



**ISRAEL COLLEGE
OF THE BIBLE**

TOURS



**BIBLICAL GEOGRAPHY
OCTOBER 15-24, 2017**

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Shalom!

Israel College of the Bible Tours is dedicated to providing in-depth study tours of the Land of Israel that will enrich your understanding of God's word and His people. Join us for our Biblical Geography Study Tour from Oct. 15-24, 2017. This is a student-oriented tour, based on basic accommodations at youth hostels, guest houses and even a beduin-style tent! Participants should be able to hike moderate distances in order to fully take part in all the activities on the trip.

ITINERARY

DAY	DATE	PROGRAM	OVERNIGHT
1	Oct. 15 (Sunday)	Travel to Netanya (on your own) to begin your study tour. Afternoon lecture at the Israel College of the Bible: Introduction to the Geography of the Land of the Bible.	Netanya
2	Oct. 16 (Monday)	Today's tour takes us to the Lowlands (shefela) of Judah – visiting Tel Gezer, Tel Beit Shemesh, the Valley of David and Goliath and Tel Lakhish.	Sde Boker or similar
3	Oct. 17 (Tuesday)	Travel to the Judean Negev (south country), to experience the desert. A short hike through Ein Avdat introduces the Biblical Wilderness of Zin, the southern border of the Promised Land. The nearby city of Avdat will give a glimpse into the centuries of Nabatean spice traders who once moved valuable goods through the desert to the ports of the Mediterranean. Visit Tel Beersheba , where Abraham dug a well and built an altar to the Lord. Stories of Hagar, Ishmael and Isaac come alive. Stop at Tel Arad where we'll discuss the controversies surrounding the route of the children of Israel through the wilderness.	Kfar Nokdim desert village
4	Oct. 18 (Wednesday)	We'll get an early start this morning, ascending by foot the Roman ramp at Masada . Learn about the life of Herod the Great who built his cascading palace on the north end of the cliff and discuss the relations between Jews and Romans that led to the Jewish revolt in 70 AD. Time permitting, visit the museum which houses the highlights of Masada's archaeological treasures. In the afternoon hike through the oasis at Ein Gedi to David's falls. Continue to the area of the Judean wilderness where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered and end the day with an opportunity to float in the Dead Sea . From there, up to Jerusalem!	Jerusalem



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5	Oct. 19 (Thursday)	Study the geography of Jerusalem, from its beginnings as a small Canaanite city state until the time it became David's capital. Learn about destructions, resettlement and subsequent growth, to understand the first century AD city which was the backdrop for Jesus' ministry. Sites will include the City of David excavations , the Southwall Excavations/Davidson Center and the Herodian Quarter .	Jerusalem
6	Oct. 20 (Friday)	Today the focus is on Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem, his crucifixion and resurrection: visiting the Pools of Bethesda , the Mt. of Olives , the Garden of Gethsemane , the Via Dolorosa and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher . We'll also have a time of reflection at the Garden Tomb . In the afternoon, visit the Israel Museum with its model of Second Temple Period Jerusalem , Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit and the archaeological treasures that shed light on life in Bible times.	Jerusalem
7	Oct. 21 (Saturday)	Leaving Jerusalem, pass Jericho on the way to the Jordan River . Follow the Jordan Valley up to the beautiful Sea of Galilee, where we'll focus on the geography of Jesus' ministry. In the afternoon we'll visit Kursi , to discuss the possible locations of the casting out of demons from the man who dwelt among the tombs, Capernaum , Peter's Fishing Place and Magdala . At the end of the day relax by the Sea of Galilee .	Sea of Galilee
8	Oct. 22 (Sunday)	Our first stop will be Hazor , the northern Canaanite town that headed the opposition to Joshua. At Tel Dan enjoy a pleasant stroll along the stream to the ancient temple where Jeroboam I set up one of the Golden Calves. In the afternoon, hike the region of Caesarea Philippi (Matt 16:13).	Sea of Galilee
9	Oct. 23 (Monday)	Travel to Nazareth , nestled below the ridge that borders the Jezreel Valley. So many well-known Bible stories took place in the surrounding area: the wedding at Cana, the battle between Deborah, Barak and the Canaanite forces (Judges 5), the raising of the Shunamite woman's son and the son of the Widow of Nain. On the valley's western fringe visit Megiddo , and discuss its important roll throughout the Biblical period and its connection with New Testament Armageddon. Mt. Carmel is next, symbol of beauty in biblical poetry and site of the contest with the prophets of Baal. End our day at Caesarea Maritima , where the centurion Cornelius heard the gospel and Paul stood trial before governors Felix and Festus.	Netanya
10	Oct. 24 (Tuesday)	Transfer (on your own) to the Tel Aviv airport for your return flight, or stay on in Israel a few more days to explore on your own.	



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Israel 9 day tour	Price
Per person in double room	\$1,690
Fee for 3 academic credit hours (optional)	\$450 (\$150/credit hour)

Please note:

- All rates are in **US Dollars**.
- Changes can occur in hotels due to factors beyond our control.
- Changes in the price may occur, due to exchange rate fluctuation, prior to departure date.
- The itinerary is subject to change according to weather and security conditions.

The proposal is based on the following accommodations or similar:

Nights	Location	Hotel or similar
1	Netanya	Orit Guest House or similar
1	Negev	Sde Boker Hostel or similar
1	Arad	Arad Youth Hostel or similar
3	Jerusalem	Foyer Mar Maroun or similar
2	Sea of Galilee	Beit Bracha Guest House or similar
1	Netanya	Orit Guest House or similar

RATE INCLUDES:

- ✓ Nine nights accommodation youth hostel or similar, in a shared room with ensuite toilet and shower (except the night in the beduin-style tent where there will be up to eight students in each tent).
- ✓ Breakfast and dinner daily, as per program and lunch on the first day
- ✓ One afternoon lecture at the Israel College of the Bible, and evening lectures during the tour
- ✓ 8 touring days with a professional and licensed English-speaking guide
- ✓ Air conditioned tour bus as per program
- ✓ Entrance fees to sites mentioned in itinerary
- ✓ Map

RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to/from Tel Aviv
- Transfer to Netanya on the first day and transfer back to the airport at the end of the tour
- Tips for guides/drivers/hotel staff – \$12 per person per day (\$96 for 8 days of touring), to be collected in USD on first evening of the tour by the tour guide
- Travel Insurance for entire tour, including airfare costs, in case you need to cancel for health-related emergencies.

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- Passport and visa fees if applicable
- Lunches and other expenses not mentioned in the itinerary

BOOKINGS AND RATES

Changes can occur in hotels due to factors beyond our control. In addition, there could be changes in price, due to exchange rate fluctuations prior to the date of final payment.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION PENALTIES:

- The deposit of **\$100** is **non-refundable**.
- Final Payment is due by **AUGUST 30, 2017**
- 50 % of total tour cost will be charged if cancellation occurs 15-45 days prior to departure
- 100 % of total tour cost will be charged if cancellation occurs 15-0 days prior to departure

DOCUMENTS

A valid passport 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.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly advise you to purchase travel insurance for your trip to Israel. Travel insurance usually covers your expenses in case of cancellation due to health and other emergencies. We also advise that you purchase medical insurance for the duration of your time in Israel

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, 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 case stated above, nor for cancellations or inability to travel.

PASSENGER FITNESS

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