



Israel Tour

In The Footsteps of Jesus

Wednesday 11th – Friday 20th September 2024

The tour is hosted by Rev. Mark K Madeley



Day 1: Wednesday 11th September 2024

Outbound flight

In the afternoon we fly from London Heathrow to Tel Aviv and then drive to the Mediterranean coast for our first night.

Day 2: Thursday 12th September 2024

To The North of Israel



Leaving Tel Aviv we head north to the magnificent ruins of **Caesarea**, the home of the first Gentile convert to Christianity and from where Paul sailed to Rome. There will be time to see the Hippodrome, Herod's Palace and the beautiful aqueduct. After lunch we head to **Haifa** to see Elijah's cave and then **Muhraqa (on Mount Carmel)** where Elijah fought the prophets of Baal. Overnight **Sea of Galilee region**.

Day 3: Friday 13th September 2024

Around The Sea of Galilee

We spend our day around the **Sea of Galilee** visiting some beautiful places: **The Mount of The Beatitudes**, the site of The Sermon on the Mount, **Tabgha**, possible site of the feeding of the five thousand, **Chapel of Mensa Christi**, possible site of the resurrection breakfast: **Capernaum**, the centre of Jesus' Galilean Ministry, **Qatzrin** where you can see biblical life, **The Golan Heights**, **Yardenit**, the Pilgrims' Baptismal site on the River Jordan and we shall have a wonderful boat trip across the **Sea of Galilee**. Overnight **Sea of Galilee region**.



Day 4: Saturday 14th September 2024

Nazareth and Cana

Today we head for **Mount Tabor**, to remember the transfiguration, the **Village of Cana**, the scene of Jesus' first miracle where He turned water into wine and **Nazareth**, Jesus' childhood home where we see the **Basilica of the Annunciation** over Mary's house. **St Joseph's Church** the **Church of Mary's Well**, the **Souk** (market place) and, if open, the **Old Synagogue**. In Nazareth we shall also visit the **Nazareth Village** which is an excellent reconstruction of Nazareth from biblical times. Overnight **Sea of Galilee region**.

Day 5: Sunday 15th September 2024

Masada, Qumran and The Dead Sea



We drive South roughly following the River Jordan, to **Qumran** where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered after which we head to **Masada**, the famous rock fortress, the final resistance of the Zealots against the Romans in the Jewish War of the 1st Century AD. After a relaxing time floating on the waters of the **Dead Sea** (the lowest point on earth), we head back to the stunning city of **Jerusalem**.

Day 6: Monday 16th September 2024

Bethlehem & Free Time

We begin our day with a visit to **Bethlehem** to see the **Church of The Nativity** and **The Shepherd's Fields**. We will also visit **Herod's Bethlehem Palace**. After lunch and a visit to a Christian shop to buy olive wood products, we return to **Jerusalem**. An early return to the hotel will give us plenty of time to relax with friends or go for a walk or visit **New Jerusalem** (very near the hotel) and experience modern day Israel's capital city. Overnight **Jerusalem**.



Day 7: Tuesday 17th September 2024

Tour of Jerusalem



Our day begins early so that we can go up onto **Temple Mount** to think about the Temple in Old Testament times. Afterwards we walk through the Arab quarter of **The Old City**. The afternoon will be spent in the **Jewish Quarter** to see the ancient wall from 10th century B.C., possibly built Solomon. We shall also see the **Cardo** which was an ancient Roman market. The day will end with time at **The Western Wall**. Overnight **Jerusalem**.

Day 8: Wednesday 18th September 2024

Jerusalem—Ein Karem & Yad Vashem

From Jerusalem we drive to **Ein Karem**, the home of John the Baptist's parents where we will visit the Church before driving to **Yad Vashem**—one of the most powerful museums of the Holocaust. As we drive up the hill we will be able to see this railway carriage from the Holocaust on the hill.



Day: 9 Thursday 19th September 2024

Jerusalem—The Last Week of Jesus' Life



Starting in the **Mount of Olives** we view the Golden City of Jerusalem and the **Temple Mount**. As we walk down the **Mount of Olives** we stop at **Dominus Flevit**, where Jesus wept over **Jerusalem** and then **Garden of Gethsemane**, scene of Jesus agony, arrest and betrayal. We head next through **The Lion Gate** to visit the **Church of St Anne** and the **Pool of Bethesda**. Next we head to **Sisters of Zion Convent** where Pilate may have sat on the Roman Pavement before walking along the Via Dolorosa thinking of the **Stations of the Cross** tracing Jesus' last steps to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Calvary**. Our day ends with a Communion service at **The Garden Tomb**.

Day 10: Friday 20th September 2024

Homeward bound

Leaving Jerusalem we drive to **Tel Aviv airport** for our flight to the UK.

Notes:

On some days there will be a reasonable amount of walking. You are welcome to opt out of anything that is too much but if you want to return to the hotel early, it will be at your own expense.

All itineraries are provisional. Whilst every effort will be made to visit all of the sites mentioned above, occasionally local circumstances may prevent us from doing so. Also because of local circumstances, it may be necessary to visit sites on alternative days to make best use of the time available.