

Egypt, Israel and Jordan

Jan – Feb

ITINERARY

Day 1 BRISBANE- CAIRO

Depart Brisbane for your flight to Dubai where you will change aircraft and continue on to Cairo.

Day 2 ARRIVE CAIRO

On arrival you will be assisted through customs and transferred to your Hotel. You will have the rest of the day to enjoy some haggling at the Khan el Khalili souk; the oldest market in the Middle East dating back to 1382, or to rest up after your flight.

HOTEL: Oasis Hotel - Cairo

MEALS: Dinner

Day 3 Cairo

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Breakfast Depart

Today is a full day tour of Cairo including the Pyramids and Sphinx followed by a tour of the famous Egyptian Museum to see the amazing antiquities. This afternoon we will visit the Rock Churches of Mokkatam and garbage city. This is a highlight many people never get to experience. This evening will be another highlight visit to the Pyramids for a Sound and Light show.

HOTEL: Oasis Hotel - Cairo

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 4 Cairo - St Catherine's

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

After breakfast we will continue on our journey through the Sinai to St Catherine's where we will have time to relax before an early dinner and rest as we get up just after midnight for our early morning trek up Mt Sinai.

HOTEL: Morgenland Hotel – St Catherine's

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 5 St Catherine's – Taba – Eilat

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

After our early morning trek to view a spectacular sunrise from the top of Mt Sinai, we head down the mountain for a visit of St Catherine's Monastery and the site of the burning bush. After breakfast we then drive to Taba border and cross into Israel. We continue up to Eilat on the Red Sea for overnight.

HOTEL: Golden Tulip - Eilat

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 6 Dead Sea - Masada – Ein Gedi - Jericho Bethlehem

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

This morning we head north and drive alongside the Dead Sea. We will stop for a unique experience for those who want to swim (float) at the lowest place on earth! Afterward we visit the amazing mountain top fortress – Masada - built by Herod and the site of the final battle in the Jewish Rebellion against the Romans. After our visit there, we will drive west to BEER'SHEVA before heading to Jerusalem for the first of our 5 nights in this amazing city.

HOTEL: Rimonim Shalom - Jerusalem

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 7 JERUSALEM

Today we start at the Mount of Olives where we'll see a breathtaking panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem. We'll walk a part of the Palm Sunday Road to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus went with the disciples on the final night before his crucifixion. There we'll visit the Church of All Nations and the garden with its ancient olive trees. Next we'll go to Mount Zion where we'll see the Upper Room and King David's Tomb. From there we'll go to the House of Caiaphas where Jesus was imprisoned for a night. Finally we'll return to our hotel for overnight.

HOTEL: Rimonim Shalom - Jerusalem

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 8 JERUSALEM

Our day will begin with a visit to the Western Wall (Wailing Wall), the place most precious for Jews around the world. We'll proceed to the Temple Mount where we'll see the Dome of the Rock Mosque. We'll continue from there to the Pool of Bethesda where Jesus healed the crippled man. We then head to the Church of St. Anne to begin our walk down the Via Dolorosa, following the path Jesus took to the cross. We'll visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and walk through the fascinating Arab market. We will finish at the Garden Tomb where we will have communion.

HOTEL: Rimonim Shalom - Jerusalem

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 9 Bethlehem

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

We spend the day visiting the sites of Bethlehem; The Church of the Nativity, the Milky Grotto, Manger Square with a visit to the Shepherd's Field on the outskirts of Bethlehem where the angels appeared to the shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus.

HOTEL: Rimonim Shalom - Jerusalem

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 10 JERUSALEM

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

This morning we take in a visit to Yad Vashem (Holocaust Museum) and the Model City and The Shrine of the Book where you can see the Dead Sea scrolls.

Free afternoon to explore Jerusalem on your own:

Perhaps a visit to the trendy shops and café district of Ben Yehuda and Nakhlata Shiva or a visit to the Mahane Yehuda market to taste some traditional Middle Eastern treats. For those who want to explore some more of The City of David and Hezekiah's water tunnel will have time this afternoon.

HOTEL: Rimonim Shalom - Jerusalem

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 11 Caesarea – Megiddo – Mt Carmel - Haifa

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

We will begin our day with a drive along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea to Caesarea by the Sea. There we will see the Roman ruins of the great Theatre and Aqueduct, as well as the Crusader city later built on this site. This is the place where Paul left for his final missionary journey. We head to Megiddo to see the ruins of the amazing hilltop city where over 20 successive settlements have been built. It is also the site where the Book of Revelation says that the final battle between good and evil will take place at the end of the world "Armageddon". We then head to Mt Carmel where Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal. We finish at the old port city of Haifa.

HOTEL: Colony Hotel - Haifa

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 12 Haifa – Nazareth - Galilee

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

Head to Nazareth to visit the Church of Annunciation which is one of the focal points in Nazareth. The church is built on the original Byzantine church and the crypt includes the cave of the Annunciation where the Angel Gabriel is said to have appeared to Mary. Afterwards stroll through the market area to visit the Synagogue where Jesus is believed to have preached. Afterward visit Nazareth Village which is a recreation of life 2000 years ago in Jesus' time. This afternoon we head to Tiberias to Kibbutz Ginosar where we will see the Jesus Boat.

HOTEL: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz – Tiberias

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 13 Galilee Area

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

Today we'll begin with a Boat Ride across the Sea of Galilee where we'll stop for a devotional service. We will continue to the Road to Damascus where Paul had his conversion experience. Next we'll visit Caesarea Philippi at the foot of Mount Hermon, the ancient Roman city where Peter first confessed Jesus as the Son of the living God. We travel on to Tabgha, the site of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. From there we will continue our tour with a visit to the hills above the Sea where we find the Mount of Beatitudes. It was here that Jesus gave us the beautiful words from Matthew's gospel. We will finish our day at Capernaum, the area where Jesus spent most of his ministry, and then return to our hotel

HOTEL: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz - Tiberias

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 14 Galilee - Petra

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

After breakfast we say farewell to Israel and cross the border heading south down the Kings Highway for Petra. We will stop at Mt Nebo for a visit of the site where Moses was told of His Promise Land! Continue down the Highway to Petra.

HOTEL: Beit Zaman - Petra

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 15 Petra

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

This morning we visit the amazing fortress of Petra, known to have been inhabited by the Edomites- the descendants of Esau. Once a rich merchant city and a stop for camel caravans bringing spices, silk and slaves from Arabia to the Mediterranean, Petra was lost for 1,000 years. Emerging from its veil of antiquity in 1812, it was rediscovered by the Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt. We will spend time exploring the "rose-red" city, which was carved from a mountain by the Nabateans more than two millennia ago. Visit the Treasury, Temple of Winged Lions and other well-known sites. Begin the tour with a walk through the "Siq", an immense crack in the Nubian sandstone, to the city of Petra carved out of the rose red rock. The Treasury, El Khazneh, is one of the most elegant remains of antiquity. Those who take the 50 minute hike to the Monastery will be rewarded with an incredible sight.

HOTEL: Beit Zaman - Petra

MEALS: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 16 Petra – Amman - Brisbane

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Luggage Breakfast Depart

After breakfast head for Amman Airport for your return flight to Australia.

MEALS: Breakfast

APPROX COST:

TWIN SHARE \$5899

(TBA BASED ON 2011PRICES AND SUBJECT TO CURRENCY CHANGES)