

Israel Prelude

Saturday Departures
9 Days • 7 Nights

*An Isram Israel Exclusive Tour
Limited to 28 participants*

Tour Includes:

- Professional Tour Director
- Choice of Deluxe Hotel Plans
- 5 Days of Comprehensive Sightseeing
- Arrival and Departure Transfers

11 Meals:

- Daily Israeli Buffet Breakfast
- 2 Dinners in Haifa
- Lunch at Kibbutz Kfar Charuv
- Restaurant Dinner in Jerusalem
- Traditional Friday Night Dinner-Israeli home in Jerusalem

Special Features

- Dinner and special presentation in Haifa
- Descend to the Underwater Grottos at Rosh Hanikra
- Enjoy wine tasting at a Golan Winery
- Visit an Army Bunker in the Golan
- Tour the spectacular FOZ Heritage Center
- Night Tour of "illuminated" Jerusalem
- Tour Herodian Mansions or Hasmonean Tunnel
- Sound & Light Show in Jerusalem
- Shabbat Dinner with Home Hospitality in Jerusalem
- WiFi enabled buses and Free WiFi at all hotels
- Tips to all restaurant staff
- Express Airport Check-in Service & Dan VIP Lounge at Ben Gurion Airport (upon return to the USA)

(B) Breakfast (L) Lunch (D) Dinner



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Saturday: En Route

Depart the U.S.A. on your flight to Israel.

Sunday: Haifa

Welcome to Israel! Arrive Ben Gurion Airport; meeting, assistance and transfer to your hotel in the seaport city of Haifa. Evening: Enjoy **Dinner** and a special presentation on the multicultural traditions and religions in Israel (subject to minimum 10 tour participants). (D)

Monday: Haifa

View the golden-domed Baha'i Shrine and their breathtaking "hanging gardens," – a UNESCO World Heritage site. Drive along the coast to **Rosh Hanikra**; descend by cable car to see the magnificent underwater grottoes. Continue through the picturesque seaside town of Nahariya to the timeless Crusader city of **Acre**; walk through the subterranean city and bazaars that recall the colorful middle Ages. Then, to **Safed**, one of Judaism's holiest cities, where the Kabbalah was developed in the 16th.-century; visit the ancient synagogues and the charming Artists' Quarter. Return to your hotel for **Dinner**. The balance of the evening is at leisure to enjoy a stroll under the Carmel skies and the glow of this beautiful port city. (B.D)

Tuesday: Haifa/Jerusalem

We'll depart Haifa driving first to **Capernaum** to see the fantastic ruins of the ancient synagogue dating back to the 5th-century. Ascend the strategic Golan Heights and learn about the 20th century battles that protected Israel's future. On to **Katrzin**, capital of the Golan and to the **Monument of the 7th Brigade**. It is here, in the magnificent strip of the Golan that has become known for producing the finest wines in the world, that we will enjoy a tour of the wine making process as well as sample some of the Golan's tastiest wines. Continue for a visit to a

former Syrian army bunker at **Kibbutz Kfar Charuv**, settled by Americans and Israelis together; view of the fertile valleys below as you tour the kibbutz and enjoy lunch in the communal dining room. Visit the remains of an 8th century Roman city at **Bet Shean** (daylight time permitting). Then drive south and rise through the mountains to "golden" Jerusalem celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the reunification of the city, stopping first for a blessing and a toast to our arrival in the eternal city. Overnight in Israel's capital. (B.L)

Wednesday: Jerusalem

Drive to **Hadassah Medical Center** to see the sublime **Chagall Windows**. On to **Yad Vashem**, Israel's national Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust, with its Children's Pavilion and Avenue of the Righteous. Then, to **Mount Herzl** to pay respects to Israel's founders and heroes. Pass the post-modern **Supreme Court** and the **Knesset** (Parliament) en route to the **Shrine of the Book**, home of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Time to walk through the **New Israel Museum** and the **Billy Rose Sculpture Garden**; see the **Scale Model** of ancient Jerusalem. Evening: **Night Tour of illuminated Jerusalem** followed by a **Restaurant Dinner** and the "Night Spectacular" **Sound & Light Show** at the **Citadel Museum** (weather and schedule permitting). (B.D)

Thursday: Jerusalem

Enter the **Old City** from the **Dung Gate**; walk to the **Western Wall**, last remnant of the Second Temple. Witness joyous **Bar Mitzvah** ceremonies! View the **Dome of the Rock**. Drive to **Mt. Zion** to visit the traditional **Tomb of King David** and the **Room of the Last Supper**. Proceed to the restored **Jewish Quarter**; walk along the **Cardo**, the colonnaded main street of Byzantine Jerusalem. Visit the **Herodian Mansions**, a completely excavated residential quarter from 2000 years ago, or, walk through the extraordinary **Hasmonean Tunnel**



Ben Yehuda Street, Jerusalem - Courtesy IMOT-Naom Chen

(tunnel schedule permitting.) Follow the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; walk through the exotic bazaars with their wondrous aromas. End today with a visit to the fabulous new Friends of Zion Heritage Center celebrating the Christian heroes who have contributed to the Jewish people and the State of Israel. These heroes come alive through, cutting edge, high tech imaging, audio-visual presentations, holograms and much more. Or, an optional visit to Bethlehem may be arranged. A free night tonight. The shops are open late as it's the start of the Israeli weekend. Enjoy the many eateries along the outdoor Mamilla Mall, Ben Yehuda Street, or the "Tachana". (B)

Friday: Jerusalem

Descend through the Judean desert to the Dead Sea, lowest point on Planet Earth. Ascend Masada by cable car and see this last stronghold of the Zealots in their struggle against the Romans. Visit the excavations, Herod the Great's palace, synagogue and bathhouse. Then, opportunity to enjoy an "unsinkable" swim in the buoyant waters of the Dead Sea. Drive via the Qumran Caves, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, on your return to Jerusalem. Evening: You will be deeply moved as you join Jerusalemites welcoming the Sabbath at the Western Wall. Tonight, a unique and memorable evening as we join an Israeli family at their home to enjoy the traditional Friday dinner together. (B.D)

Saturday: Jerusalem

Enjoy a full day at leisure for relaxation and on your own exploration. For those still craving to see and do as much as possible, your tour manager will provide entrance tickets to the Museum of the History of Jerusalem in the Old City—definitely worth a visit. Overnight in Jerusalem. (B)

Sunday: En Route

Transfer to the Airport for your international departure flight. Enjoy our Express Check-in Service and complimentary entrance to the exclusive Dan VIP Lounge.

LAND PRICES (USD) PER PERSON – PRELUDE – SATURDAY DEPARTURES

HOTEL PLAN	CORAL		RUBY		SILVER		TOPAZ		OPAL		SAPPHIRE		EMERALD	
Haifa (Dlx, Bayview) Jerusalem	Dan Carmel Dan Panorama (D-E)		Dan Carmel Inbal (ENC)		Dan Carmel David Citadel ■		Dan Carmel Orient (OE) ◆		Dan Carmel King David ▲		Dan Carmel Waldorf Astoria (D)		Dan Carmel (E) King David (DOC)	
2017 Departure Dates	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single
May 6	2795	3815	2700	3655	3150	4620	3080	4410	3195	4635	3380	5015	3625	5470
May 13, 20, 27*	2805	3835	2685	3620	3050	4410	3060	4375	3395	5040	3390	5035	3825	5865
Jun 3, 10, 17, 24	2805	3835	2800	3855	3050	4410	3060	4375	3395	5040	3390	5035	3825	5865
Jul 1, 8, 15, 22	2795	3815	2800	3855	3065	4440	3080	4410	3220	4690	3065	4385	3650	5515
Jul 29, Aug 5, 12, 19	2775	3780	2685	3620	3050	4410	3060	4375	3175	4600	3220	4695	3605	5425
Aug 26, Sep 2, 9	2775	3780	2685	3620	3050	4410	3060	4375	3175	4600	3150	4555	3605	5425
Oct 14, 21, 28	2805	3835	2925	4110	3050	4410	3060	4375	3300	4845	3390	5035	3710	5635
Nov 4, 11	2805	3835	2800	3855	2990	4290	2975	4200	3300	4845	3050	4350	3710	5635
Nov 18	2705	3640	2800	3855	2990	4290	2975	4200	3060	4370	3050	4350	3490	5195
Nov 25	2625	3475	2650	3550	2955	4220	2940	4130	3025	4300	3015	4280	3465	5145
Dec 16	2735	3700	3065	4385	3060	4435	3110	4480	3225	4700	3175	4600	3665	5550
Dec 23	2905	4035	3170	4595	3215	4750	3230	4710	3360	4970	3815	5880	3800	5820
Dec 30	2625	3475	2765	3785	2955	4220	2940	4130	3025	4300	3015	4280	3465	5145
2018 Departure Dates														
Jan 27, Feb 17	2625	3475	2765	3785	2955	4220	2940	4130	3025	4300	3015	4280	3465	5145
Mar 10, 17, Apr 14*, 21	2775	3780	2800	3855	3050	4410	3060	4375	3175	4600	3220	4695	3605	5425
Apr 28, May 5	2775	3780	2800	3855	3050	4410	3060	4375	3175	4600	3390	5035	3605	5425
May 12	RATES TO BE ADVISED													

Jerusalem: (D-E) Deluxe Renovated Room/Exec. Lounge Access (ENC) Executive Room, New City View/Exec. Lounge access (OE) Orient Room, Executive Lounge Access (D) Deluxe Room (DOC) Deluxe Old City View Room **Haifa:** (E) Executive, Bay View Room/Exec. Lounge Access

UPGRADES IN JERUSALEM (Per Room, Total Stay):

- David Citadel: Upgrade to Deluxe Pool View/Old City View Room \$300
- ◆ Orient: Old City View \$375 (except Xmas at Orient, please inquire)
- ▲ King David: On Opal Plan, upgrade from Standard Room to Deluxe New City Room \$240

* Revised touring due to holiday. Please inquire for Special rates for child or adult as third in room.

Tour is guaranteed on a minimum of 4 passengers. Should the tour fall below 4 passengers, you'll be offered the option of touring by Share-a-car at a supplement of \$495 per person (3 persons minimum)

FOR HOTEL DESCRIPTIONS AND DETAILS ON OUR MIX & MATCH HOTEL PLANS, SEE PAGES 10-12. FOR TOURING BY PRIVATE CAR, SEE PAGE 44.