

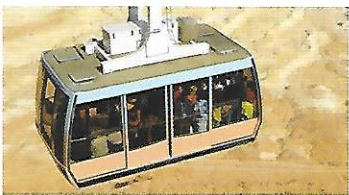
DAY 5



GOLAN HEIGHTS / CAESAREA PHILIPPI / MOUNT BEN-TAL / OLD SYRIAN BUNKERS

This will be a day of adventure. We drive to Midgal, the site of the ancient synagogue. From here we will do on to the Golan Heights, a strategic yet beautiful plateau. We ascend Mt. Ben-Tal and tour old Syrian bunkers and enjoy a remarkable view into Syria. Driving down from the Golan Heights, we see the crusader fortress known as Nimrod's Castle. We travel to Caesarea Philippi/Banias, the site of Peter's confession: "Thou art the Christ." There we will stand at the headwaters of the Jordan River, visit the ruins of ancient temples and have time for a walk by the stream and waterfall. We return to Tiberias for dinner and overnight at our Hotel. *Galei Kinneret Hotel*

DAY 6



BET SHEAN / JERICO / QUMRAN / MASADA / DEAD SEA

This morning we travel through the Jordan Valley to Bet Shean, one of the ancient cities of the Decapolis dating from the 5th Century B.C. Today it is the site of the largest archaeological excavations in Israel. We will drive near Jericho, viewing the Mount of Temptation and Mount Nebo in Jordan, from which Moses viewed the Promised Land. We visit Qumran, the discovery site of the Dead Sea Scrolls. After lunch, we travel along the Dead Sea to Masada and ascend by state-of-the-art cable cars to visit the mountaintop palace of Herod the Great and the famous fortress, where from A.D. 70-73, the Jewish defenders made their last stand against Rome. We will view the fascinating remains of Herod's palace, storehouses, cisterns, and an ancient synagogue. We visit the Dead Sea - the lowest point on earth, where we can swim and enjoy the therapeutic properties of the water without the possibility of sinking. We can relax at our beautiful hotel this evening located at the Dead Sea. *The Isrotel Dead Sea*

DAY 7



JERUSALEM / BETHLEHEM

Today we depart the desert and begin our ascent of nearly 4000 feet to Jerusalem. Our first view of the Holy City will be from Mt. Scopus where we will have time to reflect on our entry and then we will go to the Mount of Olives, with an outstanding view of the Old City walls and the Eastern (Golden) Gate. From there we descend by foot on the "Palm Sunday Road" to the Garden of Gethsemane for a service in the Garden with time to reflect in this lovely setting... olive trees, perhaps 2000 years old, still stand today. We travel around the Old City walls, viewing the tombs of Absalom and Zachariah and continue to the House of Caiphas, where Jesus was held the night before his crucifixion... there we will stand on the same stone steps Jesus would have walked up Mount Zion. We then go to visit The Upper Room (Last Supper Room) and have a brief service. After lunch, we travel the short distance to Bethlehem. There we will view the Shepherd's Fields and tour the Shepherd's Caves and the 1600-year-old Church of the Nativity. After arriving back in Jerusalem, we have dinner, free time and overnight at our Hotel. *The Inbal Hotel*