



8 - DAY EVANGELICAL TOUR IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

Day 1: Welcome upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport. Meet, assist and transfer to

Tel Aviv, visiting ancient Jaffa (New Testament Joppa) with the House of Simon the Tanner, before checking into our hotel in Tel Aviv or Natanya for dinner and overnight.

Day 2: Our first full day of touring begins with a visit to the ruins of ancient Caesarea and continues with a drive over the crest of Mount Carmel to see the site where Elijah the Prophet overcame the Prophets of Baal in the name of the God of Israel. Next is Megiddo, the Harmageddon of the Book of Revelation. Afternoon drive to Nazareth where Jesus lived for most of the first 30 years of his life visiting the Basilica of the Annunciation, the Synagogue Church and the "Mount of the Leap" so-called because it was from the brow of a steep hill that the inhabitants of Nazareth wanted to cast him. Then drive on to Cana in Galilee, the scene of the wedding feast described in John chapter 2. Finally we arrive at the Sea of Galilee and check into our hotel for dinner and overnight in Tiberias.

Day 3: The Sea of Galilee is rich in memories of the 3 years of Jesus' ministry around its shores. We begin this day on Mt. Arbel from which there is a wonderful panoramic view of all the surrounding areas including Mt. Hermon, and the pilgrim shrines on the NW shores of the Sea of Galilee. We visit Magdala, the birthplace of Mary Magdalene, and the 2000 year old fishing Boat known as "Jesus Boat". Next is the Mount of Beatitudes the scene of the Sermon on the Mount. Pass by Chorazim which is one of the cities where Jesus taught. Tabgha with the Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes and the Chapel of the Primacy. Capernaum, where Jesus did many signs and wonders where we can visit the House of Peter and the ancient synagogue. Last we enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, before we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 4: Today after breakfast we depart the Sea of Galilee and our first visit this day is to the Yardenit baptismal site where there is the opportunity to be baptized in the waters of the River Jordan. Then we drive on through the Jordan Valley passing the ancient site of Gilgal, located on the eastern border of Jericho, where the Children of Israel, under Joshua, encamped after crossing the Jordan River. In Jericho we see the Mount of Temptation and visit the Fountain of Elisha the Prophet. We stop under a sycamore tree of the kind which Zachaeus, the tax collector climbed in order to see Jesus. Next we drive to the Dead Sea and take a dip in its mineral rich waters before driving up through the Judea Desert to Jerusalem, the "city of God" and take a first glimpse of the Holy City from one of the heights around the city. Finally this day we check into our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

- Day 5: After breakfast this day we shall start our pilgrimage in Jerusalem with a drive to the top of the Mt. of Olives, from which Jesus ascended to heaven after his resurrection. From the top of the Mount there is a magnificent view over all of ancient and modern Jerusalem, the center of the biblical world. We visit the holy shrines on the Mount and walk on down the "Palm Sunday Road" visiting the Chapel of Dominus Flevit (Jesus wept) enroute to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations where Christ prayed on the night of his betrayal (Lk. 22:40-46). Next we shall enter within the old walled city of Jerusalem and walk in the footsteps of our Lord as he bore the burden of our sins to the Cross at Golgotha. We visit the Pools of Bethesda and walk on along the Via Dolorosa, following the 14 Stations of the Cross from Pilate's Judgement Hall to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. In the afternoon we shall visit the last standing remnant of the ancient Temple at the Western (Wailing) Wall. Next we shall visit the Mt. Zion with the Upper Room and the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu which is built over the Palace of Caiaphas, the High Priest, before whom Jesus was brought for trial and sentenced to death. Beside the Church we shall see the "Roman Steps" which were probably used by Jesus and his disciples on the day of his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.
- Day 6: This day begins with a visit to the Israel Museum with the Shrine of the Book, where Dead Sea Scrolls are preserved, and the model of the 2nd Temple period Jerusalem. Passing by the Knesset we drive to the Yad Vashem Museum of the Holocaust which preserves the memory of the 6 million victims of the Shoah. After the visit we drive on to a city of Juda which today is named Ein Karem, the birthplace of John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus the Messiah. The Chapel of the Visitation recalls the visit of the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth and stands upon the location of the House of Zechariah. We follow this visit in the afternoon with a drive to Bethlehem the royal city of King David where Jesus was born. The Church of the Nativity is reputed to be one of the oldest surviving Christian churches. Here we have the opportunity to kneel at the place of Jesus' birth in the Grotto of the Nativity. Before leaving Bethlehem we shall stop at the Shepherd's Field where some shepherds watching their flocks were the first to whom the Angels announced the birth of the Messiah, the Saviour of the world. Then we return to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.
- Day 7: After breakfast we shall visit the Temple Mount where so many of the events we read about in the Bible took place and where Jesus taught so often. Then we shall visit the "City of David" the archaeological site of the city, which King David captured from the Jebusites 3000 years ago, where we can go through Hezekiah's Tunnel and see the Pool of Siloam where Jesus restored the sight of the man born blind. Continue to visit the Garden Tomb and Gordon's Golgotha. The rest of the day is free for last minute shopping and other private activities. Dinner and overnight . Evening: Presentation of "Jerusalem Pilgrim" certificates.
- Day 8: After breakfast we say farewell to Jerusalem, the city of God, and set off for the drive to Ben Gurion Airport and the homebound flight when we hope you will relax and recount your life changing journey to the Holy Land.