# Israel Prelude

## **Thursday 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
- Walking Tour of Tel Aviv
- Arrival and Departure Transfers with Special Assistance (International Flights)

## 10 Meals:

- Daily Israeli Buffet Breakfast
- Friday Dinner Get-together in Tel Aviv
- Dinner in Haifa
- Lunch at Kibbutz Kfar Charuv
- Restaurant Dinner in Jerusalem

## **Special Features**

- Tour the Israeli Museum at the Rabin Center
- 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
- WiFi enabled buses and Free WiFi at all hotels
- Tips to all restaurant staff

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





Courtyard Tower of David Citadel, Jerusalem

#### **ITINERARY**

## Thursday: En Route

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

## Friday: Tel Aviv

Welcome to Israel! Arrive Ben Gurion Airport; special meeting, assistance and transfer to your hotel in trendy Tel Aviv's Mediterranean beach. Balance of the afternoon at leisure in the "city that never sleeps". Tonight, Get Together Dinner. (D)

## Saturday: Tel Aviv

Morning walking tour through the city's well known streets including Dizengoff Square ending at Ben Gurion House, former residence of the First Prime Minister. Early afternoon optional visit to Machon Ayalon, the fascinating underground Ammunitions Factory (must be pre-booked; \$120 per person including roundtrip transfers-minimum 2 persons required). Or, take the optional full day tour of Masada and the Dead Sea (\$149 per person based on locally scheduled bus tour). (B)

## Sunday: Tel Aviv/Haifa

Depart Tel Aviv. Drive to the extraordinary Israeli Museum at the Yitzhak Rabin Center chronicling the life of the late Prime Minister and the development of the State of Israel. Continue to ancient Caesarea; explore the Roman and Crusader ruins including the impressive 2,000-year-old theater (still in use!) and aqueduct. Arrive in Nazareth, the sacred town where Jesus spent part of his youth; visit the Church and view Mary's Well. On to the sparkling port city of Haifa; check into your hotel atop Mt. Carmel. Evening: Enjoy Dinner and a special cultural presentation (subject to minimum 10 tour participants). (B.D)

## Monday: Haifa

View the golden-domed Baha'i Shrine and visit the 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. The balance of the evening is free to enjoy a stroll under the Carmel skies and the glow of this beautiful port city. (B)

## Tuesday: Haifa/Jerusalem

We'll depart Haifa driving first to Capernaum, by the Sea of Galilee, 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 Katzrin, 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 a late lunch in the communal dining room. Then drive south and rise through the mountains to "golden" Jerusalem, stopping first for a blessing and a toast to our arrival in the eternal city. Overnight in Israel's capital. (B.L)

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#### 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 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

Drive to Mt. Zion to visit the traditional Tomb of King David and the Room of the Last Supper. Enter the Old City to the restored Jewish Quarter; walk along the Cardo, the colonnaded main street of Byzantine Jerusalem. Walk to the Western Wall, last



Old Stone House, Safed

remnant of the Second Temple. View the Dome of the Rock. Proceed through the extraordinary Hasmonean Tunnel (tunnel schedule permitting) or tour the Herodian Mansions, a completely excavated residential quarter from 2000 years ago. Follow the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; stroll through the exotic bazaars with their wondrous aromas. End today with a visit to the fabulous Friends of Zion Heritage Center celebrating the Christian heroes who have contributed to the Jewish people and the State of Israel. The cutting edge technology is amazing. 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: En Route

Transfer to the Airport for your international departure flight; special assistance is provided for check-in service.

LAND PRICES PER PERSON (USD) – PRELUDE – THURSDAY DEPARTURES																
HOTEL PLAN	CORAL		RUBY		TURQUOISE		PEARL		AMBER		GOLD		OPAL		EMERALD	
Tel Aviv	Herods (EBL)		Sheraton (DSV)		Carlton (P-E)		Carlton (P-E)		Sheraton (DSV)		David Kempinski (DSV)		Dan (DCL)		Dan (E)	
Haifa (Dlx, Bayview)	Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel		Dan Carmel (E)	
Jerusalem	Dan Panorama (D-E)		Inbal (DR)		Inbal (DR)		Orient (OE)		David Citadel ■		David Citadel ■		King David ▲		King David (DOC)	
2023 Departure Dates	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single	Twin	Single
May 11, 18*, 25, Jun 1	\$3910	\$5390	\$3970	\$5555	\$4105	\$5825	\$4070	\$5755	\$4185	\$6035	\$4495	\$6655	\$4700	\$6970	\$5280	\$8070
Jun 15, 22	3910	5390	4180	5970	4245	6100	4070	5755	4185	6035	4495	6655	4700	6970	5280	8070
Jun 29	3850	5270	3970	5555	4035	5685	4010	5635	4185	6035	4495	6655	4500	6575	5065	7630
Jul 13, 27, Aug 17, 24, 31	3835	5245	3970	5555	4035	5685	4010	5635	4050	5750	4360	6370	4385	6340	4935	7380
Oct 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, 9	3910	5390	4075	5760	4140	5895	4070	5755	4185	6035	4495	6655	4700	6970	5280	8070
Nov 16	3835	5245	3970	5555	3985	5565	4070	5755	4015	5680	4325	6300	4235	6045	4775	7055
Nov 30	3635	4845	3800	5180	3910	5415	3935	5480	3895	5430	4185	6015	4080	5740	4600	6710
Dec 14	3635	4845	3975	5540	4085	5770	3935	5480	3975	5595	4265	6180	4080	5740	4600	6710
Dec 21	3855	5285	4060	5720	4170	5950	4145	5900	4135	5925	4490	6645	4545	6660	5110	7725
Dec 28	3710	4995	3885	5360	3995	5595	4005	5620	3895	5430	4250	6150	4235	6045	4770	7050
2024 Departure Dates																
Jan 11, Feb 15	3635	4845	3850	5305	3850	5315	3825	5265	3895	5430	4185	6015	3990	5550	4485	6480
Feb 29	3835	5245	3970	5555	4035	5685	4070	5755	4050	5750	4305	6260	4065	5700	4595	6695
Mar 7, 14, 21, 28, Apr 4	3835	5245	3970	5555	4035	5685	4070	5755	4050	5750	4385	6420	4385	6340	4935	7380
Apr 11	3835	5245	4040	5690	4105	5825	4070	5755	4050	5750	4385	6420	4385	6340	4935	7380
May 2*	3910	5390	4075	5760	4140	5895	4070	5755	4185	6035	4520	6700	4385	6340	4935	7380
May 9*, 16, 23, 30*						R	ATES	TO I	BE AD	VISED	)					

Tel Aviv: (EBL) Exec. Sea View Room/Business Lounge Access (DSV) Deluxe Sea View Room (P-E) Premium Sea View Room/Exec. Lounge Access (DCL) Deluxe Room, City Side/King David Crown Lounge Access (E) Executive Sea Facing Room/King David Crown Lounge Access NOTE: Sea View Room at all hotels in Tel Aviv are Partial Sea View.

Jerusalem: (D-E) Deluxe Room/Exec. Lounge Access (DR) Deluxe Renovated Room (OE) Orient Room/Exec. Lounge Access (DOC) Deluxe Old City View Room

#### UPGRADES IN JERUSALEM (Per Room, Total Stay):

- David Citadel: Upgrade from Superior Room to Deluxe Pool View/Partial Old City View Room \$234
- $\blacktriangle$  King David: On Opal Plan, upgrade from Standard Room to Deluxe New City View Room (Floors 1-4) \$177
- $^{\star}$  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 8-10. FOR TOURING BY PRIVATE CAR, SEE PAGE 34.

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