

Day 1

WELCOME TO ISRAEL !



Arrival in Ben Gurion Airport. Welcome service by Immanuel Tours representatives and your guide who will meet the group and assist with arrival procedures. Transfer by special motor coach to our hotel in Tel Aviv, stopping on our way for a short visit to Old Jaffa (New Testament Joppa).

Day 2

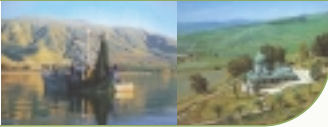
CAESAREA
MT. CARMEL
NAZARETH
SEA OF GALILEE



We begin our day driving northwards to the ruins of the ancient city of Caesarea Maritima which was built by King Herod and later became the seat of government of the Roman governors including Pontius Pilate who sat in judgement on Jesus Christ and sentenced him to be crucified. Visit the extensive excavations of the site including the harbour, the Crusader City, the theatre, the hippodrome and the Roman aqueduct. We continue and drive by Mt. Carmel, where the Prophet Elijah challenged the Priests of Baal (1 Kings 18:17-40). Our next stop is at Megiddo, the Harmageddon of the Book of Revelation. Christian tradition has it that the final great battle of the world will be fought here. Next we continue our drive to visit Sepphoris which was the most important city in Galilee during the first 4 centuries AD. Our next stop is in Nazareth, a town in the hill country of Galilee where Jesus grew to manhood. We continue and drive through Cana of Galilee, where Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding feast (John 2:1-11). We arrive in our hotel in the late afternoon and check in for dinner and overnight.

Day 3

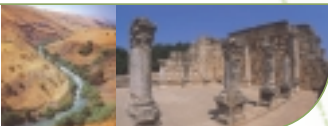
SEA OF GALILEE
GOLAN HEIGHTS



The Sea of Galilee is rich in memories of the three years of Jesus' Ministry around its shores. We begin this day with a visit to the so-called "Jesus Boat", a fishing boat of the kind used by the disciples of Jesus. We then take a boat ride from Nof Ginosar to Capernaum, where Jesus dwelt after he left Nazareth and did many signs and wonders, to visit the ancient synagogue and the nearby House of Peter. We drive on around the shores of the Sea of Galilee to visit the Mt. of Beatitudes, the site of the Sermon on the Mount, from the top of which there is a wonderful panoramic view over the Sea of Galilee. Next, we drive up to the Golan Heights passing by Katzerin, "the town of the Golan" which was established in 1974 and continue on to Mt. Bental from where there is an observation point over the whole region and onto the ghost town of Kuneitra. We return to our hotel in the late afternoon for dinner and overnight.

Day 4

BEIT-SHEAN
JERICHO
JERUSALEM



After breakfast we check out of our hotel and begin our day with a visit to a traditional Baptismal site at Yardenit by the River Jordan. Next we drive southwards through the Jordan Valley to visit the excavations of the ancient Israelite city of Beit Shean. In New Testament times it became one of the 10 cities of the Decapolis. After the visit to this extensive site, we continue and drive along the Jordan Valley to Jericho and up through the Judean Hills to Jerusalem. Before checking into our hotel we stop at the "Tayelet" promenade for a breathtaking view over the Old City of Jerusalem, Mt. Zion and the Mt. of Olives. Dinner and overnight.

Day 5

MT. OF OLIVES
MT. ZION
OLD CITY



We begin this day after breakfast, driving to the top of the Mount of Olives, for a majestic view over all of ancient and modern Jerusalem, the center of the biblical world. We walk down the "Palm Sunday Road" to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations where Christ prayed on the night of His betrayal. Next we enter the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, visiting the Pools of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the man who had been crippled for 38 years (John 5:2-9) and walk along the Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross). Next we walk through the narrow streets of the Old City to the Jewish quarter and on to the most holy shrine to the Jewish people – the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) We end this day with a visit to Mount Zion for a visit to the Upper Room, the Tomb of King David and the Church of St. Peter-in-Gallicantu, the house of Caiaphas, where Jesus was interrogated by the High Priest. Dinner and overnight.

Day 6

YAD VA SHEM
BETHLEHEM
GARDEN TOMB



This day begins with a walk through the Western Wall Tunnel beginning with Warren's Shaft. Next walk via Robinson's Arch to the Garden of Ophel, where archaeological excavations have revealed many remains of the Herodian period which include the steps known as the Hulda Steps leading up to the Temple Court. Next we drive through the new city of Jerusalem, past the Knesset, the Israeli parliament to the Yad Vashem memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. Our next visit is to Bethlehem, City of David and the Shepherds' Field, where the Angel of the Lord proclaimed the good news of the birth of the Saviour (Luke 2:8-18). Returning to Jerusalem we visit the Garden Tomb and Gordon's Golgotha before returning to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 7

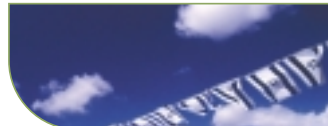
MASADA
DEAD SEA
QUMERAN



This morning we depart from Jerusalem, driving through the Judean desert and along the shores of the Dead Sea to visit the Mountain fortress of Masada, the site of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in 73 AD. Ascent and descent by cable car. Next there will be an opportunity to bathe in the waters of the Dead Sea – the lowest spot on the face of Earth, followed by a visit to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were written over 2000 years ago. Returning to Jerusalem we shall visit Genesis Land and enjoy a desert camel ride. Tonight is our last night in Jerusalem before returning home, and we shall enjoy a special farewell dinner.

Day 8

DEPARTURE



After breakfast, we set off from our hotel and drive to Ben Gurion Airport for our homebound flight.



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