



7 Days Journey in Israel

Day 1: Departure

Today we embark on our Journey to the Holy Land. Prepare yourself for a life-changing experience. Get some rest on the flight...Tomorrow you will be walking where Yeshua walked!

Day 2: Arrive Israel

Arrive in **Israel** at Ben Gurion Airport where we will be met by our transfer agent. We travel northward to our hotel for one night in the coastal area near Tel Aviv. The remainder of the day is free to walk along the Mediterranean, relax, and have dinner. The time is right for a personal devotional with the sunset over the "Great Sea." Meet your Israeli guide, enjoy a time of prayer of thanks for safety and the special blessings ahead, a prayer for the people of the "Promised Land," and a good night's rest.

Day 3: Caesarea, Megiddo & Nazareth

After breakfast, we travel by private motor coach along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea to **Caesarea**, where Gentiles first heard the Good News from Peter and were baptized. We'll see the Roman Amphitheatre and aqueduct, and then journey on to **Mt. Carmel**, where Elijah challenged King Ahab and the prophets of Baal. Next we travel through the Jezreel Valley to **Megiddo**, the Armageddon Battlefield, where archaeologists have unearthed 20 levels of civilization. We drive through the area of **Cana** and **Nazareth**, the boyhood home of Yeshua, where we visit the Nazareth Village - a wonderful recreation of Biblical times with costumed guides. We will have dinner and overnight lodging for the next two nights in the **Tiberias** area on the **Sea of Galilee**.

Day 4: Capernaum, Dan, Caesarea Philippi & Mt. of Beatitudes

Following breakfast, our morning travels take us to two valuable northern sites. **Dan** is where the children of Israel fell to the depths of pagan worship and **Caesarea Philippi**, the site of Peter's Confession. In **Capernaum** we will visit the ruins of an ancient synagogue and Peter's home. Then we travel on to the site of the possible multiplication of loaves and fishes in Bethsaida and the **Mount of the Beatitudes** overlooking the Sea. After viewing the ancient Fisherman Boat at an operating Kibbutz, we enjoy a relaxing cruise on the Sea of Galilee. A brief scripture reading and devotional on board brings to life the experiences of Yeshua and the fishermen disciples concluding a wonderful day.

Day 5: Jordan River Baptism Sites, Beth Shean

We begin our day with an opportunity to be baptized at the **Jordan River** Baptismal site. Next we travel southward to **Beit-Shean/Scythopolis**, the most magnificent archeological site in Israel, located at the strategic juncture of the Jezreel and Jordan valleys. Like Jericho, it has been almost continuously occupied throughout history. After defeating Saul and his sons on Mt. Gilboa, the Philistines hanged their bodies on the walls of Beit-Shean. During the time of Yeshua, Scythopolis was one of the chief cities of the Decapolis - a league of ten cities sharing Greek culture and government. Following the fertile Jordan Valley southward, your guide will point out the agricultural restoration of the "Land of Milk and Honey," the Kibbutz system and Israel's intricate irrigation development. We pass ancient Jericho, view from a distance this city famed as the oldest in the world, before coming to Bethany. Beyond the Jordan, the place where Yeshua was baptized by John the Baptist, where Elijah and Elisha crossed the Jordan as well as the area where the children of Israel led by Joshua entered the Promised land. Our lodging for the evening is at the **Dead Sea** – the lowest place on earth. Spend time in the special spa and enjoy a dip in the Dead Sea for a relaxing float before dinner.

Day 6: Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea Scrolls, Abraham's Tent

Our day begins 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. This afternoon we will take part in the Genesis Land/Dinner in Abraham's Tent, where we enjoy a trip back in time: a reliving of life in the time of the Patriarchs, complete with costume, dramatic presentation, and authentic food. Our lodging for the next three nights will be in **Jerusalem**.

Day 7: Around Jerusalem, Bible Times

On our way into the city we will visit the Wailing 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. This afternoon 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 Yeshua 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**. Those who wish may stay in the city marketplace for shopping, while others may choose to spend the remainder of the day surrounding the birth of Christ with a visit to **Bethlehem**.

Day 8: Yeshua' Footsteps, Way of Suffering, Garden Tomb

Today we walk where Yeshua walked; beginning the 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 Yeshua' prayer and take time for personal reflection is important here. Passing by the Protestant Cemetery, we visit the "**Upper Room**" just outside the **Zion Gate** where the disciple whom Yeshua loved laid his head on His breast and where later Thomas cried, "my Lord & my God." While walking along the Via Dolorosa, we are reminded of His way of suffering along with a visit to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**. Our guide will explain the differing opinions on the route that Christ was led and the actual place of crucifixion and burial is a very interesting study. The climax of the day is the area of Golgotha (place of the skull) and the **Garden Tomb**, where we celebrate the resurrection with communion and a time of praise.

Important Note: Although the itinerary above obviously emphasizes the spiritual aspect of this marvelous country, our guides are also experts in and passionate about the miracle of the return of the Jews and the restoration of the state of Israel. This fact, along with many modern day topics (military, politics, education, and other cultural aspects), will be woven into the commentary in order to give you well rounded information.

Day 9: Home

A very early morning departure for the Tel Aviv Airport for our flight homeward will allow for arrival home by early afternoon.