

Nov 15-24, 2026

DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE BIBLE STUDY TOUR

Israel College of the Bible invites you to join an in-depth study tour focusing on the archaeology of the Land of the Bible.

ITINERARY

DAY	DATE	PROGRAM	OVERNIGHT
	Nov 14 (Saturday)	Travel Day (if needed)	Enroute
1	Nov 15 (Sunday)	Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport , outside of Tel Aviv, before 3pm. Meet your guide and the rest of the group and transfer (as a group) to Tel Aviv-Jaffa. In the evening there will be an orientation meeting to meet the rest of the group.	Jaffa, Ruth Daniel Residence Hotel
2	Nov 16 (Monday)	Tour Old Jaffa , including the visitor's center . Continue to the Eretz Museum , for an introduction to archaeology (including its ceramic and glass pavilions, as well as a visit to Tel Qasile .) As time permits, visit Tel Aphek and Izbet Sarta (possible location of Ebenezer – I Sam 4). Evening Lecture (optional): <i>Archaeology of the Patriarchs</i>	Jaffa, Ruth Daniel Residence Hotel
3	Nov 17 (Tuesday)	Tour sites in the Shephelah (Judean Lowlands) including Khirbet Qeiyafa (overlooking the David and Goliath Valley) and Tel Lakhish (Josh 10:3, 31-33; 2 Kings 18:14-17). Visit Tel Maresha /Beit Guvrin – tour and participate in “ Dig for a Day ”. Pass Kh. Er-Rai (one of the suggested locations of Ziklag, 1 Sam 27:6, 30:1). Evening Lecture (optional): <i>Archaeology of the Exodus and Conquest</i>	Arad, Inbar Hotel or similar

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4	Nov 18 (Wed)	Explore the Negev. Visit Tel Arad (Num 21:1-3), Avdat (Nabatean spice route), Ein Avdat (Wilderness of Zin, Num 34:3), Tel Sheva (Gen 21 and 26). Evening Lecture (optional): <i>Archaeology of Judges and the United Monarchy.</i>	Arad, Inbar Hotel or similar
5	Nov 19 (Thursday)	Climb the Roman Ramp at Masada , to explore one of Herod's wilderness fortresses, and setting of the last stand of Jewish rebels against the Romans in 73 CE. Explore the oasis of Ein Gedi with its pools and waterfalls, including touring the synagogue from the period of the Talmud. Visit Qumran , the Second Temple period community near the caves in which the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Enjoy some free time to float in the Dead Sea . Evening Lecture (optional): <i>Archaeology of the Divided Kingdom</i>	Sea of Galilee, Ohalo Mansions or similar
6	Nov 20 (Friday)	Visit Archaeological sites around the Sea of Galilee including Kursi, Capernaum, Chorasim and Magdala . Those who wish may visit the Jordon River . Evening Lecture (optional): <i>Archaeology of the Second Temple Period</i>	Sea of Galilee, Ohalo Mansions or similar
7	Nov 21 (Saturday)	Tour Beit Shean (1 Sam 31) / Scythopolis , one of the Decapolis cities. Stop at Gideon's Spring (Maayan Harod, Judges 7) and Tel Jezreel (I Kings 21). Pass Tel Megiddo (often identified with New Testament Armageddon). Tour Caesarea , where Cornelius heard the gospel from Peter (Acts 10), and Paul stood trial before Felix and Festus (Acts 24-26). <i>Free Evening.</i>	Netanya Residence Hotel or similar
8	Nov 22 (Sunday)	Stop at ONE FOR ISRAEL's headquarters and Bible school. Then UP TO JERUSALEM! Visit the City of David excavations , including Hezekiah's Tunnel and the Pool of Siloam . Walk along the " Pilgrim's Road " to the southwall excavations . End the day at the Western Wall . Evening Lecture: <i>Jerusalem at the time of Jesus.</i>	Jerusalem, Ibis City Center or similar

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9	Nov 23 (Monday)	Ascend Temple Mount , once the site of the first and second temples, and now the site of the Dome of the Rock and El-Aqsa Mosque. Visit the excavations at the Pools of Bethsaida . Participate in the Temple Mount Sifting Project . Then tour the Israel Museum , viewing the model of Second Period Jerusalem , the Shrine of the book (where portions of the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed, and doing a guided tour of the archaeology wing . Option to walk to the Mahane Yehuda market or the Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall (on your own). <i>Free evening.</i>	Jerusalem, Ibis City Center or similar
10	Nov 24 (Tuesday)	In the morning, there will be a walking tour of the Old City, including sites in the Christian Quarter (such as the Church of the Holy Sepulcher) and the Jewish Quarter such as the “ Herodian Quarter ”, the “ Broad Wall ” and the “ Cardo ”. Then enjoy free time to browse the Old City bazaars or visit other sites of interest. In the late afternoon, transfer to the airport for flights home.	No hotel included this night
11	Nov 25 (Wed)	Arrive home	

*The itinerary is subject to change due to weather conditions, unforeseen events or at the discretion **Of** the group leader for the good of the group.*

Participants are invited to join two introductory lectures on Zoom prior to the tour:

- 1) History of archaeology and methodology
- 2) Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Early Bronze periods.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Israel 10-day / 9-night tour	Price in USD
Price per person in a shared room for 2 people (land only)	\$3100
Single room supplement (additional payment for a room on your own)	790
Fee for 3 academic credit hours (optional)	Price for DTS Students: \$450 (\$150/credit hour) Price for students of other institutions: \$750 (\$250 / credit hour)

Please note: The rates are in US Dollars and do NOT include flights

The group will stay at the following accommodations or similar:

Nights	Location	Hotel or similar
2	Jaffa	Ruth Daniel Residence
2	Arad	Inbar
2	Sea of Galilee	Ohalo
1	Netanya	Residence
2	Jerusalem	Ibis City Center

RATE INCLUDES:

- ▶ Arrival & departure transfers from and to the airport **as a group**. Please wait to book your flight until a staff member confirms that the trip has gathered the 15 participants necessary.
- ▶ Nine nights’ accommodation in a shared room for two people (There is an additional payment required for those requesting a room on their own).
- ▶ Israeli breakfast and dinner daily (except for dinner on the last day)
- ▶ Ten touring days with a professional and licensed English-speaking guide
- ▶ Entrance fees to sites mentioned in the itinerary
- ▶ Luggage loaders at hotels
- ▶ Tips and gratuities for guide, driver, hotel staff (included in the rate, but to be brought in cash)

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RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to or from Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv
- Travel Cancellation Insurance for tour package and flights
- Medical insurance (mandatory), valid in Israel
- Visa fees **for Israel** (if applicable) according to the nationality of your passport. You are required to apply for pre-approvals for Israeli visas online, for a nominal fee.
- Sodas and alcohol at the hotels
- Lunches
- All expenses of a personal nature

BOOKINGS AND RATES

- This tour is still gathering the minimum 15 participants needed for it to be “guaranteed departure”. Therefore, do not book your flights until “guaranteed departure” is confirmed by a Derech-El staff member.
- Changes can occur in hotels due to factors beyond our control.
- Changes in price may be necessary, due to significant exchange rate fluctuations, up to 60 days before departure.
- If a roommate cannot be assigned or is not wanted, single-room rates will apply.
- Registration should be done online at [this link](#) (TBA)
- Registration closes August 14, 2026
- A non-refundable deposit of **\$400 per person**, paid online to “Israel College of the Bible/Derech-El” is required to secure registration. You will be directed to the payment site at the end of registration. If the tour does not gather the minimum number of participants before August 14, 2026, the participants will be given the choice of continuing with the tour at an increased price, or cancelling the tour and receiving a full refund of their deposit.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION PENALTIES

- **Final Payment** should be made by Aug 15, 2026
- 25% of total tour cost will be charged if you cancel before Sept 15, 2026
- 50 % of total tour cost will be charged if you cancel before Oct 15, 2026
- 100 % of total tour cost will be charged if you cancel after Oct 15, 2026

TRAVEL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

We strongly advise you to purchase **travel cancellation insurance** for your trip to Israel.

Cancellation insurance usually covers your expenses in case of cancellation due to unforeseen health and other issues (depending on the type of policy purchased). Derech-El shall not be liable or responsible for any injury, sickness, loss or damage to any person or property caused by natural disasters, pandemics, strikes, civil disturbances or other factors over which the company has no control and cannot influence to change them. Derech-El offers no coverage or compensation of any kind in cases stated above, nor for cancellations or inability to travel.

In addition, please check that your **medical insurance** covers you while you are in Israel.

DOCUMENTS

A **passport valid for at least six months after returning home** is required. It is the passenger's responsibility to obtain, at their own expense, the documents required to enter Israel according to citizenship. US citizens, and citizens of many other countries, must apply online for Israeli visa pre-approval (ETA-IL) before arrival, at a small cost (currently, about \$8).

<https://israel-entry.piba.gov.il/>

PASSENGER FITNESS

This tour itinerary requires each participant to be in good health and be able to walk, as many sites are unfortunately not accessible to people in wheelchairs or those who have difficulty walking. If there are any issues pertaining to your health or physical fitness, we ask that you consult with us prior to registration.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

The tour is organized by DERECH-EL, Israeli Association for Awareness of Biblical Roots, Registration Number 580241438 (Derech-El). It should be noted that Derech-El is not responsible for services which are not directly provided by Derech-El, such as hotel accommodation, ground transportation, meals, tours, cruises and other related services. Derech-El cannot assume any liability for any actions taken on the part of the suppliers, or the government of Israel or other countries, which results in any loss, accident, delay, irregularity, damage, or injury to you or your traveling companions or group members for any reason

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whatsoever, including measures taken to contain the spreading of the COVID-19 virus or hostile acts or war. Furthermore, Derech-El cannot assume any liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which is caused directly or indirectly by the COVID-19 virus or hostile acts or war, or any foreseen or unforeseen developments.

By embarking on the tour, you assume all risks involved in such travel, whether foreseen or unforeseen. *Derech-El* will not be liable to perform obligations under this trip agreement or liable for any loss or hardship arising from the delay or cancelation of scheduled tours resulting from acts beyond its reasonable control including, without limitation, acts of God, national disasters, embargoes, national closures, pandemics, epidemics, or other viral outbreak, shortage of supply, interruptions or malfunction of computer facilities, labor difficulties, wars or terrorist acts. *Derech-El* will provide trip participants with reasonable notice of delays or failure to perform that occurs by reason of force majeure.

Derech-El reserves the right to cancel tours, or make changes to the itineraries, as it deems necessary or desirable – in accordance with Israeli government regulations, instructions, and recommendations. Derech-El will honor any refunds pending under its existing agreements with above-mentioned suppliers. It is recommended that each member of the tour purchase appropriate insurance coverage to the extent available with respect to risks associated with your travel to Israel at this time. Your registration shall constitute an acceptance of and consent to the above terms and conditions of this disclaimer. Derech-El will not be liable to perform obligations under this trip agreement or liable for any loss or hardship arising from the delay or cancelation of scheduled tours resulting from acts beyond its reasonable control including, without limitation, acts of God, national disasters, embargoes, national closures, pandemics, epidemics, or other viral outbreak, shortage of supply, interruptions or malfunction of computer facilities, labor difficulties, wars or terrorist acts. Derech-El will provide trip participants with reasonable notice of delays or failure to perform that occurs by reason of *force majeure*.

I hereby dismiss, release, and waive Derech-El, (Israeli Association for Awareness of Biblical Roots, Registration Number 580-241-438) from all responsibility and/or liability and/or any legal action and/or demands of any kind for cancellations or any kind of additional expenses related to the flights to Israel and/or the tour and/or infection of the coronavirus and/or any costs associated thereby.