



## Trip Details

# Israel | Highlights of Israel

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## What's Included

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Porterage at hotels
- 2 nights in Tel Aviv at 4\* Metropolitan Tel Aviv Hotel or similar
- 2 nights in Galilee at 4\* Kibbutz Hotel or similar
- 3 nights in Jerusalem at 4\* Grand Court Hotel or similar
- 13 meals: 7 breakfasts, and 6 dinners
- Visit Jaffa, the oldest seaport in the world
- Visit Caesarea
- Tour the Golan Heights
- Enjoy wine tasting at a family-owned boutique winery in Galilee
- Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee
- Tour Acre (Akko) and the Crusaders Halls
- Visit the Bahai Gardens
- Experience a special "Shabbat of a Lifetime" dinner with a local Jewish family
- Visit Masada
- Visit the Dead Sea

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- Enjoy Sound and Light Show at the Tower of David
  - Visit the Mt. of Olives
  - Visit the City of David
  - Visit the Western Wall
  - Rooftop tour of the Old City of Jerusalem
  - Walk along the Via Dolorosa
  - Visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher
  - Visit Yad Vashem, the world's Holocaust memorial and museum
  - Visit the Israel Museum
  - Luxury air-conditioned coach
  - Entrance fees per the program

## Not Included

- International flights
- Any optional excursions
- Any beverages
- Tips for guides, drivers, and specialist guides
- Personal expenses
- Optional tours or visits
- Any tests are required for passengers due to Covid-19 regulations.

## Day by Day

### **DAY 1 | (ARRIVAL) Tel Aviv**



Welcome to Israel! Upon arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport, a representative will assist you through baggage claim and customs and escort you to your driver. Your driver will transport you to your hotel in Tel Aviv.

**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** NA

## **DAY 2 | Jerusalem**

Breakfast in the hotel after Meeting your tour guide in the morning and set off from Tel Aviv, driving south, passing by the cities of Ashdod, Ashkelon, and Beersheba, the capital of the Negev Desert.

Continue via Arad to Masada, Israel's foremost archaeological park.

Ascend via cable car for a thorough visit that gives insight into the rituals, politics, and culture of the people who inhabited this desert fortress, which was the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots in their war against the Romans. Visit the excavations, Herod's palaces, the synagogue, bathhouse, and cisterns, and enjoy the breathtaking view of the Roman camps and the Dead Sea.

Descend to the lowest place on earth – the Dead Sea, to experience the mineral-rich black mud and to float in its salty waters.

Passing by the oasis of Ein Gedi, proceed through the Judean Desert to Jerusalem

**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

## **DAY 3 | Jerusalem**

Start the day at the Israel Museum's Shrine of the Book with the famous Dead Sea scrolls, then a visit to the beautifully renovated Model of the Herodian city of Jerusalem, dating back to the time of the Second Temple.

Visit Yad Vashem the official memorial to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, established in 1953, located at the foot of Mt. Hertzl.

Enjoy Ein Karem; a picturesque village in the southwestern outskirts of Jerusalem. This small village has great significance in Christian traditions since this is where according to tradition John the Baptist was born.

Visit Bethlehem – the birthplace of Jesus at the Church of the Nativity and Manger Square.

Return to your Jerusalem hotel



**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

#### **DAY 4 | Beit Shean-Nazareth-Safed**

Enter the Old City of Jerusalem where you will see the Western Wall and the actual site of the Second Temple, the Temple Mount.

Walk the Way of the Cross, the Via Dolorosa, to Calvary and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, housing both the traditional site of Crucifixion and the Tomb of the Resurrection.

To the southwest, just outside the Old City, is Mount Zion, with the traditional tomb of King David and the Room of the Last Supper.

Enjoy the spectacular panoramic view of Jerusalem - the holy city for each of the world's three great religions – Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, from atop the Mount of Olives.

Visit the Garden of Gethsemane where Judas betrayed Jesus.

In the heart of a neighborhood in downtown Jerusalem, visit Mahane Yehuda to experience the flavors, aromas, colors, and the traders' interaction with the crowds, at the largest open market in Israel.

Overnight in Jerusalem

**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

#### **DAY 5 | Golan Heights-Sea of Galilee**

Leave Jerusalem and drive north passing by Jericho, the oldest city in the world.

Travel through the Jordan Valley and the new settlements to Beit Shean, and visit the excavations of this beautifully preserved Roman City.

On to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation and Christian holy sites.

Proceed to Safed, the city of the Kabbalah and center of Jewish mysticism, to visit the beautiful streets of the artists' colony.

Overnight in a kibbutz hotel in Galilee.

**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner



## **DAY 6 | Acre-Haifa-Caesarea-Tel Aviv**

Drive up to the Golan Heights passing by Banias, the source of the Jordan River, former Syrian fortifications, and the Druze villages.

Enjoy an Israeli wine country experience, with vineyards surrounded by breathtaking views. Become acquainted with the collection of fine and rare wines enjoying a tour, wine tasting, and understanding of the wine production process.

Descend to the shore of the Sea of Galilee and proceed to Capernaum, to visit the ruins of the ancient synagogue, the Mount of Beatitudes, the traditional site of the 'Sermon on the Mount' and Tabgha, the traditional site of the 'miracle of the loaves and the fish.

Onwards to Tiberias, the old center of Jewish learning.

Optional sailing on a boat across the Sea of Galilee to experience the tranquility and scenery little changed during the past 2000 years (subject to conditions and fee).

Return to the kibbutz hotel overnight.

**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

## **DAY 7 | Tel Aviv**

After breakfast drive through the hills of the Galilee, westwards to Acre (Akko) for a visit to the old, famous Crusader stronghold and medieval fortifications.

Continue to Haifa, ascending Mount Carmel for a panoramic view of the city, including the Baha'i Shrine, Persian Garden, and Haifa bay.

Proceed along the Mediterranean coast to Caesarea to visit the Roman Theater and the Crusader fortress at what is known as the "masterpiece of Herod the Great".

End the day with a short city tour of Tel Aviv and the ancient port of Jaffa.

Overnight in Tel Aviv.

**Hotels:** Overnight at the hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

## **DAY 8 | Departure - Tel Aviv**

Enjoy your last meal of the trip. Depending on your departure time, you will be transferred from your hotel to Ben Gurion Airport for your departing flight home at the appropriate time home.



Hotels: NA

Meals: Breakfast