

## **Northern Israel Tour – 3 days** **Friday – 5/11/10 - Sunday 7/11/10**

The tour shall include visits to a variety of holy sites as well cultural and scenic highlights, such as:

### ❖ **Haifa sites**

#### **The Carmelite Monastery of St Elijah**

Climb to the roof to enjoy the great views across the patchwork fields of the Yizrael Valley, one of the most renowned viewpoints in Israel.

**The stunning Baha'i Gardens** - a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008. The gardens comprise a staircase of nineteen terraces extending all the way up the northern slope of Mount Carmel and their unique design, combining geometrical shapes and exquisite detailing with loving conservation of natural and historic landscape features, leaves an indelible impression on visitors.



Baha'i Gardens

### ❖ **A visit to a Druze Village**



The Druze are a minority group who live peacefully in Israel and are renowned for their hospitality. Their villages in the Carmel and Golan regions offer not only an insight into their interesting religion, but great food as well...

Isfiya and Daliyat El Carmel are two such villages, located in the Carmel region, just south of Haifa. Both villages have opened themselves to tourists, while at the same time preserving their traditional Druze life style. We shall enjoy traditional foods, listen to stories, and watch special performances of traditional music, song and dance, and visit the colorful market. Those who would like to have a religious experience can visit the Druze house of prayer, the mosque, or the Catholic-Maronite Church.

❖ **Nazareth sites**

**The Church of the Annunciation:** the largest church in the Middle East and one of the Christian world's most holy shrines. It stands over the site that was believed by some to be the house of Mary and where angel Gabriel appeared and announced she would give birth to Jesus. We'll also visit **Mary's Well** and stop at the famous **Nazareth market**.

❖ **Sea of Galilee sites**



**Tabgha** - the place of the seven springs, generally considered to be the most beautiful and serene of the Christian holy places. We'll take in **Beit Zaida** and explore **Capernaum** on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, said to be the home of Jesus for part of his life. **Tiberius**, one of the four holy cities of Judaism, and a visit to **the Jordan River** are also included. \*\* According to the timetable we may visit **Mount Tabor** and **The Basilica of the Transfiguration**.

**Tour Details:**

- Price per person in double room - US\$350 (Single room supplement is US\$100)
- Includes:
  - Transportation to/from Tel-Aviv
  - Guesthouse accommodation on half board basis (breakfast and dinner)
  - Entrance fees to sites
  - English-speaking tour guide

**The program is subject to change and depends on a minimum number of participants**

**Optional** (*if time permits*): we will spend some time in the beautiful city of Jaffa. We will visit the famous harbor, once one of the great ports of the Mediterranean Sea and one of the oldest known harbors in the world. Old Jaffa's main square is dominated by the Italian-style Church of St Peter with its attractive bell tower. After visiting the church we'll step outside to see Andromeda's Rock, the site of the famous Greek legend, and soak up the history as we hear the stories that are part of this historical city, shop at the famous flea market and browse the multitude of eateries with their delicious local fare and fresh juices. The jewel in the crown is the legendary Abulafia bakery on Yefet Street and we certainly won't miss out on their tasty baked breads or freshly made pastries!



Old Port - Jaffa