

February 15 - 27, 2025

LAND OF ISRAEL STUDY TOUR

Hosted by Kym Varner

Israel College of the Bible invites you to join a study tour in which you will both tour the land of the Bible and meet with various sectors of society in modern Israel. Your understanding of the Bible and your perspective on the current Middle East will be enriched by this life-changing tour.

DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	PROGRAM	OVERNIGHT
0	Feb. 15 (Saturday)	Those flying from North America, depart for your transatlantic flight	Enroute
1	Feb. 16 (Sunday)	Arrive in Tel Aviv. Please choose flights that arrive before 3pm, in order to join the group bus to your hotel in Samaria.	Eshel Hashomron Hotel, Ariel or similar

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| 2 | Feb. 17
(Monday) | <p>Visit a factory in the nearby industrial zone to learn about Israeli-Palestinian coexistence in the workplace. Visit Shiloh (including the audio-visual), where the tabernacle stood in the days of the Judges and Hannah prayed for a son (I Sam 1-3). Tour Mt. Gerizim (John 4), stopping at the Samaritan Museum (John 4) and enjoying a panoramic view over the Palestinian city of Nablus (biblical Shechem). In the late afternoon enjoy a stroll through the Biblical Garden at the hotel, which reminds us of various Biblical events that happened in Samaria. After dinner there will be an opportunity to view the night show at the model of the Tabernacle in the hotel garden.</p> | Eshel Hashomron Hotel, Ariel or similar |
| 3 | Feb. 18
(Tuesday) | <p>Begin the day with a panoramic view over the coastal plain from the hills of Samaria, to learn about the strategic advantage of holding the heights above Tel Aviv. Tour the Israel College of the Bible and ONE FOR ISRAEL media studios. Hear the testimonies of Jewish and Arab staff members and have lunch with the the faculty and staff (included) . Head north along the Mediterranean coast to visit Caesarea – Herod’s magnificent port city, where the centurion Cornelius heard the good news (Acts 10) and Paul gave his defense before the Roman rulers and King Agrippa II (Acts 24 and 26).</p> | Haifa, Colony Hotel or similar |
| 4 | Feb. 19
(Wed) | <p>Visit a home for Holocaust Survivors. Continue to Mt. Carmel where the Prophet Elijah had a contest with the prophets of Baal (I Kings 18). Tour the archaeological ruins of the ancient town of Megiddo, a key city which Solomon fortified and then continue to Nazareth Village, a reenactment of life in Nazareth at the time of Yeshua. Stop in Nazareth for a</p> | Sea of Galilee, Maagan Eden or similar |

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panoramic view over the city and a **meeting with a local Arab pastor.**

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| 5 | Feb 20
(Thursday) | <p>Sail on the Sea of Galilee. See the remains of the 1st century AD fishing boat that has become known as the “Jesus Boat”. Enjoy a panoramic view of the lake from the Mount of Beatitudes. Visit sites connected with the ministry of Yeshua around the Sea of Galilee, such as Tabgha, to remember the breakfast on the beach following the resurrection (John 21) and Capernaum, a Jewish fishing town which became Jesus’ ministry base. Share a fish lunch together by the Sea of Galilee (included). There will be an opportunity to be baptized in the Jordan River. End the day with a visit to the archaeological excavations at Magdala, a Jewish town with a synagogue from the first century</p> | Sea of Galilee, Maagan Eden or similar |
| 6 | Feb 21
(Friday) | <p>Visit the northern border, with a stop at Misgav Am, with its impressive view into Lebanon. Meet with soldiers guarding the border there. Tour Tel Dan, one of the two alternative sites of worship built by King Jeroboam. for a view into Lebanon. Tour Caesarea Philippi (Matt 16:13ff) and then ascend the Golan Heights for a view into Syria and time of teaching/prayer.</p> | Sea of Galilee, Maagan Eden or similar |
| 7 | Feb 22
(Saturday) | <p>Travel down the Jordan Valley, stopping at the Decapolis city of Scythopolis (Biblical Beth Shean), with its impressive Roman/Byzantine ruins. Descend to the Dead Sea the lowest point on earth. Pass Jericho and the area of the Judean Wilderness where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Visit the oasis of Ein Gedi (1 Sam 24 – David hides from Saul) and</p> | Sergei Palace or Prima Kings, Jerusalem, or similar |

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explore Herod’s spectacular mountain fortress, **Masada**. There will be an opportunity to float in the **Dead Sea**. Then UP TO JERUSALEM! We’ll have our first view over the city from **Mt. Scopus**.

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| 8 | Feb 23
(Sunday) | Travel to Bethlehem where we’ll visit the “ Shepherds’ Fields ” and also meet with a Palestinian pastor to learn about his ministry and pray for his congregation. Time permitting, there will be a visit to a local olive wood shop . Travel through the Judean Hill Country to the Valley of David and Goliath . Visit Emmaus (Acts 24) and attend service at a local congregation led Dr. Seth Postell of the Israel College of the Bible. On the way back to Jerusalem, stop at Yad Hashmonah , a Messianic Jewish community in the Hill country. | Sergei Palace, or Prima Kings, Jerusalem, or similar |
| 9 | Feb 24
(Monday) | Ascend Temple Mount , the site of the two temples. Tour the excavations around the Southern Steps of Temple Mount and learn about pilgrimage to Jerusalem at the time of Jesus in the Davidson Center . Visit the City of David , including Hezekiah’s water tunnel [or the (dry) Canaanite Tunnel], the Pool of Siloam , and the audio visual. | Sergei Palace, or Prima Kings, Jerusalem, or similar |
| 10 | Feb 25
(Tuesday) | Visit Yad Vashem , the Holocaust Memorial Museum, where we’ll be privileged to have a local guide show us through the main museum. Visit the model of Second Temple Period Jerusalem at the Israel Museum and the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit. Have a time of prayer over the city at one of Jerusalem’s prayer centers. In the evening, there will be an | Sergei Palace, or Prima Kings, Jerusalem, or similar |

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optional evening excursion to the amazing **Sound and Light Show** at the Tower of David.

11 Feb 26 (Wednesday) Say farewell to the city with a panoramic view from **the Mount of Olives**, the location of Jesus’ ascent and return, and **Dominus Flevit** where He wept over the city of Jerusalem (Luke 19:41-44). Spend time at the **Garden of Gethsemane** where Jesus prayed His last prayer with His disciples. Tour the archaeological remains in **St. Peter in Gallicantu** to remember the trial of Jesus before Caiaphas and then visit the **Garden Tomb**, a peaceful place to reflect on the crucifixion and resurrection of the Lord. The rest of the afternoon is free to visit **Mahane Yehuda market** or browse the **Old City Bazaars**. We’ll have a farewell dinner together and then transfer to the airport for your flight home

No hotel included for this night

Feb 27 (Thursday) Arrive home

GENERAL INFORMATION

Israel 11-day / 10-night tour (land only)	Price per person in US\$
Per person in a shared room (for 2 people)	\$3170
Per person in a single room	\$4170

The tour pricing is based on a minimum of 25 participants. Please do not book individual flights until you have received confirmation that the minimum number of participants has been reached.

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The group will stay at the following accommodations or similar:

Nights	Location	Hotel or similar
2	Ariel	Eshel Hashomron
1	Haifa	Colony
3	Sea of Galilee	Maagan
4	Jerusalem	Sergei Palace or Prima Kings

RATE INCLUDES:

- ✓ Arrival & departure transfers **as a group** (The times for the group transfer will be set as soon as the trip has reached the required minimum number of participants)
- ✓ Ten nights’ accommodation in a shared room (double or twin), additional payment for those requesting single rooms
- ✓ Israeli breakfast and dinner daily
- ✓ Special meals: Fish lunch by the Sea of Galilee / lunch with staff at OFI’s headquarters
- ✓ Eleven touring days with a professional and licensed English-speaking guide
- ✓ Air-conditioned luxury tourist bus as per program
- ✓ Entrance fees to sites mentioned in the itinerary
- ✓ Luggage loaders at the airport upon arrival, and at hotels
- ✓ Tips and gratuities for guide, driver and hotel staff (included in the price, but **to be brought in cash**)

THE RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to or from Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv
- Travel cancellation insurance for tour package and flights (highly recommended)
- Medical insurance (mandatory), valid in Israel
- Passport and visa fees if applicable (US citizens do not need to pay for Israeli visas, which are given upon entrance to Israel)
- Lunches (except the ones mentioned in the itinerary)
- Sodas and alcohol at the hotels and at the fish lunch
- The ticket for the sound and light show in Jerusalem, which is an evening optional
- All expenses of a personal nature

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BOOKINGS AND RATES

- You can register for the tour here (TBA). Registration closes October 15, 2024.
- Changes can occur in hotels due to factors beyond our control, as well as changes in price due to exchange rate fluctuations up until the time of the final payment.
- If a roommate cannot be assigned or is not wanted, single-room rates will apply.
- A non-refundable deposit of **\$300** per person, paid online, to Israel College of the Bible is required to secure registration. You will be directed to the payment site at the end of registration.
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PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION PENALTIES

- **Final Payment** should be made by Nov 14, 2024
- 25% of the cost of the tour will be charged if you cancel after Nov 15, 2024
- 50 % of total tour cost will be charged if you cancel after Dec 15, 2024
- 100 % of total tour cost will be charged if cancellation occurs after Jan 15, 2025

Travel and medical Insurance

We strongly advise you to purchase **travel cancellation insurance** for your trip to Israel. Travel insurance usually covers your expenses in case of cancellation due to unforeseen health or other issues (depending on the type of policy purchased). In addition, please check that your **medical insurance** (mandatory) covers you while you are in Israel, and includes all COVID19-related treatments. *ICB Tours shall not be liable or responsible for any injury, sickness, loss or damage to any person or property as a consequence of natural disasters, pandemics, strikes, civil disturbances or other factors over which the company has no control and cannot influence to change them. ICB Tours offers no coverage or compensation of any kind in cases stated above, nor for cancellations or inability to travel.*

DOCUMENTS

A passport valid for at least **six months after returning home** is required. It is the passenger's responsibility to obtain, at their own expense, the documents required to enter Israel according to citizenship.

PASSENGER FITNESS

Travelling in Israel requires each participant to be in good health and able to walk, as many sites are unfortunately not accessible to people in wheelchairs or those who have difficulty walking. If there are any issues pertaining to your health or physical fitness, we ask that you consult with us prior to registration.

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- **Israel College of the Bible Study Tours** (a department of *Derech-El, Israeli Association for Awareness of Biblical Roots, Registration Number 580-241-438*) acts as an agent for independent suppliers of services which are not directly provided by *Derech-El*, such as hotel accommodations, ground transportation, meals, tours, cruises and other related services. *Derech-El* cannot assume any liability for any actions taken on the part of the suppliers, or the government of Israel or other countries, which results in any loss, accident, delay, irregularity, damage, or injury to you or your traveling companions or group members for any reason whatsoever, including measures taken to contain the spreading of the COVID-19 virus. Furthermore, *Derech-El* cannot assume any liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which is caused directly or indirectly by the COVID-19 virus, or any foreseen or unforeseen developments.
- By embarking on the tour, you assume all risks involved in such travel, whether foreseen or unforeseen. *Derech-El* will not be liable to perform obligations under this trip agreement or liable for any loss or hardship arising from the delay or cancelation of scheduled tours resulting from acts beyond its reasonable control including, without limitation, acts of God, national disasters, embargoes, national closures, pandemics, epidemics, or other viral outbreak, shortage of supply, interruptions or malfunction of computer facilities, labor difficulties, wars or terrorist acts. *Derech-El* will provide trip participants with reasonable notice of delays or failure to perform that occurs by reason of force majeure.
- *Derech-El* reserves the right to cancel tours, or make changes to the itineraries, as it deems necessary or desirable – in accordance with Israeli government regulations, instructions, and recommendations. *Derech-El* will honor any refunds pending under its existing agreements with above-mentioned suppliers. It is recommended that each member of the tour purchase appropriate insurance coverage to the extent available with respect to risks associated with your travel to Israel at this time. Your registration shall constitute an acceptance of and consent to the above terms and conditions of this disclaimer.
- Participating in an Israel College of the Bible Study Tour from the point of registration **constitutes my agreement with the following statement:** *I hereby dismiss, release, and waive Derech-El, Israeli Association for Awareness of Biblical Roots, Registration Number 580-241-438, from all responsibility and/or liability and/or any legal action and/or demands of any kind for cancellations or any kind of additional expenses related to the flights to Israel and/or the tour and/or infection of the coronavirus or other pandemic and/or any costs associated thereby.*