

Teachers/Guides:
Dr. Randall McKinion
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Shepherds Theological Seminary

Study Trip to Israel

February 20 – March 5, 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 14	February 15	February 16	February 17	February 18	February 19	February 20
	<p>Telephone #s:</p> <p>Gloria Hotel 2-628-2431 Gloria Hotel Fax 2-628-2401 En Gev 4-665-9800 Yad HaShmonah 2-534-3956 Mobile (Bookman)</p>	<p>From the USA, precede with 011-972-</p> <p>2-628-2431 2-628-2401 4-665-9800 2-534-3956</p>			<p><u>Optional Early Departure Date¹</u></p>	<p>Depart for Israel by the flight of your choice and arrangement.²</p>
February 21	February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Arrive Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, Israel</u></p> <p>Make your way to our hotel in Netanya, on the shore of the Mediterranean³</p> <p>Introductions & Preview⁴ (after evening meal)</p> <p>ON: Netanya</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Coastal Plains & The Jezreel Valley</u></p> <p>Caesarea Maritima Mt Carmel (Muhraka) 2nd Temple Tomb Megiddo Ein Harod/Mt Gilboa Nazareth Village Nazareth Illit</p> <p>ON: Golden Crown - Nazareth</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sea of Galilee</u></p> <p>Sepphoris (overlook) Horns of Hittim Mt Arbel (hike) Ginosar (lunch), Tabgha/ Mt of Beatitudes Capernaum Gergasa Boat Ride (to En-Gev)</p> <p>ON: En Gev - Sea of Galilee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Northern Galilee</u></p> <p>Huleh Valley Chorazin, Hazor Dan Caesarea Philippi Mt. Hermon foothills Golan Heights Gamla</p> <p>ON: En Gev</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jordan Rift</u></p> <p>Yardenit/Baptism⁵ Beth Shan Jericho Qumran En Gedi Swim in Dead Sea To Masada</p> <p>ON: Masada Youth Hostel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Northern Negev</u></p> <p>Masada⁶ (walk down siege ramp) Arad Beer-Sheva Lachish Beit Guvrin</p> <p>PM: Jerusalem Assembly⁷ Western Wall⁸</p> <p>ON: Gloria Hotel - Jerusalem</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Shephalah/ Western Approaches</u></p> <p>Elah Valley/Azekah Sorek Val/Beth-Shemesh Ajalon Val/Ajalon Biblical Gardens (Yad HaShmonah) Nebi Samwil (Mizpah) PM: Preview of Jerusalem</p> <p>ON: Gloria Hotel</p>
February 28	March 1	March 2	March 3	March 4	March 5	March 6
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Introduction to Jerusalem</u></p> <p>Bethlehem (Shepherds Fields/Solomon's Pools) Herodion/Tekoa 2nd Temple Model Shrine of the Book Haas Promenade Mt of Olives (walk to Kidron Valley)</p> <p>ON: Gloria Hotel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jerusalem/OT</u></p> <p>Citadel of David Hezekiah's Northern Wall Model: 1st Temple Jerusalem (Ariel Ctr) City of David Hezekiah's Tunnel/ Pool of Siloam Afternoon: Free</p> <p>ON: Gloria Hotel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jerusalem/NT</u></p> <p>Temple Mt/Western Wall St. Anne's/Bethesda Sisters of Zion Via Dolorosa Holy Sepulcher Church Southern Excavations Jewish Quarter/Cardo</p> <p>ON: Gloria Hotel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jesus' Final Hours</u></p> <p>Upper room, Walk to Gethsemane St. Peter in Gillicantu Christ Church Gordon's Calvary Western Wall Tunnel</p> <p>ON: Gloria Hotel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Exploration & Shopping⁹</u></p> <p>Free day for exploring, last minute shopping, and preparing for departure.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Farewell Dinner</p> <p>Depart for airport¹⁰</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Travel Home</p> <p>ON: In your own bed!</p>	

¹The group will gather at the Blue Bay Hotel in Netanya on Sunday, Feb 21. However, if you would like to have a day to recoup, you are welcome to arrive a day (or more, for that matter) early. The hotel has been alerted that some travelers may choose to arrive early, but you must make those arrangements yourself. The contact information for the Blue Bay Hotel is as follows:

Address: 37 Hamelachim St, Netanya 42228 Israel

Website: www.blue-bay.co.il

E-Mail: click on the "Contact Us" button on the hotel's home-page

The Blue Bay Hotel is on the shore of the Mediterranean (the beach is a few minutes walk away), and offers a full slate of amenities. It is situated just north of the very nice and modern town of Netanya, but it is a bit of a walk to shops and restaurants. (Taxis are available and reasonable.) The price of a regular room for Sunday night is built into the cost of the trip; if you choose to arrive early or to upgrade the room, you will need to cover the additional charge.

²Arrival in Israel on Sunday will mean departing the US on Saturday. Select any carrier you like, but be careful to schedule your arrival sometime on Sunday, Feb 21. The earlier you arrive, the more time you will have to gather yourself before we start out on Monday morning.

³ The easiest way to reach the Blue Bay Hotel in Netanya is by taxi. There are two sorts of taxi service: individual taxis (more expensive) and shared taxis (called "sherut taxis," more affordable.)

YTo secure an *individual taxi*, after passing customs and picking up your luggage, proceed through the Greeters Hall and exit at Gate #3; find the dispatcher's station and ask for a taxi to the Blue Bay Hotel in Netanya. (Have the address available, though it will probably not be necessary.)

YTo secure a *sherut (shared) taxi*, exit at Gate #2 and find the dispatcher. You may wait for a short while, as the driver will not depart until he has filled the van. There is no extra charge for luggage, and you will be dropped at the door of the Blue Bay Hotel. The price is about \$10-15 per passenger. Tipping is optional.

Please note that the cost of getting to the hotel is not covered in the cost of the trip, so you will have to pay for this yourself. If you have a group of 3 or more, it might be just as reasonable to secure an individual taxi. Please do not be intimidated by this, as it is very simple and entirely dependable. I have arranged the trip this way in order to keep your cost at a minimum.

Even at that, it might be wise to travel with a cell phone which is useable in Israel. On the other hand, if you do not have a mobile phone, it will not be hard to find a phone to use. The tour guide will be carrying a cell phone and will be accessible at any time. If a plane is delayed or missed, he should be notified as soon as possible. It will not be difficult to make arrangements to get the traveler to the group, regardless of what delay might occur.

⁴We will regularly gather in the evenings to preview the region we will be exploring the next day.

⁵ Travelers are sometimes anxious to be baptized in the Jordan River, and this is the place provided for that. If you are interested in doing this, there are details that should be attended to before the trip – does it qualify as a biblical baptism, who will do the baptizing, has it been arranged in partnership with your church and pastor, etc.

⁶This schedule will make it possible for those who want to walk up the snake path to arise early and do so.

⁷The Jerusalem Assembly is a strong congregation in Jerusalem, pastored by Meno Kalisher. If time permits, those who are interested will walk up to the place where the church meets and participate in the weekly service.

⁸Men from various synagogues march and sing their way to the Western (nee: Wailing) Wall on Friday to welcome in the Sabbath; it is a very interesting and compelling event to witness.

⁹One important stop not on our itinerary is Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial in West Jerusalem. This would be a good day to take a taxi to the museum and spend 2 or 3 hours thinking through the exhibits.

¹⁰We would like to gather on this evening for a farewell dinner together, so it would be best if you could schedule your departure late on Thursday or early on Friday. (Remember that you will have to be at the airport 3 hours before departure, and it will take about an hour to get to the airport.) Several airlines have very late departures – around midnight or shortly thereafter (which would mean departure from the hotel around 8 pm). Others leave early in the morning – around 8 am. Your room will be available to you as late as you need it. Once we know the various departure times, we will work with the hotel to arrange for a sherut taxi to pick you up at the time appropriate to your departure time. Don't be at all intimidated by this, as this is standard procedure for hotels in Jerusalem, and the ride will be directly from the hotel to the departure gate at Ben Gurion Airport.