

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF ISRAEL ITINERARY

Day 1, Monday, Arrival. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 2, Tuesday, Lectures. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 3, Wednesday, Jerusalem Walking Trip (emphasizing the Old Testament Period): Overview of Hinnom Valley/Gehenna, Eastern Hill/Mount Zion of the Old Testament (Large Stone Building [David's Palace?], Area G, Warren's Shaft, Hezekiah's Tunnel, Pool of Siloam), "Broad Wall" and Wohl Museum on the Western Hill. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 4, Thursday, New Testament Jerusalem Field Trip: Overview of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, traditional Garden of Gethsemane, Pools of Bethesda, Overview of Second Temple Period Tombs in the Kidron Valley, Southern Wall Excavations and model of New Testament Jerusalem and Shrine of the Book at the Israel Museum. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 5, Friday, Morning lectures; afternoon visit to Tombs at Ecole Biblique, Gordon's Calvary and the Garden Tomb and Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 6, Saturday Benjamin Field Trip: Qasr el-Yehud (a traditional location of Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist), Jericho (Tell es-Sultan, Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq, Tell es-Samarat), Mizpeh Danny (overview of Wilderness of Judea), Nebi Samwil (overview of important towns in Benjamin) and Tel Gezer/Tell Jezer. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 7, Sunday, Free Day. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 8, Monday, Morning quiz and lectures; afternoon visit to Herodium. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 9, Tuesday, Hill Country and Shephelah of Judah Field Trip: Tel Beth-shemesh/Tell er-Rumeileh, Tel Azekah/Tell Zakariyeh (overview of the Elah Valley where David confronted Goliath), Tel Maresha/Tell Sandahanna/Marissa/Beth-guvrin, and Tel Lachish/Tell ed-Duweir. Overnight in Ashkelon.

Day 10, Wednesday, Philistine Plain and Biblical Negeb Field Trip: Ashkelon excavations, Tel Haror/Tell Abu Hureireh (Gerar?), Tel Beer-sheba/Tell es-Seba, and Tel Arad/Tell Arad. Overnight in modern town of Arad.

Day 11, Thursday, Greater Negeb, Arabah and Dead Sea Field Trip: H. Haluqim, Overview of Nahal Zin and the Wilderness of Zin from Kibbutz Sede Boker, Mamshit/Kurnub/Mampsis (a Nabatean town), Maaleh Tamar, Hazeva/ Biblical Tamar and swimming in the Dead Sea. Overnight in Arad.

Day 12, Friday, Wilderness of Judah and Dead Sea Area Field Trip: Masada, En-gedi, and Qumran. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 13, Saturday, Morning free; afternoon Visit to Bethlehem.

Day 14, Sunday, Morning quiz followed by free time; afternoon lectures. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 15, Monday, Ephraim, Samaria and Mount Carmel Field Trip: Kh. Seilun/Shiloh, “Jacob’s” Well, Tell Balatah/Shechem, Samaria/Sebaste/Sebastia and Mukhraka (traditional site of Elijah’s confrontation with the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel). Overnight in hotel on Mt. Carmel.

Day 16, Tuesday, Sharon Plain and Lower Galilee Field Trip: Caesarea, Nazareth Village (reproduction of a typical Galilean village in Jesus’ time [special presentation by Mrs. Claire Pfann]), and Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 17, Wednesday, Sea of Galilee Area Field Trip: Boat Ride on the Sea of Galilee, Museum of First Century Boat (at Kibbutz Nof Ginosar), Magdala, View of the Arbel Pass, Chorazin, Capernaum, el-Araj (Bethsaida?) and overview of el-Kursi (Gergesa). Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 18, Thursday, Northern Jordan Valley, Upper Galilee and Golan Field Trip: Tel Hazor, Hula Nature Reserve, overview of Tel Abel-beth-maacah from Upper Galilee, Tel Dan/Tell el-Qadi and Dan Nature Reserve, Banias (Caesarea-philippi), Golan Heights and Traditional Mount of Beatitudes. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 19, Friday, Beth-Netofa Valley, Jezreel Valley, Harod Valley, Beth-shean Valley, and Jordan Valley Field Trip: Overview of Kh. Cana, Tel Megiddo/ Tell el-Mutesellim, Tel Yizre’el/Zer’in/ Jezreel, En-harod (where Gideon’s warriors were selected), and Tel Beth-shean/Tell el-Husn/ Scythopolis. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 20, Saturday, Final Exam. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 21, Sunday, Departure.

(Every reasonable effort will be made to include all sites in the itinerary, but some flexibility may be required to accommodate unexpected circumstances.