

LUTHER  
TOURS



# PASSION PLAY TOURS 2010

OBERAMMERGAU, GERMANY & EXCITING DESTINATIONS BEYOND

**ISRAEL & GERMANY**

**September 8-19, 2010**

**“In the Footsteps of Jesus” a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and the Passion Play**

**Hosted by Pastor Loel Haak, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Aloha, OR**

Join us on this unforgettable panoramic journey through the Holy Land in Israel and the Bavarian Alps of Germany and experience the benefits and joys of traveling together in Christian fellowship.

**12-Day Fully Escorted Deluxe Tour highlighting the “once-in-a-lifetime” experience to attend the 41<sup>st</sup> performance of the Passion Play 2010**

Our fully escorted tour begins in **Munich, Germany**, the fun-filled capital of the **Bavarian Alps**. We'll stay in the majestic Bavarian Alps near the charming village of **Oberammergau**. We visit the world famous fairytale **Castle Neuschwanstein** of “mad” King Ludwig and complete our journey with one of the highlights of our tour- the performance of the **Passion Play 2010!** Then we're off for our flight to the **Land of the Bible**, as our group experiences Israel “In the Footsteps of Jesus”. We'll visit the cities of **Nazareth, Jericho, Bethlehem** and **Jerusalem**, we'll walk along the **Via Dolorosa**, visit the **Garden Tomb** and stop at the baptismal site along the **Jordan River**. Enjoy a relaxing cruise on a wooden-boat ride on the **Sea of Galilee**, visit **Qumran** where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were discovered and a cable-car ride to the mountain top fortress of **Massada**. Along the way, Pastor Loel will accompany the group sharing Bible stories and providing devotions.

**Come to the PASSION PLAY... Stay for the Passion**

## **ABOUT OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2010**

The history of the Passion Play begins in 1633. During the Thirty Years' War, after much suffering and also many deaths caused by the plague, the surviving population of Oberammergau vowed that they would perform the “play of the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ” every 10 years if they were spared from extinction. At Whitsun in 1634 they kept their promise for the first time. In 2010 the village will perform the play for the 41<sup>st</sup> time. The play takes place outdoors with the sky and mountains as the backdrop. The play is world renowned for the costumes and music presentation. More than 2,000 citizens make up the actors, singers, instrumentalists and stage technicians that bring the play to life. The play runs 5 hours, comprised of spoken dramatic text, musical and choral accompaniment. Your heart will be forever touched by this dramatic depiction of the Passion of Christ.

CHRISTIAN  
TRAVEL  
Planners



Tickets to the Oberammergau Passion Play 2010 are in high demand and are limited in quantity. This tour includes tickets to the performance of the Passion Play 2010.

**We encourage anyone interested in joining this tour to send your Reservation Form & deposit today.**

**Day 1 Wednesday, Sept. 08 Depart USA**

Today we embark on our Pilgrimage to the Passion Play and Holy Land. Prepare yourself for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

**Day 2 Thursday, Sept. 09 Arrive Munich, Germany, Dachau (D)**

Upon arrival at the Munich Airport we'll meet our European Tour Guide who will escort us to our waiting motor coach. We'll enjoy a driving sightseeing tour of the exciting capital of Bavaria- we'll see the Old Pinakothek Museum, Olympia Tower and Stadium, Nymphenburg Palace, Deutsches Museum, the Rathaus and its Glockenspiel and relax at the famous Hofbrauhaus Restaurant, an icon of Munich tradition for lunch on our own. Afterwards we drive to the nearby Dachau Concentration Camp where we will tour the grounds of today's Memorial Site. Afterwards, we drive through the beautiful Bavarian Alps to our hotel where we'll stay for the next two nights. Later tonight our group will meet for our Welcome to Germany dinner. **Overnight Bavarian Alps**

**Day 3 Friday, Sept. 10 Passion Play Performance (B, D)**

Today we travel to nearby Fussen, located at the foot of the Alps. We'll visit the famous castle of "Mad" King Ludwig, Neuschwanstein Castle. Afterwards, a short drive to nearby Oberammergau for one of the highlights of our pilgrimage- the Passion Play. This performance begins at 2:30pm with a break for our group dinner from 5:00m-8:00pm and resumes after dinner until 10:30pm. Our reserved seats for the play are covered; however, the stage is open, and the performance takes place regardless of the weather. **Overnight Bavarian Alps**

**Day 4 Saturday, Sept. 11 Flight to Tel Aviv , Israel (B, D)**

Today we transfer to the Munich airport for our flight to Tel Aviv, Israel. We arrive Ben Gurion airport and will be met by our tour guide who escorts us to our coach. We begin our tour of the Holy land with a leisurely drive north through the Sharon Plains through Wadi Ara heading to the Sea of Galilee. Then we cross the country to the Arbel cliff for a magnificent view over the **Sea of Galilee** and the sites of Jesus' mission. We then continue our drive to Tiberias **Overnight Tiberias**

**Day 5 Sunday, Sept. 12 Cana, Nazareth, Mt. Carmel, Megiddo, Baptismal site (B,D)**

After breakfast, we drive through the area of Cana and Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus, where we visit the Nazareth Village - a wonderful recreation of Biblical times with costumed guides. Next, we travel through the Jezreel Valley to Megiddo, the Armageddon Battlefield, where archaeologists have unearthed 20 levels of civilization. Mt. Carmel, where Elijah challenged King Ahab and the prophets of Baal, then we travel along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea to Caesarea where Gentiles first heard the Good News from Peter. We'll see the Roman Amphitheatre and aqueduct. We board our coach and travel north east through the Jezreel Valley to the southern end of the Sea Of Galilee. We stop at Yardenit, the modern Baptismal site located at the exit of the Jordan River from Tiberias as it flows south through the Jordan Valley. **Overnight Tiberias**

**Day 6 Monday, Sept. 13 Capernaum, Dan, Mt of Beatitudes, Sea of Galilee (B, L, D)**

Following breakfast, our morning travels take us to two northern sites emphasizing the loss of God's blessing on Israel. Dan is where the children of Israel fell to the depths of pagan worship and Caesarea Philippi which is the site of Peter's Confession. A box lunch will be provided. In Capernaum we visit the ruins of an ancient synagogue and Peter's home. Then to the site of the multiplication of loaves and fishes and the Mount of the Beatitudes overlooking the Sea. After viewing the ancient fisherman boat at an operating Kibbutz we'll enjoy a relaxing cruise on the Sea of Galilee. A scripture reading and devotional brings to life the experiences of Jesus and the fishermen disciples, concluding a wonderful day! **Overnight Tiberias**

**Day 7 Tuesday, Sept. 14 Beth Shean, Ein Harod, Jericho (B,D)**

Today we visit three major sites: Beth Shean, Ein Harod and Jericho. We drive down into the Jordan Valley where we stop for a visit at the modern baptismal site at the point where the Jordan flows out of the lake. We then drive to the strategic crossing point between the Jordan Valley and the Jezreel which is located in the city of Beth Shean (aka Scythopolis). Here, we will climb the Tel to view the setting of Saul's death (I Samuel 28 - II Samuel 1). We shall then survey the magnificent Roman and Byzantine ruins: theatre, bathhouses, ancient rest rooms, market areas, colonnaded streets. We drive through the Jezreel Valley west to Ein Harod (Judges 7), which describes Gideon's actions in thinning out his army. This is where he brought the men to the spring and sorted them on the basis of how they drank from the water. We then drive east into Harod's Valley with a fantastic view filled with biblical history. From this location on Tel Jezreel looking east, one can yet imagine the crowned Jehu "driving like a madman," on his way to killing the kings of Israel and Judah. Probably somewhere in this valley, Jesus healed the ten lepers 900 years later. We continue east back to the Jordan Valley and then south to Jericho. At Jericho, we visit the Tel of this oldest city and view the traditional mountain of Jesus' temptation. Ascending the Roman road along Wadi Qilt, we stop for a look at St. George's. Finally atop Mt. Scopus, we behold majestic Jerusalem. **Overnight Jerusalem**

**Day 8 Wednesday, Sept. 15 Worship Service Bethlehem, Dead Sea Scrolls, Holocaust Museum (B, D)**

Driving south to the Bethlehem region passing Rachel's Tomb on the outskirts of Bethlehem, we visit Solomon's Pools, Jerusalem's main source of water for almost 2000 years. Passing the monastery of Hortus Conclusus ("the sealed garden") in Artas, we go to Shepherds' Fields. We then visit Bethlehem, walking through its alleys and markets to the Church of the Nativity. Today we'll visit the International Center of Bethlehem- a Lutheran-based institution serving the community, developing human resources, cultivating artistic talents, and facilitating intercultural encounters, the ICB actively promotes the building of Palestinian civil society. After visiting the city of the birth of our Lord, we drive back to West Jerusalem. An interesting and educational time awaits us at the Israeli Museum. Walk through collections of centuries old Israeli artifacts including the Dead Sea Scrolls, and a then a guided walk through an accurately detailed model of Biblical Jerusalem will help to prepare you for what you will experience in the following days. We conclude the day with a visit to [Yad Vashem](#), the Holocaust Museum.

### **Overnight Jerusalem**

#### **Day 9 Thursday, Sept. 16 Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Western Wall (B, D)**

We begin our 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. Next we visit 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. On our way into the city we enter the Dung gate. Just inside the gate 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 will then walk up to the Western 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.

### **Overnight Jerusalem**

#### **Day 10 Friday, Sept. 17 Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea (B, D)**

Our day begins very early by driving in the Rift Valley and heading south along the western shores of the Dead Sea 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. Early afternoon, enjoy a dip in the Dead Sea- the lowest place on earth. *Bring along your swim suit and remember, you can't possibly sink, so grab a newspaper, float on your back, and snap a picture or two as a keepsake.* Drive back to Jerusalem before the beginning of the eve of Yom Kippur. Our group will meet for dinner. **Overnight Jerusalem**

#### **Day 11 Saturday, Sept. 18 Yom Kippur, Way of Suffering, Garden Tomb (B, D)**

Today we walk where Jesus walked. Our walking sightseeing tour begins as we walk along the Via Dolorosa, where we are reminded of His way of suffering and then we visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Our guide will explain the route that Christ was led and the place of crucifixion and burial. Each person will have an opportunity to enter the tomb. We'll have time for prayer, worship, and praise after an unforgettable visit to the Garden Tomb and Golgotha – the place of the skull. Passing by the Protestant Cemetery, we visit the "Upper Room" the scene of the Last Supper, just outside the Zion Gate where the disciple whom Jesus loved laid their head on His breast and where later Thomas cried, "my Lord & my God." Our group will enjoy a farewell dinner this evening as we share fond memories of our journey- Following in the "Footsteps of Jesus". We will never read our Bible quite the same way again! Afterwards we transfer to the airport for our late night (early morning) flights to the USA. (Due to the Jewish holiday Yom Kippur, transportation is stopped on this day. This day will require more than the usual amount of walking, but it will be a very rewarding day.)

#### **Day 12 Sunday, Sept 19**

#### **Depart Tel Aviv**

Transfer to Tel Aviv airport for early morning departure flight to the USA

B- Breakfast, D- Dinner

Itinerary is subject to change. A valid Passport is required for all travelers. Non-US citizens contact LutherTours for additional credentials required to visit the countries in your tour. Please familiarize yourself with our Terms & Conditions of Travel.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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**TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES**

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Air from Portland, OR (**Additional cities available call for prices**)  
Professional Tour Manager on Tour  
Deluxe Air-Conditioned Motor Coach  
Airport Transfers- Arrival and Departure  
Baggage Handling - 1 Bag Each  
First-Class & European hotels w/Bath Hotel Taxes  
Breakfast Daily, 1 Lunch, 10 Dinners  
Professional Licensed Local City Guides  
All sightseeing & Entrance Fees shown  
**Passion Play Performance Tickets**

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**TOUR PRICING**

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**SPACE IS LIMITED ~ SMALL GROUP ~ CUSTOMIZED ITINERARY ~ PASTOR HOSTED**

**Tour Cost-** \$4190 per person **Including Air from Portland, OR**  
**Airlines Taxes-** \$400 per person (subject to change by airline until ticketed)  
**Single Occupancy-** \$495 additional  
**Trip Cancellation Insurance-** from \$270 per person

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**TOUR PACKAGE Does Not Include**

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Meals and Beverages not shown  
Tour Gratuity Recommendations:  
Tour Manager & Motor Coach Driver- local currency equivalent of \$4 per person/ per day; Local City Guides- \$3 per person  
Passports and Visas fees

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**DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS**

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Mail or Fax Your Completed Reservation Form (available online at [www.luthertours.com](http://www.luthertours.com))  
**Along with a \$1350 per person Deposit to:**

**LutherTours**  
**P.O. Box 15126**  
**Newport Beach CA 92659**  
**Fax 949-548-8974**  
**Toll Free 1-866-777-1517**  
**[www.luthertours.com](http://www.luthertours.com)**

A valid Passport is required for all travelers.

Non US citizens contact LutherTours.

Please familiarize yourself with our LutherTours Terms & Conditions of Travel.