



## First Class 10 Day Package

# Best of Israel “Slower Paced”

### Day 1: Departure

Today we embark on our Journey to the Holy Land. Prepare yourself for a life-changing experience. Get some rest on the flight...tomorrow you will be where Jesus walked!

### Day 2: Arrive Israel

Arrive in Israel and travel northward to our hotel for one night in the coastal area near Tel Aviv. The remainder of the day is free to walk along the Mediterranean, relax, and have dinner. The time is right for a personal devotional with the sunset over the “Great Sea.” Meet your Israeli guide, enjoy a time of prayer of thanks for

safety and the special blessings ahead, a prayer for the people of the “Promised Land,” and a good night’s rest.

### Day 3: Caesarea, Megiddo & Nazareth

After breakfast, we travel by private motor coach along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea to Caesarea, where Gentiles first heard the Good News from Peter and were baptized. We’ll see the Roman Amphitheatre and aqueduct, and then journey on to Mt. Carmel, where Elijah challenged King Ahab and the prophets of Baal. Next we travel through the Jezreel Valley to Megiddo, the Armageddon Battlefield, where archaeologists have unearthed





20 levels of civilization. We drive through the area of Cana and Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus. We will have dinner and overnight lodging for the next two nights in the Tiberias area on the Sea of Galilee.

#### **Day 4: Caesarea Philippi, Capernaum, Magdala, Sea of Galilee Boat Ride, Mt. of Beatitudes**

Following breakfast, our morning travels take us to Caesarea Philippi, the site of Peter's Confession and pagan worship. We pass the possible site of the multiplication of loaves and fishes in Bethsaida and the Mount of the Beatitudes. Returning to Tiberias for a St. Peter's Fish Lunch (other selections available), we then visit the ancient Fisherman Boat followed by a relaxing cruise on the Sea of Galilee. A brief scripture reading and devotional on board brings to life the experiences of Jesus and the fishermen disciples. In Capernaum we view the excavations of

the sea-side village and Peter's home, followed by a visit to Magdala, home town of Mary Magdalene. The recent excavation of the First Century Synagogue and well preserved village makes Magdala one of the most interesting Biblical sites in Israel.

#### **Day 5: Jordan River Baptism Site, Beth Shean & Dead Sea**

We begin our day with a visit to the Jordan River Baptismal site. Next we travel southward to Beit-Shean/Scythopolis, the most magnificent archeological site in Israel, located at the strategic juncture of the Jezreel and Jordan valleys. Like Jericho, it has been almost continuously occupied throughout history. After defeating Saul and his sons on Mt. Gilboa, the Philistines hanged their bodies on the walls of Beit-Shean. During the intertestamental period, the city was renamed the "Scythopolis." Archaeologists have uncovered a huge number of ruins of the Roman/Byzantine Scythopolis. During the time of Jesus, Scythopolis was one of the chief cities of the Decapolis - a league of ten cities sharing Greek culture and government. Following the fertile Jordan Valley southward, your guide will point out the agricultural restoration of the "Land of Milk and Honey" and Israel's intricate irrigation development. We pass ancient Jericho, view from a distance this city famed as the oldest in the world, before coming to our lodging for the evening at the Dead Sea - the lowest place on earth. Spend time in the special spa before dinner.

#### **Day 6: Masada, Ein Gedi, Abraham's Tent**

Our day begins with a cable car ride to the mountain top fortress of Masada. Here our guide will treat us to the history of the famous zealot stand. Afterwards we proceed to an overlook of Ein Gedi, "Spring of the Goat," an oasis on the western shore of the Dead Sea. Because of its warm climate and abundant supply of



water, the site developed a reputation for its fragrant plants and date palm groves. This is where King David hid from Saul, and where God defeated the enemies of the Israelites by praise and worship led by King Jehoshaphat. This afternoon we will take part in the Genesis Land/Dinner in Abraham's Tent, where we enjoy a trip back in time: a reliving of life in the time of the Patriarchs, complete with costume, dramatic presentation, and authentic food. Our lodging for the next four nights will be in Jerusalem.

#### **Day 7: Around Jerusalem, Israel Museum, Holocaust Museum**

This morning while we drive around the Old City, our guide will provide insight into the history, cultural diversity, and daily challenges for those who live in Jerusalem. An interesting and educational time awaits us at the Israeli Museum. Enjoy collections of centuries old Israeli artifacts including the Dead Sea Scrolls and a then a guided overview of an accurately detailed model of Biblical Jerusalem will help to prepare you for what you will experience in the following days. We conclude the day with a visit to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum, for a needed reminder of what the Jews have suffered as a people.

#### **Day 8: Jesus' Steps, the Last Days - Messianic Lecture**

Today we are where Jesus walked; beginning the day with a panoramic view of the city, Mount Moriah and the Dome of the Rock from atop the Mount of Olives and then the Garden of Gethsemane. How many have wished to be whisked back in time to get a glimpse of our Lord or hear His voice if only for a moment? To be among the ancient olive trees, read the scriptures of Jesus' prayer and take time for personal reflection is important here. We see from a distance the Judgment Hall of Pilate, hear of those who conspired against Him and are reminded of His brutal beating and humiliation. This evening we enjoy a special lecture by a local believer prior to dinner, giving us a perspective of Messianic life in Israel.

#### **Day 9: Way of Suffering, Garden Tomb, Southern Steps, Free Time**

While passing along parts of the Via Dolorosa, we are reminded of His way of suffering along with a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Our guide will explain the differing opinions on the route that Christ was led. The actual place of crucifixion and burial is a very interesting study. From here we will also be able to see the Pool of Bethesda, Stephen's Gate and St. Ann's Church. Our climax of the day is the area of Golgotha (place of the skull) and the Garden Tomb, where we celebrate the resur-



Camel Ride

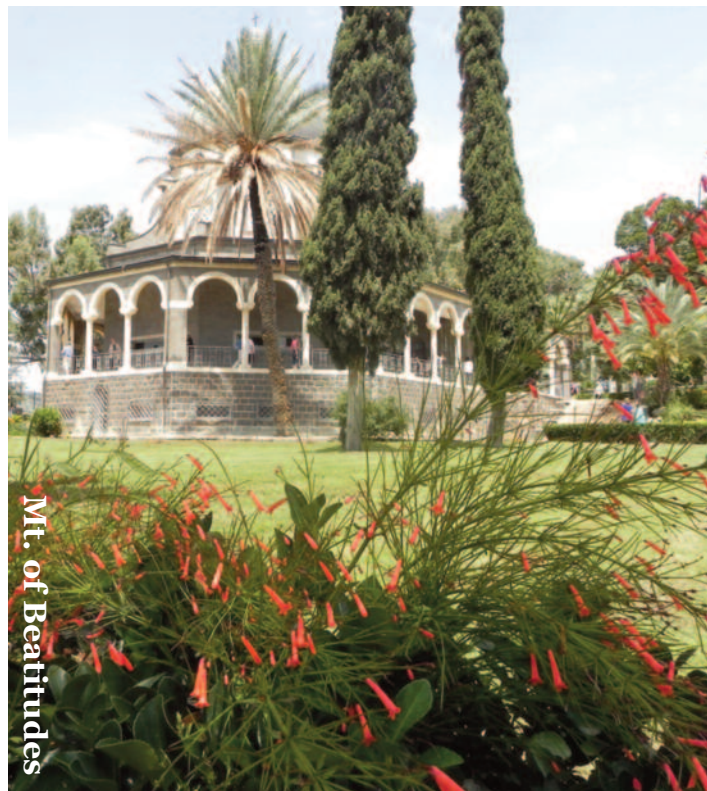


rection with communion and a time of praise. This afternoon we view the Southern Wall Excavations. This southern side of The Temple was the main entrance for the common folk, whereas the Priests and Levites had their own entrance from the higher eastern side. Parts of the giant stairs, which led to the Temple Mount from the courtyard have been unearthed along with the purification pools. From here Jesus entered the Temple Mount and drove out the vendors and money exchangers who were exploiting the people. It is also likely that this is the place that Peter stood and preached and where thousands were saved and baptized on the Day of Pentecost. Free time will be allowed for last minute shopping this afternoon.

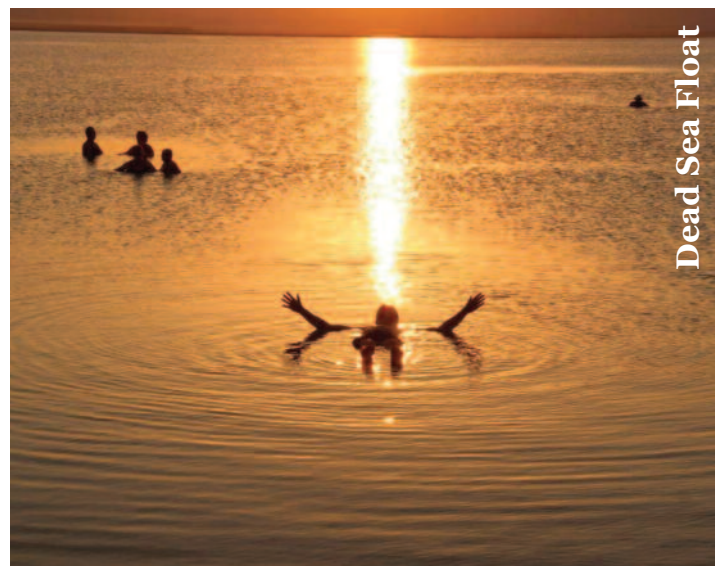
#### **Day 10: Home**

A very early morning departure for the Tel Aviv Airport for our flight homeward will allow for arrival home by early afternoon.

*When visiting sites that have a more difficult terrain, our guide will provide commentary from an overview position followed by free time.*



Mt. of Beatitudes



Dead Sea Float



Qumran Caves



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## PRICE PER PERSON:

BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**Please contact us at**

**800.322.0788**

**or**

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