Land of Galilee, Israel

Saturday
You are met at Tel Aviv airport and transferred to Moshav Sharona in the lower Galilee. Flights should arrive by 15:30.

On arrival at Moshav Sharona in the lower Galilee, there will be introductions and explanations for the time ahead. During dinner you will also have an informative talk about the history of Israel. Overnight at Moshav Sharona.

Please note: Local conditions may dictate that the itinerary needs to be changed, always with your best interests in mind.

Sunday
Today you ride in the Galilee’s beautiful natural landscape. After matching horses and tack with riders, you leave the stables in Shedmoat Devora to ride along the tributaries of the Tabor Stream, perhaps passing Kfar Keesh to visit Tel Rechesh where, according to some sources, part of King Solomon’s legendary stables were located.

Afterwards, you return through almond orchards and fields to Shedmoat Devora.

After a short break for lunch, you then go on to Mt. Tabor to visit the Church of Transfiguration. Continue on to Nazareth for a walking tour of the holy sites and markets if there is time. Return to Moshav Sharona for the night.

Monday
An early start today and the day begins with a ride in the remarkable Sirin Heights. Enjoy the stunning natural scenery along its streams and around its springs.

You ride to the lookout point of Mitzpe Ayloat for a breathtaking view of the Jordan Valley. Riding in the direction of Jordan, you pass through the Yaela Grove, the site where Jael, wife of Heber the Kenite, killed Sisera. You then cross the fertile Jordan Valley heading towards the Jordan River.

Upon reaching the Jordan River, where you may have the chance to swim in the river (without the horses), you ride to Kibbutz Degania for a late lunch. After lunch you have a tour of the kibbutz (the first kibbutz in the world) and learn about this unique way of life.

Return to Moshav Sharona for the night.

Tuesday
Today you explore the area of the ‘horns of Hitin’, the site of the last battle of the Crusaders in the holy land in 1187, and Arbel Stream. You are following the ‘Jesus Trail’, an historical trail that connects Nazareth and Capernaum. After the ride there is the
opportunity to swim in the sea of Galilee near Magdala, the village of Maria Magdalena.
Later transfer to Kibbutz Dalia for the night.

Wednesday

This morning you ride a new set of horses at HaZorea. Upon arrival at the stables you will be matched to your new horse and then ride west towards the forest of Mt Horshan. Exploring the trails you head south towards Tzabarain spring, which was the water source for Caesarea during Roman times.

You cross the village of Amikam and follow the Taninim (crocodile) stream east back to the stables.

Leaving the stables you visit Mt. Carmel and El-Maharrakah, the site where the Prophet Elijah supposedly slaughtered the prophets of Baal. The views are as amazing as the biblical stories and your guide will take you on a tour of the Carmelite Monastery located there. Later you have a traditional lunch in the nearby Druze village of Osafia before returning to Kibbutz Dalia.

Thursday

This morning you ride through the rolling hills and groves of the Ramot Menashe National Park, stopping to explore a cave used for training in 1947 by the Palmach, the elite fighting unit of the underground Hagannah army. Continue riding south east towards the highland of the south Carmel region and visit the Kibbutz Memorial monument before riding back to the stables at Ramot Menashe. Say goodbye to your horses and return to Kibbutz Dalia for the night.

Friday

This day is dedicated to Jerusalem. Departing early, you travel by car from the Galilee to the city of Jerusalem. Your guide will drive to the Old City to follow the Via Dolorosa, the path that Jesus walked on his way to crucifixion. Along the way, you visit the holy sites of the three monotheistic religions.

After a typical Israeli lunch of houmous, pita bread and the popular falafel, you will visit west Jerusalem, the Israeli Museum and the Kneset (Israeli Parliament).

In the late afternoon you are transferred back to Tel Aviv airport for about 17:00. Guests can also be dropped off at hotels in Tel Aviv.
Please note that flights should depart after 20:00. If you book an earlier flight than this then we will arrange an earlier transfer (extra cost).

**Accommodation**

Accommodation is in country lodges on a kibbutz or a moshav. The lodges are comfortable but not luxurious; they have twin bedded rooms with en suite or private bathrooms.

The kibbutz cooperative farming lifestyle is one where all the members share in the work. The original philosophy of a kibbutz was to produce as much as you can, but only take what you need. Therefore all the members were comfortably taken care of. They are a close knit community with their own schools, dining halls and shops. Things have changed slightly over the years, but there is still a great sense of community amongst the members.

A moshav has a similar setup to a kibbutz, being a farming community. However, the farms tend to be individually owned so can operate as a private business.