



Sample Itinerary

Day 1:

Landing at Ben Gurion Airport and assistance through passport control and baggage claim
Meet your tour guide, driver and medic and travel to Tel Aviv for **opening dinner and orientation**
Check in at hotel

Day 2:

Begin in **Jaffa; The Gateway to the Land of Israel**: Explore the ancient port, the site from which the prophet Jonah fled from God, and where Peter restored Tabitha to life and stayed with Simon the Tanner
Travel to **Alfei Menashe; Israel's Narrow waistline** - A viewpoint over Israel's narrowest section from the West Bank Settlement, Alfei Menashe and a briefing on the current situation in the area
Travel to Megido, an archaeologically unparalleled site where one can literally see, touch, and be inspired by monuments from biblical times. It appears in both the Old Testament and the New Testament (Armageddon, Revelation 16:16), and is the only site in the Levant mentioned in all great records of the Ancient Near East: The Old and New Testaments on the one hand, and Egyptian, Assyrian and Hittite sources on the other

Stop at **Mt. Precipice**, the site of the Rejection of Jesus described in Luke 4:29-30 - The people of Nazareth, not accepting Jesus as Messiah tried to push him from the mountain, but "he passed through the midst of them and went away."

Continue to **Nazareth**; the mystery of the incarnation Mary's Well, and the Basilica of Annunciation; the largest church in the Middle East

End the day at Nazareth Village, reconstructing and reenacting village life in the Galilee at the time of Jesus
Group Reflection time

Day 3:

Visit the excavations of **the synagogue of Magdala**, reliving the Gospel – visit the newly discovered synagogue in Mary Magdalene's home town which offers clues about Judeo-Christian worship from the time of Jesus.
Continue to **Tabgha**, site of Peter's Primacy (John Chapter 21) Multiplication of Loaves and Fish and calling of the disciples;

Arrive at **Mt. of the Beatitudes** – Remembering the verses of Sermon on the Mount; and a stroll along the Jesus Trail which connects important sites from the life of Jesus and other historical and religious sites. The trail is also a bridge to build transformational relationships and understandings between nationalities, cultures and religions

Arrive at Capernaum- The headquarters of Jesus' movement and his home during his central Galilean Ministry

Stop at **Yardenit** – Baptismal sites on the waters of the Jordan River

Evening cruise on the Sea of Galilee and St. Peter's Fish Dinner

Group Reflection time

Day 4:

Hear about Israel's northern exposure, Hezbollah, Lebanon and the Iranian connection. Understand Israel's strategic challenges along Israel's border with Lebanon from the peaks of the Galilee.

Travel to the **Golan Heights** which form a rocky plateau of great strategic importance and are located at the southern end of the Anti-Lebanon Mountains and straddling the borders of Syria and Israel. The Civil War in the country formerly known as Syria and the rising challenges for Israel. **Ascend Mt. Bental**, a former IDF outpost, for a briefing and an overview of Israel's border with Syria, Kuneitra and Mt. Hermon. From this point it is less than 40 miles to Damascus, and the road where Saul encountered Jesus.

Travel to Jerusalem

Day 5:

Overlook and Shehechyanu Ceremony, Welcoming to Jerusalem

Travel south and **tour Sderot**. Overlook onto the Gaza Envelope and briefing on the geopolitics of the area

Visit **Moshav Netiv Ha'asara**, and meet with a local resident for insight into life along the border

How Wide is the Gap – **Negotiations with the Palestinians**

Responding to Hard Questions About Israel - An open session enabling the participants to present issues and questions that trouble them most for a frank and candid discussion with geo-political analyst.

Day 6:

The City of David - King David's palace and city, and the place of Jerusalem's historic nucleus including areas recently opened to the general public and the newly opened tunnel ascending toward the Temple Mount
Southern Wall Excavations, including the steps leading to the ancient Temple and the site where Jesus overturned the moneychangers' tables. End the visit at the Western Wall

Time at Israel Museum

Visit **Mt Zion**, St. Peter in Gallicantu, King David's Tomb, Dormition Abbey and the Room of the Last Supper

Continue to the Jewish Quarter, the Cardo, the main square, and the city wall from the time of Hezekiah.

Welcome the Sabbath at the Western Wall and traditional Shabbat dinner with Jewish host families

Day 7:

Mount of Olives Overlook

Walk down the Palm Sunday Road on the Mt. of Olives from Bethpage to the **Garden of Gethsemane** with a short stop at Dominus Flevit where Jesus stopped and wept over Jerusalem. See the ancient olive trees as well as the beautiful Church of All Nations where the stone of the Agony of Christ is on display.

Continue from the Lion's Gate (St. Stephens Gate), and from the Monastery of St. Anne and the **Pools of Bethesda**, Walk along the **Via Dolorosa** to the Christian Quarter and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, site of crucifixion and burial of Jesus.

Visit the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**

Tour of the Garden Tomb, reflection prayer and communion

Palestinian Perspective Speaker

Day 8:

Depart for Masada and drive through the Judean desert and Ein Gedi fountains to arrive at the ancient fortress. Take the cable car to the top of **Masada** to tell the ancient story of the 960 men, women, and children that were the last to resist the Romans during the Great Jewish Revolt almost 2000 years ago. A story that became synonymous with Israel's quest for freedom and independence in modern times

Swim at the **Dead Sea's** Kalyiah beach

Embark on a **Quest for Peace** tour and geo-strategic survey of neighborhoods surrounding Jerusalem with stops at observation points overlooking the security barrier as well as checkpoints to the West Bank. Jerusalem is a microcosm of the Arab Israeli conflict, and its human, political, and territorial dimensions.

Learn about the **US-Israel relationship with leading expert**

Start up Nation Presentation

Day 9:

Visit **Yad Vashem** and remember the Holocaust: a comprehensive tour of the Historical Museum, The Children's Memorial and the Hall of remembrance. In addition, visit the Valley of Communities.

As the Jewish people's living memorial to the Holocaust, Yad Vashem safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations. Established in 1953, as the world center for documentation, research, education and commemoration of the Holocaust, Yad Vashem is today a dynamic and vital place of intergenerational and international encounter.

Parties, Coalitions and Prime ministers; **the current state of Israeli Politics**

Tour of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, and meet and greet with Member of Knesset.

Discussion with Israelis on their IDF experience

Dialogue on Jewish Christian Relations

Day 10

Visit **Independence Hall** where a State is born; Paying tribute to the founding fathers and mothers of the Modern State of Israel at the place where Israel was declared a state.

Tour Tel Aviv and free time to do last minute shopping

Self-guided tour of the Carmel Market

Caesarea, Herod's legendary Port City: Herod the Great built Caesarea around 25–13 BC as the port city Caesarea Maritima. It served as an administrative center of the Judaea Province of the Roman Empire, and later was the capital of the Byzantine Palestina Prima province during the Classic period. The city was first connected to Christianity according to Acts of The Apostles, when Peter baptized Cornelius the Centurion and his household. Archaeological excavations have uncovered remains from many periods, in particular, a complex of Crusader fortifications and a giant Roman city that boasted the largest harbor on the eastern Mediterranean coast.

Closing Discussion

Festive final dinner

Transfer to Ben-Gurion International Airport