

Sacred Land: Common Ground?

March 4-17, 2012

Yale Divinity School

Hosted by:

Dean Harold Attridge

Valid U.S. Passport



- Do not pack in your luggage
- Sign your passport
- Photocopy the inside cover pages, keep separate from your passport

Inoculations

- None required
- See the CDC website for more information <http://www.cdc.gov/>
- Check with your physician
 - Ask about anti-diarrhea medications

Final Documents will be sent to you approximately 3 weeks prior to departure



Your documents will include:

- E-Ticket itinerary and receipt
- PocketDocs™
- U.S. Customs information
- Leave-at-Home Accommodations/
Contact List
- Luggage tags
- Name tag

Group Flights

- **Sun, March 4:**

CO 90 Newark-Tel Aviv 10:51pm - 4:20pm (March 5th)

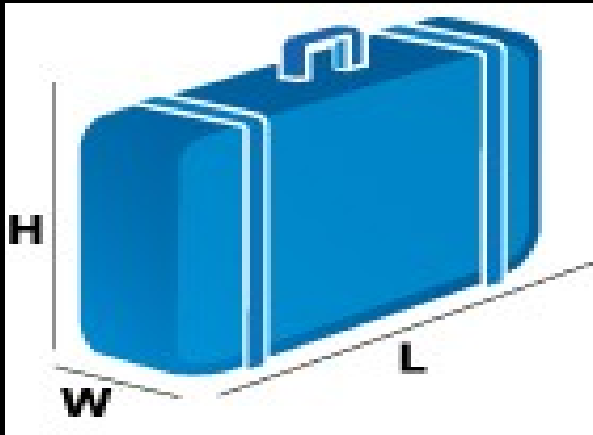
- **Sat, March 17:**

CO 85 Tel Aviv- Newark 10:20am - 4:37pm

Earn frequent flier miles on Continental Airlines

You may bring 1 checked bag free of charge

Baggage Allowance



Tip: Place the tour itinerary in the outside pocket of your suitcase in case it's misdirected

- **1 Checked Bag**
 - 50 lb maximum
 - 62 linear inches maximum
- **1 Carry-on Bag + a personal item**
 - 40 lb maximum - 45 linear inches

Linear inch = Length + Height + Width
(includes wheels & handle)

TSA Security Requirement for Carry-on Luggage

3-1-1 for Carry-Ons

Play Your Part →

3

3 ounce or smaller containers of liquid or gel

More than 3 ounces permitted in checked baggage

Container size is a security measure



1

1 quart-size, clear plastic, zip-top bag holding 3 ounce or smaller containers

Bag limits total volume per person



1

1 bag per traveler placed in the security bin

Isolating liquids speeds screening



Items Permitted in the Cabin in Addition to Your Carry-on

- 1 personal item such as:
 - Laptop
 - Handbag
 - Briefcase
 - Camera case (or items of a similar or smaller size)
- Also allowed onboard:
 - Food items for immediate consumption
 - Assistive devices such as wheelchair or crutches
 - A coat, jacket, umbrella

Packing

- Pack medicines in your carry-on
 - Have enough medicine for the entire trip; keep in original bottles in your carry-on luggage
- Bring *your own* over-the-counter supplies:
 - Pain killer, cold medication, first aid cream, Band-aids, etc.
- Bring extra eye glasses/contact lenses
- Use suitcases with wheels
- Don't bring valuable jewelry

Packing, *continued...*

- Comfortable clothing
 - Layers – it's cooler in the evenings
 - Evenings are casual; dress accordingly
- No shorts or bare shoulders in the Old City – also some holy sites
- Sturdy walking shoes
- Women bring a scarf for churches, mosques, etc.

Packing, *continued...*

- Leave controversial political literature at home, otherwise Israeli security may detain you (*also upon exiting Israel*)
- Avoid packing clothing with political, religious or patriotic messages
- Roll your clothes before placing in suitcase
- Pack ½ of your clothes in your roommate's suitcase
- Wash cloth or sponge
- See the packing list in your final documents

Weather and Climate

Nazareth

- Average Temp 48F - 57F

Jerusalem

- Average Temp 44F - 58F

Dead Sea

- Average Temp 54F- 68F

Average Precipitation: 4.4 inches



GTD Ensures Group Safety

- Palestinian/Israeli motor coaches
- Experienced guide (Naim Khoury)
- Up-to-date information about hot spots
- Programming changes when necessary

Communicating with Home

- Calling cards
- Some cell phones work internationally with a SIM card
(check with your provider)
- Hotel computers or Internet cafes

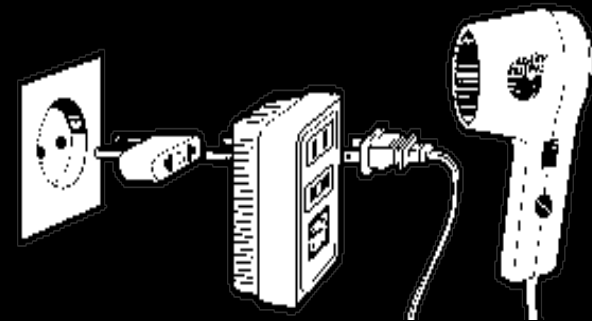
What Time Is It?



- Israel / West Bank is 7 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time on March 11th the U.S. will change to Daylight Savings Time and it will be 6 hours ahead
- Bring an alarm clock to wake up; your cell phone clock may not work abroad

Electrical Connections

- 220 Volts
- You'll need an adaptor (plus a converter if your appliance is not dual voltage)
- Bring a hairdryer or go *au naturel!*), as some hotels do not provide them.



Money, Credit Cards, ATMs

- Bring some *newer* U.S. dollars (Fives, Tens)
- Credit cards used in shops
- ATMs prevalent in Israel; less so in West Bank; you will receive local currency
- Money Changers in Bethlehem
- Do not use Travelers' Cheques

\$1 US Dollar = 3.7 Shekels



Shopping

- Olive wood carvings
- Hebron glass
- Mosaics
- Textiles/embroideries
- Vintage jewelry
- ICB gift shop in Bethlehem offers unique gifts and benefits local artisans



Shopping, Money, etc

- Many shops accept credit cards
- Most of your meals are included
- Street vendors and smaller shops accept USD or Shekels
- When spending \$100 or more at once request the VAT tax refund form. Submit the VAT papers upon departure. Your VAT refund is 16% of your purchases less a transaction fee

Group Travel Courtesy

- Advise your host or the guide if you need assistance
- Rotate seats on the bus
- Be on time
- *Please & Thank You.....go a long way!*

General Travel Security

- Secure your passport, money, credit cards
- Call your credit card company about your destination before you depart
- Make copies of your passport, credit cards, give to tour partner
- Use a money belt
- Travel in groups at night

Personal Health

- Wash your hands often with soap and water; use hand sanitizer
- Be careful about eating food sold at stands
- Bottled water is recommended unless advised otherwise



Cuisine - Common foods include:

- Vegetables and fruits
- Chicken and Lamb
- Spicy sauces/yogurt
- Falafel: spiced, deep-fried chickpeas with yogurt sauce, served in pita bread
- Couscous: served under a meat or vegetable stew
- Sodas, beer, wine, water



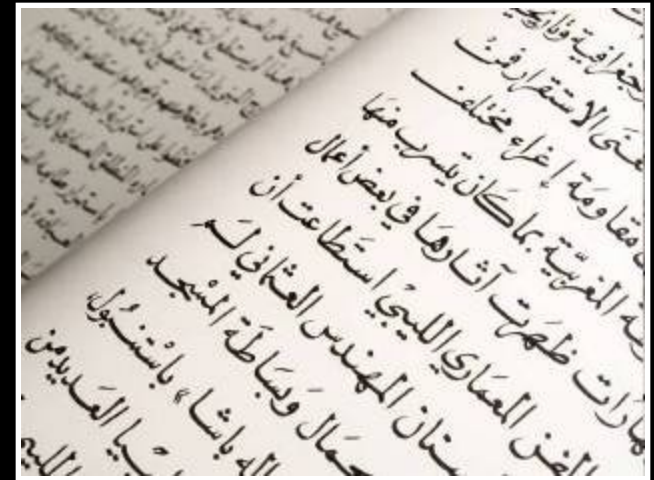
Essential Words to Know

■ Arabic

- Thank you - *Shukran*
- God Willing – *Insha' allah*
- Peace - *Salaam*

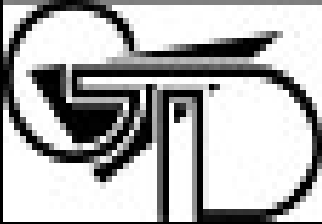
■ Hebrew

- Thank you – *Toda*
- Peace - *Shalom*



Questions?





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