

2019 Hillcrest Israel Trip

July 6-20

Christian Lindbeck and Tim Knipp

Overview:

This two week journey through the land of the Bible will focus on both Old and New Testament sites. Starting in Jerusalem and heading toward Galilee, each day has been carefully planned to allow us to spend quality time at every site and really experience the land of Israel. We want you to both experience key sites as well as have a feel for the land as a whole. We will conclude our trip with a final dinner all together in the Mediterranean Seaport of Jaffa before we head west ourselves. This land has been incredibly impactful to both of us (Christian and Tim) in understanding Scripture and following Jesus. We are genuinely excited to share this experience with you.

July 6 **Leave Seattle**

July 7 **Arrive in Tel Aviv, Bus to Beer Sheva**

July 8 **God as our Shelter - Tent, Oasis, Fortified City**

- On our first full day in the land of Israel we will be introduced to the reality of the desert wilderness, its heat and intensity. We will talk about Abraham, the Israelites in the Wilderness, and David. Through it all we will see how the desert illuminates the key Biblical idea of God as our shelter.

July 9 **Where God Put His Name: OT Jerusalem**

- On our first full day in Jerusalem we will begin in the Old Testament city of Jerusalem known as the City of David. We will see this incredible site where God chose to reveal himself to the world. Prepare not only to look with your eyes but with your feet, as we walk through a 2500 year old water tunnel and underground passages near the Temple.

July 10 **Jesus around Jerusalem**

- This day we will begin to look at key areas around Jerusalem. We will begin on the Mt. of Olives where so many key events in Jesus' life took place. In the afternoon we will head south to Bethlehem, the surprising birthplace of the Messiah.

July 11 **Jesus in Jerusalem**

- For our second full day in Jerusalem we will look at the sites associated with Jesus in Jerusalem. We will start our day on the Temple Mount, see the most likely site of his death and Resurrection, and stand in one of the places we can say with 100% certainty he stood.

July 12 **Samaria**

- Critical in both the Old and New Testament is the northern hill country. In the Old Testament it was the northern kingdom of Israel, in Jesus' day it was called Samaria. One of the most popular stops from trips past has been Shiloh, where the Tabernacle once stood, on this day.

July 13

Desert Fun

- You can't go to Israel and not float in the Dead Sea. Or at least laugh at other people floating in it. You'll never forget seeing Masada, the desert fortress, floating in the Dead Sea, and stopping through the oldest continually inhabited city in the world, Jericho.

July 14

Heading North

- Midway through our trip we shift gears and head north towards Galilee. On the way we will stop at the Mediterranean Port of Caesarea Maritima. This will be our first stop of the trip on the Mediterranean Sea, an incredible site where Herod the Great created a world class harbor where no natural harbor existed.

July 15

Ministry of Jesus in Galilee

- This morning we will start our first full day in the Galilee perched high above it all on the peak of Mt Arbel. This rocky outcrop lets us look over the entire sea, envision Jesus' ministry in the region and set our course before hiking down the face to visit Jesus' hometown of Capernaum, Magdala, the Mt. Of Beatitudes and more. This will be a day you never forget.

July 16

Identity of Jesus: Galilee Day 2

- This day we will explore the northern reaches of the land of Israel. Perhaps to be surprised by Mt. Hermon, the highest mountain in the land, Caesarea Philippi, where Peter declared Jesus the Messiah, and glimpsing the road from Israel to Damascus.

July 17

Following Jesus: Galilee Day 3

- Our final full day in Galilee will take us to Mt. Carmel and Nazareth, key sites on the Jezreel Valley. Our hope is not just visit these sites but be think through the layers of history at these sites, how the geography shaped this history, and what that meant for God's work through Elijah and Jesus.

July 18

Back to Jerusalem

- We will spend our final night back in Jerusalem. On our way we will touch on key sites in the Shephelah and Judean Hill Country. We have a special surprise in store for our final evening in Jerusalem.

July 19

Free day

- Our final day in the land will be a free day for you to see those last couple sites in Jerusalem you haven't seen yet. Then we will head to Tel Aviv together for a final meal overlooking the Mediterranean before we head home.

July 20

Arrive Seattle