

# DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

\*\*\*\* ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION \*\*\*\*

**DAY 1 – WED, SEPT 3** - We depart for an overnight flight to Tel Aviv, Israel.

**DAY 2 – THURS, SEPT 4** - Upon arrival to Tel Aviv we go through customs and are greeted by our guide, Doron Heiliger. We board a luxury motorcoach for our trip to the ancient Roman city of **Caesarea Maritime**. This city, built by Herod the Great, is where Peter met Cornelius (Acts 10:24) and where Paul was both imprisoned and appeared in the theatre before King Agrippa and Festus (Acts 25 & 26) before sailing for Rome. We visit the excavations of the theatre, the palace, the harbor and the aqueduct. We stop to visit an ancient aqueduct built by Herod. From Caesarea we travel to the Sea of Galilee and prepare for a busy day tomorrow.

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar.**

**DAY 3 – FRI, SEPT 5** - Our tour takes us to the **Upper-Galilee**. Starting at **Tel Hazor** (Joshua 11), a UNESCO world heritage site, we see chambered gates from the time of King Solomon. Then on to **Tel Dan** (Laish in the Book of Judges) which was the northern border of the Kingdom of Israel. We drive to Caesarea Philippi, (Banias) the site of Peter's confession (Matthew 16:13-20). Later we tour along the **Golan Heights**, and drive through Qunetra, the border between Israel and Syria. On our way back to Tiberias, we visit **Gamla** (also known as the Masada of the North).

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar.**

**DAY 4 – SAT, SEPT 6** - This morning we drive to the **Mt. of Beatitudes**, the traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-10). We stop for a scripture reading and time of devotion while enjoying the beautiful scenery overlooking the Sea of Galilee. We pass through **Chorazin**, one of the cities cursed for their unbelief. Next we visit **Tabgha**, site of the miracle of the loaves and fishes, and ancient **Capernaum** (settlement on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. This was home to Peter, Andrew, James, John and the tax collector, Matthew. In Matthew 4:13 it is referenced as the home of Jesus and in Luke 4:31-44 it is said that Jesus taught in the synagogue that we will visit. We stop at Kafka to view the feeding of 5000 mosaic. After lunch we have a baptismal service at **Yardenit** on the Jordan River. We end our day with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Last, we dock at the museum which houses the famed ancient "Jesus Boat".

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar.**

**DAY 5 – SUN, SEPT 7** - We travel to **Mt. Carmel**, where Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal (I Kings 18: 16-46). We stop at a scenic overlook of **Nazareth**, the city where Jesus grew up. At **Tel Megiddo** (the Valley of Armageddon in Revelation 16) we visit the excavations and walk through an ancient underground water tunnel. Later, we see an ancient tomb with a rolling stone cover. At the junction of the Jezreel and Jordan Valleys we travel past **Mt. Gilboa**. We drive through **Cana** (site of Jesus' first miracle where water was turned to wine during a wedding feast). Our last stop is the excavations of ancient **Sepphoris** (Zipori), a Roman city located close to Nazareth and considered important in the time of Jesus.

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar**

**DAY 6 – MON, SEPT 8** – After checking out of our hotel, we will drive around the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee. We pass **Gergesa/Kursi** (Mark 5) where Jesus drove the demons from a possessed man into a herd of pigs. We visit **Beth Shean** (Beit She'an in OT times/Scythopolis, one of the Decapolis cities, at the time of Jesus) and explore this national park. Continuing south, we pass by **Jericho** (West Bank, Arab city) on our way to **Qumran**. Here we see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered and learn about the Essenes. We stop for a scenic overlook of **the Oasis of Ein Gedi**. Continuing on to **Masada**, the site of the last stronghold of the Jews during the revolt against Rome, we take a modern tram to the top where we visit the ruins of King Herod's Palace. Then on to the **Dead Sea**, both the lowest elevation on the planet and the saltiest body of water, we will have an opportunity to swim in the mineral rich waters. At day's end we drive up to Jerusalem.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

**DAY 7 – TUES, SEPT 9** – From the top of the **Mt. of Olives** (Mt. Olivet), valued for its panoramic view of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, we walk down the **Palm Sunday road** past an ancient Jewish cemetery, visit the **Garden of Gethsemane** (Matthew 26) and both the **Church of all Nations** (where Jesus prayed before his arrest) and **Dominus Flevit** (where the Lord wept and predicted the destruction of the Second Temple). In the afternoon, we cross into **Bethlehem** to visit the **Church of the Nativity** (believed to be the site of our Savior's birth); we pass the Shepherd's Field, and visit the **Herodium**, (another palace built by Herod.)

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

**DAY 8 – WED, SEPT 10** - We walk through the **Old City of Jerusalem**, visit the Western Wall (**Wailing Wall**), and the **Temple Mount** (where the Temple stood). We stop at **St. Anne's Church** to experience the acoustics, the **Pool of Bethesda** (where in John 5 it is recorded that Jesus healed the paralytic, the **Church Ecce Homo/Sisters of Mt. Zion**, and the site of Pilate's judgment hall/ **Praetorium of the Antonia Fortress**. We walk along the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**. This evening our bus driver takes us to **Ben Yehuda Street** for free time and shopping.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

**DAY 9 – THURS, SEPT 11** – Our first stop is the **Holocaust Museum**. We walk the **Jewish Quarter**, City of David, past the **Roman Cardo**. We're allowed time to shop in the **Old City**. Continuing to **Mt. Zion** we visit **King David's Tomb** and the traditional site of the **Upper Room**. This evening we visit the **Rabbinic Tunnel**.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

**DAY 10 – FRI, SEPT 12** – We begin our morning with a visit to the **Israel Museum** where we see the **Dead Sea Scrolls** and a **model of Jerusalem** as it was at the time of Jesus and their extensive archaeological displays. Next, we don water shoes for our visit to **Hezekiah's Tunnel** (built before 701BC beneath the city of David by King Hezekiah and referenced in II Chronicles, Ch 32). Later we visit **Emek Tzurim** – located on the lower steps of the Mt of Olives in the Kidron Valley, this archaeological dig site sponsors the **Temple Mount Antiquities Salvage Operation** where 300 truckloads of soil, removed from the Temple Mount by the waqf during construction of the underground el-Marwani Mosque, are now located. We will be trained in sifting procedures and participate in this dig which has already uncovered extensive artifacts dating back from the 1<sup>st</sup> Temple period, as well as Roman, Hasmonean, Herodian and Byzantine periods.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

**DAY 11 – SAT, SEPT 13** -- After checking out of our hotel we experience the highlight of our pilgrimage with a visit to **Gordon's Calvary/the Garden Tomb** where we hold a worship/communion service. At **ABU GOSH/El-Quebeibeh**, we visit **Emmaus** (where the risen Christ appeared to two of his followers). The **Biblical Landscape Reserve** (located half way between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv) is a unique recreation of 620 acres of plants, trees, water and agriculture as it was 2000 plus years ago. We see olive oil presses, vineyards, herding of sheep and goats, ancient water cisterns, threshing floors (winnowing), sycamore trees, hyssop, crown of thorns and much more ([www.neot-kedumim.org.il](http://www.neot-kedumim.org.il)).

After, we enjoy a farewell dinner, and depart for the airport for our return flight home.

**DAY 12 – SUN, SEPT 14 – Arrival back in the USA.**

## **FAMILY LIFE HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE TOUR --- TRAVEL INFORMATION:**

**GUIDE IN ISRAEL – DORON HEILIGER** --- his cell phone # **050 55 43839** – (call if you should get separated from the group for any reason.)

**HOTELS – September 4 -7 --- Nof Ginosar**, Kibbutz Ginossar, 14980 (phone # **04-6700320**)

**September 8-12 --- Ramat Rachel**, D.N. Tzfon Yeduda, 90900 (phone # **972 267 02555**)

**TRAVEL GUARD INSURANCE:** policy # to be provided, from Israel call the U.S. **collect: 1+ (715) 345-0505**

**BOBBIE KLEIN'S CELL PHONE** (while in USA) – **570 575-1710**

**UPON ARRIVAL INTO TEL AVIV** on September 4 - after **you clear PASSPORT CONTROL** please assemble with our group at **LUGGAGE CLAIM**.

**DO NOT PROCEED FROM LUGGAGE CLAIM UNTIL YOUR TOUR LEADERS AND TRAVEL AGENT HAVE ARRIVED.** (We will be at the back of the group, making sure everyone has successfully been allowed to enter the country and will meet the group as soon as this is accomplished. While you are waiting, it is acceptable to use the restrooms, but, please, let someone know where you are going – and do not leave your luggage unattended.)

---