

ISRAEL JOURNEY
28 JUNE – 08 JULY, 2009
hosted by
ADDY NEWLIFE CHRISTIAN CENTRE

SUN. 28 JUNE Departure for Israel

Tonight we depart from Seattle on our British Airways flight to London. Group seating will be pre-assigned by the airline for our flight. Dinner and complimentary in-flight service will be provided this evening. (D)

MON. 29 JUNE: London to Israel

Upon arrival at London Heathrow airport we have time to either visit London's city centre or relax at an airport hotel, before our onward flight to Tel Aviv.

(B,D)

TUE.30 JUNE: Arrival in Israel.

Caesarea, Megiddo.

This morning we arrive at Tel Aviv. Welcome to Israel ! Here we are met by our Tour Manager. . Once clearing customs and baggage formalities our journey begins. Our first day in The Holy Land has us travel northwards along the Via Maris to the Galilee. Here we shall unpack, rest and enjoy the tranquility of our location overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

On our way to the Galilee we shall visit:

Caesarea - The ancient Roman seaport capital of Israel, where Pontius Pilate made his base. Here we will tour the Roman aqueduct, restored theater and crusader city.

Mount Carmel- Overlooking the city of Haifa with the Mediterranean Sea and Jezreel Valley on either side we stand where the Prophet Elijah performed his miracle and called upon the fire of God to conquer the Prophets of Baal. (1 Kings 2; 15:4,25, Isaiah 33:9; Zechariah 12:12)

Megiddo-Hebrew for **Armageddon**. Megiddo was strategically located on the main trading routes between Babylonia and Egypt. Here King Solomon built a giant fortress and city. With over 20 layers of civilization Megiddo is a truly fascinating site. From our vantage point we can view the beauty of the Jezreel Valley, where

John envisioned that the final war would take place on the Plains of Abraham. (Judges 1:27; 5:19; 1 Kings 4:12; 9:15, II Chronicles 35:22; Zechariah 12:12, Revelation 16:12.)

Once at the Sea of Galilee we shall check-in to our kibbutz. Home for the next three nights!

Tonight we shall enjoy our 'Welcome to Israel' dinner. (B,D)

WED. 01 JULY: Tiberias, Capernaum, Mt. of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Kursi, Boat Ride.

After breakfast our day in the Galilee begins with a drive through Tiberias, built by Herod Antipas in honor of Tiberius, before visiting:

The Mount of Beatitudes- Sit on the hill where Jesus delivered his Sermon on the Mount. Looking directly south at the Sea of Galilee the flower filled gardens offer peace and tranquility. (Matthew 5:1-8)

Capernaum-The center of Jesus' Galilee! Jesus lived here for a substantial period, healing the sick, preaching in the synagogue and performing miracles. The Greek Orthodox Church, Franciscan monastery and Roman Catholic Church of St. Peter make for an interesting kaleidoscope of varying architecture. (Matthew 9:1; 4:13)

Bethsaida-Also known as 'The House of The Fisherman' this is the home of Peter, Philip and Andrew and also the place where Jesus fed the five thousand and healed the blind man. Here we will see recent excavations of this old city. (Matthew 11:21; Luke 10:13; John 1)

Kursi- The site of Gergesa (Kursi.) identified as the site of the 'Miracle of The Swine'. (Luke 8:26-33, 8; Mark 5:1; Matthew 8:28-34, 15:29-34)

Tabgha- Located at the foot of the Mt. of Beatitudes this is the site of the Miracle of The Loaves and the Fishes. Here we will enjoy private worship and intercession by the shores of the Galilee. (Mark 6:34-44; Matthew 14:14-21, **16:18-19; John 21:15-19**)

Ginossar- Here we will visit the **Jesus Boat Museum** exhibit. Discovered by accident during the drought of 1986 this fishing boat would have existed at the time of Jesus. Beautifully preserved it is a timeless reminder of life during that time. The museum has a gift shop with quality items on sale!

Boat Ride- Our journey on the Sea of Galilee will finish at Capernaum.

After a truly wonderful day we return to Kibbutz for dinner and overnight stay. **(B,D)**

THU.02 JULY: Golan Heights, Upper Galilee.

Today we drive north into the Upper Galilee and Golan heights visiting:

Korazin- Location of Galilee's most intact ancient synagogues, Chorazin was a very important Jewish town. Jesus rebuked the people of Chorazin for their lack of faith and for spurning his 'miracles'. (Matthew 11:2; Luke 10:13)

Hazor- Once the largest cities in all of Canaan. The multi layered Tel of Hazor is a fascinating site that offers intrigue and insight into five thousand years of civilization. It was here that Deborah and Barak fought against Sisera. Captured by Joshua and raised to the ground this city was eventually rebuilt by Solomon in the 10th century BC. (Joshua 11:10-14; Judges 4:2; 1 Kings 9:15)

Tel Dan- This beautiful Biblical site will allow us a short walk around one of the rivers feeding the Jordan.

Caesarea Philippi- Built at one of the sources of the Jordan River the city of Panias (named by the Greeks after the goat footed god, Pan) was later renamed by the Romans as Caesarea Philippi. It was here that Jesus revealed to the Disciples His purpose, His Church and where Peter identified Jesus as the Messiah. (Mark 8:27; Matthew 16:13-23)

Golan Heights- From Mt. Bental we can see Mt. Hermon, Lebanon and also across into Syria.

Dinner will be at our Kibbutz. **(B,D)**

FRI. 03 JULY: Nazareth

This morning we leave the Galilee and head south towards the Dead Sea, visiting the following;

Nazareth- Here is where Jesus spent his childhood with Mary and Joseph. Nazareth is also the site of The Annunciation and where the Nazarenes attempted to throw Jesus over the cliff. Now a suburb of Nazareth, Cana, is the site where Jesus performed his first miracle when he changed water into wine at a wedding. (Luke 1:26-38, John 1:46;2:45-46; Matthew 2:23)

Bet She'an- The largest of Israel's archeological digs. Even after its initial discovery many years ago, archeologists are, today, still discovering more ruins from the Roman era when Bet She'an was one of the 10 cities in The Decapolis. This ancient city, although destroyed by an earthquake in the 8th Century, offers a fabulous insight into Roman life and times. After losing the battle to the Philistines, King Saul and his sons were hung from the city walls. (Judges 4:7-8)

Qumran- Home to the ancient Essenes. It is here that the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Here we will visit the excavated sites of Qumran and view the location where The Scrolls were found in 1947.

(John 1; Luke 1:57-80; Isaiah 40)

Our day ends by spending the evening in the Negev Desert at a Bedouin Tent village. Here we enjoy Bedouin dinner and hospitality under the stars. A truly memorable evening. **(B,D)**

SAT. 04 JULY: Masada, Dead Sea.

From our Bedouin camp we stay in the Dead Sea area and visit the following:

Masada- This Unesco World Heritage site was once Herod's mountain top palace and fortress. Here we ascend to the site by cable car and learn about the last Jewish stand against the Romans and the mass suicide of the 960 Jewish defenders.

Ein Gedi- This national park and oasis hosts the caves of David's Gorge where David hid from Saul and his army. Wade in the pool where David and his army refreshed themselves in the "*Springs of Living Water*." (I Samuel 24, Song of Solomon 1:14; Ezekiel 47:10)

Dead Sea- No visit to the Dead Sea would be complete without experiencing the unique buoyancy of these waters. Cover yourself in therapeutic black mud and float your aches and pains away! (Genesis 14:3; Deuteronomy 3:17 4:49; Joshua 3:16; 12:3; 15:2,5)

After a fascinating day at the lowest geographical place on Earth we check-in to our kibbutz for the evening. Dinner will be at our kibbutz this evening. **(B,D)**

SUN. 05 JULY: Jerusalem.

During our time in Jerusalem we shall visit the following sites mentioned in the itinerary. The order of our sites in Jerusalem may change between now and the time when we arrive.

Our first full day in Jerusalem includes visits to;

Mount of Olives- We begin our day by viewing Jerusalem from the Mt. of Olives. Photo opportunities abound at this time with the Golden Dome of the Rock prominent. From here we shall walk down to The Garden of Gethsemane along the same path as that Jesus took when entering the city on Palm Sunday

Garden of Gethsemane- The site where Jesus prayed at the Rock of Agony in the Garden. - "*My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.*" (Matthew 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-50; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-14)

House of Caiaphas- Located under the current St. Peter of Gallicantu church is the traditional site where Jesus was imprisoned.

Mount Zion- Assumed by the Byzantine pilgrims as the original City of David this piece of land would have existed outside the original city walls.

David's Tomb- Visit the stone cenotaph laid by Crusaders in the Church of the Apostles.

Upper Room- The traditional site where Jesus instituted a new Passover celebration and the new Covenant in His blood. (Mark 14:15)

Jewish Quarter.- Here we will walk through the Cardo Maxima then onto the Herodian quarter.

Church of St. Anne- Located by the pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed the cripple. (John 5, 1-9)

Dinner will be at our hotel this evening. **(B,D)**

MON.06 JULY: Jerusalem.

After breakfast we will drive west towards the Mediterranean Sea and visit;

Davidson Centre- This new facility uses state-of-the-art technology to bring the Temple Mount to life. This will give us a better understanding of the magnitude of Herod's construction versus what we see today.

Burnt house- Here we see the excavations of a 1st century wealthy residence, which were partially destroyed by the Romans in 70AD.

City of David- This afternoon we will be guided through the site and new excavations of the city of David. You will have the opportunity to walk through Hezekiah's tunnel and re-surface at the pool of Siloam.

Western Wall and Tunnels- Also called The Wailing Wall. The holiest place of pilgrimage for the Jews. Here we can observe the Orthodox Jews pray relentlessly along with many Christians. Some of us may wish to leave a hand written note placed in the crevices of the Western Wall. (1 Kings 6:14; Matthew 12:6; Luke 2:46; John 2:19)

Dinner will be at our hotel this evening. **(B,D)**

TUE.07 JULY: Yad Vashem, Garden Tomb.

Our last full day in Israel has us visiting the following:

Yad Vashem- The national museum and memorial to the holocaust.

Free Time- We will allow you some time to peruse the shops of Ben Yehuda street during lunchtime, before visiting the Garden Tomb.

Garden Tomb- Preserved by The Garden Tomb Association these beautiful gardens surround the traditional site of The Garden Tomb. Many believe that this was the actual garden of Joseph of Arimathea. **Here we will enjoy Communion and a private service.** (John 19:41)

Tonight we will have our 'Farewell Dinner.' A wonderful time to share and reflect on what this journey has meant to you. **(B,D)**

THU.08 JULY: Depart for home.

Alas we must return home! This morning we arrive at Ben Gurion airport and check-in for our return flights back to Seattle, via London. Complimentary in-flight service will be provided. **(B, L)**

B - Breakfast. L - Lunch. D - Dinner.

The itinerary is subject to alteration by your group leadership.