



Tour to the Holy Land

Lead by: Dr. Wes Husted and Dr. Gary Byers

Daniel 2:22

Day 1 Sunday September 8th: Welcome to ISRAEL!

Arrival in Ben Gurion Airport. Meet and assist by Immanuel Tours airport representative and transfer by special motor coach to our hotel **Dan Panorama Hotel** in Tel Aviv for dinner & overnight.

Day 2 Monday September 9th: Shephelah-Lachish – Azeka – Qeiyafa – Beit Shemesh

We start our day driving southwards to the Shephelah area reaching the archaeological site of Tel Lachish, which stands on a hill in the southern Judean Hills. It was once a powerful city in the Kingdom of Judah. A small settlement occupied the site and gradually grew. Then we drive up to the Valley of Elah where the battle between David and Goliath took place (1 Samuel 17). We will have a beautiful view of the Elah Valley and surroundings from our visit to Tel Azeka. This city was one of the strongholds of the Kingdom of Judah, which protected its western border. Continuing north we will reach Beit Shemesh, and after that visit we will drive to the restaurant Elvis Inn for a late lunch. We will return to the Hotel in Tel Aviv for dinner and overnight.

Day 3 Tuesday September 10th: Old Jaffa - Caesarea – Carmel – Megiddo - Nazareth

We begin our day driving for a short visit to Old Jaffa (New Testament Joppa). Drive northwards to the ruins of the ancient city of Caesarea Maritima which was built by King Herod and later became the seat of government of the Roman governors including Pontius Pilate who sat in judgment on Jesus Christ and sentenced him to be crucified. Visit the extensive excavations of the site including the harbor, the Crusader City, the theatre, the hippodrome and the Roman aqueduct. We continue and drive by Mt. Carmel, where the Prophet Elijah challenged the Priests of Baal (1 Kings 18:17-40). Our next stop is at Megiddo, the Armageddon of the Book of Revelations. Christian tradition has it that the final great battle of the world will be fought here. Next, we continue to Nazareth a town in the hill country of Galilee where Jesus grew to manhood. We continue and drive through Cana of Galilee, where Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding feast (John 2:1-11). After we will arrive at **The Scots Hotel** in Tiberias late afternoon and check in for dinner and overnight.



Day 4 Wednesday September 11th: Sea of Galilee – Capernaum – Magdala

The Sea of Galilee is rich in memories of the three years of Jesus' Ministry around its shores. We begin this day with a visit to the so-called "Jesus Boat" a fishing boat of the kind used by the disciples of Jesus. We then take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Continue our day and visit Capernaum, where Jesus dwelt after he left Nazareth and did many signs and wonders, to visit the ancient synagogue and the nearby House of Peter. We drive on around the shores of the Sea of Galilee to visit the Mt. of Beatitudes, **Korazim (or Chorazim)**, which was a small Jewish town, which Jesus used to visit and to preach to its inhabitants, who refused to listen (Mat. 11,21). We continue to Magdala Tour the ancient city of Migdal (Magdala), the home of Mary Magdalena, see the remains of a Synagogue and the entire city used during the times of Jesus. After we will return to our in Tiberias hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 5 Thursday September 12th: Bethsaida – Tel Hazor – Banias – Tel Dan

We start at Bethsaida Park, followed by a visit to Tel Hazor, identified with the biblical Hatsor, recently named a UNESCO World Heritage site, Hazor is one of the largest archaeological sites in all of Israel, with its great, bottle-shaped mound covering over 200 acres. Next, we stop at the Banias, the location of Caesarea Philippi where the Apostle Peter made his great confession of faith in Jesus as the Christ, before continuing to Tel Dan, which was the north most town in biblical Israel (Hence the saying "from Dan to Beersheba"). Return to our hotel in Tiberias for dinner and overnight. Dinner and overnight.

Day 6 Friday September 13th: Jordan Valley – Jerusalem

This morning we drive southwards through the Jordan Valley and along the slopes of the Gilboa Mountains, where, Saul, first king of Israel, and his son Jonathan, were killed in a battle with the Philistines about 1010 B.C. and arrive at the excavations of the ancient Israelite city of Beit Shean. In New Testament times it became one of the 10 cities of the Decapolis. After the visit to this extensive site, we continue and drive along the Jordan Valley via Jericho to visit the Qasr El Yehud Baptism Site after we drive to Jericho where we'll see Tell es-Sultan, Tulul Abu al Alaiq (Herod's Winger Palace) and up through the Judean Hills to Jerusalem.

Before checking into the **Leonardo Plaza Hotel** we stop at the "Tayelet" promenade for a breathtaking view over the Old City of Jerusalem, Mt. Zion, and the Mt. of Olives.

Day 7 Saturday September 14th: Jerusalem – Mt. of Olives – Gethsemane – Old City

We begin this day after breakfast, driving to the top of the Mount of Olives, for a majestic view over all ancient and modern Jerusalem, the center of the biblical world. We walk down the "Palm Sunday Road", via the Chapel of Dominus Flevit where Jesus wept over Jerusalem to the Garden of Gethsemane where he prayed on the night of his betrayal (Lk. 22:40-46). Next, we shall enter within the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, walking from the Pools of Bethesda and along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Inside the Old City we will visit Historical sites of Jaffa Gate and **the Cardo** in the Jewish Quarter. We return to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.



Day 8 Sunday September 15th: Massada – Ein Gedi – Dead Sea – Qumran

Full day starting in Jerusalem passing through the Inn of the Good Samaritan, driving through the Judean desert and along the shores of the Dead Sea to visit the Mountain fortress of Massada, the site of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in 73 AD. Ascent and descend by cable car. Continue to Ein Gedi Nature Reserve. Ein Gedi is enumerated among the cities of the Tribe of Judah in the desert. Later, King David hides in the desert of Ein Gedi (1 Samuel 24:1-2) and King Saul seeks him "even upon the craggiest rocks, which are accessible only to wild goats" (1 Samuel 24:2). Next there will be an opportunity to bathe in the waters of the Dead Sea – the lowest spot on the face of Earth, followed by a visit to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were written over 2000 years ago. Return to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

Day 9 Monday September 16th: Israel Museum - Bethlehem

We start this day with a visit to the Israel Museum where we shall see the Model of Ancient Jerusalem which gives an excellent view of Jerusalem of Jesus' days and the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed. After we will drive to Herodion National Park, the palace of Herod the Great from the roman period 1st century BC. From the top of the mountain, enjoy a panorama view of the landscape of the area and from there you can see the Jordan mountains and the Dead Sea. We continue the drive to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, visit to the Basilica of Nativity and the Shepherds' Field. Returning to our hotel in Jerusalem for dinner & overnight.

Day 10 Tuesday September 17th : Temple Mount - Western Wall –Citadel –

Early morning visit to the **Temple Mount**, a holy site within the Old City for Jewish, Christian, and Muslim people. All visitors can tour the compound and the Al-Aqsa Mosque, with the exception of the Dome of the Rock. We continue with the **Western Wall Tunnels**. The tunnels run along approximately 488 meters of the Western Wall, giving visitors a taste of the challenge that stood before Herod the Great during this biggest of all his immense building projects—the expansion of the Temple Mount. One such example is the famous western stone which is 14 meters long and weighs almost 570 tons. We then walk via Robinson's Arch to the **Garden of Ophel** and to the **Davidson Center** where archaeological excavations have revealed many remains of the Herodian period which include the steps known as the Hulda Steps leading up to the Temple Court. We continue to the **City of David**. We'll make our way through Hezekiah's tunnel (2 Chronicles 32:30) to the **Pool of Siloam** where Jesus healed the man born blind (John 9). From here we will walk through the Kidron Valley (Cemetery walk). Return to our Jerusalem Hotel for dinner and overnight.



**Day 11 Tuesday September 18th: Rockefeller Museum – Ben Yehuda – Garden Tomb -
Departure**

Late breakfast and check out. Today we will visit the Rockefeller Museum which houses the magnificent collection of antiquities unearthed during the time of the British Mandate (1919-1948), featuring the remains of a 10,000-year-old man found on Mount Carmel and utensils from Stone Age cave dwellers. After we will take a walk on the Ben Yehuda the famous street located in the center of the city, which means you will have easy access to all kinds of restaurants, cafes, and shops to peruse as well as take in the sites that this bustling city has to offer.

After we will have some free time in the Old City for last-minute shopping. We will end our last day in Jerusalem with a visit to the Garden Tomb and Gordon's Calvary, to a beautiful garden where we commemorate and reflect on the resurrection. We will head to a local restaurant to enjoy a Farewell Dinner.

This is followed by a drive to Ben Gurion Airport for our homebound flight.

Daniel 2:22

***He reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what lies in darkness,
and light dwells with him.***

“S H A L O M “





IMMANUEL TOURS

