



Proposed Itinerary

Day 1 - EN ROUTE

Depart the USA. to Tel Aviv, Israel. Enjoy a hot dinner served aboard the airplane.

Day 2 - Arrive TEL AVIV

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport, our representative will meet the group by the luggage carousel and assist us on the way out through customs. You will then be transferred to your Mediterranean Sea side hotel for Dinner and overnight.

Day 3 - To the GALILEE

We will wake up to the first day of the Holy Land. After a rich, Israeli breakfast, we will leave the hotel and drive north along the famous highway, biblically known as the 'way of the sea'. We will arrive at **Caesarea**, where we will explore the ruins of the Roman and the **Crusader City**. We will see the reconstructed Roman city, the walls from the times of the Crusaders and the prison where St. Paul was held in captivity before being sent to Rome. This was also the place where the first gentile was converted to Christianity. As we leave the beautiful walls and moat, we will pass the remains of the Roman horse racing theater the Hippodrome. We will stop at the amazing remains of the **Roman Aqueduct**, which has been beautifully preserved under the sand dunes for 2000 years. We will continue to **Mount Carmel** and visit the **Mukhraka** the site where the Prophet Elijah debated the 450 prophets of Baal. From here there is a breathtaking view over the whole **Valley of Jezreel**, better known as the **Valley of Armageddon**. After a complimentary Falafel lunch at a Druze village, we continue to the famous "**Tel Megiddo**", the archaeological mound, which inspired James Michener's book, "The Source". Here we can see the remains of King Solomon's Stables, an altar from the time of Abraham (4000 years old), and the magnificent water tunnel. We continue across the Valley to view **Mount Tabor** the site of the 'Transfiguration'. We arrive in **Nazareth** where we visit the **Church of the Annunciation**, and the Synagogue where Jesus learned to read the Bible. On the way to Tiberias we pass **Cana of Galilee**, the village where Jesus performed his first miracle - the miracle at the wedding. Arrival at our hotel on the shores of the beautiful Lake of Galilee. Dinner and overnight. Evening we stroll the streets of **Tiberias**.



Day 4 - GALILEE

Wake up to a beautiful morning in the area where Jesus spent 3 years of his ministry. Today we will dedicate our time to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. After breakfast, we will drive north through the **Golan Heights** to **Caesarea Philippi** and the **Banias**, one of the water resources of the Jordan River. Continue back to the **Sea of Galilee** to visit **Capernaum**, 'the Town of Jesus', walk along the ruins of this Biblical Village, and see the Synagogue where Jesus preached and the house of Peter's mother-in-law. Drive up to the **Mount of the Beatitudes**, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. Visit the beautiful mosaic floor at **Tabgha** - the site of the miracle of the multiplication. We will visit a 2000 years old fisherman boat - **The Jesus Boat** and sail in a boat across the Sea of Galilee, and then have the famous **St. Peter's fish** for lunch in a restaurant on the lake shore. We finish the day with a **Baptismal service at Yardenit** for whoever chooses to do it. Dinner and overnight.



Day 5 - GALILEE to DEAD SEA

Today, after breakfast, we will drive south to **Beit Sheaan**, the largest Archeological site in Israel. We will explore the ancient **Roman City** with the **Amphitheater** and reconstructed streets. Continue south through the **Jordan Valley** to **Jericho** (should conditions allow it). We will view **Mt. of Temptations**. We will drive through the **Qumran Caves** area, where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were found and on to the lowest place on earth - the Dead Sea. 1300 feet below sea level, the **Dead Sea** is the saltiest body of water in the world. Our hotel is by the Dead Sea shores, where we will swim, or to be more exact, float, on this amazing sea - a non-swimmers paradise. Dinner and Overnight at our hotel in the Dead Sea.



Day 6 - MASADA and DEAD SEA

Today, after breakfast, we will visit **Masada** - the site of the Zealots last stand against the Romans, which was originally built as a magnificent palace for Herod the Great. At this great fortress we will visit the bathhouse, the storage rooms, the mosaics and the **Byzantine Church**. After descending by walking along the Ramp built by the Romans, we will drive to a **Bedouin camp** and enjoy a special visit with Middle Eastern hospitality. Continue to view **Tel Arad**, the Canaanite city conquered by Joshua and on to **Beer Sheva**, the "Capital" of the Negev. This is the city where Abraham dug the seven water wells. Continue via the **Negev Desert** to the **Ela Valley**, site of the famous battle between David and Goliath. We continue our ascent to Jerusalem, 2400 feet above sea level, via **Beit Shemes** and **Emmaus**. At the entrance to the **Holy City** we will celebrate with a traditional blessing, while overlooking the walls of the City of the Lord. Dinner and overnight in **Jerusalem**.

Day 7 - JERUSALEM and BETHLEHEM

Today will be one of spiritual uplifting. We will begin the morning after breakfast, with a magnificent view of the **Old City** from the **Mount of Olives**. We will drive down to the **Kidron Valley** and enter the **Garden of Gethsemane**, the **Church of All Nations** where we can view the Basilica of Agony. In this area are the oldest Olive trees in the Holy Land, dating back to ancient times - a living witness to Jesus's arrest by the Romans. We continue along the Kidron Valley, viewing the **Tomb of Zachariah** as well as the **Tomb of Absalom** - King David's son. We will enter the Old City via the Dung Gate, then proceed to the **Wailing Wall** - the remnant of Herod's Temple, the holiest Jewish site - and touch its ancient stones. We will ascend the **Temple Mount**, where we will view the Dome of the Rock. We will continue to the famous **Tunnels from the Hasmonean era** and out to the **Via Dolorosa** and the Arab Market - the Shuk, with its hundreds of stores selling many types of artifacts. We will visit the **Holy Sepulchre** - the largest Church in Jerusalem. On to the **Jewish Quarter**, where we will see the renovated **Cardo**. We will visit the **Temple Institute** and see replicas of utensils from second Temple era. We will also visit the remains of **Caiaphas' House**, where Jesus was kept and more. On to **Mt Zion** and visit **King David Tomb** and the **Room of the Last Supper** that is just next door. We will finish the day with a short Communion Service at the **Garden Tomb**. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. In the evening we will walk and shop in the famous pedestrian street - **Ben Yehuda Street**.



Day 8 - JERUSALEM

We will start the morning, after breakfast, by visiting **Yad Vashem**, the **Holocaust Memorial**. Then we continue to the **Israel Museum** and the **Shrine of the Book**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls can be seen. The afternoon will be dedicated to visiting the birth place of Jesus - **Bethlehem** (if it is open). We will visit the **Church of Nativity** and the **Shepherds' Fields**. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.



Day 9 - JERUSALEM

Today is a free leisure day, pursuing personal interests, or revisiting some sites that we have missed and shopping. In the evening we will celebrate with a **Banquet Farewell dinner** with presentation of Pilgrimage Certificates. Late evening transfer to airport for flight back to USA.

Day 10 - RETURN TO USA

Arrive back home.



This itinerary is subject to modification at the discretion of the Tour Directors and Tour Guide. This tour is not recommended for those who have mobility limitations since it includes walking on uneven terrain.