

Expectations for “Sherpa” Volunteers



Sherpa volunteers serving Biblical Israel Ministries & Tours (BIMT) are expected to be a positive reflection of BIMT in speech, conduct and attitude. We also request that you adhere to the following guidelines:

- *Show up at the designated time so that BIMT Team can go over pre-site information. We will be visiting a number of sites each day, with all of them different. Please gather “ready to help” by the side of the bus once we arrive at each site.*
- *Communicate time challenges and conflicts with the leader of the team, so that assignments can be made accordingly.*
- *Maintain flexibility during the trip knowing that there may be unexpected challenges and circumstances that we will face.*
- *Do not use profanity.*
- *Use disability etiquette when engaging with hikers, their families, their caregivers and other volunteers.*
- *Remain with the team and remain in proximity of the hiker (and his/her parents and caregivers) in case of emergency.*
- *Avoid posting on social media any comments regarding hikers’ disabilities and medical conditions. Please be considerate when taking photos. Be sure permission is given by the hiker (and/or family) to post on social media. However, this does not mean that the volunteers are to post pictures of the hikers on their personal pages.*

- *Each BIMT Israel tour is geared towards connecting not only with the Bible, but also with each other. We ask that you limit your cell phone use and refrain from wearing ear buds.*
- *Attempt to keep the hiker up with the group. This means getting the hiker ready in a timely fashion at each site. Try to optimized the hiker's position so that they can take in what the rest of the group is experiencing.*
- *Respect the community where we will be hiking by practicing "Leave No Trace" principles and always cleaning up after yourself. We want to keep Israel clean!*
- *No tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs should be used while volunteering.*
- *Wear appropriate hiking clothing and footwear. Hiking shoes are recommended (athletic shoes required) for yours and the hiker's safety. You may get muddy at sites, depending on the season of the year and the site.*
- *Training will be offered multiple times throughout the year and volunteers are required to complete necessary training as specified by minimum safety standards.*
- *Look for opportunities to further enhance the hike; point out birds, show them wildflowers. Remember it's not just about the hike but about experiencing Israel and each site we visit in a life-transforming way.*