

# Walk Across the Holy Land



## 2nd Destination Sea of Galilee:

You have now walked with Jesus 60 miles north back to Galilee along the sea, where he met and recruited the first of his disciples, fisherman Peter (also called Simon), his brother Andrew and the brothers John and James. Much of the ministry of Jesus occurred on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.



Sea of Galilee

The Sea of Galilee is located in north Israel on the east side of Galilee. It is the largest freshwater lake, approximately 33 miles in circumference, about 13 miles long and 8 miles wide. The entire lake is located within a valley, about 210 meters below sea level.

It is the lowest freshwater lake on Earth and the second-lowest lake in the world after the Dead Sea, a saltwater lake. The hills around the lake are 400-500 meters above the lake's level. The lake is fed partly by underground springs although its main source is the Jordan River which flows through it from the north to the south into the Dead Sea.

Due to its low lying position in the valley, surrounded by hills, the sea is prone to sudden violent storms; hence the New Testament story about Jesus calming the storm.



Israel's National Water Carrier, built in 1964, transports water from the lake to the population centers of Israel, and is the source of most of the country's drinking water.

Israel also supplies water from the lake to the West Bank and to Jordan (under the terms of the Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty). Increasing water demand and some dry winters have resulted in stress on the lake and a decreasing water line. Today, tourism is the lakes most important economic activity with the entire region being a popular holiday destination. The many historical and spiritual sites around the lake, especially

its main town Tiberias, are visited by millions of local and foreign tourist annually.  
The entire lake is surrounded by public and private beaches.



### **Biblical References:**

Matthew 4:18-22

#### **The Calling of the First Disciples**

18As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 19"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 20At once they left their nets and followed him.

21Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

### Mark 1:14-20

#### **The Calling of the First Disciples**

14After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

16As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 18At once they left their nets and followed him.

19When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

### **Next Destination Cana:**

Jesus and his disciples then walked 10 miles to Cana, where Jesus performed his first public miracle. Jesus, his mother Mary, and the disciples were all invited to a wedding there. At that time, weddings were week long festivals, and wine was a very important part of the wedding celebration. Running out of wine was an embarrassment for the host. Mary asked Jesus to help the bridegroom by turning gallons of water into wine. Walk with Jesus 10 miles then click on your 3<sup>rd</sup> destination to receive your next packet.