biblical
EXPEDITIONS



PARTICIPANT ITINERARY

ISRAEL

Rooted: A Formation Journey

Rooted in the God of the Bible, the Land of the Bible, and the faith of Jesus

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PREPARED FOR

Rooted

March 8 – 17, 2028

with BE Instructor **Marc Turnage**

www.biblical-expeditions.com

TRIP OVERVIEW

Your Journey

Rooted is a formation journey through the land of Israel with Marc Turnage. From the harbor at Caesarea, where the first gentiles were grafted in, to the shores of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus taught, and on to the streets of Jerusalem, we trace the story of the Jewish people from the Bible to the present day. Along the way we explore the faith of Jesus and Paul, the modern return to the land, and what it means to stand alongside Israel today.

At a Glance

Travel dates	March 8 – 17, 2028
Duration	10 days · 7 nights
BE Instructor	Marc Turnage
Group leader	Rooted
Document date	October 30, 2026

Accommodations

City	Nights	Hotel	Rating
Netanya (Tel Aviv area)	1	Vert Lagoon Netanya	4-Star
Sea of Galilee	3	Nof Ginosar	Kibbutz hotel
Jerusalem	3	Dan Panorama Jerusalem (late checkout March 16)	4-Star

Hotels are as listed or similar. Breakfast and dinner are included daily at the hotels; on March 16 the group has a late checkout in Jerusalem before departing for the airport after the farewell dinner.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2028

Depart the U.S.A.

Depart the United States on your overnight flight to Israel.

DAY 2

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2028

Arrive Tel Aviv

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, our representative will meet you in the arrival hall to assist you with your luggage. You will meet your guide and travel to your hotel. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

HOTEL Vert Lagoon Hotel, Netanya **DINNER** Vert Lagoon Hotel

DAY 3

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2028

Kingdoms and Cultures in Conflict · Caesarea · Magdala

Our morning begins at the port city of Caesarea, built by Herod the Great (Matt. 2)—the second largest harbor in the Roman Empire during the first century. At Caesarea, Peter visited the gentile centurion Cornelius (Acts 10), and he and his household became the first gentile followers of Jesus. The Apostle Paul remained under house arrest here for two and a half years, standing before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa II (Acts 23–25), and from this harbor he sailed to Rome, leaving Israel for the last time. It was also here, in AD 66, that tensions between the city's Jewish and gentile communities ignited the First Jewish Revolt. We visit the ancient theater with its magnificent view over the Mediterranean, Herod's palace that served as the residence of Roman officials like Pontius Pilate (with the replica of the inscription recording his dedication of a temple to Tiberius), the stadium and harbor, and the aqueduct that supplied the city with water. Our focus at Caesarea is the expansion of the gospel to the non-Jews and the relationship Jesus' followers saw between Jews, Israel, and the non-Jewish followers of Christ—the question of our Romans 11 orientation, standing in the city where the wild olive branches were first grafted in. After Caesarea, we travel to Magdala to visit one of the few excavated first-century synagogues in Israel, dating to the time of Jesus' ministry, along with wealthy homes from the village and the first-century harbor. In this synagogue, with its remarkable carved stone bearing the imagery of the Temple, we touch the redemptive hopes of first-century Jewish Galilee and meet Jesus' announcement of Israel's redemption (Matt. 4:23). Dinner and overnight on the Sea of Galilee.

HOTEL Nof Ginosar, Sea of Galilee **DINNER** Nof Ginosar

DAY 4

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2028

Beginnings · Tiberias · Hatzar Kinneret · Golan · Dan

Today our journey focuses on the land from the beginning of the nineteenth century to the present day. Our morning begins in Tiberias, one of the four holiest cities in Judaism, as we look at the formation of Judaism over the centuries and its enduring relationship to the land. We then travel south along the Sea of Galilee to Hatzar Kinneret, a school established in the early 1900s to train Jews immigrating to the land to farm and form permanent settlements—where the modern return to the land began with seedlings and plows. From here we travel into the Golan Heights and the upper Jordan Valley, continuing the story of the formation of the modern State of Israel; at a high overlook on the Israel–Syria border, we look into Syria towards Damascus. Our day concludes at the nature reserve of Dan. The ancient city of Dan, which formed the northern boundary of biblical Israel, sits on the Dan Spring, one of the three tributaries of the Jordan River. Dinner and overnight on the Sea of Galilee.

HOTEL Nof Ginosar, Sea of Galilee **DINNER** Nof Ginosar

DAY 5

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2028

The Faith of Jesus, Our Roots · Sea of Galilee

Our journey today focuses on the ministry of Jesus around the Sea of Galilee. Our morning begins at Yardenit, with an opportunity to be baptized in the Jordan River. We then travel to Almagor, overlooking the Bethsaida Valley where the Jordan River flows into the Sea of Galilee and where Jesus fed the 5,000 (Luke 9:10-17). We continue to Chorazin, one of the three cities cursed by Jesus (Matt. 11:21; Luke 10:13), where we see ancient homes, Jewish ritual immersion pools, and the magnificent fifth-century basalt synagogue with its replica of the Seat of Moses (Matt. 23:2). Next is Capernaum, where Jesus made his home around the lake (Matt. 4:13) and healed the centurion's servant (Matt. 8:5), and where the partly reconstructed fourth-century limestone synagogue looms over the site. From Capernaum we visit the small museum at Kibbutz Ginosar, home to a first-century fishing boat discovered in the lake in the 1980s. Our day concludes with an evening boat ride on the Sea of Galilee; the ancient fishermen fished the lake at night, and riding its waters in the evening offers a unique opportunity to connect with Jesus and his disciples—the Jewish faith of Jesus that is our root. Dinner and overnight on the Sea of Galilee.

HOTEL Nof Ginosar, Sea of Galilee **DINNER** Nof Ginosar

DAY 6

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2028

Biblical Jerusalem · Israel Museum · City of David · Western Wall

We drive into Jerusalem and begin at the Israel Museum, where we see a scale model of Jerusalem on the eve of its destruction in AD 70 and visit the Shrine of the Book, which houses some of the Dead Sea Scrolls, including some of the oldest copies of the Old Testament. Our museum tour concludes with the archaeological wing and its two galleries dedicated to Israel in the Old and New Testament periods—original artifacts from sites we have visited that make the Bible come alive. After lunch we visit the City of David, the oldest part of Jerusalem, the city David conquered and made his capital. Our day ends at the Western Wall, the most sacred site for Jews. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. After dinner we gather for a group lecture at the hotel (speaker to be announced).

HOTEL Dan Panorama, Jerusalem **DINNER** Dan Panorama

DAY 7

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2028

The Jews of the 19th and 20th Centuries

We begin our morning at Yad Vashem, the memorial to the Holocaust. For lunch, we journey to Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda Market, with the opportunity to sample many cuisines. After lunch, we step into nineteenth-century Jerusalem, beginning at Christ Church inside Jaffa Gate, the oldest Protestant church in the Middle East (consecrated 1849), where British Christians who believed in the restoration of the Jewish people established their presence beside the walls of the Old City. We then walk out of the city to the first communities built beyond the walls: Mishkenot Sha'ananim, with its famous windmill built by Sir Moses Montefiore in 1860, and the adjacent neighborhood of Yemin Moshe—where Jerusalem first dared to grow beyond its ancient walls. Any remaining time is free to wander. Before dinner we gather for a group lecture at the hotel (speaker to be announced). Dinner at the hotel. After dinner, Israeli journalist Haviv Rettig Gur speaks on the Jews of the 19th and 20th centuries and the formation of the State of Israel. Overnight in Jerusalem.

HOTEL Dan Panorama, Jerusalem **DINNER** Dan Panorama

DAY 8

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2028

In the Footsteps of October 7th · The Gaza Envelope

Today we journey south towards the Gaza Strip and to the locations of the attacks of October 7, 2023. As we travel through these places, we discuss the events of that tragic day and its aftermath, listening to the stories of the communities that endured it. We come not as spectators but as witnesses, standing with the Jewish people in their grief as well as in their story. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

HOTEL Dan Panorama, Jerusalem **DINNER** Dan Panorama

DAY 9

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2028

Jesus' Final Days · Farewell Dinner

Our morning begins with a beautiful view of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives. We walk down the mountain following the modern path used by pilgrims on Palm Sunday, visiting the church of Dominus Flevit, which remembers Jesus' weeping over the city, and the traditional location of the Garden of Gethsemane. We cross the Kidron Valley and continue along the southern wall of the Temple Mount. On the first-century street, we see the shops and markets around the Temple, a possible location for the money changers (Luke 19:45-48), then walk the steps ancient pilgrims took to ascend to the Temple—courts Jesus himself walked at Israel's festivals, including the Feast of Dedication (John 10:22-23). We continue to Jaffa Gate, where Herod's palace stood in the first century: here the story of Jesus begins (Matt. 2) with the visit of the wise men, and here it ended, as Jesus stood before Pontius Pilate (Mark 15:16). From Jaffa Gate we walk into the Jewish Quarter and the Herodian Quarter, a series of first-century priestly homes, then along the Byzantine Cardo past the walls of Jerusalem from the eighth century BC and the first century BC. Passing the Gennath Gate, we follow the historic route Jesus traveled from Pilate to his place of execution at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. After a farewell dinner, we depart for Ben Gurion Airport and the overnight flight home—refreshed, challenged, and renewed in faith, rooted in the God of the Bible, the Land of the Bible, and the faith of Jesus and Paul.

HOTEL Late checkout, Dan Panorama · overnight flight **DINNER** Farewell dinner at Chota, Jerusalem (to be confirmed)

DAY 10

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2028

Return Home

Arrive home in the United States.

YOUR TRIP PACKAGE

What's Included

Included in Your Package

- 7 overnights at the hotels listed above, plus late checkout in Jerusalem on March 16
  - 1 night Netanya (Vert Lagoon Hotel) · 3 nights Sea of Galilee (Nof Ginosar) · 3 nights Jerusalem (Dan Panorama)
- BE Instructor: Marc Turnage
- Biblical Expeditions concierge accompanying the group throughout
- Guest speakers and evening lectures in Jerusalem, including Israeli journalist Haviv Rettig Gur on the formation of the State of Israel (March 13 and 14)
- Meet-and-assist at Ben Gurion Airport on arrival and departure
- Licensed English-speaking guide for 8 full days of touring
- Luxury air-conditioned coach throughout, including airport transfers, with water on board and whisper headsets
- Full Israeli buffet breakfast daily
- Dinner every evening (8), including:
  - Welcome dinner at the Vert Lagoon Hotel, Netanya (March 9)
  - Nof Ginosar, Sea of Galilee (March 10, 11 and 12)
  - Dan Panorama, Jerusalem (March 13, 14 and 15)
  - Farewell dinner at Chota, Jerusalem, to be confirmed (March 16)
- All entrance fees and activities as per the itinerary, including the evening boat ride on the Sea of Galilee
- All tips and gratuities (guide, driver, hotel and restaurant staff)
- B.E. Trip Box with resources, mailed to each participant's home
- 12-month subscription to BibleX AskEzra for each participant

Not Included

- Travel insurance or overseas medical insurance*
- Airfare to/from Tel Aviv
- All lunches, including the Mahaneh Yehuda Market lunch on March 14
- Drinks and beverages with meals, other than water
- Porterage at the airport
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Anything not mentioned above

** Overseas medical insurance is required to travel with Biblical Expeditions; travel insurance is not required but highly recommended.*

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Questions About Your Trip?

If you have questions about this itinerary, registration, payments, or preparing for your journey, please call or email the Biblical Expeditions main office. Our team is glad to help.

Biblical Expeditions Main Office

Phone 417.408.8511
Office hours Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Eastern (closed major U.S. holidays)
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We look forward to journeying with you.