

Itinerary Details

DAY 1, Monday - Depart for Israel

Depart for Israel. All group flights will leave from JFK airport. We will meet this group and bus from Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv.

If you are making your own travel arrangements we will send you instructions on how to take a taxi to the hotel.

If you would like to be picked up personally by one of our guides let us know and we will make a special trip to meet you at the airport and drive you to the hotel for an additional charge of \$50 per person.

DAY 2, Tuesday - Arrive in Tel Aviv

Arrive in Tel Aviv; transfer to your hotel in this vibrant city, known as Israel's "playground on the sea." Time to rest, relax and acclimate to your new time zone.

Enjoy a warm welcome and orientation meeting at approximately 5:30 PM with our tour guides. We recommend that you select flights which arrive in your destination no later than 5 PM on Day 2 of the itinerary or earlier, if possible

By 6:30pm we head to dinner. Three options will be available. Some of us will head to Jaffa for a Middle Eastern dinner at the Marina. You may also stroll down the beach at one of the nearby waterfront restaurants, or you can grab a quick bite at the commercial district about a block away and get to bed early.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

Meals: This dinner is not included in the tour price.

DAY 3, Wednesday - Tel Aviv, Caesarea, Galilee Region

This morning we travel to the ancient port of Jaffa with its reconstructed Artists' Quarter where we discover the surprising lessons that come from the biblical stories that took place in this city.

Drive along the sparkling Mediterranean coast to ancient Caesarea; see the astounding

Roman, Byzantine and Crusader ruins and the 2,000-year-old theater and hear a presentation on what we can learn from the story of the Household of Cornelius in Caesarea and what it means to be a Family on Mission.

Next we drive through the valley of Armeggedon and arrive at a hill overlooking the town of Nazareth to discuss the early life of Jesus to discuss the tensions Jesus encountered between his family and his mission.

Our day concludes at the Sea of Galilee where we settle in and debrief the lessons of the day with our group.

Overnight: Galilee Region

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4, Thursday - The Sea of Galilee

We begin our day with a prayer and worship experience on top of Mt. Arbel the most stunning panoramic view of the Sea of Galilee and likely one of the sites where Jesus would retreat from crowds to be alone with His Father.

We then drive to the age-old fishing village of Capernaum on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee, home to a celebrated Byzantine-era synagogue and frequently mentioned in the Bible as Jesus' base during his Galilean ministry. We see several ancient examples of worship in the home and spend time on the shores of the Sea to consider the calling of the first disciples that took place in that exact location.

We travel up the hill to the Mount of Beatitudes the most likely location where Jesus preached His famous "Sermon on the Mount" where we consider how the ancient Law and the teachings of Jesus can help shape a Family Team.

For lunch we visit a kibbutz and hear about the role these communities played in the founding of the State of Israel and how they continue to function today.

Then we'll ascend the Golan Heights to understand more about this strategic area; visit Har Bental, site of a former Israeli bunker.

We'll enjoy a special cruise on the Sea of Galilee before heading back to our hotel for dinner and discussion.

Overnight: Galilee Region

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5, Friday - The Jordan River and Jerusalem

This morning we spend time at the Jordan River where we learn about the ministry of Jesus and John the Baptist and allow time for anyone wanting to be baptized in the Jordan River.

We travel south past Jericho and ascend to Jerusalem. On the way we discuss the biblical Holiday and various ways modern families can enjoy these holidays to train in the Story.

We observe a panoramic view of Jerusalem from Mt Scopus.

This afternoon we head to Bethlehem which includes a visit to the Church of the Nativity and the Shepherd's Field, commemorating the birthplace of Christ. A stop for local olive wood handicrafts is included.

For Shabbat dinner we will join an Orthodox Jewish family and participate in their Sabbath meal. We'll have time to meet and ask questions of the different members of the family.

Overnight: Jerusalem

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6, Saturday - Masada and Dead Sea

Today we tour Masada beginning with a drive along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth. Ascend by cable car to the top of these heroic heights; listen to the brave tale of the Zealots who chose to perish rather than live under Roman rule. Visit the archaeological sites including the remains of Herod's Palace, a synagogue, bath houses, and dwellings.

Pass through the Museum of Masada at the base, then stop at the Dead Sea for a swim in the salty and buoyant waters before returning to Jerusalem.

Later, we enjoy a dinner together and a special presentation at our hotel in Jerusalem.

Overnight: Jerusalem

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7, Sunday - Jerusalem Old City Tour

We begin our day with worship at the Garden Tomb and a visit to the Mount of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane.

Together we will read Psalms of Ascent as we walk up to Mount Zion.

On Mt. Zion we'll visit the Room of the Last Supper and the Tomb of King David.

We'll have a relaxing lunch in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City.

We then enjoy a walking tour of Ancient Jerusalem with its four distinct sections - the Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Armenian Quarters.

Have a chance to see the famed Western Wall, then follow the steps along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, one of the holiest sites in the Christian world.

The remainder of the day is on your own to stroll through the picturesque lanes of the Old City or visit the exotic bazaars.

Sunday evening we'll debrief as a team about our time together and take some time to say our goodbyes.

Overnight: Jerusalem

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8, Monday - Depart Israel

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

Due to local events and holidays, the order of sightseeing may be changed. Details to be provided locally by Tour Manager