherine's Monastery where we will find the "burning bush" and look through the museum at the oldest Christian documents in the world. The Codex Sinaiticus was found here which is one of the oldest complete Bibles discovered. After our tour we will get back on the bus and head to the Red Sea where we will cross by ferry to Aqaba Jordan. Where we will spend the night to get caught up on our sleep.

March 21: Petra, Jordan. We will spend a full day at Petra. King Herod's family came from here and there is evidence that Paul spent time here when he was in exile after his conversion before he began his ministry. We will see an amazing Roman city, Egyptian Temple, Christian Churches with

beautiful mosaics, and the amazing tomb carvings of Petra. If time we will stop by Lot's tomb on our way to our hotel on the Dead Sea.

March 22: Jordan. Today we will head to Mt. Nebo where Moses had a look at the Promised Land. Also, there is the Bronze Serpent monument. Jewish tradition (Maccabees) has it that Jeremiah hid the Ark of the Covenant here, on this mountain. Next, we will head to Makiwir (Macherus) Fortress where John the Baptist was beheaded. Finally, we will go to the Jordanian Baptism site which is the most likely location of Jesus' baptism by John. Also, this is the traditional place where Elijah was taken to heaven by chariots and passed the mantle on to Elisha.

March 23: Jordan. Next we travel North in Jordan to the Decapolis. We will stop at two of the cities that make up these 10 cities referred to in the Bible. The first will be the city of Jerash. Second only to Petra, this Roman city is amazingly well preserved. Then we will head to Umm Qais, which is another of the cities in the Decapolis, but it has a stronger biblical connection in that it was once called Gadara or the Gadarenes where Jesus cast out the "legion" demons and they took over the pigs and sent them into the Sea of Galilee to die. Also, well preserved we will walk through this city and tell the story. We will end the day by crossing over the King Hussein bridge into Israel and getting our hotel in Nazareth.

March 24: Israel. Today we will go to various sites around Nazareth where Jesus was brought up. We will visit the larger town of Capernaum where Peter has a home and the synagogue is still there where Jesus preached. We will walk by the Sea of Galilee and see the boat museum with the boat dated to the time of Jesus.

March 25: Israel. Another day visiting the sites where Jesus walked. We will catch the sites we could not get to yesterday but then add Mt. Tabor or the Mt. of Transfiguration. Also, we will go to Cana where Jesus performed his first recorded miracle of water into wine.

March 26: We will spend another day in the Nazareth/Capernaum area catching up with all the sites we missed in the first two days here. This will include a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee to end our time in this area.

March 27: Israel. Today we venture across Israel to Megiddo where we will see the amazing fortress and pass through the water cavern there. We will see the stables of Solomon and fortifications of Ahab. Then we will head to Caesarea, the city built by Herod. We will see the hippodrome and theater still there and we will put our feet into the Mediterranean Sea. Paul was imprisoned here, and we will see the area if not the actual tomb. Finally, we will drive to Jerusalem where we will spend the rest of our time.

March 28: Israel. Today we visit the Old City. Before we get there, we will start in Bethany and walk down the hill through the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus wept and Judas betrayed. Many of the sites in the Old City are underground or in churches but we will end up at the Western Wall.

March 29: Israel. Today we will visit beyond Jerusalem to Bethlehem and the Shepherds field. We will visit Bethel where Jacob saw the ramp to heaven, and Rebecca's maid Deborah was buried, and the Judge Deborah held court. We will end the day at Jericho where we will see the ruins of the great city destroyed by Joshua. Here we will end our Exodus Story which we started in Egypt.

March 30: Israel. Today is a museum day. We will go to the Israel National Museum, we will put together a kind of “scavenger hunt” to set you out on your own and make sure that you find the important things in the museum to see—like the Tel Dan Stele, which is the oldest proof of the existence of the “House of David,” and many other artifacts that will build your belief in the relevance and reliability of scripture. Next we will move on to the Shrine of the Book which is a museum to the Dead Sea Scrolls. Finally, we will end with a look and “tour” of the Jerusalem Model, see where all the key places in the city were in relation to each other.

March 31: Free day in Jerusalem, Old City, and shopping.

April 1: Breakfast together and bus to Tel Aviv for flight home.