

Israel Tour 2010

Hosted by John Freeland January 26 – February 7

10 Days and 10 nights in Israel

Day 1 January 26 Tuesday : Departure

- Depart Atlanta on Delta Flight 152 at 10:40 PM
 - Meet at Hartsfield/Jackson Airport at the Delta International Travel area **no later than 6:00PM**

Day 2 January 27 Wednesday : Tel Aviv

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport, Tel Aviv at 5:25PM.
Overnight: Seasons Netanya

Day 3 January 28 Thursday: Tel Aviv – Galilee

- Drive up the coast to **Caesarea**, Guided visit through the Roman amphitheater and aqueduct.
- Continue to **Mount Carmel** and the "burning place" where Elijah called the fire down to confound the prophets of Baal.
- Proceed to **Megiddo**, the Biblical city overlooking the Jezreel Valley, where the last battle will take place.
- Drive to **Nazareth** for an overview. Visit the **Nazareth biblical village**.
Overnight: Ginosar Sea of Galilee

Day 4 January 29 Friday: Galilee

- First century **Old Boat** museum
- Visit the fishing village of **Capernaum**, the "Town of Jesus" in Galilee, and **Tabkha**, site of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes.
- **Fish** lunch
- Walk down the **Mount of Beatitudes**, where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount.
- Visit the cliff fortress at **Mount Arbel**, overlooking the Valley of Genezareth. (Depending on time)
- Cross over the Northern Sea of Galilee by **boat**.
Overnight: Ginosar Sea of Galilee

Day 5 January 30 Saturday: Upper Galilee and Golan

- Drive north to Upper Galilee to the ruins of the ancient city at **Tel Hazor**
- Visit the Biblical city of **Tel Dan** and walk along the beautiful Dan River.
- Visit **Caesarea Philippi** - Baniyas, where Jesus asked, "Who do men say I am?".
- Ascend the **Golan Heights** for a view of its strategic importance from the "Peace Lookout" and/or Mt. Bental
- Baptismal service at **Yardenit** (Jordan River)

Overnight: Ginosar Sea of Galilee

Day 6 January 31 Sunday: Galilee – Dead Sea

- Drive by the **Gilboa Hills**, site of the battle of Saul against the Philistines.
- Visit **Gideon's spring** (Maayan Harod opposite Hill of Moreh)
- Visit the archeological excavations at **Beit Shean**, one of the largest Roman-Byzantine cities uncovered in Israel, and the site where King Saul's head was hung on the city walls
- Drive by **Jericho** the "City of Palms" (Possible visit pending on time and security).
- Experience the weightlessness of the **Dead Sea** as you float in its waters (If weather permits)

Overnight: Hod hotel Dead Sea

Day 7 February 1 Monday: Dead Sea – Jerusalem

- Visit **Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires.
- Stop at **Kumeran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found.
- Visit "Nahal David" the freshwater spring at the **Ein Gedi** Nature reserve, a lush oasis in the Judean Desert overlooking the Dead Sea.
- Jerusalem blessing on **Mt. Scopus**

Overnight: Dan Panorama Jerusalem

Days 8 - 12 February 2- 6 Tuesday - Saturday: Jerusalem

- Begin the Jerusalem visit with an overview from the top of **Mount of Olives**
- Walk down the "Palm Sunday" to the Garden of **Gethsemane**.
- Ascend the **Temple Mount**, site of the First and Second Temples, and Jesus' conflicts with the Sadducees, as well as the third holiest site in Islam Harem El Sharif, where according to tradition, Mohamed ascended to heaven.

- Continue to **St. Stephen's Gate** and visit the **Pools of Bethesda**
- Lithostrotos "**The Pavement**" and Struthion Pool under the Sisters of Zion Convent, a possible site of Jesus imprisonment in the Antonia Fortress.
- **Western Wall** (Kotel), the retaining wall of the Second Temple and today, the holiest prayer site to Jews in the world.

- Guided visit through the **Western Wall Tunnels**, along the entire length of the Western Wall of the Temple Mount.
- The Ophel Garden and the **Davidson Center** at the Southern wall archeological park.
- Guided visit to the new excavations at the **City of David** which have shed new light on David's conquest of Jerusalem, followed by an optional walk through the **Hezekiah's Tunnel** ending at the new excavations of the **Siloam Pool**.
- **Mount Zion**, including the Room of the **Last Supper**, the **house of Kaifa** (St. Peter Gallicantu) the High Priest and **King David's Tomb**.
- Visit the **Jewish Quarter** including the **Broad Wall** from the days of King Hezekiah, and the Roman-Byzantine **Cardo**.
- Continue to the **Arab Market – Suq** – through the Moslem Quarter
- Conclude the day at the **Garden Tomb**, traditional site of Jesus' burial, with a Communion service.
- **Temple Institute**.
- Lunch (on own) at **Mahane Yehuda** the Western city market
- Visit **Tel Beit Shemesh**, the Land of Samson.
- Drive through the **Ela Valley** site of the famous battle between David and Goliath.
- **Ayalon Institute**, 1948 bullet factory.
- **Herodium** desert fortress
- **Ein Kerem** traditional birth place of John the Baptist
- **Joppa and Tel Aviv**
- **Bell Caves (Optional)**
- **Emek Tzurim**, participate in an Archeological excavation filtering dirt from the Temple Mount.
- Private **Farewell Dinner** at the hotel.
- Depart Israel February 6th via Tel Aviv Delta Flight 153 at 11:25PM arrive in Atlanta at 6:05AM

Itinerary subject to change without prior notice.