

# Wonders of Israel Tour 2023

*Led by Dr. Gayle Timberlake & Simka Global*



Thousands of years ago, the prophet Ezekiel told of a time when the desolated ruins of Israel would come to life. When Jerusalem would once again be inhabited, the desolated towns rebuilt. Today, we are watching Ezekiel's prophecy come alive. In our lifetime, there has never been a more significant time to find yourself in Israel. The Wonders of Israel Tour 2023 gives you an opportunity to see the home of Jesus in a unique way.

On this bespoke Simka Global tour, you'll stroll on ancient stone pathways where Jesus walked, follow the patriarch's footsteps, and engage with locals who call this glorious land home. We travel stealthily as a small group enabling us to make the most of our time and stop where many don't go.

Travel with like-minded friends, new and old, indulge in scrumptious culinary delights, and retire in exclusive boutique hotel accommodations where you're made to feel right at home. Meet Israeli Christian Arabs, share dinner with an Orthodox Jewish family, encourage IDF soldiers on the Northern border, and more. Long-term connections in Israel, including mine as a scholar and consultant, go before us and open doors to a whole new world of wonder.

Our partner in adventure, Keshet Journeys, delivers unparalleled journeys for Kingdom leaders around the world <https://keshetjourneys.com/#content> You'll be introduced to Israeli exploration at its best. This is your time. This is Israel. Reset, revive and restore.

## Travel Dates at-a-Glance

Day 1: Sunday, January 29 - Arrive in Tel Aviv / Tal By the Beach Boutique Hotel, Tel Aviv

Day 2: Monday, January 30 - Nof Ginosar Hotel, Kibbutz Ginosar, Sea of Galilee

Day 3: Tuesday, January 31 - Nof Ginosar Hotel, Kibbutz Ginosar, Sea of Galilee

Day 4: Wednesday, February 1 - Nof Ginosar Hotel, Kibbutz Ginosar, Sea of Galilee

Day 5: Thursday, February 2 - Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 6: Friday, February 3 - Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 7: Saturday, February 4 - Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 8: Sunday, February 5 - Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 9: Monday, February 6 - Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 10: Tuesday, February 7 - Departure from Tel Aviv



*“... I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind. <sup>29</sup> I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the people of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD.” Ezekiel 39: 28-29*

# Preliminary Itinerary

*Subject to Change*

## Sunday January 29 **WELCOME TO ISRAEL!**

4:40 PM arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport in Israel

- Head to Tel Aviv, Israel's "City that Never Sleeps" for check-in and dinner at our hotel

**Overnight:** Tal By the Beach Boutique Hotel, Tel Aviv

## Monday January 30 **SHARED ROOTS**

- Breakfast at the hotel; pack the bus and depart
- Visit **Old Jaffa**, where the prophet Jonah set sail for Tarshish, the Apostle Peter raised Tabitha, and where Peter's vision opened up the Gospel to people from all nations. *Common roots and divergence of Judaism & Christianity.*



- Journey along the Plains of Sharon and the Mediterranean Sea to the ancient city of Caesarea built by Herod the Great 2000 years ago, where Paul stood before Agrippa and where Peter baptized the first Gentile, Cornelius. See the Roman Theater and the Ancient Shore where Paul was taken to Rome. *Explore the intimate, complex, and fraught relationship between Jewish Biblical and Roman Pagan civilizations which still resonates until today.*



- Lunch on your own
- Ascend to the top of Mt. Carmel where Elijah challenged and defeated the prophets of Baal. View the Valley of Armageddon, the destination of all end-time prophecy. Journey to the ancient city of Jezreel (Ahab, Jezebel, Elijah), the ancient Vineyards (Naboth), view the Jezreel Valley, the Battlefield of Gideon, Endor, (Saul, Jonathan, David, Gideon, and more).
- Meet **Israeli Arab Christians** and learn about the complex identity issues which they face as Arabs living as a minority amongst the Jewish majority in Israel and as Christians amongst the Muslim majority in the Arab community.
- Check-in and dinner at our hotel on the shores of the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) where the Lord walked.

**Overnight:** Nof Ginosar Hotel, Kibbutz Ginosar, Sea of Galilee

Tuesday January 31

**ISRAEL: LAND OF BORDERS**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Ascend the **Golan Heights** to better understand the strategic issues on Israel's borders with Syria and Lebanon.
- Tour the award-winning **Golan Heights Winery** Taste Israel's wine see the trimmed vines Joshua, Caleb and the spies reported on when they returned from the land of Canaan.
- Lunch on your own
- Visit and stand in solidarity with **Israeli soldiers** defending Israel's northern borders
- Experience a very special time with the Lord on the Sea of Galilee where you'll board one of the Galilean ships as did the disciples and Sail on the Sea of Galilee in worship and in the Lord's presence as did the disciples as the sun sets.
- Dinner at the hotel
- Meet a **Kibbutz member** and learn about the important role that Kibbutzim played in the development of the State of Israel and the changes in Kibbutz life today

**Overnight:** Nof Ginosar Hotel, *Kibbutz Ginosar, Sea of Galilee*

Wednesday February 1

**MINISTRY OF JESUS AT THE SEA OF GALILEE**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Explore the **Ministry of Jesus** around the Sea of Galilee and learn about Jewish life during the late Second Temple period. *The backdrop and context of the Gospel accounts and the society from which modern Judaism ("Rabbinic Judaism") emerged.*
- At Kibbutz Ginosar, visit the **2,000-year-old fishing boat** found in the Sea of Galilee from the time and place of Jesus and his disciples.
- Visit **Capernaum** the home base of Jesus' ministry including the site of the synagogue where Jesus taught and the home church at what might have been Peter's mother-in-law's house. *Consider how a Jewish village became a Christian pilgrimage site*
- At **Mt of Beatitudes**, remember Jesus's Sermon on the Mount and examine it in the context of Jewish teachings.
- Lunch on your own



- Visit the archeological park at **Magdala** – the hometown of Mary Magdalene – including the 1<sup>st</sup> Century synagogue.
- Head to the al site **Yardenit** in a **Special Baptism in the waters of the Jordan River** (if you've never been baptized or if you want to renew your dedication in God or just take part in the experience).
- Dinner at the hotel

**Overnight:** Nof Ginosar Hotel, Kibbutz Ginosar, Sea of Galilee

### Thursday February 2

### WHAT PRICE FREEDOM?

- Breakfast at the hotel; pack bus and depart
- Head south through the Jordan River Valley passing Jericho and the Mount of Temptation, Matthew 4:8
- Cable car up to **Massada** where the last Jewish freedom fighters faced the mighty Roman Empire 2,000 years ago. *Tour atop the mountain as we address the troubling issues presented by the Masada story.*
- Lunch and **float in the Dead Sea** (weather permitting)
- See the natural pools and waterfalls at the **Ein Gedi Oasis** where (not yet King) **David hid from King Saul** and see how the landscape helps to better understand the Biblical text
- Ascend to Jerusalem, stopping on the way for a **home hospitality visit** with **Ethiopian Jews** in **Maaleh Adumim**. Hear the dramatic story of their trek home from Africa to Israel. *Consider how the Biblical vision of the ingathering of the exiles impacts how Israel sees its identity and mission.*
- Check-in and dinner at our hotel



**Overnight:** Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

### Friday February 3

### JERUSALEM: DEEP ROOTS

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Head to the **Haas Promenade** for views of Jerusalem and to begin our exploration of Jerusalem, remembering the Biblical accounts of the Binding of Isaac & David's establishment of the city as capital of the People of Israel 3,000 years ago
- Step back 3,000 years to the days of **King David** and to the days of the **First Temple** at the City of David, *(the original Jerusalem)* and get an update on the latest archeological finds - which might include the palace of King David.
- Private prayer and contemplation time at the **Kotel** (Western Wall).
- Lunch on your own
- Visit **Mt Zion**, traditional site of the Tomb of King David, the Last Supper and the Pentecost Experience and *where Jewish and Christian traditions overlap and intersect.*
- Head to Efrat and attend **prayer services welcoming Shabbat at a local Orthodox Synagogue**
- **Home Hospitality Shabbat Dinner**



**Overnight:** Batsheva Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

## Saturday February 4 **SHABBAT SHALOM IN JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast and morning at leisure at the hotel
- Late morning special time of communion at the **Garden Tomb**, remembering the Crucifixion and Resurrection in a beautiful garden setting recalling "the place of the skull" (*Golgotha*).
- Lunch on your own
- Tour the **Israel Museum** and see the **Holyland Model** of Second Temple Period Jerusalem and the exhibit of the **Dead Sea Scrolls**.



- Dinner at the hotel
- Enjoy an unforgettable evening at the **Tower of David Museum** and the spectacular **Sound & Light Show** where the story of Israel is told on ancient stones with a modern technological wonder that lights up the night.

**Overnight:** Batsheva Boutique Hotel, *Jerusalem*

## Sunday February 5 **JERUSALEM THE HOLY**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Take an unforgettable prophetic journey in between the Mount of Olives and the Temple's Eastern Wall to worship facing the **Eastern Gate**, where Messiah will enter through in His second coming.
- Walk down the slopes to the **Garden of Gethsemane** and the **Church of All Nations** where we remember the prayer, betrayal, and arrest of Jesus. We'll intercede for the nations and receive a special anointing for power and breakthrough in your life for the upcoming year.
- Continue to the Old City to walk part of the Via Dolorosa through the **Muslim and Christian Quarters** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher which is the traditional site of the crucifixion, burial, and resurrection of Jesus**. *Learn about the Christian presence in Jerusalem over the centuries*



- Lunch and shopping time on your own in the Old City
- Explore the restored **Jewish Quarter** in the Old City including the rooftops and the Cardo. *Examine the life of the city through the ages*
- At the **Davidson Southern Temple Mount Archeological Park** step back 2,000 years to the days of the Second Temple. *Examine the centrality of the Temple experience*
- Dinner at the hotel

**Overnight:** Batsheva Boutique Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Monday February 6

**THE BIBLICAL HEARTLAND**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Visit the **Temple Mount** where the First Temple was built by King Solomon and the Second Temple was built by the Jewish exiles who returned from Babylon
- Head north to **Shomron** (Samaria) and visit **Tel Shiloh** which served as the home of the *mishkan* (Tabernacle) and spiritual center of the Tribes of Israel over 3,000 years ago, prior to establishment of the Temple in Jerusalem.



- Lunch on your own
- Discovery session with **Sondra Baras** Director of Christian Friends of Israeli Communities (CFOIC).
- Visit a local Jewish community, plant **trees**, and **meet residents** - and learn about why they have chosen to live in Samaria in what many call the “West Bank”.

- Return to Jerusalem for dinner at the hotel

**Overnight:** Batsheva Boutique Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Tuesday February 7

**LEHITRAOT ISRAEL!**

- Breakfast at the hotel; pack bus and depart
- At the **Mt. Herzl National Military Cemetery**, visit and pay tribute at the graves of Israeli soldiers who gave their lives in defense of the freedom of Israel
- At the **multi-media Herzl Museum**, learn about Theodor Herzl, the father of political Zionism, and his vision for a Jewish State
- Lunch and shopping time on your own at Jerusalem’s famous open Air *shuk* Market: **Machaneh Yehudah**
- **Volunteer activity** helping to feed the hungry of Jerusalem
- Worship at the **House of Prayer for All Nations**
- Farewell Dinner before heading to Ben Gurion Airport for flights to USA



*Simka Global offers boutique global adventures where world-class Biblical scholarship meets enriching venues to revive your Spirit, and restore your identity as a child of God.*

**Keshet Educational Journeys**

PO Box 8540 Jerusalem 91084 Israel  
Phone: 972-2-671-3518 | Fax: 972-2-671-3624  
keshet@keshetisrael.co.il | www.keshetisrael.co.il