

Israel from North to South

***If you have option to choose it is better to come to Israel during March to May, the land is much greener (but not during Passover holiday). Second option is October but after the holiday time.

***If you are planning on staying in Israel for up to two weeks it is recommended to buy multi-site tickets for Tourists (you have three options to choose depending on how long you stay, and how many sites you want to see). The cards offer access only to the official sites listed on the front of the card, so you need to check that the site you want to see is included, check the sites in the link provided (All the multi-site cards include



entrance to Caesarea and the Masada Museum but not City of David). The cards are valid for two weeks from the first visit. You cannot buy the tickets on every site, so call to check with the first site you plan to go, that they have the it.

<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/Pages/SavingMoneyTickets.aspx>

***Most of the nature reserves have a closing time, entry to the nature reserve until one hour before closing time. Additionally it is depending on if it is summer or winter, during the winter (usually October to March) the closing time is one hour earlier.

***Important to remember that in Israel the weekend is Friday-Saturday (and not Saturday-Sunday). Friday is a short day, and you need to check closing times. Not all places will be open on Saturday (It is the Sabbath day), so check that too. Some Arabic/Christian places will be closed on Sunday (for example Nazareth Village, Akko Market) or on Friday (if it is Muslim Arab)

***During the holidays the closing time changes too, especially on the eve of New Year and the eve of the Day of Atonement (usually September/October), and Passover eve (usually April). The dates change every year.

***We will focus on sites in Israel territory, the Palestine Territories are not allowed to Israeli citizenships but tourists can go, just not with an Israeli rented car (there are tour buses or private guides, for Bethlehem and Jericho we add information) so it is up to you if you will go there, you need to check if it is not sensitive time.

***When you check sites on the internet usually they will focus on churches and Christendom places, we will focus on biblical places.

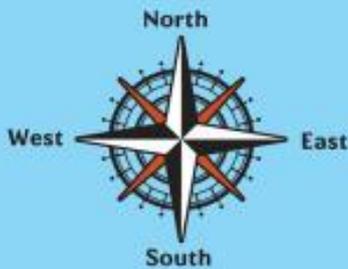
***It isn't possible to see all the Archeological places in Israel in one visit, so you will need to choose what is important for you to see.

For more information see:

http://www.goisrael.com/Tourism_Eng/Tourist%20Information/Planning%20your%20trip/Documents/Biblical%20Sites.pdf

<http://aifl.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/69/2017/02/Selected-Biblical-Sites-for-Christian-Visitors-to-Israel.pdf>

ISRAEL



Tel Dan Nature Reserve (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

The Dan Stream rises in the Tel Dan nature reserve – the largest and most important of the sources of the Jordan River.

Ritual site - Noteworthy find is the ritual compound, with a paved platform. This structure recalls the biblical story of the golden calves that Jeroboam built (**1 Kings 12:26-33**)



<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/teldan/Pages/default.aspx>

Hermon Stream (Banias) Nature Reserve/Caesarea Phillipi (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

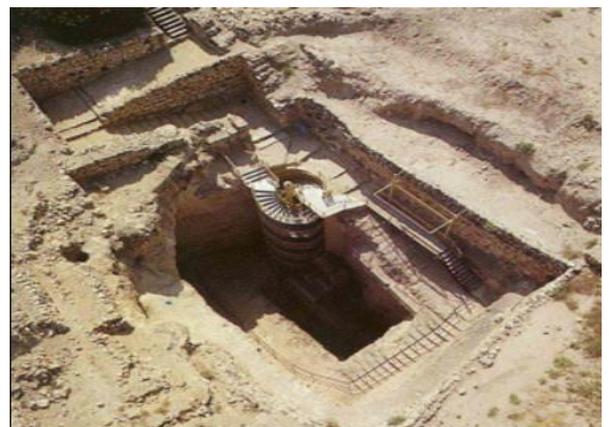
Where Jesus asked his disciples: “Who are men saying the Son of man is?” (**Matthew 16:13**)



<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/banis/Pages/default.aspx>

Hazor National Park (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

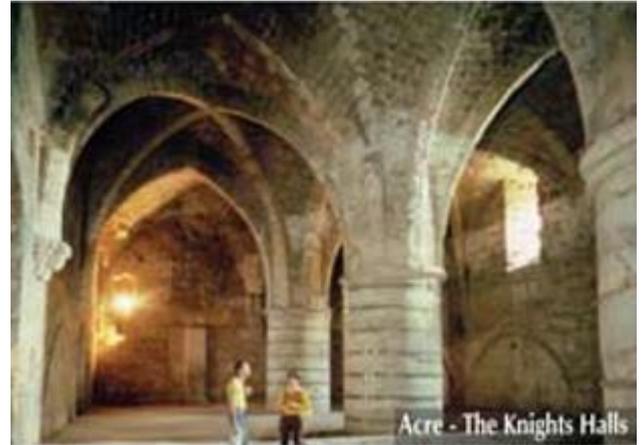
Tel Hazor is identified with the biblical Hatsor – perhaps the greatest of the cities of the land of Israel in the Late Canaanite period. Among the important finds are a uniquely impressive water system, a Canaanite palace, and buildings from the Early Israelite period. Tel Hatsor is a World Heritage site. (Joshua captures and burned the city: **Joshua 11:10-14**; Deborah and Barak: **Judges 4:2-6**; Rebuilt by Solomon: **1 kings 9:15**; Conquered by King Assyria: **2 Kings 15:29**)



<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/telhazor/Pages/default.aspx>

[Akko \(Acre, Ptolemais\)](#) Paul spent a day here
([Acts 21:7](#))

Go to the visitors center and choose what you want to see in the old city, recommended is the Templar Tunnel and Hospitaller Fortress (Knights' Halls) . A combined ticket with Rosh Hanikra is nice too (Rosh Hanikra is a city at the border of Israel and Lebanon). Better not on Sunday or Friday, less Market place are open.



<http://www.akk.org.il/en/Old-Acre-Visitors-Center>

[Sea of Galilee](#) (200 m below sea level)

Jesus taught from Peter's boat ([Mark 3: 7-12](#))

Miraculous draught of fishes ([Luke 5: 1-11](#))

Calming the storm ([Matthew 8: 23-27](#))

Jesus walks on the water ([Mark 6:45 & Matthew 14: 22-23](#))

[Beatitudes](#) (entry could cost some few NIS) the site where it is believed that Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount (we cannot know the specific place of course, but it give a nice idea) ([Matt 5:1-12](#)) there is a church in that location, but you can walk in the garden without entering the church and see the Sea of Galilee.



[Capernaum](#) (entry 5 NIS)

The headquarters of Jesus ministry, Peter's home
([Matthew 4:13; 8:5, 14](#))



***if you have time you can go to [Bethsaida](#) (you can see Jordan river from here) and [Ginosar](#) (where they found a boat from Jesus times) it is in the area.

[Jordan River](#)

John the Baptist ([Mark 1:5](#))

Baptism of Jesus ([Mark 1: 9-11](#))

Jordan dried ([Joshua 3: 15-17](#))

Haifa

Haifa is a northern Israeli port city built in tiers extending from the Mediterranean up the north slope of Mount Carmel. The city's most iconic sites are the immaculately landscaped terraces of the Bahá'í Gardens and, at their heart, the gold-domed Shrine of the Báb. At the foot of the gardens lies the German Colony, with shops, galleries and restaurants in 19th-century buildings.



Mount Carmel (MuhraKa) (4 NIS per person)

*Write Carmelite Monastery of Elijah in google maps in order to find it

Elijah's Triumph over the Priests of Baal

Associated with the prophets Elijah & Elisha ([I Kings 18: 16-45](#) & [II Kings 2: 20-25](#))



Meggido (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

Fortifications and stables of King Solomon ([I Kings 9:15](#))

Prophecies about Meggido and Israel ([Zechariah 12:11](#))

([Revelation 16:16](#))



<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/TelMegiddo/Pages/default.aspx>

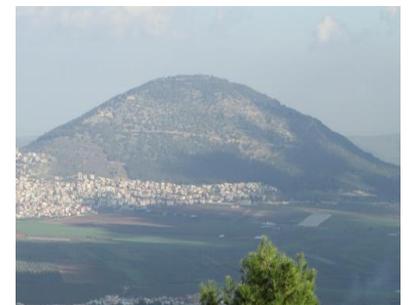
Nazareth

Where Jesus grew and later was rejected by the people ([Luke 1:26-38; 2:39; 4:15-30](#)).

** From Mount Precipice (outside of Nazareth) there is a great view to Mount Tabor and Jezreel Vally

**the modern city of Nazareth is not very interesting for JW tourists because it is mainly full of churches (it is modern Arab city, however the food there is good)

**Very recommended to go to Nazareth Village, a place that mimic life in Jesus time (50 NIS), the tour is for one hour, and it is not open on Sunday. You need to book a tour.



<http://www.nazarethvillage.com/>

Valley of Yezreel (Jezreel)

The Jezreel Valley, is a large fertile plain and inland valley south of the Lower Galilee region in Israel. The Samaritan highlands and Mount Gilboa border the valley from the south and to the north lie the Israeli cities Afula and Tiberias.

Judges 1: 27-28



Mount Tabor

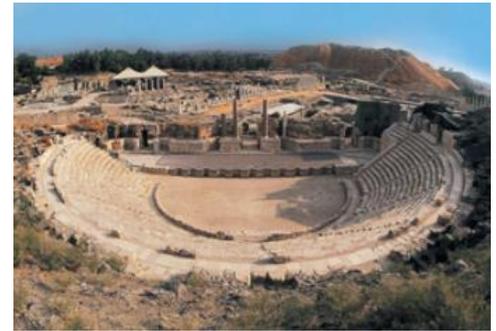
Victory of Barak under order of Deborah (**Ju**)
Transfiguration (**Mark 9: 2-8; Luke 9: 28-3**)

Beit Shean (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

Spring of En-Harod (**Judges 7: 4-8**)

King Saul's dead body put on display (**I Samuel 31:10**)

<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/beitshaan/Pages/default.aspx>



also in the Area Mount Gilboa, where king Saul and his sons found there death (1 Sam 28:4**)

Caesarea (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

Baptism of Cornelius (**Acts 10**)

Paul embarks for Tarsus (**Acts 9:30**)

Philip preaches (**Acts 8:40**)



<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/caesarea/Pages/default.aspx>

Tel Aviv/Jaffa (half an hour walk from Bethel)

The prophet Jonah departed from for Tarshish (**Jonah 1:3**)

Port of entry for the cedars of Lebanon (**Ezra 3:7**)

Peter resurrects Tabitha (Greek: Dorcas) (**Acts 9:36-42**)

Peter's vision "call no man common or unclean" (**Acts 10: 10 – 23**)



IF YOU ARE NEAR BETHEL, TRY THIS HUMMUS:

LOCATE IN AN OLD SYNAGOG, IN THE MIDDLE OF A COLORFUL MARKET
(HaCarmel Market)

Hummus Magen David, Address: 11 Shuk HaCarmel Street, Tel Aviv, Israel

Valley of Elah/Tel Azekah

David's battle with Goliath (I Samuel 17)



Tel Ashkelon (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists) (1 sam 6:17)

One of the five city-states of the Philistines (others were Ashdod, Ekron, Gath and Gaza.)

<http://www.parks.org.il/sites/English/ParksAndReserves/ashkelon/Pages/default.aspx>



Jerusalem

It is good to start the tour in Jerusalem in the look out from the Mount of Olives. We shall look out from the Rehavam Ze'evi Observation Point, there is a good view to the Tempel Mount.



After that you drive to the old city, while going down you will see on your right Gethsemane, stop the car on the side, take some pictures and keep on to Jaffa gate.



Near Jaffa gate you can park your car at one of the two close by parking lot (Karta Parking or Mamilla parking about 40 NIS per day) from Jaffa gate you walk in the Jewish quarters (the Jewish market place and the broad wall from Hezekiah's days [Nehe 3:8]) from Jaffa gate you buy tickets (18 NIS) to View the city of Jerusalem from atop of the Old City walls via a Ramparts. The walk is divided into two parts: The Northern Rampart's Walk ascends at Jaffa Gate and descends at New Gate, Herod's Gate or Lion's Gate. The Southern Ramparts Walk ascends at Jaffa Gate and descends at Zion Gate or Dung Gate. If you take the Southern Rampart it takes 40 min and you get close to the western wall and city of David (the northern take 20 min).



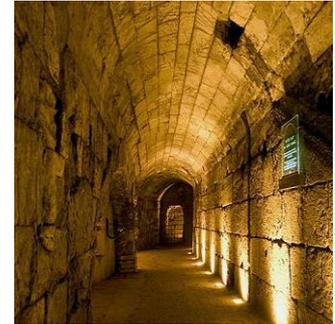
Then go to City of David - Hezekiah's Tunnel – for that you need to have shoes for water because the water at the tunnel get up to the hips (bring changing clothing for after the tunnel, there are lockers at the place to put personal things) and a flashlight. It take 20 min down in the tunnel and then you come up back with the dry tunnel to city of David again.



http://www.cityofdauid.org.il/en/virtual_tour/hezekiah%E2%80%99s-tunnel-city-david

After that you can do the Western Wall Tunnels, better to order a place in advance

https://english.thekotel.org/western_wall_sites/western_wall_tunnels/



***The tour goes through several holy places that entail modest dress (with long pants and not with sleeveless shirt).

***In Jerusalem you go through many security check points so it is good not to have big bags or knife.

***The entrance to The Temple Mount is near the western wall and it is free but it is just during certain hours and not recommended during Muslims holidays, there you have to dress modestly, check online for more details.

<https://www.touristisrael.com/temple-mount/15944/>

Mount of Olives (Jerusalem)

(II Samuel 15: 30-32)

Jesus enters Jerusalem (**Matthew 21: 1 – 16**)

Jesus announces the destruction of the Temple (**Mark 13:3**)

Agony of Jesus in Gethsemane (**Matthew 26: 30-56**)

The Ascension of Jesus (**Luke 24: 50; Acts 1: 4-12**)

Jesus speaks to his disciples (**Luke 22:39**)

Jerusalem

A Middle Eastern city west of the Dead Sea. Its Old City has significant religious sites around the Temple Mount compound, including the Western Wall (sacred to Judaism), the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (a Christian pilgrimage site) and the Dome of the Rock (a 7th-century Islamic shrine with a gold dome). ([Jewish Virtual Library](#) provides significant details)

On the northern boarder of the tribe of Juda (**Joshua 15:8**)

Melchizedek, King of Salem (**Genesis 14: 18**)

David anointed king of all Israel and Jerusalem made the capital of the united kingdom (**II Samuel 5: 1-12**)

The Holy City (**Nehemiah 11:1**)

The Holy City, the New Jerusalem at the end of time (**Revelation 21: 2**)

Pool of Siloah (Siloam)

End of Hezekiah's tunnel ([Isaiah 8:6](#))

Cure of the man born blind ([John 9](#))

Mount Moriah (Jerusalem)

The Temple Mount (as per Jewish Virtual Library)

Abraham's "sacrifice of Isaac" ([Genesis 22:2-18](#))

David desires to build a house for God ([II Samuel 7: 1-17](#))

Construction of the Temple by Solomon ([I Kings 5 & 6](#))

Dedication of the Temple ([I Kings 8](#))

The birth of John the Baptist Foretold ([Luke 1: 5-25](#))

The boy Jesus in the Temple ([Luke 2: 40 – 42](#))

Temptation of Jesus – Pinnacle of the Temple ([Luke 4: 9-13](#))

Jesus cleanses the Temple ([Matthew 21: 12-17](#))

Dead Sea Sedom and Gomorrah area ([Gen 13:10-13](#))

There is a public beach named Ein Bokek (you pay only for parking)

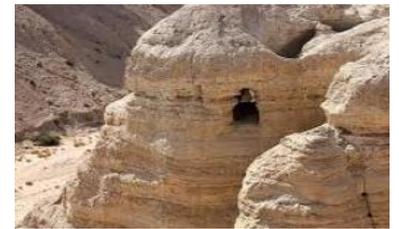
***very important to be careful not to touch you eyes with the salty waters of the dead sea

***It is better not to shave your body the day before entering the dead sea, and if you have wounds it can scorch too.



Qumran (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

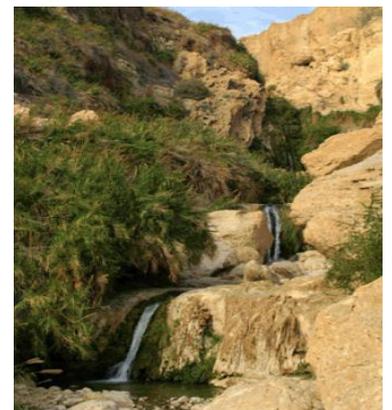
Where the Essenes wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in 1947



Ein Gedi (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

Oasis ([Song of Solomon 1:14](#))

David's hiding place from Saul ([I Samuel 24](#))



Masada (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

Herod's palace

It is better to do Masada on the morning because it is very hot up there. Some go up to see the sunrise.

There are two ways to go up to Masada, from the side of Dead sea with the Snake rout (45 min of difficult climb)



or from Arad direction with the ramp that the Romans built. (20 min and less difficult, but no access to Dead Sea Side, it is one hour drive from this entrance to the Dead Sea, so you need to plan it well).



Tel Arad (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

City built on 4,000-year-old site ([Joshua 12:14](#))



Tel Beer Sheva (Included in the multi-site tickets for Tourists)

Well of Seven agreement between Abraham and Abimelech ([Genesis 21: 25-33](#))

Isaac renews covenant and builds an altar ([Genesis 26:23-33](#))



Eilat

The southern tip of modern Israel, ancient Elath (today Eilat) was outside the prescribed boundaries of the Promised Land for the children of Israel. It was one of the stops on the wilderness travels ([Deuteronomy 2:8](#)). The relationship of Elath to Ezion Geber is unclear; the Bible says that these two places were near each other by the Red Sea but the exact location of these ancient sites is still uncertain.



***This is information we got from brothers that ordered tour to Jericho and Bethlehem

“The rate for a group tour is USD 131 per person

The rate for a Private tour USD 540 (with our best guide Naser Alawy)

Rates include

A superb Palestinian English speaking tour guide

Pick up and drop off from your Jerusalem hotel

Air conditioned and comfortable vehicle throughout your tour

Rate Excludes

Entrance fees

Lunch

Moise Javedanfar

Travel Advisor

Bethlehem Travel

Tel: +972 (0) 3 523 8818

Email: info@BethlehemTravel.com

Website: www.BethlehemTravel.com

Recommended Schedule

Day 1: 1) Tour Bethel 2) Tour Old Jaffa or Tel Aviv

Day 2: Tour Jerusalem: 1) Look out from the Mount of Olives 2) Garden of Gethsemane (free entry) 3) Old City walls via a Ramparts 4) Hezekiah's tunnel: need shoes for water and to bring clothes for change and flashlight (entry: 28 NIS) 5) Temple Mount: need modest clothing, not short pants (free enter) 5) Western wall tunnels, underground (entry: 30 NIS)

Day 3: Israel Museum in Jerusalem (Isaiah scrolls) (entry: 54 NIS) (sometimes brothers can organize a tour there) and after that tour the city

Day 4: 1) Plain of Elah (free entry) 2) Lachish (free entry) 3) Tel Arad (entry: 14 NIS or multi ticket)

Day 5: 1) Qumran (entry: 29 NIS or multi ticket) 2) Masada (entry: 28 NIS or multi ticket) 3) En-gedi (entry: 28 NIS or multi ticket) 4) Floating in the Dead sea (public beach)

Day 6: 1) Caesarea (entry: 39 NIS or multi ticket) 2) Carmel Mount (4 NIS) 3) Haifa

Day 7: 1) Megiddo (entry: 28 NIS or multi ticket) 2) Valley of Jezreel 3) Mount Precipice (free entry) 4) Nazareth village (50 NIS)

Day 8: Acko (Ptolemais) visit the old city (this is more relaxed day) you can add Rosh Hanikra if you have time

Day 9: 1) Beth-shean (entry: 28 NIS or multi ticket) 2) MT. GILBOA

Day 10: Sea of Galilee, Beatitudes, Capernaum (if you have time: Bethsaida and Ginosar)

Day 11: 1) Caesarea Philippi (entry: 29 NIS or multi ticket) 2) Tel Dan (entry 28 NIS or multi ticket)

Day 12: Eilat (5 hours drive from Tel Aviv) usually people stay there some days

Trees

Mentioned in the Bible

Almond (Exodus 25:33-36)	Myrtle (1 Isaiah 41:19)
Apricot (Song of Solomon 2:3)	Oak (Genesis 35:8)
Balsam (Ezekiel 31:3)	Olive (Exodus 27:20)
Bay (Psalms 37:35)	Pine (Isaiah 60:13)
Cedar (Ezekiel 31:3)	Plane (Genesis 30:37)
Cypress (Isaiah 44:14)	Pomegranate (Exodus 28:33)
Date Palm (Numbers 33:9)	Shittah (Isaiah 41:19)
Elm (Hosea 4:13)	Sycamine (Luke 17:6)
Fig (Isaiah 60:13)	Sycamore (Luke 19:4)
Juniper (1 Kings 19:3)	Tamarisk (Genesis 21:33)
Mulberry (2 Samuel 5:23)	Thyine (Revelation 18:12)
Mustard (Matthew 13:31)	Willow (Psalms 137:2)
Myrrh (John 19:39)	

Flowers and Plants

Mentioned in the Bible

Aloe (John 19:39)	Mandrake (Genesis 30:14)
Anise (Matthew 23:23)	Mint (Luke 11:42)
Bulrush (Exodus 2:3)	Mustard (Matthew 13:31)
Camphor (Song of Solomon 1:14)	Myrrh (Genesis 37:25)
Cassia (Exodus 30:24)	Nettle (Job 30:7)
Cockle (Job 31:40)	Onycha (Exodus 30:34)
Coriander (Exodus 16:31)	Pannag (Ezekiel 4:9)
Cumin (Isaiah 28:26)	Pomegranate (1 Samuel 14:2)
Flag (Exodus 2:3, 5)	Rose (Isaiah 35:1)
Flax (Luke 23:52)	Rue (Luke 11:42)
Frankincense (Matthew 2:11)	Saffron (Song of Solomon 4:14)
Hyssop (1 Kings 14:33)	Spikenard (Mark 14:3)
Lily of the Field (Luke 12:27)	Thistle (2 Kings 14:9)