

## **101 REASONS TO GO TO ISRAEL ON AN IMAGINE PILGRIMAGE!**

**Acquire an authentic pottery artifact dating back to the time of Christ!**  
**Admire the countless orchards of date palms, bananas, sunflowers, olives and fruit trees!**  
**Appreciate the diverse geographic regions of the land!**  
**Ascend and descend the hills, mountains and valleys of the land!**  
**Ask questions until your heart is content!**  
**Attend lectures on the sordid history of Jerusalem's destructions!**  
**Barter for souvenirs in the Arab souk!**  
**Be exposed to both Palestinian and Jewish cultures and customs!**  
**Build friendships that will last a lifetime!**  
**Catch a glimpse of a Bedouin encampment!**

**Climb to the top of Mt. Arbel for a breath-taking panoramic view of the Sea of Galilee!**  
**Collect pottery sherds!**  
**Comprehend Scripture fully as you synthesize archaeology, history, geography, customs & culture!**  
**Deepen your faith!**  
**Descend the Mount of Olives on the Palm Sunday pathway!**  
**Develop patience as you travel with a busload of people!**  
**Devour delectable airline victuals!**  
**Dine on St. Peter's fish!**  
**Drink from the spring where Gideon's men did!**  
**Eat a fresh falafel or shwarma from a street vendor in Jerusalem's Old City!**

**Enjoy a cable-car ride to the top of Masada!**  
**Envision the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal as you stand on Mount Carmel!**  
**Examine the evidence to determine where Jesus was crucified and buried!**  
**Exercise your freedom to explore Tiberias and Jerusalem on your "down time!"**  
**Experience daily life in a reconstructed first century village!**  
**Explore dozens of biblical archaeological sites!**  
**Fall in love with the land and her people groups!**  
**Feast on hotel buffets!**  
**Feel exhausted and exhilarated at the end of every day!**  
**Fill your backpack with souvenirs!**

**Float in the Dead Sea!**  
**Fly in an airplane bigger than your house...for a very long time!**  
**Gaze at a first century fishing boat just like the ones used by some of the disciples!**  
**Get to know your Tour Host- Doc Ayers!**  
**Grieve for religious people who have no relationship with God!**  
**Gulp bottled water to stay hydrated and healthy!**  
**Hear the Muslim call to prayer!**  
**Hike through a nature preserve to see some of the headwaters of the Jordan River!**  
**Imagine Jesus' thoughts as you walk through sections of the Via Dolorosa!**  
**Inhale the aroma of freshly baked pastries!**

**Inspect a Crusader fortress!**  
**Keep a journal of first impressions!**  
**Kneel down in the grotto where Jesus was born in Bethlehem!**  
**Learn from “living stones”- Palestinians and Jews- how God is at work in the land!**  
**Listen to lectures from a licensed Israeli guide who has lived in Israel his entire life!**  
**Live in community with others as we tour, learn, study, eat, pray, cry and laugh together!**  
**Look at some of the Dead Sea Scrolls!**  
**Marvel at the artisanship of mosaic floors!**  
**Meditate on the sayings from the cross!**  
**Mount the walls of the Old City to walk the ramparts!**

**Note the prayer shawls and phylacteries worn by religious Jewish men!**  
**Observe wild ibexes and coney in their natural habitat!**  
**Plan to acquire a hand-carved olive wood nativity set to remind you of this pilgrimage!**  
**Purchase a custom made piece of Eilat stone or Roman Glass jewelry as a keepsake!**  
**Pray at the Western Wall!**  
**Quiet your heart before God in the Garden of Gethsemane!**  
**Realize the harshness of the Judean wilderness!**  
**Recharge your FitBit/Apple Watch to calculate how many thousand steps you took during the tour!**  
**Reflect on biblical events at locations where they occurred!**  
**Ride a camel!**

**Rub yourself down in Dead Sea mud for a free “spa treatment!”**  
**Run where Jesus walked!**  
**Sail on the Sea of Galilee!**  
**Sample fresh baklava!**  
**Scout out the markets in Jerusalem's Old City for spices, dried fruits and other treasures!**  
**See artifacts on display in several museums!**  
**Sing in the Church of St. Anne's by the Pools of Bethesda!**  
**Sit on the temple steps where Jesus taught and Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost!**  
**Smell the incense burned in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem!**  
**Smile in your selfie with an Israeli or Palestinian soldier!**

**Snap hundreds of pictures!**  
**Spend many shekels!**  
**Stand on original first century Roman streets!**  
**Stare at the exact potters' field, which was purchased with Judas' 30 pieces of silver!**  
**Stretch your imagination and critical thinking skills!**  
**Stroll on a Mediterranean beach!**  
**Stop and smell Israel's flora!**  
**Study the scriptures in locations where actual events occurred!**  
**Survey Herod the Great's Temple Mount to locate where the Temple stood when Jesus walked there!**  
**Take communion at the Garden Tomb!**

**Taste new Israeli and Arab cuisine!**

**Test your patience in a hotel's Shabbat elevator, which automatically stops at every floor!**

**Touch Golgotha!**

**Travel through every geographic region of the land from Dan to Beersheba!**

**Traverse the Western Wall tunnels until you reach the bedrock base of Jerusalem's walls!**

**Trek through a nature preserve to reach the waterfalls of Ein Gedi, where David hid from King Saul!**

**Try a cup of Turkish coffee!**

**Understand the root cause of continual Arab and Israeli conflicts!**

**View a Canaanite altar where, most likely, human sacrifices were offered!**

**Visit what remains of multiple prominent Biblical cities!**

**Visualize the feeding of the 5,000!**

**Wade into the Jordan River if you wish to be baptized!**

**Wait for hours in airports!**

**Walk across the Temple Mount where Jesus overturned tables of moneychangers & animal vendors!**

**Wander around Jerusalem to find a place to live in the millennium!**

**Watch Orthodox Jews celebrate the Sabbath!**

**Wear a yarmulke (if you are a man)!**

**Weep for many people groups you will see who are very religious but very lost!**

**Worship in spirit and truth!**

**Write a personal psalm of praise in a garden at Gethsemane as you reflect on Jesus' agony!**

**Pinch yourself and wonder, "Am I really HERE?"!**

***CHECK YOUR PULSE...IF YOUR HEART IS NOT BEATING FASTER, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY!***