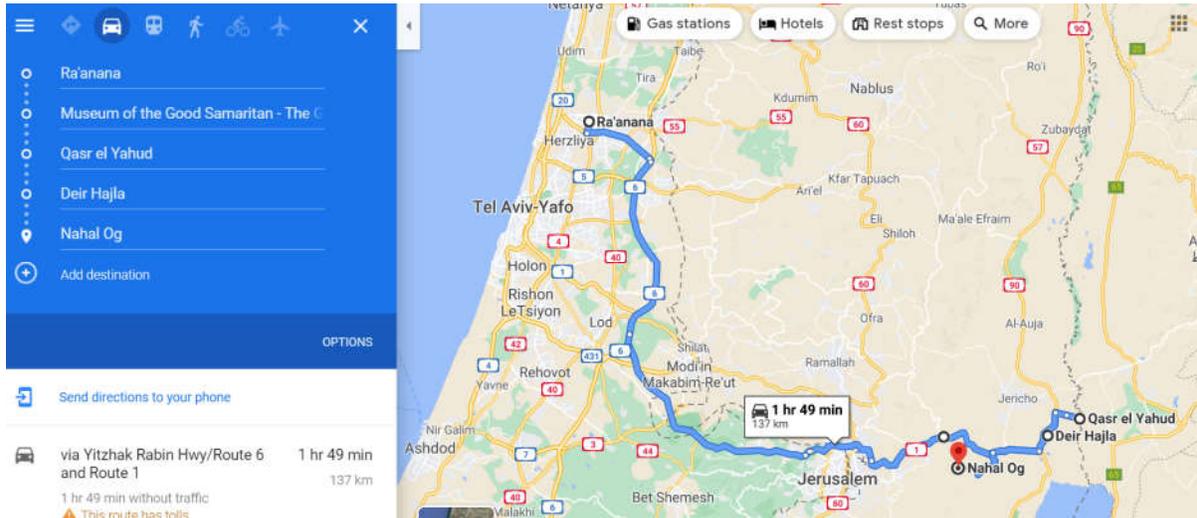




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Northern Dead Sea region tour
Good Samaritan, Qasr El Yehud Baptism Site, Deir Hajla (Monastery of St. Gerasimus), Lower Og Wadi
 By Racheli Kreisberg 12 Dec 2020



Preparations in advance:

Reserve at the sites you wish to visit (i.e., [The Good Samaritan Museum](#), [Qasr El Yehud](#))

10:00-11:00 Drive from the Center (Tel Aviv, Sharon Area) to the Good Samaritan

11:00-12:00 Visit the [Good Samaritan museum](#)

Phone: 02-6338230, Email: good-shomroni@npa.org.il

The museum is located in an ancient building from the Ottoman period which was originally built as a travelers’ inn. Its six halls have been restored. On display in the museum are archaeological remains, including a wealth of beautiful mosaics from the Byzantine period. One wing of the museum is devoted to the story of the Samaritan community, their history and customs.

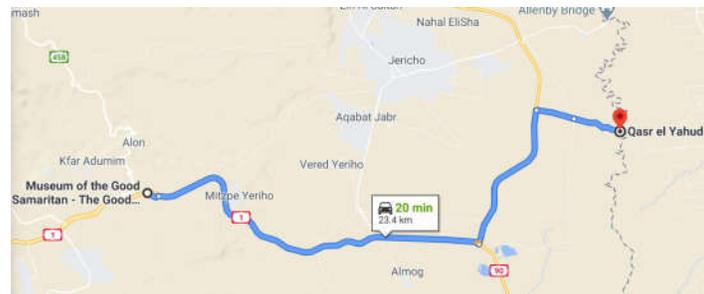
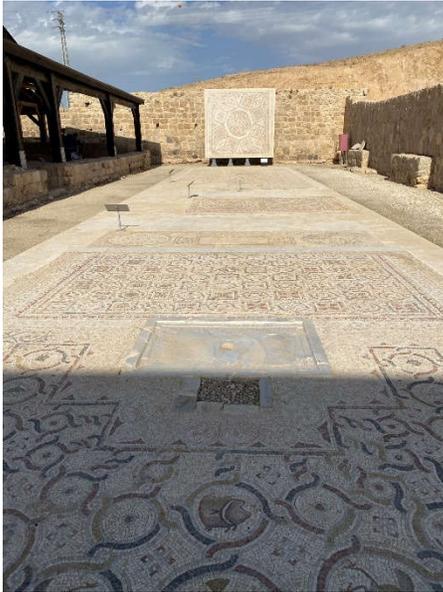


The Parable of the Good Samaritan: [Lk 10:25–37 NIV - The Parable of the Good Samaritan - On - Bible Gateway](#)

The Good Samaritan depicts the final scene in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) in which the Samaritan stopped to help a traveler who had been attacked by robbers. In this painting which shows a Samaritan wounded man being carried to the entrance of an inn where he will be tended, Rembrandt defines the key roles that the doorway was to play in his art, either between two states of the drama or two different states of existence. Viewed in this way, the doorway may be seen as the visual equivalent of a new chapter heading.



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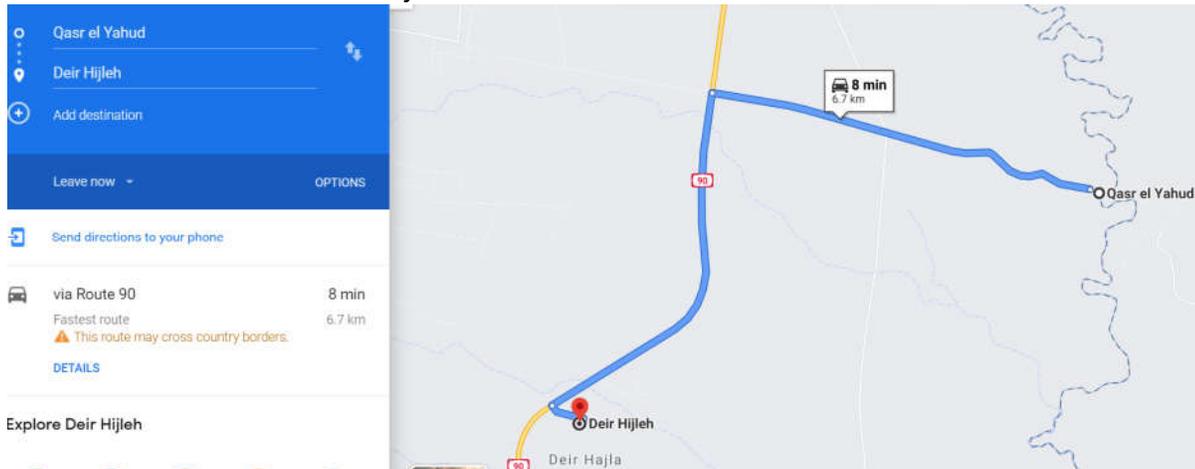
12:30-13:00 [Qasr El Yehud baptism site](#)
The site where, according to tradition, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist





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13:00-13:10 Drive to Deir Hajla

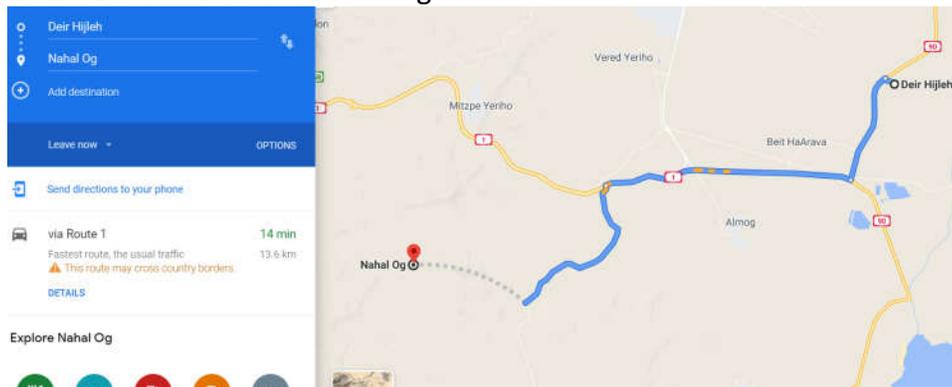


13:10-14:00 [Deir Jajla monastery](#) (Monastery of St Gerasimus)

One of the earliest of the more than 70 monasteries in the Judean desert, is named in honor of a pioneering monk who is usually depicted with a pet lion.



14:15-14:30 Drive to Lower Og Wadi





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14:30-16:30 Circular Hike [Lower Nahal Og](#) (5 km for fit walkers, 1-2 hour walk)
We recommend¹ walking our route in a clockwise direction: from the parking lot we follow the dirt track that descends northwards and takes us directly down to the broad bed of Nahal Og. The route is indicated by red trail markings. At this point the riverbed is wide and very large – evidence of the powerful floods that sometimes sweep down – and the streambed is full of desert plants. Down in the riverbed we turn west (to the right) and head for the entrance to the gorge, following the green trail markings. From this point on our route will lead us up dry rocky waterfalls. This section of the riverbed, which is about 1.5 kilometers long, was referred to by local people in the past as Wadi al-Asla. As we progress, the ravine grows steadily narrower, until it is no more than two meters in width in some places. The walls soar dozens of meters above us on either side. For the most part walking is easy, but we still have three waterfalls to cope with: the first is eight meters in height, the other two slightly lower. But even after we successfully negotiate the waterfalls, we cannot relax yet. Further along, our way is barred by a waterfall 1.5 meters in height. Most hikers will manage to make their way over it with the help of a step on the left, but the less tenacious may perhaps require a little assistance. As we emerge from the ravine, the riverbed broadens out. Here we leave it and turn right on to a black-marked dirt road, which, though short (it is only about 400 meters long), is rather steep. After just a few steps we turn right once again on to a blue-marked trail that leads us towards Kibbutz Almog, which is clearly visible from here.



¹ Derived from [Exploring the lower reaches of Nahal Og - Walking trails through Israel \(kkl-jnf.org\)](http://www.kkl-jnf.org)