

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS
BIBLICAL HISTORY AND ARCHEOLOGY OF THE BIBLE LAND
Specially designed for Biblical Academic Institutions

January 2009

Sponsored by Amiel Tours of Israel

Day 01: We depart on an evening flight from JFK on EL AL airlines to Tel Aviv. This is a non-stop flight and the preview/inspection tour is in cooperation with EL AL.

Day 02: Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport. Meeting & assistance by an Amiel representative. Meet your guide and drive to Tel Aviv hotel for overnight.
Dinner & overnight - Tel Aviv hotel

Day 03: Our day will take us to Caesarea, the crusader city (Acts 10:1). At the Roman theatre you will enjoy a concert of Biblical music. We then will visit Pontius Pilate's Palace, and the marine villa of King Herod the Great. Our journey will then take us through the Sharon Valley to view the famous flowers; Lily of Sharon and the Susanna. We venture to Mt. Carmel the place of the battle of Elijah against the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18), and enjoy a short nature hike in the Mt. Carmel National Park to capture the beauty of the flora and the fauna of the Bible. We will visit the Hecht Museum in the University of Haifa and the Philistine Coffins and the Canaanite Crimson industry as we take the panoramic view from Mt. Carmel of the lower Galilee and the Kishon River while overlooking the Bahai Gardens. Dinner & overnight in Galilee.

Evening Lecture: "On The Position of Jesus In Other Religions."

Day 04: We visit Beth Shearim the underground city carved in the limestone rock of the Galilee. We will view the ancient monument tombs and understand the Jewish burial costumes in post-Biblical times. We visit Nazareth and the ancient synagogue where Jesus read from the scrolls (Luke 4:16-22), and then have the privilege to listen to a concert of Arab Christian liturgy. We will stand on Mt. Precipice, the traditional place of the escape of Jesus from being thrown from the cliff (Luke 4:28-30). On this same site enjoy the panoramic view of the Valley of Jezreel. Visit in the Old City of Nazareth, the Biblical Village and view the ancient Jewish-Christian ritual bath. We will continue our Biblical journey ascending to Mt. Tabor where the story of Deborah and Barak took place. (1Judges 4) While on Mt. Tabor we will see the cave-chapel of Melchizedek (Gen. 14:18), then we will walk through the fortifications that were built by author Josephus Flavius, and finally we will visit the Church of Transfiguration Dinner & overnight on the Sea of Galilee

Evening Lecture: "Music and Musical Instruments of the Bible"

Day 05: Today we visit the Bethsaida excavations, the city of Peter's third most mentioned city in the Gospels (John 1:44; Matt 11:21). Our journey takes us to the slopes of Mount Hermon (1 Chron. 5:23). We continue to Caesarea Philippi where his disciples first recognized Jesus as the Messiah (Matt 16:13). We take in the palace of Herod – Philip and Salome. Our next stop is the Dan Nature Reserve where the Israelites built a pagan altar (1Kings 12:28-30) and observe the Canaanite walls and the main springs of the Jordan River. Dinner & overnight on the Sea of Galilee

Evening Lecture: "Animals and Plants of the Bible; Jesus as a Man of Nature"

Day 06: We begin our day in Capernaum, Peter's village, visiting the ancient synagogue (Mk. 1:21) and viewing the traditional house of Matthew. Next it is onto the Springs of Tabgha (Matt. 14:18-21) and the hidden waterfall. On the shores of the Sea of Galilee we visit Dalmanuta and the Mensa Christy.

We walk through the mustard fields to the archeological site of the Mount of Beatitudes (Matt.5) and continuing our day, we enjoy a sunset walk on the cliffs of the Golan Heights and a sunset swim in the Sea of Galilee. This evening we visit the Kenneret Ancient Boat Museum. Dinner & overnight on the Sea of Galilee
Evening Lecture: "Biblical Fish and Fishermen"

Day 07: Drive along the Jordan Valley and the oasis of Jericho to Qaser el Yahud and visit the Christian archeological site of the Baptism of Jesus (Matt 3:13-16). Our next visit is the incredible site of the Dead Sea Scrolls, Qumran—the place of the Essene Community. Noon time gives the opportunity to soak in the soothing waters of the Dead Sea where the rich minerals will refresh your entire body.

From the desert thereon, we go up to Jerusalem and experience the reading of the Psalms of Ascension. (Psalms 120-134) We drive directly to the Mount of Olives for a breathtaking view of the city of Jerusalem (Zech. 14:4; Mk 13:3-4), and continue down the Palm Sunday path to Gethsemane (Matt. 26:36). We continue our journey to visit the Cave of Judas and walk through the Kidron Valley to view the great monuments. Dinner at the Jerusalem Hotel

Jerusalem by night – Walk along the Walls Promenade, view the illuminated Golden Dome, visit Wailing Wall.

Day 08: We visit the great excavation site of the City of David and also the Pool of Siloam that has recently been discovered. We continue our day with a visit of the traditional Upper Room (Luke 2) and Mt. Zion (Isaiah 8:18; Rev. 14:1). Entering the Old City from St. Steven's Gate we visit the Bethesda Pool and then walk along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Our final journey will take us to the traditional site of the burial of Jesus called the Garden Tomb (John 20:1-3). Dinner & overnight in Jerusalem / or transfer to Tel Aviv airport for a late night flight.

Evening Lecture: The Holy City Between Religion and Politics

Our flight schedule and exact date for departure are pending confirmation with EL AL airlines. We are planning on the first two weeks of January 2009. Our desire is to work with the Winter Break schedule for most colleges and universities. If you have interest in the tour, please send your email to cindi@faithtraveldc.com and will notify you as soon as air schedule is confirmed.

The tour estimated cost is \$899 PP sharing a room. A companion can travel with you at the rate of \$1199. All accommodations will be in 4 star hotels with a minimum of 2 meals daily. A refund will be issued when you return with a group of 15 or more within 18 months.

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