

**INTRODUCTION TO THE GEOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND
CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS OF THE BIBLE
JULY 11 - JULY 25, 2021 PROGRAM**

Sunday, July 11 Arrival Overnight in Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel in Jerusalem. (Dinner in hotel)

Monday, July 12, Jerusalem Field Trip (emphasis on Old Testament period)

Morning: overview of Hinnom Valley/Gehenna, overview of Kidron Valley and view across the valley to the Mount of Olives from the Eastern Hill (original Mount Zion), excavations on the Eastern Hill (Large Stone Building [David's Palace?], Warren's Shaft, Hezekiah's Tunnel, and Pool of Siloam). Afternoon: Broad Wall and Wohl Museum (mansions from the New Testament period) on the Western Hill. Overnight in Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; lunch in hotel or in restaurant in Old City)

Tuesday, July 13, New Testament Jerusalem Field Trip Overview of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, Church of All Nations and traditional Garden of Gethsemane, Pools of Bethesda, View 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 Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel in Jerusalem. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; sack lunch)

Wednesday, July 14, Benjamin Field Trip Qasr el-Yehud (a traditional location for Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist), Jericho (Tell es-Sultan [remains from the Old Testament period], Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq and Tell es-Samarat [remains from the New Testament period]), Nebi Samwil (overview of important towns in the tribe of Benjamin) and Ayalon Park (location of an Emmaus during the New Testament Period). Overnight in Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel in Jerusalem. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Thursday, July 15, Bethlehem Area and Shephelah of Judah Field Trip

Herodium and Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, Tel Azekah/Tell Zakariyeh (overview of Elah Valley where David and Goliath fought), and Tel Lachish/Tell ed-Duweir. Overnight in Kibbutz Sede Yoav. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Friday, July 16, Negeb Field Trip Tel Beer-sheba/Tell es-Seba, Wilderness of Zin, and swimming in the Dead Sea. Overnight in David Resort and Spa. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Saturday, July 17, Wilderness of Judah and Dead Sea Area Field Trip: Masada, En-ge-di Nature Reserve, and Qumran. Overnight in Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel in Jerusalem. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Sunday, July 18, Early Morning Visit to the Temple Mount; remainder of day free. Overnight in Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel in Jerusalem. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; lunch on your own)

Monday, July 19, Ephraim, Samaria and Mount Carmel Field Trip Shiloh, “Jacob’s Well,” Tell Balatah/Shechem, Samaria/Sebaste and Mukhraka (traditional site of Elijah’s confrontation with the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel). Overnight in Stella Maris Hotel on Mount Carmel. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; lunch in Samaria Restaurant)

Tuesday, July 20, Sharon Plain and Galilee Field Trip Caesarea, Nazareth Village (reproduction of a typical Galilean village in Jesus’ time [special presentation by Mrs. Claire Pfann]) and Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth. Overnight in En Gev Holiday Village by the Sea of Galilee. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Wednesday, July 21, Sea of Galilee Area Field Trip Boat Ride on the Sea of Galilee, Museum of First Century Boat at Kibbutz Ginosar, Magdala, Capernaum, Chorazin, Mount of Beatitudes and overview of el-Kursi (Gergesa?). Overnight in Kibbutz En Gev Holiday Village by the Sea of Galilee. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Thursday, July 22 Northern Jordan Valley and Golan Field Trip Hazor, Hula Nature Reserve, Tel Dan and Dan Nature Reserve, Banias (Caesarea- philippi) and Golan Heights. Overnight in hotel on west side of Sea of Galilee. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Friday, July 23, Jezreel and Jordan Valleys Field Trip Sepphoris, Megiddo and Enharod (where Gideon’s warriors were selected). Return to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley. Overnight in Gloria or Knights Palace Hotel in Jerusalem. (Breakfast and dinner in hotel; picnic lunch)

Saturday, July 24, Morning visit to Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Gordon’s Calvary and the Garden Tomb. Afternoon free. Overnight in Gloria Hotel in Jerusalem. (All meals in hotel)

Sunday, July 25, Departure

All meals are included from dinner on the day of arrival through breakfast on the day of departure with the exception of lunch on Sunday, July 18.

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