

**\*PASTOR'S FAMILIARIZATION (FAM) TOUR** The following plan is only a notional itinerary, but we do plan on keeping as close as possible to this schedule however sometimes local conditions such as weather, traffic, too many tourists at a site, etc., may require that we change the itinerary. Please be flexible and understanding that if and when changes are being made they are only done out of necessity to improve and/or add to the overall experience of the tour. Your safety, enjoyment and learning enhancement are our highest priority in any changes that may be made.

**Sunday January 14 2018** Leave from Departure City airport for our overnight flight to Israel.

**Monday Day 2** Wake Up! We've arrived in Israel at Ben Gurion Airport, now we will proceed through Passport Control, retrieve our luggage and be greeted by our local tour agent, Israeli guide and our driver. Then we will go to **Israel's Independence Hall** at this very site the reborn nation of Israel was declared on the **14 May, 1948**. On that date the city of Tel Aviv was less than 40 years old. It was the first all-Jewish city started in thousands of years. will then proceed to the ancient city of Jaffa (Joppa). Following that we will walk through the ancient city of **Joppa**, It was in Joppa, that Simon Peter had a housetop vision (Acts 10) and Jonah booked a cruise. Then we will head north along the Mediterranean coastline where we will stop in the seaside city of Netanya unwind on the beach and start to catch up on the 8 to 10 hour time difference. Overnight:, Netanya

**Tuesday Day 3** Following breakfast we will continue north along the shores of the Mediterranean to the incredible remains of the ancient port of **Caesarea Maritime** a city built by King Herod the Great, (who was a great builder, but not a great person at all). This city of Caesarea became the seat of the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate (also not a very nice guy). We will visit the extensive excavations of the site including the harbor, the Crusader City, the theater, Hippodrome and the Roman aqueduct and of course read the biblical accounts of events that happened there. We continue northeastward to **Megiddo** the Armageddon of the Book of Revelation, the valley where the armies of the world will gather for the great final battle. On our way to the Galilee we will visit two interesting areas, the **Precipice** where they tried to throw off. Then onto to Gideon Spring at **Ein Harod**, site where he put his soldiers to the test of fitness for battle. Overnight:, Tiberias

**Wednesday Day 4** This morning we will start our exploration of northern Israel starting with village of **Magdala**, which was the home of Mary Magdalene where an astounding discovery during an archeological dig has been uncovered at this biblical fishing village. Next on our schedule is the nearby site reputed to be the **Mount of Beatitudes** (Matt. 5-7). On to **Caesarea Philippi** from there to **Mount Bental** for an overview of the Syrian border and the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

We will visit the museum at Nof Ginosar to see the "**Jesus boat**". This particular archaeological find is believed to be from the first century and was discovered during a drought having been buried for 2000 years on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. This fishing boat is similar to the vessel described in the Gospels, which carried Jesus and his disciples. We will then take a somewhat similar **boat ride** on the **Sea of Galilee**.

Overnight:, Tiberias

**Thursday Day 5** We start at the seaside biblical town of **Capernaum**. It was here in *Kfar Nahum* where Jesus made his ministry headquarters. Then we will travel to the heart of the Land of Benjamin and Judea to visit **Shiloh**, the site of the Tabernacle for over 300 years. Following the entrance to the Promised Land this was the site chosen for the Ark of the Covenant. From there we ascend to Jerusalem via the Mountains of Israel (Ezk. 36) mistakenly called the West Bank. Overnight:Jerusalem

**Friday Day 6** Today we start in the **City of David** and work our way down to the **Pool of Siloam** where a blind man washed off the mud from his eyes and was healed by Jesus. We will continue to the **Garden of Ophel**, which has revealed many remains from the Second Temple period including the **Hulda Steps** that led into the Temple Courts. Where the actual site of the crucifixion, burial and resurrection is located has been a question that has vexed biblical searchers for thousands of years. Use your Bible to examine the clues and weigh the evidence. A strong candidate is the area on top of the Mount of Olives on the grounds of the **Pater Noster** mis-named for the "Our Father" prayer. Emperor Constantine's mother built a church over a tomb and cave in the Fourth century at this possible site of the crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. We finish this day by joining thousands of rejoicing worshipers at the **Western Wall welcoming the Sabbath**. Overnight: Jerusalem

**Saturday Day 7** Today we start with a baptismal opportunity in the **Jordan River** near Jericho. Then we will move to the lowest spot on the face of the earth, on the shores of the **Dead Sea** on our way to the **Mountain Fortress of Masada** the scene of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in 73AD. Ascent and descent by cable car. Then we will drive northward along the west side of the Dead Sea to visit **Ein Gedi** a desert oasis with waterfalls, pools of water and two streams. The Bible records that 3000 years ago David hid from King Saul in a cave at **Ein Gedi**. As we pass cliffs to the west we will see the caves at **Qumran** – best known as the settlement nearest to the hiding place of the **Dead Sea Scrolls** Overnight: Jerusalem

**Sunday Day 8** We will start today into the newer part of Jerusalem for a heartwarming stop at a workshop for some of Israel's most valuable assets, **Yad L'kashish**. From there we will continue to **Yad Vashem**, the Memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. Next we have two options for you. One is an exciting visit to Efrat to participate in training at **Caliber 3**, for a Counter- Terrorism class and a hands-on experience of the tactics of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). The other option is to visit **Kfar Etzion** a strategic kibbutz defending Jerusalem during the War of Independence and the heroic battle for survival, which is truly an inspiring story of courage and perseverance. Overnight: Jerusalem

**Monday Day 9** Visit **Shorashem** and the incredible owners. Free time for exploring or shopping in Jerusalem's Old City. Continue to the **Valley of Elah** where little David assisted the Philistine giant Goliath get stoned. Our varied day will end with a heart-warming visit to **Save A Child's Heart** where a modern fulfillment of Genesis 12:3 is taking place. /After time on the Mediterranean shore and dinner on your own we will drive to Ben Gurion Airport and check in for our evening flight home.

**January 23 2018 Arrive HOME dreaming of your next return to your "other home" ISRAEL**

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