

tour of  
**ISRAEL**

**MARCH 7-15, 2015**

**INFORMATION  
PACKET**



# TRIP ITINERARY

## THE BEST OF ISRAEL

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>OVERNIGHTS</u>	<u>DAY BY DAY BRIEF ITINERARY</u>
(1) Saturday	March 7		Depart USA to Tel Aviv.
(2) Sunday	March 8	Tiberius	Arrive Tel Aviv. Overnight Tiberius.
(3) Monday	March 9	“	Sea of Galilee / Capernaum / Mt. of Beatitudes / Tabgha / Boat Ride/Jordan River
(4) Tuesday	March 10	“	Northern Territory / Dan / Caesarea Philippi / Golan Heights.
(5) Wednesday	March 11	Jerusalem	Nazareth Precipice / Megiddo / Mt. Carmel / Caesarea by the Sea / Jerusalem.
(6) Thursday	March 12	“	Valley of the Shadow / Masada / Qumran / Dead Sea.
(7) Friday	March 13	“	Mt. of Olives / Garden of Gethsemane / Bethlehem.
(8) Saturday	March 14		Western Wall / Old City Tour / Garden Tomb / Gordon's Calvary. Late Night Transfer to Airport.
(9) Sunday	March 15		Depart Tel Aviv. Arrive in the USA.

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## ITINERARY KEY TERMS

**Sea of Galilee**- Much of the ministry of Jesus Christ and numerous of His miracles took place in the area of the Sea of Galilee. Four of the Twelve Apostles came from this area-Peter, Andrew, James and John. Jesus stilled the raging storm on the Sea of Galilee that was about to swamp their boat. Jesus and Peter walked on the water there. Near its shores Jesus fed the five thousand men, women and children from the miraculous multiplication of five loaves of bread and two fish.

**Capernaum**- One Sabbath, Jesus taught in the synagogue in Capernaum and healed a man who had the spirit of an unclean devil. Afterwards, he healed a fever in Simon Peter's mother-in-law. According to Luke 7:1-10, it is also the place where a Roman Centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant. Capernaum is also mentioned in the Gospel of Mark (2:1), it is the location of the famous healing of the paralytic lowered through the roof to reach Jesus.

**Mt. of Beatitudes**- This is the area where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount.

**Tabgha**- This is the traditional site of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes and the fourth resurrection appearance of Jesus.

**Jordan River**- The place where John the Baptist proclaimed Jesus as the Son of God and the site of Jesus' Baptism. This location is mentioned throughout the Old and New Testaments.

**Dan**- This is the location of Canaanite and Israelite cities. This site is prominent in the period of the Judges.

**Caesarea Philippi**- It was outside of this city that Peter made the confession of Jesus as the "Christ, the Son of the Living God." This is the foundational statement of the New Testament Church.

**Golan Heights**- This area is a part of the area promised to Abraham and the people of Israel for an everlasting covenant.

**Nazareth Precipice**- This is the location where Jesus read from Isaiah and proclaimed Himself the Son of God. Afterwards the people tried to throw Him from the precipice but Jesus "passed right through the crowd". (Luke 4)

**Megiddo**- Mentioned throughout the Old Testament, it is also mentioned in Revelation 16 as the site of Armageddon.

**Mt. Carmel**- In 1 Kings, this is the site of Elijah's confrontation with the prophets of Baal. God consumes Elijah's altar with fire from heaven causing the Israelite witnesses to proclaim the Lord as God.

**Caesarea by the Sea**- This location was where Peter baptized the centurion and the first time an apostle had preached to Gentiles. Paul sought refuge here and was later imprisoned.

**Jerusalem**- This city is mentioned throughout the Bible. Among other things, it is the location where Jesus was presented as a child, preached, healed and was crucified.

**Valley of the Shadow**- This valley separates the temple mount from the mount of olives. King David fled through this valley during the rebellion of Absalom and Jesus crossed the valley many times.

**Masada**- This site was built as a fortress by Herod. After Jesus' death, Masada became the last outpost of the zealots during the Jewish revolt. Determined to retaliate, Rome sent soldiers to surround Masada. Nearly 1000 Jewish zealots choose suicide here over capture to Rome.

**Qumran**- This is the archaeological site near the Dead Sea where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found.

**Dead Sea**- The Dead Sea is mentioned throughout the Bible.

**Mt. of Olives**- The Mt. of Olives is featured prominently through the Bible. Notably it is the location of the Olivet Discourse and the place where Jesus ascended into heaven.

**Garden of Gethsemane**- This garden is remembered as the place where Jesus prayed before His crucifixion.

**Bethlehem**- This is the birthplace of Jesus.

**Western Wall**- Also known as the Wailing Wall, this is the remnant of the ancient wall that surrounded the Jewish Temple courtyard.

**Garden Tomb**- This is the potential site of the burial and resurrection of Jesus.

**Gordon's Calvary**- Located just north of Jerusalem's Old City, this is potentially the place where Jesus was crucified.

## **HOW MUCH DOES THIS TRIP COST?**

The cost of the tour of Israel is \$3,597.

This price includes the following:

- Round-trip airfare (Jackson-New York-Tel Aviv; Tel Aviv-New York-Jackson)
- All tour sites listed above
- Double Occupancy nights in nice hotels (3 nights in Tiberius; 3 nights in Jerusalem)
- Buffet breakfast and dinner daily
- Tips and Taxes
- Guides
- Buses and Drivers

This is essentially an all-inclusive trip. Each participant will be responsible for lunch daily as well as spending money. Also, tips for the guide and driver are not included and may be collected as a group.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q: Is this trip safe?**

**A:** Yes. Noseworthy Travel is a seasoned travel agency dealing prominently in Israel. They have precautions in place to keep us safe. They also maintain a local office to monitor groups in country. All hotels are very nice and all buses are privately chartered.

**Q: What is security like in Israel?**

**A:** Security in Israel is much more strict than the U.S. As a result, they enjoy a much lower crime rate than most U.S. cities.

**Q: What about food and drink?**

**A:** Water served at our hotels is considered safe. Other drinks such as soft drinks can also be purchased. Our group will eat together for the meals that are included. If you have diet restrictions, the travel agency will try to make accommodations but you may be responsible for additional food purchased.

**Q: What kind of clothes should I pack?**

**A:** The weather in Israel during the time of our trip is typically around 70 degrees. Pack only what you can carry and remember that we will stay in two different hotels. Make your luggage as portable as possible. Plan to dress in layers.

**Q: Will I be required to dress a certain way?**

**A:** Most of Israel is very westernized. It is advised to dress modestly to visit religious sites. It is also advised to avoid clothing that depicts you as an American tourist. (sports jerseys, stars and stripes, etc.)

**Q: What about money?**

**A:** Most places in Israel accept and prefer American money however you should expect to receive shekels in return. It is advisable to bring small bills for purchases. Since most things are included, you will probably not need more than a few hundred dollars for lunches and souvenirs. You will not be able to use a personal check for purchases but can cash one with the travel agency for emergency cash. It is not advisable to use traveler's checks because you will only receive shekels in exchange. Major credit cards are accepted in most places.

**Q: What is the exchange rate from dollars to shekels?**

**A:** This rate changes daily. The current rate is \$1 = 3.47 shekels.

**Q: Will we have time to shop?**

**A:** Yes, although this time will be limited.

**Q: Will we have to pay taxes on souvenirs at customs?**

**A:** A returning U.S. citizen is allowed \$400 in purchases duty free.

**Q: How are hotel rooms assigned?**

**A:** All rooms are double occupancy and will be assigned as requested before we leave. Single rooms are available but require prior notice and cost an additional \$600.

**Q: What about hotel tips?**

**A:** Noseworthy travel typically pays these tips on our behalf and it is not necessary to tip unless otherwise noted.

**Q: Will I need a passport?**

**A:** Yes. Passport information can be found on the last page of this packet but all passports are required to have at least 6 months remaining before expiration.

**Q: Will I need a visa?**

**A:** Tourist visas are required but can be obtained at the port of entry.

**Q: Will travel insurance be available?**

**A:** Yes. Travel insurance will be available on an individual level. You can add it on your own through the website. Insurance for a trip our size will typically be about \$279. Please read what this covers before you sign up.

**Q: Are there any shots required?**

**A:** Polio vaccination is recommended but not required.

**Q: What is the time difference in Israel?**

**A:** Israel is 8 hours ahead of us.

**Q: What is the travel time to Israel?**

**A:** Times will vary depending on flights. It typically takes around 11 hours to fly from New York to Tel Aviv.

**Q: How do I sign up for this trip?**

**A:** Sign up will go live in the next few days at [ridgecrest.net/Israel](http://ridgecrest.net/Israel). An initial deposit will be required to sign up. All payments will be made directly to Noseworthy Travel Agency through the website.

# **Passport Information**

[www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)

## **Locations:**

Ridgeland Post Office	611 S Pear Orchard Rd	Ridgeland	601-991-0249
North Station	4040 Northview Dr	Jackson	601-362-5499
Brandon Reservoir PO	610 Grants Ferry Rd	Brandon	601-992-3950
Madison Co. Chancery Clerk	146 W Center St	Canton	601-855-5609

## **Cost:**

	<u>Application Fee</u>	<u>Execution Fee</u>
Passport Book under Age 16	\$80.00	\$25.00
Passport Book Age 16 and Older	\$110.00	\$25.00

Please do this ASAP; it can take up to 3 months and as little as 3 weeks.

## **Methods of Payments:**

Credit cards- Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover  
Debit/Check Cards - Not ATM Cards  
Checks (Personal, certified cashiers or travelers checks).

## **What to Submit when applying for your passport:**

- Proof Of US Citizenship ( Birth certificate )
- Proof of Identity (Driver's License or your parent can sign for you)
- Two recent color photographs (must to be 2x2 size) picture must have been taken in the last 6 months.
- Application completed on white paper and filled out in Black Ink only.

## **Special Requirements for Children:**

As Directed by Public Law 106-113 and 22 CFR 51.28:

To submit an application for a child under age 15 both parents or the child's legal guardian must appear and present the following:

- Evidence of the Child's US Citizenship
- Evidence of the Child's relationship to the parents/ guardian and
- Parental/guardian Identification.

If only one parent appears you must also submit one of the following:

- Second parent's notarized written statement consenting to passport issuance for the child,
- Primary evidence of sole authority to apply or
- Written statement (made under penalty of perjury) explaining the second parents unavailability.