

ISRAEL TOUR

LED BY

PASTOR TIM THOMPSON

March 15th Wed: Arrival Israel

Upon arrival in Tel Aviv airport meet and greet by Immanuel Tours representative and our tour guide in Israel. We shall then stop for a **short visit to Old Jaffa** (New Testament Joppa) and **drive through the Metropolitan of Tel Aviv**. Check in to our hotel in Tel Aviv for dinner & overnight.

March 16th Thu: Caesarea – Mt. Carmel – Megiddo – Cana – Tiberias

(Breakfast and dinner included)

We check out of hotel after breakfast and drive along the coastal to **Caesarea Maritima**, built by King Herod, Caesarea later became the seat of government for the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate. We visit the excavations of the site including the harbor, the Crusader City, the Amphitheatre, the Hippodrome and the Roman Aqua duct. Continue to **Mt. Carmel** where Prophet Elijah challenged the Priest of Baal. From here we will drive towards the coastal to **Megiddo**, a giant fortress and city built by King Solomon. In the New Testament Megiddo (Armageddon) is referred to as the site of the "final battle" mentioned in Revelations 16. Then drive on to **Cana** in Galilee, the scene of the wedding feast described in John chapter 2. Finally, we arrive to Galilee, check into our hotel for dinner and overnight.

March 17th Fri: Magdala – around the Sea of Galilee – Yardenit

(Breakfast and dinner included)

Start the day with a visit to **Magdala**, the birthplace of Mary Magdalene. Continue to the famous **Jesus boat** and take a **boat ride on the Sea of Galilee** and worship and learn Jewish songs and dance on the boat in the lake of Galilee. Then we shall visit **Capernaum**, where Jesus dwelt after he left Nazareth and did many signs and wonders. We shall visit the ancient synagogue and the nearby House of Peter. Continue our day with a visit to the **Mount of Beatitudes**. Then visit **Tabgha**, where Jesus performed miracle of multiplication and where Peter was reinstated by the Lord. Before the end of the day, we shall stop in **Yardenit**, a baptismal site located on the banks of the Jordan River. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

March 18th Sat: Golan Heights – Banias – Tel Dan – Katzrin

(Breakfast & dinner included)

After breakfast, we shall drive up to Golan Heights for a full day tour including the site of **Banias**, the location of Caesarea Philippi where the Apostle Peter made his great confession of faith in Jesus as the Christ. Then continue to **Tel Dan**, which is the north most town in biblical Israel, hence the saying: “from Dan to Beer Sheba”. We continue to **Mt. Bental** where we can view the whole region with the highway to Damascus, Syria. Then we drive to **Katzrin**, "The town of the Golan" which was established in 1974. Today we will have an opportunity for some wine tasting. We will visit one of the amazing **Golan Heights Wineries**.

Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

March 19th Sun: Beit She'an – Ancient Shiloh – Jerusalem

(Breakfast & dinner included)

Very early in the morning we say farewell to Sea of Galilee after breakfast and start with a visit to **Beit Shean**, a major city located in the center of crossroad between the Jordan Valley and Jezreel Valley. In the New Testament times the city was one of the Decapolis named Skythopolis. We continue our drive southwards to Samaria, to the Land of the Tribe of Benjamin. We arrive at **Ancient Shilo**. The city of Shilo held a central place in the history of the Jewish People. It was in Shilo that the Tabernacle existed for 369 years until the death of Eli the High Priest. It was there where Hana cried out her famous prayer for a child.

From here we drive on up to **Jerusalem** and check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

March 20th Mon: Jerusalem

(Breakfast & dinner included)

Today we shall have an EARLY breakfast. Our first visit will be to the **Temple Mount**, followed by a visit to the **Western Wall Tunnels** and the **Temple Institute**. We will have some time for prayer by the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) before we proceed to the **City of David**, walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel, explore the ancient remains of the water system and pray at the pool of Siloam. From here we proceed to **Mt. Zion** where we shall visit the **St. Peter in Gallicantu** (where Peter denied Christ - Mark 14:72). We will also visit the **Upper Room** and **Tomb of King David**. Continue and walk through the Jewish Quarter and pass by the **Hurva Synagogue** to **Jaffa Gate**. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

March 21th Tue: Full day Masada – Ein Gedi – Dead Sea

(Breakfast & dinner included)

We set off this morning on a full day excursion to the Dead Sea area, the lowest spot on the face of the Earth. We drive along the Judean Desert passing by the Inn of the Good Samaritan and the ancient city of Jericho. We drive along the shores of the Dead Sea to **Masada**, mountain fortress built by King Herod and the site of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in 73 AC. From here we will continue to **Ein Gedi National Park**, where young King David hid in a cave when running from Saul and he composed several of his Psalms. We will enjoy a stop on the shores of the Dead Sea where we will have the opportunity to float in the mineral rich waters of the **Dead Sea**.

We return to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

March 22nd Wed: Mt. of Olives – via Dolorosa – Israel Museum – Yad Vashem – Garden Tomb

(Breakfast & dinner included)

After breakfast we drive to **Mt. of Olives**. On top of Mt. of Olives, we will be able to view the Golden Gate. Then we shall walk down the **Palm Sunday road** to the **Garden of Gethsemane**. We will enter the Old City Walls and walk along the **Via Dolorosa** (14-Stations of the Cross). Visit also the St. Anne Church and **Pools of Bethesda**. We continue the drive through the New City of Jerusalem **pass by the Knesset** and stop by the **Menorah**. We will visit the **Israel Museum** with the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are preserved and the Holy Land Model of Jerusalem the way it was in the time of Jesus. We drive to **Yad Vashem Museum** of the Holocaust which preserves the memory of the 6 million victims of the Shoah. We will end this memorable tour with a visit to the **Garden Tomb** and Gordon's Golgotha. Here we shall have some time for praise and communion service. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

March 23rd Thu: Free day in Jerusalem and departure to Ben Gurion airport

(Breakfast & dinner included)

Today you will enjoy a free day in Jerusalem with the opportunity for shopping and other private activities. We will meet for a farewell meeting which will be followed by dinner. After dinner we will leave the hotel and drive to Ben Gurion Airport to catch our homebound flight which departs 20 minutes after midnight.