



STUDY TOUR 2020 DISCOVER ISRAEL

TOUR DATE: Feb 19- Mar 3

With Dr. Bob Ross & Yehuda Hecht



Mount Hermon



Banias Falls | Jordan River



Ancient Gamala



Capernaum Synagogue



Garden Tomb

Experience God's Land ... Israel

DI Tour - Feb 19-20 Days 1 & 2 – Wed & Thurs

You will arrange your flights to and from Israel. This way you can choose your favorite airline, travel class desired, perhaps use your air mileage, and depart the major city of your choice. We will all meet prior to the first overnight at the **Netanya Leonardo Hotel**. We will need your arrival time in **Tel Aviv**. If several are arriving about the same time, we will try to arrange for a van to the hotel. If not expect to come to the hotel in a taxi.

Welcome "Home" to God's Land, Israel!

~ In route to your hotel you drive north, skirting **Tel Aviv**, the "beautiful new" 100-year-old city. One could easily spend a month in the museums of this incredible Jewish city, but since ours is a Biblical tour, you must make such arrangements on your own.

We overnight at the new Leonardo Hotel, Netanya, near the beautiful Mediterranean Sea ... Eat and rest well.

DI Tour - Feb 21 Days 3 – Friday

MEDITERRANEAN COAST / MT. CARMEL / LOWER GALILEE

~ After an enormous Israeli breakfast buffet on the Mediterranean, we visit ancient **Roman Caesarea Maritima** (the **Roman capital of Israel** for over 500 years). This was the city of **Peter's "Gentile Pentecost"** and **Paul's** imprisonment. You sit in the same amphitheater where **Paul** was tried, then stroll through Caesarea's amazing Roman ruins. You visit **Herod the Great's** palace (later **Pilate's** palace), built beside the Roman hippodrome on the Mediterranean. After viewing the Roman aqueduct...

~ We drive to the "horn" of **Mt. Carmel** to visit **Muhraka**, where **Elijah** had his contest with Jezebel's Baal prophets. Here Israel's drought was broken, and **Ahab** raced his chariot through the valley to his summer palace at **Jezreel**. From **Mt. Carmel** we view the **Valley of Jezreel** and the **Kishon River**, where **Elijah** slew **Jezebel's** 400 Baal prophets.

~ Driving to ancient Megiddo, we recall the 21 battles from the Hebrew Scriptures that were fought in this valley. The view is an unforgettable panorama of prophecy, as the Armageddon battlefield of Revelation spreads before our eyes. Here we view the Canaanite ruins, their cultic altar (for human sacrifice), visit the chariot stables of King Solomon and Ahab, and descend to the ancient water tunnel of Megiddo.

~ Crossing the **Valley of Jezreel/Armageddon**, we view **Mt. Tabor** to the East. Here **King Saul** visited the witch of En Dor by night, and learned of his fate the next day. On the eastern slope of **Mt. Moreh**, Jesus raised the widow's son to life at **Nain**.

On the western slope of **Mt. Moreh**, **Elisha** raised a widow's son to life. On the far western side of this historical valley stands **Mt. Gilboa**, where Saul and Jonathan died. David lamented their death in II Sam. 1:19-27.

~ Traversing the **Valley of Jezreel** our bus climbs the hills of Lower Galilee to **Nazareth**. Here we visit **Nazareth Village**. This replica of a Nazareth's farming community and village has been reconstructed to resemble a portion of the boyhood town of **Jesus**. Here in the synagogue we will recall Jesus' childhood and early manhood.

~ Directly North of **Nazareth** lies the well-watered **Netofa Valley**, where we believe **Cana** of Jesus' day was located (**Cana** means "**Place of Reeds**"). It was here that **Jesus** changed the water to wine. However, the traditional Crusader **Kefar Cana** lies to the south, conveniently on the Pilgrim's Highway between **Nazareth** and **Capernaum**.

~ Descending to the **Sea of Galilee** (686' below sea level) we proceed to our seaside **Ron Beach Hotel**. Welcome to our "home on the Sea of Galilee". Enjoy the incredible view, neat rooms, and some of the best food in all Israel. **Enjoy the beginning of Shabbat.**

"Shabbat Shalom!" Overnight Ron Beach (1st night) on the Sea of Galilee.

DI Tour - Feb 22 Day 4 – Saturday (Shabbat)

SEA OF GALILEE BY BOAT ON THE SABBATH – In the Footsteps of Jesus

- ~ We bus to **Nof Ginnosar** to view the “**Jesus Boat**”. Then, we embark by boat for our unique **Shabbat worship services** on the **Sea of Galilee** and the **North Shore**. From the **Sea** we will recall the “*sightings of Jesus*”, consider the sudden storms, **Jesus’** miracles, the **Disciple’s** fishing experiences, His teachings by the **Sea**, and His ministry at the **Cove of the Parables**.
- ~ Debarking at **Capernaum Park**, if time allows, we will view the **Capernaum Greek Orthodox Church**, unexcavated **Capernaum**, and then proceed to the Roman Catholic excavations of New Testament **Capernaum**.
- ~ **Capernaum** was the headquarters of **Jesus’ Ministry** for 2 ½ years in **Galilee**. Jesus was the **Teaching Rabbi** of the synagogue. Here He called **Levi/Matthew**, taught many parables, performed miracles, raised **Jairus’ daughter** to life, and taught on the parable of **The Bread of Life** in the synagogue. Here we will worship as we recall these events.
- ~ Your host’s personal “highlight of our tour” is the **Natural Amphitheater** at the **Cove of the Parables (Sower’s Cove)**. Here **Jesus** called His **Disciples**, borrowed **Peter’s** boat for His teaching, taught many parables and healed the **multitudes**. Here our **Resurrected Lord** appeared to His **Disciples**, provided the miraculous catch and prepared breakfast for His Disciples. Here He told **Peter** to “**Feed My Sheep**.” We will only give a brief overview for now, but will return on Monday to go into detail and meditate by the shore.
- ~ Climbing to “**Wilderness Cave**” we experience the same view our Lord had when He prayed all night before calling His **Apostles**.
- ~ On the lower slope of the **Mount of Beatitudes** we share **Jesus’ Beatitudes** (where He spoke them) – then, we will recall His “**Word Pictures**” from His “**Sermon on the Mount**”. Then, we will view the **Byzantine mosaic** of the “**Loaves and the Fishes**” at **Tabgha** and **Peter’s Primacy**.
- ~ After an incredible lunch of lunch **St. Peter’s Fish**, we follow the old **Roman Road** which skirts the **North Shore**. Crossing the **Jordan River**, we enter the **Gentile Decapolis** (on the Eastern shore). Here we will recall Jesus healing the demoniac near **Kursi**, and visit the cliff where Jesus drove the demons into the swine. They rushed over the cliff and were drowned in the Sea.
- ~ In the distance, rising above the Sea, is the incredible ruins of **Susita/Hippos**. Here Jesus sent the healed demoniac as His witness. Years later there were 4 churches and 1 cathedral in that Gentile city. In Jesus day, the white pagan temples glistened in the afternoon sun, casting their reflection over the Sea. We propose that this was this city **Jesus** pointed to and said, “*a city set on a hill can’t be hidden...*”
- ~ Near the Jordan we will describe **Bethsaida**, the seaside home of **Peter, Andrew, James and John** and **Zebedee’s** fishing company. Mendel Nun, the authority on first century Sea of Galilee ports and water levels, believed that in **Jesus’** day the fishing village of **Bethsiada** was located where the **Jordan River** entered the **Sea of Galilee**. That fishing village was located on that shore, while the city was north at **Bethsaida Julius**. Jesus healed the blind man from **Bethsaida**, (but, which **Bethsaida**, we don’t know.)

After a rest and evening meal, you may want close Shabbat by strolling the quaint streets of Tiberias, to enjoy desert and coffee.

Or - Sit with friends by the water’s edge, and enjoy the beauty of the evening and the stars over the Sea of Galilee.

Overnight Ron Beach (2nd night) at the Sea

DI Tour - Feb 23 Day 5 – Sunday

HULEH BASIN / UPPER GALILEE / GOLAN HEIGHTS

- ~ Departing the **Sea of Galilee**, our bus takes us to **Upper Galilee** for a scenic drive through the **Huleh Basin**. We pass ancient **Hazor**, and proceed to the beautiful **Dan Nature Preserve**. The lush and beautiful **Headwaters of the Jordan** leaves an indelible impression.
- ~ The excavations at ancient **Dan** include the altar where the **golden calf** was worshiped by Israel under **Jeroboam**.
- ~ After viewing the **Israel/Lebanon border**, we will hike to the new excavation of the **Canaanite Gate** from **Abraham’s** time. Then, we visit the city gate of **OT Dan**, “the **Hill of the Judge**” to see the ancient city and the amazing “**Cyclops walls**”.
- ~ We then drive to **Caesarea Philippi**, where **Jesus** brought his disciples on retreat. This was the pagan Roman cultic center, featuring pagan temples and the “**gates of hell**”. Here Jesus asked His Disciples, “**Who do YOU say that I AM?**” **Peter** answered, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God**”. One week later, **Jesus** was **transfigured** on **Mt. Hermon**.
- ~ From the springs of **Caesarea-Philippi**, we bus down the **Jordan** and hike the path to the Jordan’s flow. Proceeding on a new boardwalk and path we observe the rushing beauty of the Jordan flowing through narrow canyon walls, forming pools that are filled with trout. The half-mile hike brings us to the most copious waterfall in the Jordan’s flow. The view of **Banias Falls** is stunning! From the falls, we slowly maneuver the steep path, to eat our choice of lunch around picnic tables.

What a blessed morning!

- ~ After lunch, we view the **Jordan Valley** from the **Golan Heights**. Yehuda will explain the Arab/Israel conflicts of **1967**.
- ~ Traveling the **Mt. Hermon** foothills, on a section of the **Damascus Road**, we recall **Saul’s** conversion near Damascus.
- ~ We pass **Druze** villages, as the snow-capped “granddaddy” of the mountains in Israel, **Mount Hermon**, towers above. What majesty!
- ~ Later, in the **Golan’s “Valley of Death**”, he will discuss the conflict of **1973**. In all her wars, God has led Israel, despite the odds, to incredible victories.
- ~ Descending through the **Golan** tableland, we come to understand the agricultural and strategic military importance of the **Golan Heights** to Israel. The Golan **must** remain in **Israel’s** hands! As time allows we will view the **Jordan River** in this area of Jesus’ ministry.

Overnight Ron Beach (3rd night) at the Sea of Galilee.

DI Tour - Feb 24 Day 6 – Monday

GAMALA / KATZRIN / KORAZIN / COVE OF THE PARABLES

- ~ **Gamala** is visited by few tourists. Usually, the lack of tour time (half a day) and physical strength of the group prevents tours from climbing the difficult path to the abandoned city. With special arrangements, our tours try hard to make this visit! Enjoy this site, as you are an exception.
- ~ This unique first century Jewish ruin is often called “**The Masada of Galilee**”. Here, an estimated 10,000 Jews died in the Roman conquest of Galilee. (**Gamala** and **Masada** are two of the highlights on our tour). At Gamala, we visit the mountain synagogue, see where the Romans broke through the wall, and climb to the famous round tower. Eagles above **Gamala** add to your lingering memories.
- ~ We drive to the capital of the **Golan Heights**, **Katzrim**, to watch a fascinating film presentation on **The Fall of Gamala**
- ~ Then, a visit to **Katzrin’s** reconstructed **NT Village** offers a view of Jewish life as it was in Jesus’ time.

~ We will have an early lunch at the popular **Blueberry Restaurant**, and then visit the **Olive Processing Factory** of the **Golan**.
 ~ Bussing up the eastern side of the **Mt. of Beatitudes**, we climb to the very top to visit the third synagogue where Jesus served as the **Teaching Rabbi**. Here at **Korazin** we view the mikva, yeshiva, the synagogue of **Jesus' day**, and see the **Seat of Moses** where **Jesus** unrolled the scroll before reading the prescribed Shabbat Scripture of the week.
 ~ Returning to the north shore, we hike down to the **Cove of the Parables**. There we will consider the **Positive, Probable and Possible "Jesus Sightings"** during His incredible ministry in this area. While we are seated on the lush green grass and basalt stones, we will be led in our meditation by you tour host, Dr. Bob Ross. He has focused the last several years of his ministry and life on this teaching area of Jesus' ministry. From our meditation time at the **Cove**, we will hike one mile on the **Jesus Trail** back to **Tabgha**, as we follow the beautiful shoreline. Our travel on the **Trail** will conclude our day at the largest spring feeding the Sea of Galilee, and a visit to **Leper's Pool**.

*No place on earth offers you such an opportunity to "walk where Jesus walked".
 Overnight (4th night) at Ron Beach. Enjoy coffee and friends beside the Sea.*

DI Tour - Feb 25 Day 7 – Tuesday

MIGDAL / SEPPHORIS / ARMAGEDDON / JEZREEL / GIDEON'S SPRING / JORDAN BAPTISM

~ From our hotel we bus to where **Jesus** ministered in **Migdal**. The city, at the foot of **Mt. Arbel**, has been recently excavated, revealing the ruins of the New Testament city. **Migdal** was the home of **Mary Magdalene**. Later, the Jewish historian **Josephus** wrote **The Jewish Wars** while stationed here. Our architect friend, Matti Avshalomon, designed the quaint and beautiful **Reflection Church** near the shore.
 ~ Then, driving through Lower Galilee, just north of **Nazareth**, we will visit **Sepphoris**, the **Roman capital of Galilee** during Jesus' ministry. We believe **Our Lord** attended Jewish yeshiva/seminary (near or at the **Sepphoris** synagogue). He was recognized as a well-educated, honored **Rabbi** all over **Israel**. Evidence suggest that the Galilean Rabbinical Council/Galilean Sanhedrin appointed Him as the **Teaching Rabbi** for the synagogues at the northern end of the **Sea of Galilee**.
 ~ Entering again the **Valley of Armageddon**, it is as though we are driving through the pages of **OT** and **NT** history. We come to ancient **Jezreel**, where **Ahab** and **Jezebel** had their summer residence. **Naboth's** vineyard was here, and this was the place of **Ahab's** demise and **Jezebel's** death.
 ~ After lunch, In the shadow of **Mt Gilboa**, we will visit **Gideon's Spring**, where God selected **Gideon's** 300-man army. The spring is one of the ten most beautiful "swimming holes" in the world. Here we will enjoy the park, but it may a bit chilly to swim.
 ~ Returning to the southern end of the **Sea of Galilee**, we baptize those who desire in the **Jordan River**, at beautiful **Yardenit**.

*This is our last opportunity to enjoy dialogue and coffee in the moonlight at our hotel.
 Likely, you will leave "a part of your heart" at the Sea of Galilee...Enjoy your last evening in Galilee.
 Overnight Ron Beach (5th night) at the Sea of Galilee.*

DI Tour - Feb 26 Day 8 – Wednesday

JORDAN VALLEY / WILDERNESS OF JUDEA / DEAD SEA

~ Departing the **Sea of Galilee**, we drive south through the **Jordan River Valley** to the incredible **OT** and **Roman** ruin of **Beit Shean**. This **Decapolis** city was the only Greek city of the ten west of the **Jordan River**. The excavations reveal a first century Roman city with temples, baths, a basalt theater, and an upper hippodrome. Strolling the streets, you will experience the power of the **Roman Empire**, and the pagan beauty of this incredible city of **Jesus' day**. The **OT** tel of **Beit Shean** rises above the **Jordan Valley** on the east. Here **Saul** and **Jonathan's** bodies were hung on the city gates.
 ~ We bus south through the **Jordan River Valley**. The **Jordan River** and the country of **Jordan** lie to the East, and the **Mountains of Samaria** to the West. The hour-and-a-half drive takes us in and out of the "**West Bank**" territory. See your **Discover Israel** map on **page 169**.
 ~ Due to politics we do not stop, but **Jericho** spreads out around **Elijah's Spring**, at the foot of **Tel e-Sultan** (dating to the Stone Age). **Jericho** is the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world, inhabited since 10,000 BC. A **Neolithic** tower, the world's oldest building, dates to 7,000 BC. Here, "**the walls came tumbling down**" as a result of **God's** judgement. It was **Israel's** first conquest in "**the Land**". Unfortunately, today, the city is in the hands of the PLO. A cable car connects **Jericho** to the **Mt. of Temptation**, the traditional site of **Jesus' temptations** in the **Wilderness of Judea**. We recall **Jericho's** Biblical significance, before we descend to the **Dead Sea**.
 ~ **John the Baptist** often ministered in the area where the **Jordan River**, slightly North of where the Jordan enters the **Dead Sea**. In this area **Our Lord** was baptized. If time allows we may visit the traditional site, but don't expect to be impressed.
 ~ The **Dead Sea** is 1,300 feet below sea level, and is the lowest place on earth. The rainfall here is less than 4" per year. This area surrounding is "**a dry and thirsty land**". The mountains of the **Wilderness of Judea** tower above the Sea to the west.
 ~ We view the area of ancient **Gilgal**, located just north of the **Dead Sea**. **Gilgal** was the largest of all Jewish cities (until today). Here, the **Twelve Tribes** of **Israel** first dwelt when they entered the **Land of Canaan**. Here the tribes of **Israel** were circumcised, the manna ceased, and here they sacrificed to God. **Gilgal** lies just south of the first city **Israel** conquered, **Jericho**. Between **Gilgal** and **Jericho**, **Joshua** met "**the angel of the Lord**", who assumed leadership, and then led **Israel** to conquer the "**Land of Canaan**".
 ~ Driving along the west side of the **Dead Sea**, we will point out the cave where archaeologist **Vendyl Jones** searched for the "**Ashes of the Red Heifer**" and the Temple Treasures at **Wadi ha Kippah**. I believe that the fictitious movie, **Indiana Jones**, was based on Vendyl's experiences, with the usual embellishments by Hollywood. Likely, you will hear the details on our tour.
 ~ We visit the extensive ruins of **Qumran**, where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were found. Our guide will tell the story of the **Sect of the Wilderness of Judea** who lived here. Today many believe the sect was a "**pre-Christian**" community.
 ~ From the overlook of **Ein Gedi/ Spring of the Wild Goats**, we recall **David** hiding from **King Saul** in the mountain cave behind the waterfalls. **Ein Gedi** is known for her beautiful cascading streams and refreshing pools. **David** spared **King Saul's** life here. Incredible story!
 ~ We hurry on to our **Dead Sea** hotel, **David Spa** at **Ein Boqek**, for an afternoon of relaxation, massages, floating in the Dead Sea and enjoying the hot spas. **Tomorrow we visit Masada**.
 ~ Just south of our hotel is the area where **Sodom** and **Gomorrah** once thrived. In their destruction, God literally turned the earth upside down. Nothing is left today of these cities. Today, the southern end of the **Dead Sea** is a chemical mining operation.

Overnight David Spa (one night). Relax and enjoy the Dead Sea

DI Tour - Feb 27 Day 9 – Thursday

MASADA / WILDERNESS OF JUDEA / JERUSALEM / GETHSEMANE KIDRON VALLEY / CAIAPHAS' HOUSE

Our **"Bravest Warriors"** can hike to the top of Mt. Masada (discuss arrangements please, it is not an easy hike). All others who have **"Good Common Sense"**, will take the cable car to the top about 8:00A.M.

~ **Masada** is one of the most important mountains in world history. You will hear the incredible story of the **Jewish Freedom Fighters** who held out against the **Romans** in **73 AD**. The story of the struggle, the excavations, and the view from the top over the **Judean Wilderness** and **Dead Sea** will long burn in your memory as a highlight of the tour. From the top of **Masada**, one can also see modern **Jordan**, **Edom**, the **Arabah Valley** and the **Negev**.

~ After lunch we drive past **NT Jericho** and **Herod's Winter Palace**. Then, we ascend the ancient **Jericho Road** of **Jesus' Parable of the Good Samaritan**, through the awesome **Wilderness of Judea**. From the **Jericho Plain**, our bus climbs 3,500' in 13 miles to...

The Holy City of Jerusalem.

~ From the **Mount of Olives** we have an incredible panoramic view of the **Temple Mount**, the **Dome of the Rock**, the **Golden Gate**, the ancient **Walls of Jerusalem** and the **Kidron Valley**. Our guide will share a marvelous presentation of the Biblical and historical events related to **Jerusalem**. His overview will cover pre-Biblical **Jerusalem**, through the **Hebrew Scriptures** and **New Testament** events, up to present day Israel.

~ Then, we walk down the traditional path of **Jesus' Triumphal Entry**, to the edge of the **Kidron Valley**. Here we visit the beautiful **Garden of Gethsemane**. Our devotional time here will recall **Jesus'** experiences related to the **Passover** and **Gethsemane** experiences.

~ From the Garden we enter the **Kidron Valley**, past the **Tomb of the Kings**, and climb up **Mt. Ophel** to the Temple walls.

~ We close our day by visiting the **House of Caiaphas/ St. Peter in Gallicantu**, the place of **Jesus'** early *interrogation and/or Jewish trials*. In the courtyard **Peter** denied **our Lord** three times. Here **Jesus** was kept in the prison pit, tortured, and **"flayed"** or **"caned"** by the Jewish authorities. Here you will learn of the details of **Jesus'** suffering for us. After viewing the first century Roman street **Jesus** used, we will overlook the **"Field of Blood"** where **Judas** hanged himself. You are standing just above the confluence of the **Kidron**, **Cheesemaker** and **Hinnon Valley** at **NT Gehenna (the Place of Burning)**. We proceed to our Jerusalem hotel for a well-deserved meal and night of rest.

Jerusalem King Solomon Hotel (1st night).

While in Jerusalem...

Yehuda Hecht's family has lived in Jerusalem since the Twelfth Century AD. He has carefully planned our itinerary choosing the best days and times to experience his hometown. We know that every site will be seen, but not necessarily in the order on our itinerary. We leave Jerusalem in his capable hands. Yehuda will coordinate our site visits with Shabbat, and any Jewish holidays. Though our itinerary may change in Jerusalem, Yehuda will seek to cover every site listed, and more, much more.

DI Tour - Feb 28 Day 10 – Friday

MT OPHEL / KING DAVID'S CITY / HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL / POOL OF SILOAM / SOUTHERN EXCAVATIONS / WAILING WALL / JEWISH QUARTER

~ We will spend our entire morning in **King David's City**, on, under and down **Mt. Ophel**. We will visit the incredible **Canaanite** ruins, the **Jebusite** water system, **David's Tomb**, **Joab's Tunnel**, and exit at the recent excavations of the **Pool of Siloam**, near **Hezekiah's Tunnel**.

Note: Arrangements can be made to walk thru **Hezekiah's Tunnel**, and meet our group at the **Pool of Siloam**. The tunnel is about knee-deep in water. Digging from both ends, the workers met in the middle, beneath **Mt. Ophel**. The tunnel is an unforgettable 45-minute wet hike. Plan ahead, with old shoes and headlight or flashlight. The water is comfortable and the base is quite even for our tunnel adventure. Welcome! Your choice.

~ Returning to the **Temple Area**, we visit the incredible **Southern Excavations**, and the southern entrance to the **Temple** in **Jesus' day**.

~ After lunch in the **Jewish Quarter**, we will take quality time at the **Wailing/Western Wall** and worship with Jews prior to their Sabbath. Enjoy!

~ Before the Sabbath begins, we will visit the **Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem**, learning of its history and viewing **Nehemiah's Wall**.

The Sabbath begins at sundown. Enjoy the special Shabbat meal and Celebrate the "joy of the Shabbat" in Jerusalem.

Overnight at our Jerusalem King Solomon's Hotel (2nd night).

DI Tour - Feb 29 Day 11 – Saturday (Jerusalem on Shabbat)

JERUSLAEM'S OLD CITY / TRIALS OF JESUS / VIA DOLOROSA / CHURCH OF HOLY SEPULCHER CALVARY / GARDEN TOMB

~ We begin our day at the **Lion's Gate**, to focus on the importance of **Israel's return to the Holy City in June of 1967, "The end of the Age of the Gentiles"**. Our guide, **Yehuda**, led **Israel's reconnaissance unit, Rabbi Shlomo Goren** and the **Israeli troops** through this gate on **June 7th, 1967 (Six Day War)**. What an incredible story!

~ We then proceed to the **Pool of Bethesda**, where **Jesus** healed the lame man. Here we visit the Crusader church of **St. Anne**, and experience the incredible acoustics of the chapel. Who will sing for us?

~ Nearby is the **Tower of Antonia**, **Praetorium** and **Pilate's Judgment Hall**. Our **Lord Jesus** was tried here before **Pontus Pilate**, beaten by the **Roman Cohort**, received the **crown of thorns** and took up His Cross. Here we view the **King's Game**, inscribed on the **Pavement stones** near **Pilate's Judgment Seat**. The **Ecce Homo Arch** is where **Pilate** told the Jews **"Behold, the man"**.

~ The **Ecce Homo** begins the **traditional Via Dolorosa**, with the **13 "Stations of the Cross"** (determined by the **Crusaders**, not very Biblical). We visit the **Praetorium Prison**, where we believe **Jesus** was imprisoned, and where **Peter** was likely imprisoned, and released by God's angel. The **Crusader Via Dolorosa** route leads to the 4th century **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**, the traditional Catholic/Orthodox site of **Jesus' Death, Burial, and Resurrection**.

~ After lunch, in the Old City Jerusalem market, there will be a brief time for shopping.

Calvary and the Garden Tomb Experience...

~ We pass through the **Damascus Gate**, en route to **Calvary** and the **Garden Tomb**. We believe this is the most reliable site for **Jesus' Crucifixion (The Hill of the Skull)**, **His Burial**, and **Resurrection**. After you visit the **Empty Tomb**, we will discuss these events in Jesus' death and resurrection, in detail. Then, we will **Celebrate the Lord's Supper**. There will be some time for personal prayer in the **Garden**.

King Solomon's Hotel (3rd night).

DI Tour - Mar 1 Day 12 – Sunday

TEMPLE MOUNT/ HERODIUM / BETHLEHEM / SHEPHERD'S FIELDS

~ We begin our day on the **Temple Mount**, with a lecture about the Temple's historical background. Here we view the Muslim **Mosque of El Aksa** and the **Dome of the Rock**. We visit the **Dome of the Spirits**, where we believe the **Holy of Holies** stood on **Mt. Moriah/Mt. Zion**. This was the location of **Solomon's, Zerubbabel's and Herod's Temples**. Here **Abraham** prepared to sacrifice **Isaac**. The mount became the place for sacrifices for Israel in the Hebrew Scriptures. We believe at the north end of this mountain Our Lord laid down His life.

~ Departing Jerusalem, we drive to the **Herodium**, the mountain that **Herod the Great** moved to build his palace. **Jesus** referred to the **"kings in their palaces,"** and **Herod** had two palaces in this location. The **Herodium** was to be the place of his elaborate funeral. His tomb was only recently discovered. From the **Herodium** you have an incredible view of **Bethlehem**, the **Wilderness of Judea** and the **Negev**.

~ Crossing into the **"West Bank"** at the **Israeli/Palestinian checkpoint**, we proceed to **Bethlehem**. We will briefly visit **Bethlehem Square** and the traditional place of **Jesus' birth**, the **Church of the Nativity** (built by **Constantine's mother, Queen Helena**). This is the second oldest church in the world.

~ Viewing **"Shepherd's Field"**, we discuss Joseph and Mary's visit to Bethlehem, and Jesus' birth.

~ Then, we enjoy an incredible **Arab meal at The Tent**. Wow! You won't forget this meal or the atmosphere.

~ After lunch we visit an **olive wood shop** (possibly a factory). You may want to select gifts from the world's most beautiful *olive wood* carvings.

You will learn of the **plight of the Christians**, who today live under Bethlehem's Moslem administration.

We proceed to King Solomon's Hotel (4th night).

After our evening meal at King Solomon Hotel, we will gather for a "share time" together.

Be prepared with a "love gift" and a word of "Thanks" for our guide and driver in our closing share time. Please attend.

DI Tour - Mar 2 Day 13 – Monday

NEW JERUSALEM / YAD VASHIM / ISRAEL MUSEUM / MODEL / SHEPHELAH / VALLEY OF ELAH

~ In the **New City of Jerusalem** we spend our morning in **Yad Vashim (Holocaust Museum)**.

Warning: You will not come out of this museum the same person as when you entered.

~ Next, we visit the **Israel Museum**, to study the amazing **Model of first century Jerusalem**, and the **Shrine of the Book (Dead Sea Scrolls)**.

~ After lunch, we take the winding road through the **Shephelah**, passing terraces and watch towers, as we will follow the Bethlehem Wadi to the **Valley of Elah**. Here **David** slew **Goliath**, and routed the Philistines. Don't miss Yehuda's lecture in the **Valley of Elah**.

~ We will visit the incredible **Caves of Beit Guvrim**. These were likely quarried by the Romans for cement.

~ Then, returning, we pass through the area of **Samson's** exploits, and view his birthplace at **Zorah**. **Eshtaol**, nearby, is the location of his tomb. Both ruins overlook the **Valley of Sorek**, where he courted **Delilah**, and exploited the Philistines.

~ Stopping at **Beth Shemesh**, we recall the **Ark of the Tabernacles'** return to Israel, pulled by oxen on a Philistine cart through this valley.

~ To our west is **Timnah**, where **Samson** celebrated his marriage to **Delilah**. In this area was the **Cave of Adullam**, where **David** retreated from **Saul** and trained his renowned **"mighty men"**.

We return to our King Solomon Hotel (5th Night) to pack for tomorrow's return flight.

After the evening meal, go to bed as early as possible.

DI Tour - Mar 3 Day 14 – Tuesday

"Shalom Israel!"

Since flights vary, times of departures and transportation to the airport will also vary. We will assist you on airport transportation.

It has been an incredible joy to have you with us.

Try to rest on your return flight. For many it is the most difficult part of the tour.

Expect some jet lag when you return.

Thank you for being with us.

NOTE: If you can't go on this tour, then please share this itinerary.

Encourage a friend or family member to go with us. It is the "best gift" you can give anyone.

Just by sharing this itinerary...today, you can help fulfill someone's Dream of a Lifetime!



***“Behold, the winter is past; the rain is over...
The flowers appear on the earth,
The time of singing has come, and the voice of the
Turtledove is heard in our Land ” Song of Solomon 2: 11-12***



Experience Forty Centuries in Twelve Days **Only \$3,974* (Price does not include your air travel)** **Twelve Full, Thrilling, Study Days in Israel**

What to Expect:

- Excellent Hotels, Deluxe Coach and Incredible Food & Services.
- Your black and white Bible will change to **Living Color**.
- A new understanding of Middle East politics and Biblical “end times”.
- A deeper love for the Lord, His Word, His Land and His People.
- Israel’s Best Guide, Yehuda Hecht. And we should know! This is our **48th tour**.
- Yehuda Hecht to share the Historical, Geographical and Archaeological information of Israel.
- Dr. Bob Ross to share *The Jewishness of Jesus*, Devotions and **Bible Color**.

For Tourist’s - Israel is the safest place on earth

- No nation has better security. No nation is better prepared for terrorism.
- No person, *on an organized tour*, has ever been attacked (or injured) by a terrorist in **68 years!**
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Why should you choose our study tour?

It is **Not** ... A typical “canned tour” (visiting a minimum of 3-4 sites per day).

It is **Not** ... A traditional “Pilgrimage to the Holy Land” (visiting numerous churches).

Our Tour Focus Is ... God’s Word, His Land, and Jesus’ Jewishness and ministry.

We Help You Understand God’s Chosen People and Israel, His Miracle.

JOIN OUR THRILLING STUDY TOUR NOW!

*** \$3,974 Includes everything but, noon meals,
“Love Gift” for Driver and Guide**

Trip Details

Send \$500 Deposit as soon as possible, to assure your place on our tours.
Both tours are filling quickly. Please don't wait to register. There is limited space available!

Deposit Secures your Place - The Price Includes...

Hotels, guide, driver, a beautiful air-conditioned motor coach, breakfast and dinner, your individual audio receiver,
Your personal copy of our host's study manual, Discover Israel, and all entrance fees to sites and museums!

Prices Do Not Include...

- **Travel Insurance:** This is encouraged and is the responsibility of each traveler. Details will follow your registration.
- **Noon Meals:** Our Israeli breakfast and evening meals are enormous. For midday meals, we get light lunches in route, between sites (Guide's choice, these average about \$12+ per day).
- **Cool Bottled Water:** Available on our bus. Expect about \$30 per person charge, for the entire tour.
- **Personal Expenses:** Souvenirs, laundry, phone calls, special drinks, and any personal room orders.
- **A "Love Offering"** for our guide and driver will be collected near the end of the tour. (Remember to set this aside.)



GIL TRAVEL
Your Personal Link With The World

For further tour information or questions, please contact...

1) Bob Ross: 214-801-3681 cell

2) Anna Evenzahav: 800-801-4795 or 561-394-0821

REGISTER TODAY!

Don't Delay! Each tour is limited to 45 Persons.

Deposit and a copy of your Passport (Picture & Info) Must Accompany Your Registration.*

CLIP and MAIL

MAIL DEPOSIT CHECK TO: Discover Israel Ministries, 2824 Kyle Drive, Plano TX 75075

Make the following RESERVATION/S for: ☐ **Tour Date: Feb 19-Mar 3, 2020**

My/our DEPARTURE CITY _____ (Remember you arrange your flights. Do you need help?)

Full NAME 1. _____ (As on Passport)

2. _____

Full ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____ PHONES: Home _____ - _____ - _____ Cell _____ - _____ - _____

Deposit/s and copy of Passport MUST Accompany This Registration.

- ☐ **Deposit is \$500. per person to hold my/our place. I understand this is non-refundable, if I cancel.**

Note: Final payment is due: **Tour Deposit Deadline - Dec 18, 2019** We will bill you for this payment.

- ☐ **Single room supplement for the tour is an additional \$1048.**

Gil Travel and I will send all necessary information about packing and other arrangements.

PLEASE NOTE - You are responsible for your own airline transportation.

After you register, you will be sent a complimentary copy of our study guide

Discover Israel - An Illustrated Guide for your preparation.

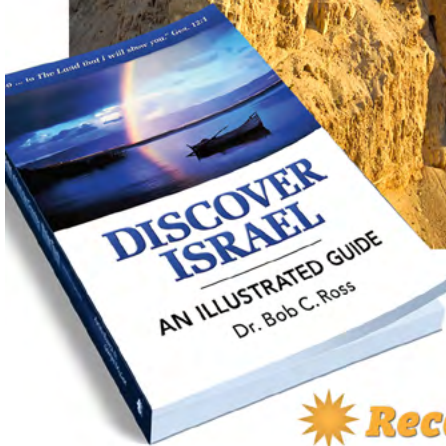


For Any Cancellation or Tour Deviations, Please Contact us Immediately.

- \$500 deposit is non-refundable, if you choose to cancel.
- 60-45 days before departure: Another 50% of land cost, \$300 of airline cost can not be refunded.
- 45-0 days before departure: 100% of total cost can not be refunded. (Your insurance covers, if health related).

***Your passport must be valid for 6 months after your return date. Call us if you have any problems registering.**

"Go... to The Land that I will show you." Gen. 12:1



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DISCOVER ISRAEL

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**2020 STUDY TOUR
FEB 19 - Mar 3**

Bob@DiscoverIsraelMinistries.com
www.DiscoverIsraelMinistries.com



Bob & Yehuda invite you to experience God's Land