

DUC IN ALTUM



Duc In Altum commemorates the Public Life of Jesus.

Women's Atrium

The Women's Atrium features eight pillars, seven represent women in the Bible who followed Jesus, while the eighth honors women of faith across all time.

Boat Chapel

This chapel commemorates Jesus preaching from the boat. The altar boat stands over the first century port.

Four Mosaic Chapels

Each chapel has enough room for 30 people and has an expressive mosaic depicting a biblical event near the Sea of Galilee.

- **Mary Magdalene Chapel** (Luke 8:2)
- **Walking On Water Chapel** (Matthew 14:30-31)
- **Daughter of Jairus Chapel** (Mark 5:41)
- **Fishers of Men Chapel** (Matthew 4:19)

Encounter Chapel

Located on the marketplace of the first century port, the Encounter Chapel is modeled after the structure of the Magdala First Century Synagogue. The chapel features a beautiful mural-sized painting of the encounter between Jesus and the hemorrhaging woman (Mark 5:25).



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10. Duc In Altum
11. 1st Century Port
12. Boat Altar
13. Sea of Galilee
14. Guest House
15. Visitors Center (coming soon)



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MAGDALA

CROSSROADS OF JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN HISTORY



MAGDALA

The ancient town of Magdala began in the Hellenistic period and grew to a thriving fishing village by the time the Romans invaded in 67 AD. Situated at the base of Mount Arbel, along a commercial trade route, the Via Maris, this town was buried until 2009. Today, Magdala has come to life again. Archaeological discoveries indicate the presence of an observant Jewish community in Magdala. It is here where Jesus likely taught the multitudes and healed the afflicted, including a woman who made her hometown famous, Mary Magdalene. Today, local and international visitors come to appreciate history and faith traditions, making Magdala a crossroads of Jewish and Christian history, past and present.



First Century Synagogue

The Magdala Synagogue was discovered in 2009 only 30 cm beneath the surface. This is the oldest synagogue excavated in Galilee and one of seven first century synagogues in Israel. Coins excavated in the synagogue date between 5 and 63 AD. A coin minted in 29 AD leaves the impression of Jesus teaching in the synagogues during his public life (Mt 4:23; Mk 1:39).



Crossroads of Jewish and Christian History



ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK

The mosaics and frescoes reveal the Greco-Roman influence in the Herodian period. A small mosaiced room on the southern side of the synagogue was likely where the Torah scrolls were stored. In the center of the synagogue stands the unique Magdala stone.

Magdala Stone

The Magdala Stone is one of the unique finds in the synagogue. Believed to be a holder for the Torah and Prophet scrolls, it represents the Temple of Jerusalem. The oldest carved seven branched Menorah flanks one side of the stone. Its tripod base, similar to the menorah image found on a wall in the Burnt House of the Herodian Quarter in Jerusalem, indicates the likely authenticity of its replication to the menorah in the Temple. The rosette design on the top represents the veil before the Holy of Holies. The back side offers an image of a fiery chariot to represent Divine Presence in the Holy of Holies.

Marketplace

A large market place with over 20 rooms would likely have sold everything from pottery to woven goods and fresh produce. At least 40 water installations and wells were discovered in the marketplace area. Scholars still wonder if these are fish pools, corroborating with the historical Magdala known as Tarichaea, meaning "place of preserved fish".

Villas & Mikvaot

This area, located south of the synagogue, contains evidence of primarily ritual use. Four well preserved purification baths, fed by subterranean flowing water, continue to function today. They are of the highest quality in the Jewish tradition. Adjacent to two of the mikva'ot is a mosaic room with a similar pattern as the synagogue mosaic.

Domestic Housing Area

This cluster of houses is one of several arranged in a grid, indicating the use of urban planning, including straight intersecting streets.

Fishermen's Work Area

This workplace was one building with many rooms, including a room with six bread ovens. Many objects related to fishing, such as hooks and weights for fishing nets, were found on the stone paved patios.

Warehouse and Wharf

Near the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee stood a large warehouse. Discoveries include a well, fish pool and bronze incense shovel. A stone built wharf with a mooring stone abutted the large structure, indicating the level of the sea in the 1st century AD. The road running parallel to the sea was integrated into the lower level chapel of the Duc In Altum worship center.