



SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1

Welcome to Israel

Opening dinner and orientation. Meet the people in your group and hear an overview of the next nine days.



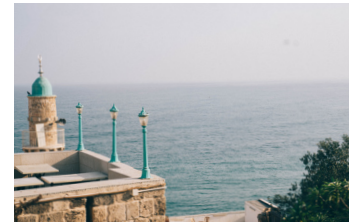
DAY 2

The Hometown of Jesus

Begin in Jaffa, the Gateway to the Land of Israel. Explore the ancient port, the site from which the prophet Jonah fled from God, and where St. Peter restored Tabitha to life, and had a vision of gentile salvation on the roof of the home of Simon the Tanner (Acts 10).

Stop at Mt. Precipice, the site of the rejection of Jesus described in Luke 4:29-30, and a breathtaking overlook of the Jezreel Valley.

Continue to Nazareth to explore the mystery of the incarnation at Mary's Well and the Basilica of the Annunciation, the largest church in the Middle East.



DAY 3

The Ministry of Jesus

Visit the excavations of the synagogue of Magdala. Relive the Gospel and visit the newly-discovered synagogue in Mary Magdalene's home town, which offers clues about Judeo-Christian worship in the time of Jesus.



Continue to Tabgha and Church of the Primacy of St. Peter (John 21). Also near this site is the traditional location of the multiplication of loaves and fish and the calling of the disciples.



Arrive at the Mt. of Beatitudes to remember the verses of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). Afterward, take a stroll along the Jesus Trail, which connects important sites from the life of Jesus and other historical and religious sites.



Arrive at Capernaum, the headquarters of Jesus's movement and his home during his central Galilean ministry.

Take a cruise on the Sea of Galilee and enjoy a St. Peter's Fish Dinner.



DAY 4

Israel's Neighbors: The North

Travel to the Golan Heights and ascend Mt. Bental, a former IDF outpost, for a briefing and an overview of Israel's border with Syria, Kuneitra, and Mt. Hermon. From this point it is less than 40 miles to Damascus and the road where Paul encountered Jesus (Acts 9).



Hear from a local Maronite Christian leader who gives a briefing on life in Israel as a Christian minority as well as the plight of persecuted Christians in the Middle East.



DAY 5

The Desert

Take a cable car to the top of Masada to tell the ancient story of the 960 men, women, and children who were the last to resist the Romans during the Great Jewish Revolt almost 2,000 years ago. This story became synonymous with Israel's quest for independence in modern times.



Swim in the Dead Sea.



Visit Qumran and learn about the history of where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered, or explore the Ein Gedi nature preserve, the sight where David and his men took shelter when fleeing from King Saul.



DAY 6

Borders, Bethlehem & Gaza

Travel into the West Bank and visit Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. Tour the wall and the Church of the Nativity.

Travel south. Visit an overlook into the Gaza region and receive a briefing on the geopolitics of the area. Visit a Kibbutz or Moshav and meet with a local resident for insight into life along the border.



DAY 7

Patriarchs, Kings & Prophets

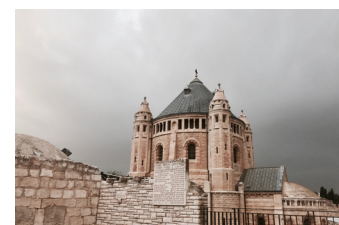
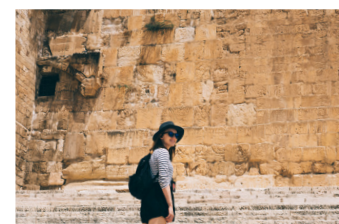
Visit the City of David, the archaeological site of King David's palace and city and the location of Jerusalem's historic nucleus, including areas recently opened to the general public and the tunnel ascending toward the Temple Mount.

See the Southern Wall Excavations, including the steps leading to the ancient Temple and the site where Jesus overturned the moneychangers' tables.

Visit Mt. Zion, King David's Tomb, Dormition Abbey and the Room of the Last Supper.

Continue to the Jewish Quarter, the Cardo, the main square, and the city wall from the time of King Hezekiah.

Welcome the Sabbath at the Western Wall and enjoy a traditional Shabbat dinner with Jewish host families.



DAY 8

The New Covenant

Walk down the Palm Sunday Road on the Mt. of Olives from Bethphage to the Garden of Gethsemane with a short stop at Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. See the ancient olive trees and the beautiful Church of All Nations, where the stone of the Agony of Christ is on display.

Continue from the Lion's Gate (St. Stephen's Gate) to the Monastery of St. Anne and the Pools of Bethesda.

Walk along the Via Dolorosa to the Christian Quarter and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, site of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus.



DAY 9

A Modern State

Visit Yad Vashem and remember the Holocaust. As the Jewish people's living memorial to the Holocaust, Yad Vashem safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations.

Enjoy free time to do some shopping during a self-guided tour of the Carmel Market.

Tour the city of Tel Aviv and learn about the history of the modern State of Israel and the founding fathers and mothers who made what you see today possible.

Enjoy a festive final dinner and reflect on your time in Israel.



*This sample Passages itinerary does not necessarily represent the itineraries customized for each trip.