**GIFTS FROM ABOVE 10-DAY HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE TOUR**

It has been said that a trip to the Holy Land enhances the experience of reading our Bible in much the same way as viewing a picture in color that was previously only seen in black and white. Come with us to Israel and give “color” to your Bible study time.

**\* Groups of 25 or more will either be provided with a ‘guest pastor’ or you may choose your own. The guest pastor is generally responsible for conducting the baptismal service at Yardinet (on the Jordan River), Sunday religious services, morning prayer and devotional and the communion service at the Garden Tomb.**

\* **Our guide and teacher: Doron Heiliger. (Much in demand for his services, Doron is licensed by the Israeli Minister of Tourism and has worked as a guide for over thirty years. Doron serves as a group tour guide for: David Jeremiah, Hal Lindsey, David Hocking, Liberty University, and Jack Hayford.)** **This tour has been designed to offer the utmost in both inspirational and historical Biblical education.**

**\*** **Our travel agent/tour escort will be Roberta Klein, author of the *Grafted-In* Trilogy. (Dr. Klein holds a travel agent’s Destination Specialty for Israel, issued by the Israeli Minister of Tourism). Our desire is that you will “truly experience Israel, the homeland of our Savior.”**

**INCLUDED IN OUR PRICE:**

**\* ROUND TRIP AIRFARE** from Philadelphia or NYC to/from Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv.

**\* FULL BUFFET BREAKFAST** every morning and **FULL BUFFET DINNER** every evening

**\* AIRPORT TRANSFERS** while in Israel.

**\* TRANSPORTATION IN ISRAEL** (using modern, luxury class, air-conditioned tourist buses.)

**\* 7 DAYS SIGHTSEEING - ADMISSION TO ALL SITES**

**\* LICENSED ISRAELI GUIDE**

**\* KIBBUTZ HOTELS** (7 night accommodations: 3 at Nof Ginosar on the Sea of Galilee [www.ginosar.co.il](http://www.ginosar.co.il) & 4 at the Ramat Rachel, Jerusalem [www.ramatrachel.co.il](http://www.ramatrachel.co.il) (& 2 overnight flights.)

**DAY BY DAY ITINERARY**

\*\*\*\* ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION \*\*\*\*

**DAY 1 –** We depart for an overnight flight to Tel Aviv, Israel.

**DAY 2 –** Upon arrival to Tel Aviv we go through customs and are greeted by our guide. We board a luxury motorcoach for our trip to the Sea of Galilee. We dine, check in to our hotel and prepare for a busy day tomorrow.

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar.**

**DAY 3 –** Our tour takes us to the **Upper-Galilee**.Starting at **Tel Hazor** (Joshua 11) a UNESCO world heritage site we see chambered gates from the time of King Solomon. Then on to **Tel Dan** (Laish in the Book of Judges) was the northern border of the Kingdom of Israel. We drive to **Caesarea Philippi**, (Banias) the site of Peter’s confession (Matthew 16:13-20). Later we tour along the **Golan Heights**, and drive through Qunetra, the border between Israel and Syria.

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar.**

**DAY 4 –** the ancient Roman city of **Caesarea Maritime**. This city, built by Herod the Great, is where Peter met Cornelius (Acts 10:24) and where Paul was both imprisoned and appeared in the theatre before King Agrippa and Festus (Acts 25 &26) before sailing for Rome. We visit the excavations of the theatre, the palace, the harbor and the aqueduct. We stop to visit an **ancient aqueduct** built by Herod. Our next stop is **Tel Megiddo** (the Valley of Armageddon in Revelation 16) we visit the excavations and walk through an ancient underground water tunnel. From Megiddo we travel to **Nazareth**, the city where Jesus grew up. Returning to our hotel, we have some free time before dinner to walk the short distance behind our hotel to enjoy the lovely beach on the Sea of Galilee.

**Dinner & overnight at Nof Ginnosar.**

**DAY 5 –** Checking out of our hotel we begin our morning with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. After, we dock at the museum which houses the famed ancient **“Jesus Boat Museum”.** Our next stop is the **Mt. of Beatitudes**, the traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-10). We allow time for a scripture reading and devotion while enjoying the beautiful scenery overlooking the Sea of Galilee. We pass by **Chorazin**, one of the cities cursed for their unbelief, before visiting ancient **Capernaum** (settlement on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. This was home to Peter, Andrew, James, John and the tax collector, Matthew. In Matthew 4:13 it is referenced as the home of Jesus and in Luke 4:31-44 it is said that Jesus taught in the synagogue (which we will visit). Continuing along the eastern shore of the lake, we pass **Gergesa/**Kursi (Mark 5) where Jesus drove the demons from a possessed man into a herd of pigs. We visit **Beth Shean** (Beit She’an in OT times/Scythopolis, one of the Decapolis cities, at the time of Jesus) and explore this national park. Later we have a baptismal service at **Yardenit** on the Jordan River before driving south past **Jericho** and then up to Jerusalem for dinner.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

**DAY 6 –** We drive to the Dead Sea area where we begin our tour with a visit to **Qumran. W**e see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered and learn about the Essenes. Continuing on to **Masada,** the site of the last stronghold of the Jews during the revolt against Rome, we take a modern tram to the top where we visit the ruins of King Herod’s Palace. We enjoy a swim in the **Dead Sea**, both the lowest elevation on the planet and the saltiest body of water, and experience the mineral rich waters. If time and conditions permit we drive into Jericho before returning to our hotel.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem.**

 **DAY 7 –** From the top of the **Mt. of Olives** (Mt. Olivet), valued for its panoramic view of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, we walk down the **Palm Sunday road** past an ancient Jewish cemetery, visit the **Garden of Gethsemane** (Matthew 26) and both the **Church of all Nations** (where Jesus prayed before his arrest) and **Dominus Flevit** (where the Lord wept and predicted the destruction of the Second Temple). After a stop at the **Holocaust Museum,** in the afternoon, we cross into **Bethlehem** to visit the **Church of the Nativity** (believed to be the site of our Saviour’s birth),we visit a cave at the **Shepherd’s Field.** This evening we visit the **Rabbinic Tunnel.**

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem**.

**DAY 8 –** We walk through the **Old City of Jerusalem** and take in the view from **atop the ancient walls**. We walk the **Jewish Quarter,** City of David, past the **Roman Cardo**. Visit the Western (**Wailing Wall**), the **Temple Mount** (where the Temple stood), we stop at **St. Anne’s Church** to experience the acoustics, the **Pool of Bethesda** (where in John 5 it is recorded that Jesus healed the paralytic, the **Church Ecce Homo/Sisters of Mt. Zion**, site of Pilate’s judgment hall/ **Praetorium of the Antonia Fortress**. We walk along the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**. We walk the **Jewish Quarter,** City of David, past the **Roman Cardo**.

**Dinner & overnight at Ramat Rachel in Jerusalem**.

**DAY 9 –** After checking out of our hotel, we don water shoes for our visit to **Hezekiah’s Tunnel** (built before 701BC beneath the city of David by King Hezekiah and referenced in II Chronicles, Ch 32). Later we visit **Emek Tzurim** – located on the lower steps of the Mt of Olives in the Kidron Valley, this archaeological dig site sponsors the **Temple Mount Antiquities Salvage Operation** where 300 truckloads of soil, removed from the Temple Mount by the waqf during construction of the underground el-Marwani Mosque, are now located. We will be trained in sifting procedures and participate in this dig which has already uncovered extensive artifacts dating back from the 1st Temple period, as well as Roman, Hasmonean, Herodian and Byzantine periods. We next experience the highlight of our pilgrimage with a visit to **Gordon’s Calvary/the** **Garden Tomb** where we hold a worship/communion service.

**DAY 10 –** We check early out of our hotel and depart for the airport for our return flight home.