

75 Nof Ginosar

Names (also known as)

Nof (Hebrew נֹף) signifies landscape or view.

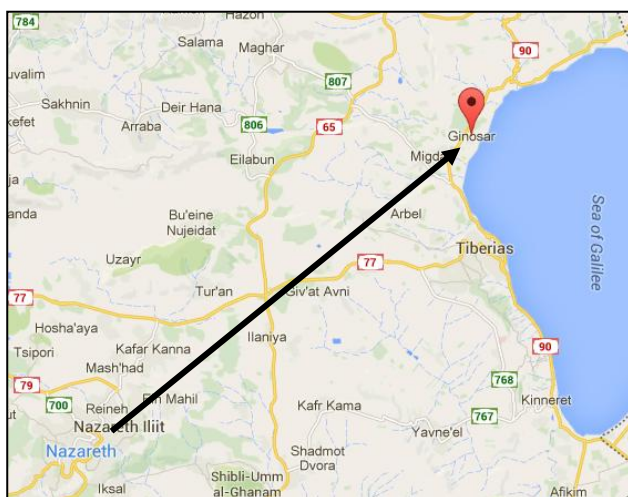
Ginosar (Hebrew: גִּינוֹסָר), (Latin: Gennesaret), O.T. - Chinnereth, Chinneroth or Cinneroth (7 occurrences in the Hebrew).

Etymology

Gennesaret in the Old Testament, is 'The sea of Chinnereth,' Numbers 34:11, &c. In the Targumists, 'The sea of Genesar'; sometimes, 'of Genesor'; sometimes, 'of Ginosar': it is the same also in the Talmudists, but most frequently 'The sea of Tiberiah.' Both names are used in the Gospels; 'the lake of Gennesaret,' Luke 5:1; 'the sea of Tiberias,' John 21:1; and 'the sea of Galilee,' John 6:1.

Location/Description

Nof Ginosar is a kibbutz on the western banks of the Sea of Galilee in Israel. In the First Century AD there was a flourishing town known as Gennesaret. The modern kibbutz takes its name from this ancient town, though it is not certain it is located on precisely the same site.



Notable connections

Nof Ginosar is significant because it is the first place on the Sea of Galilee that the Lord came to when travelling from Nazareth. Passing through Magdala (modern Migdal) beneath the Horns of Hittim he would meet the sea at this spot. From here he had a view of the whole lake and the towns that dotted its shoreline, and may well have taken boats across the lake.

Scriptural references

New Testament

Matt. 14:34; Mark 6:53; Luke 5:1.

Brief history

Ginosar was founded on the eve of Purim in March 1937 by a group of young Socialist Zionists, on Palestine Jewish Colonization Association (PICA) land that had been leased to the settlement of Migdal. The reason given for "squatting" was that the leased area needed close protection during the "disturbances" (1936–1939 Arab revolt in Palestine). The original was built as a tower and stockade settlement.

The kibbutz was closely aligned with the Mapai party and was the home of Yigal Allon (after whom the Museum is named), commander of the "Syrian Department" of the Palmach, and later a senior minister in the Government of Israel. Ginosar was originally an agricultural community; now its primary source of income is from tourism.

The Ancient Boat Museum

The Yigal Allon Museum at Kibbutz Ginosar was built in the 1990's to house the ancient boat discovered by two fishermen from the kibbutz during a severe drought in 1986. After removal from the lake the boat was submerged in a chemical bath for 7 years to preserve its timbers from disintegrating in the atmosphere.



The Sea of Galilee Boat, also known as the Jesus Boat, was an ancient fishing boat from the 1st century CE (the time of Jesus), discovered in 1986 on the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee in Israel. The remains of the boat, 27 feet (8.27 meters) long, 7.5 feet (2.3 meters) wide and with a maximum preserved height of 4.3 feet (1.3 meters), first appeared during a drought, when the waters of the Sea

(actually a great fresh-water lake) receded. There is no evidence connecting the boat to Jesus or his disciples although there seems little doubt that it was a similar boat that the Lord used in his frequent use of the lake.



Below is a photo of a full scale model of the boat now housed in the Yigal Allon Museum.



Sources:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ginosar>
<http://www.sacred-destinations.com/israel/>

(Compiler – Jim Cowie)



Kibbutz Ginosar



Above: The Horns of Hittim viewed from Magdala with Mt Arbel at left; and below, the view of Gennesaret from Mt Arbel

