

History, Religion, and Culture in the Land of the Bible
Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Dr. Patricia K. Tull
2009 Itinerary

Saturday, Jan 10

10 Jan 09	Delta 5064	depart Louisville*	5:54 PM
		Arrive Atlanta	7:15 PM
10 Jan 09	Delta 152	depart Atlanta	10:40 PM
11 Jan 09		arrive Tel Aviv	5:25 PM

*Those leaving from other cities will meet us in Atlanta for departure together.

Sunday, January 11

Arrive, get baggage, and have dinner at the Mercure Bat Yam Hotel in Tel Aviv.
Overnight: [Mercure Bat Yam Hotel](#), Tel Aviv.

Monday, January 12—Jaffa and the Mediterranean coast

Visit [Jaffa](#) (biblical Joppa) and then travel up the Mediterranean coast, visiting [Caesarea Maritima](#) (built by King Herod; home of Origen and birthplace of Eusebius), and other ancient and not-so-ancient sites along the way, possibly including the ancient Israelite city of [Megiddo](#) and a modern secular Jewish kibbutz.

Overnight: [Dan Panorama, Haifa](#)

Tuesday, January 13—Haifa, Akko

In the morning, explore Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Bahai sites in the multicultural city of Haifa. After lunch, visit the Crusader city of [Akko](#).

Overnight: [Gesher Haziv Kibbutz Hotel](#)

Wednesday, January 14 – Western and Central Galilee

Explore the villages and hills of the western Galilee region and visit [Zippori, Nazareth Village](#), a new recreation of first-century Nazareth, and visit the churches in [Nazareth](#). Possible stops at the [The Ghetto Fighters' Museum](#), dedicated to the Warsaw Ghetto uprising during World War 2 or Mar Elias Educational Institution in the Arab village of Ibillin.

Overnight: [Franciscan Hospice on the Mt. of Beatitudes](#)

Thursday, January 15 – Sea of Galilee

Spend the day around the Sea of Galilee, visiting the [Church of the Beatitudes](#); the ancient town of [Capernaum](#); the [Church of the Loaves and Fishes in Tabgha](#); and the mystical city of [Safed](#).

Overnight: [Franciscan Hospice on the Mt. of Beatitudes](#)

Friday, January 16 – Jordan River

Visit [Beth Shean](#) (according to the Bible, the place where Saul's body was hung by the Philistines; in Roman times, the decapolis city of Scythopolis), the Jordan River, and [Jericho](#) ("the lowest and oldest town on earth," with structures 10,000 years old). End the day with a relaxing swim in the Dead Sea and/or a nature hike at the [Ein Gedi Nature Reserve](#) (along the Dead Sea, famous for associations with David).

Overnight: [Ein Gedi Guest House](#) on the Dead Sea.

Saturday, January 17 -- Dead Sea

See [Massadah](#) (built by Herod, “last stand” of Jewish rebels against Rome in 73 C.E., and [Qumran](#) (where the Qumran sect lived and the Dead Sea Scrolls were found). Drive up the mountain road to Jerusalem, and view the city from the [Mt. of Olives](#) (David wept here; Jesus prayed here; many people are buried here). Pass through Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

Overnight Saturday-Tuesday: the Abu Gubran Guesthouse of the [International Center](#) in Bethlehem

Sunday - Tuesday, January 18 - 20 -- Bethlehem

Worship at the [Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church](#), where Rev. Mitri Raheb is pastor. In Bethlehem we will not only visit the [Church of the Nativity](#), but will spend time with staff of the [International Center](#) in Bethlehem, coming to understand life for Palestinians in the Occupied Territories of the West Bank.

Overnight: the Abu Gubran Guesthouse of the [International Center](#) in Bethlehem

Wednesday - Monday, January 21 - 26 – Jerusalem

During our six days in Jerusalem we will:

--take an archaeological tour of the [Old City](#) of Jerusalem, including the [Dome of the Rock](#) and other important Islamic sites in Jerusalem.

--meet members of the [Coalition of Women for Peace](#) and the [Rabbis for Human Rights](#)

--visit an Israeli checkpoint on the outskirts of Ramallah and the so-called “separation barrier being built around the West Bank.

--visit important museums in Jerusalem such as [Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum](#), the [Israel Museum](#) where the Great Scroll of Isaiah is housed, and others as time allows.

--meet Prof. Mustafa Abu Sway, professor of Islam at Al-Quds University, to discuss the Muslim faith and Palestinian/Israeli relations as he views them.

--attend evening Shabbat service at the progressive synagogue Kehillat Yedidya

--meet Daniel Rossing, director of the Jerusalem Center for Jewish-Christian Relations; to worship in Orthodox Jewish synagogues in the West Jerusalem neighborhood of Rehavia; and worship at the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](#), the traditional site of Jesus’s death, burial, and resurrection, and to visit the [Western Wall](#) in the Old City of Jerusalem.

--visit and speak with members of [Neve Shalom-Wahat al-Salam](#), an intentional village west of Jerusalem where Jews and Arabs live, learn, and work together.

--Shop, tour, relax, and enjoy Jerusalem.

Overnight for the rest of the trip: [Notre Dame Hotel](#) just outside the old city walls

Monday night, January 26 departure for home:

26 Jan 09	Delta 153	depart Tel Aviv	11:25 PM
27 Jan 09		arrive Atlanta	5:40 AM
27 Jan 09	Delta 6488	depart Atlanta	8:15 AM
		Arrive Louisville	9:36 AM