

2026 Israel Study Trip Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Israel

After you arrive in Israel you will be transported to your lodging near Caesarea where you will catch your first view of the Mediterranean Sea, or as the Bible calls it, "The Great Sea." You will get a chance to walk along the shore and view the ancient aqueduct built by Herod the great.



Day 2: Caesarea, Mount Carmel, Megiddo, En-Herod Springs, Mount Gilboah, Mount Tabor

Our first full day begins early at Caesarea Maritima where we will see the remnants of a port city and the artificial harbor built by Herod the Great. This will give us opportunity to walk in the Roman amphitheater where Herod Agrippa was judged by God. The excavations of the city also reveal the palace area where Paul would have been detained while waiting to be sent to Rome. We will be reminded of a handful of other biblical events recorded in the book of Acts as we explore the large complex of ancient Caesarea before we head north into the Carmel mountains. From the lookout on the Mount Carmel Monastery we will be reminded of Elijah's great victory over the prophets of Baal and we will get a great overview of the Jezreel Valley. We will take the short drive to Tel-Megiddo where we will begin to understand what an archeological Tel is and see how civilizations conquered and rebuilt cities. Following this will be a visit to En-Herod Springs to see where Gideon and his men knelt down and drank the water from the river. We will read the story of God's great victory over the Midianites from an overview of the battlefield. We will then drive up to the mountains of Gilboah, recounting the final days of Saul and Jonathan. We will then cross the Jezreel Valley and travel to the top of Mount Tabor, reading the story of how God used Deborah and Barak on that mountain. We will lodge near Nazareth for the night

Day 3: Nazareth, Chorazin, Hazor, Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Sea of Galilee



Our day starts out visiting Nazareth Village which recreates and explains many of the cultural parts of daily living during Bible times (threshing floor, vineyard, olive press, synagogue, etc). We will also take a quick stop and Mt. Precipice where it is thought that the inhabitants of Nazareth attempted to throw Jesus off a steep cliff. We will head to the Galilee region where we will visit the cursed city of Chorazin before we head north west toward the Hula Valley and stop at the ruins of Hazor which is mentioned many times in the Old Testament. Northward we go once again, and if the weather is clear, will catch glimpses

of the top of Mount Hermon before we reach the base of the Mountain to visit Tel Dan. We will see the remnants of the city gate of Dan as well as the altar that was built by Jeroboam. A few miles north is Caesarea Philippi where we will get a glimpse of the "gates of hell" and see the headwaters of the Jordan River. The evening will finish with a sunset cruise on the Sea of Galilee.

Day 4 - Magdala, Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, Beit-Shan, Jericho Road, Shabbat Dinner

We will make our way to the ruins of the ancient city of Magdala. After a short visit there, we will go a few miles along the lakeshore to see the remnants of an ancient boat found on the shores of the Sea of Galilee before heading to the Mount of Beatitudes. Next on the agenda will be the



earthly base for much of the ministry of Jesus as we explore the ruins of the ancient city of Capernaum. There we will see the remnants of the synagogue where Jesus would have worshiped on many Sabbaths. We will then start our trek down the Jordan river valley to the city of Beit-Shean where the Philistines hung the bodies of Jonathan and Saul. We will also see some incredible remains of Roman architecture as we explore the ruins of the ancient Roman city. On our way down south, we will stop and overlook the city of Jericho and the Jericho road where we will recount the parable of the Good Samaritan. This evening, we will have a Shabbat dinner at the home of an Israeli Messianic pastor.

Day 5 - Shabbat Service, Valley of Elah, Negev, Dead Sea

We will start out the worshipping the Lord together with a local Messianic congregation in Rehovot. After the service, we will drive to the Valley of Elah where the battle of David and Goliath took place. From there, we will drive through portions of the northern Negev Desert to the Dead Sea for a swim and take opportunity to enjoy the amenities of a Dead Sea resort.

Day 6 - Masada, Ein Gedi, Qumran, Baptismal Site, Mount of Olives

This day starts out with a cable car ride to the top of the ancient fortress of Masada. We will see authentic ruins of Herod's palace and be reminded of the end of the Jewish rebellion against the Romans. Observations from this fortress will give you a greater understanding of how armies laid siege to cities they desired to conquer. A few miles north, we will hike to the spring of En-gedi where David lodged for a time while on the run from Saul. As we reach the north end of the Dead Sea, we will stop at Qumran and gain a greater understanding of the region where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. We will take a short drive up the Jordan river valley and visit Bethany Beyond Jordan, the traditional baptismal sight of Jesus. Traveling up to Jerusalem, we get our first glimpse of the Old City from the Mount of Olives.

Day 7 - City of David, Southern Steps, Temple Mount, Western Wall

Most of this day will be spent exploring the ancient city of Jerusalem with a focus on the temple. We will start out exploring the ruins of the palace of David and the city that he conquered and built. We will take opportunity to walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel which was carved out of the rock over 2,700 years ago and end up at the Pool of Siloam where Jesus told the blind man to wash the mud off of his eyes. We will travel back up towards the temple mount through the old drainage system built by Herod the Great and continue from there to the southern part of the temple mount where Jews would have entered to offer their sacrifices. We will walk on the actual steps where Jesus and all Jews of His day would have walked. After exploring this sight we will then visit the wailing wall and head to the Muslim controlled area on the temple mount and view the Dome of the Rock. We will exit the temple mount and head straight to the pool of Bethesda where Jesus healed the paralytic man. We should have some time to shop on the narrow streetswe of the Arab quarter before we take a tour of underground excavations revealing streets, walls and carvings that were constructed during the rule of Herod the Great.



Day 8 - Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, House of Ciaphas, Herod's Palace, Tombs

There is so much more of the Old City of Jerusalem that we will be exploring as we start the day out at the Mount of Olives, with an amazing view of the Old City. We will take some time at Dominus Flevit where Jesus mourned over Jerusalem before we head to the Garden of Gethsemane. From there we will travel through the Kidron Valley following a similar path to what Jesus would have taken after He was arrested. This path will take us to the house of Ciaphas where Jesus was imprisoned and beaten. We will see ancient steps where Jesus would most likely have climbed on His way to meet



Pilate. Following the steps of Jesus we will head to the palace where Jesus was put on trial, but on the way we will make stops at the Tomb of David, the Upper Room. Reaching the palace of Herod we will view the area where Jesus would have been condemned to death. We will also take time to walk around some portions of the wall of the old city, stopping at a lookout for a great view of the Old City before we head to the church of the Holy Sepulcher, the traditional crucifixion and burial spot of Jesus. We will then end our tour of the Old City outside the city walls at the Garden Tomb where we remember the Lord's death and resurrection.

Day 9 - Yad Vashem, Shiloh, Gerazim, Bethel

We will start out the day with a solemn reminder of the history of the Jewish people as we visit the Jewish Holocaust museum, Yad Vashem. We then head north to Shiloh, where the Tabernacle was located and where the Ark of the Covenant and the presence of God dwelt for almost 370 years. The next stop will be Mount Gerazim. We will overlook the city of Shechem and the valley where many Biblical events took place and where Jacob's well is located. We will recount the numerous Bible narratives that happened in that region before we backtrack towards Jerusalem, stopping at Bethel where God made His promise to Abraham and Jacob.

Day 10 - Museum of the Book, Bible Lands Museum, Herodium, Joppa

On our last full day in Israel we will take a short drive in the newer area of Jerusalem to the Museum of the Book where we will learn a great deal about the Dead Sea Scrolls and see a wonderful 3-D model of Jerusalem depicting what Jerusalem would have looked like in the days of Jesus. We will cross the street to the Bible Lands Museum and see many artifacts that give a greater context to the culture of the lands surrounding Israel in Bible times. Next, we will travel to the ancient fortress of Herodium, another palace that Herod built in the desert a few miles outside of Jerusalem. Our lodging on our last evening will be near Tel-Aviv where we will explore the ancient city of Joppa recalling events in the Old and New Testament.



Day 11 - Depart for Home

You will then head back home with a greater ability to read the Bible in a way like you have never read it before from the understanding you gained during your visit to the Holy Land.