

Highlights of Israel

8 days | Starts/Ends: Tel Aviv



COACH TOUR: From the vibrant coastal city of Tel Aviv, spend 8 days exploring the incredible highlights of Israel. Travelling inland and head for the centuries old city of Jerusalem, where you can see, smell and touch the history that has shaped it, as well as the birth place of Jesus, Bethlehem. Look out across the Sea of Galilee and rise to the top of Mount Carmel in Haifa. Visit the Crusader Castle at Caesarea and end the tour back in Tel Aviv.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Tel Aviv - Explore this cosmopolitan city and the ancient port of Jaffa
- Masada – Take a cable car up to the ancient fortification of Masada and enjoy unrivalled views over the Dead Sea
- The Dead Sea – Float in the famously buoyant, mineral-rich waters
- Jerusalem New City (West Bank) - Admire incredible views of the Old City from Mount Scopus, see the Dead Sea Scrolls in the Israel Museum and visit the World Holocaust Remembrance Centre

- Jerusalem Old City (West Bank) - Explore the sacred sites of the Old City including the Wailing Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Via Dolorosa
- Bethlehem (West Bank) - Visit the Shepherd's Field, Church of the Nativity and Manger Square
- Beit Shean - Take in the excavations of this beautifully preserved Roman city
- Nazareth - See the Church of the Annunciation and other holy sites
- Safed - Pay a visit to a synagogue and explore the beautiful streets of the artists' colony in the city of the Kabbalah
- The wine region - Learn about wine production on a tour of a vineyard and sample fine wine
- Sea of Galilee - Visit the site of the 'Sermon on the Mount' and the 'Miracle of the loaves and fish' in Capernaum and Tabgha
- Acre - Roam around the old Crusader stronghold and medieval fortifications
- Haifa - Walk through the beautiful terraces of the Bahai Gardens, set on the slopes of Mount Carmel and see the UNESCO listed Bahai Shrine
- Caesarea - Discover Roman and Crusader-era ruins in one of the great cities of antiquity

What's Included

- Breakfast daily and 6 dinners
- 7 nights 4 star hotels

- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing
- Touring - Masada, Dead Sea, Jerusalem, Ein Karem, Beit Shean, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Acre, Haifa, Caesarea, Jaffa and Tel Aviv
- Vineyard tour and wine tasting in Israel's wine region
- Escorted by an English speaking driver guide
- All transfers and transportation in modern air-conditioned vehicles
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 8
- This coach tour is operated in conjunction with other tourist groups, not solely On The Go. You will join travellers from a number of different operators, some staying in different hotels for sightseeing each day

What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide and driver. We recommend you allow USD\$5-7 per day, per traveller for your guide and USD\$2 per day, per traveller for your driver. Tipping your guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Highlights of Israel - 8 days

www.onthegotours.com
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
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updated on 23-02-2021 04:09:32

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Highlights of Israel

Day 1 : Vibrant Tel Aviv

Sunday. Upon arrival at the Ben Gurion Airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel in Tel Aviv. The rest of the evening is at your leisure.

Renowned for its hedonistic nightlife, this dynamic city also offers beautiful beaches, art galleries and markets. And with a variety of trendy bistros, high-end restaurants and delicious street food stalls, there's plenty to choose from, for dinner. **Overnight - Tel Aviv**

Day 2 : Masada Fortress & the Dead Sea

Tel Aviv - Beer Sheba - Masada - Dead Sea - Jerusalem (West Bank). Set off from Tel Aviv, and drive south past the cities of Ashdod and Ashkelon to the Negev capital of Beer Sheba. After a short visit, we continue via Arad to the Masada Fortress which sits atop an isolated rock cliff and was the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots in their war against the Romans. Ascending by cable car to the fortress offers incredible views of the Dead Sea and at the top explore the excavations of Herod's Palaces, the synagogue and the bathhouse. Later, we descend to the lowest place on Earth to float in the famously buoyant, salt-laden water of the Dead Sea. From the Dead Sea we journey to Jerusalem, passing by the oasis of Ein Gedi and the Judean Desert enroute. Spend the evening at leisure. **Overnight - Jerusalem (B, D)**

Day 3 : Jerusalem New City



Today's sightseeing tour of Jerusalem New City starts at the Israel Museum which houses The Dead Sea Scrolls in the Shrine of the Book. Continue to visit the beautifully renovated Model of the Herodian city of Jerusalem, which dates back to the time

of the Second Temple. The next stop on our tour of the New City is Yad Vashem, The World Holocaust Remembrance Centre. Founded in 1953, Yad Vashem started as an organisation committed to documenting the memory of Holocaust victims. The new museum was opened in 2005 and has 9 galleries of interactive historical displays, all of which are informative, moving and vital to a continued commemoration of those that lost their lives during one of history's darkest periods.

This afternoon we visit the picturesque village of Ein Karem, which is the birth place of John the Baptist. Next, we drive to Bethlehem to visit the birthplace of Jesus at the Church of the Nativity before returning to Jerusalem for the night.

Overnight - Jerusalem (B, D)

Day 4 : Jerusalem Old City & Bethlehem

Step back in time on a tour of Jerusalem's revered Old City today. Enter through one of the Gates to the walled Old City, to visit the renewed Jewish Quarter, the Western Wall (Wailing Wall), the Temple Mount and the colourful souk. Then, we walk along the Via Dolorosa, stopping at the Stations of the Cross enroute to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is one of the world's holiest Christian shrines and the site of Jesus' crucifixion and burial. Continuing your tour, we visit Mt Zion and the tomb of King David, the Room of the Last Supper and Dormition Abbey. Continuing to the Mount of Olives you'll have a spectacular view of this holiest of cities, a place where the three religions of Islam, Judaism and Christianity have tussled for power of the city for centuries.

Next, we visit the Garden of Gethsemane, where Judas betrayed Jesus, before travelling to Downtown Jerusalem to explore bustling Mahane Yehuda, which is Israel's largest open market.

Overnight - Jerusalem (B, D)

Day 5 : Beit Shean, Nazareth & Safed

Beit Shean - Nazareth - Safed - Galilee. Bid farewell to Jerusalem and drive north past Jericho, which is considered to be the world's oldest city. Travelling through the Jordan Valley and the new settlements to Beit Shean, see the excavations of this beautiful preserved Roman city before continuing to Nazareth to visit the Church of Annunciation and other Christian holy sites. Our final stop of the day is Safed, city of the Kabbalah and Centre of Jewish Mysticism, where you'll visit a synagogue and explore the beautiful streets of the artists' colony. Your home for the next two nights is a Kibbutz Hotel in Galilee.

Overnight - Galilee (B, D)

Day 6 : Golan Heights & the Sea of Galilee



Driving to the Golan Heights, we explore the former Syrian fortifications and the Druze villages, passing Banias, the source of the Jordan River. Then, we enjoy a tour of the Israeli wine country, visiting picturesque vineyards where you can take in the wonderful views, learn about wine production and sample fine wines.

Descending to the shore of the Sea of Galilee we take a tour of the Miracle Sites. In Capernaum, we visit the ruins of the ancient synagogue, the Mount of Beatitudes - site of the 'Sermon on the Mount' and Tabgha - site of the miracle of the loaves and the fish. Then travel to Tiberias, the old centre of Jewish learning. This afternoon there is also an optional sailing trip across the Sea of Galilee to experience the tranquillity and beautiful scenery which has hardly changed in the past 2000 years (book and pay locally).

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Then, we return to your Kibbutz Hotel for the night.

Overnight - Galilee (B, D)

Day 7 : Acre, Haifa, Caesarea & Tel Aviv



Galilee - Acre - Haifa - Caesarea - Tel Aviv. After breakfast, we drive through the hills of the Galilee, westwards to Acre where you'll explore this old Crusader stronghold and its medieval fortifications. Continue to Haifa, the largest city in northern Israel which dates back over 3000 years. Sightseeing here includes the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Bahai Shrine and the magnificent gardens on the slopes of Mount Carmel which are spread over 19 terraces, the highest of which is the Persian Gardens where you can enjoy the wonderful panoramic view of the city and Haifa Bay.

Travelling down the coast to reach Caesarea, we'll see the Roman Theatre and Crusader Fortress at what is known as the "masterpiece of Herod the Great". Then, continue our journey to Tel Aviv and end the day with a short city tour of Tel Aviv and the ancient port of Jaffa.

Overnight - Tel Aviv (B, D)

Day 8 : Tel Aviv

Sunday. Arrangements come to an end after breakfast and onward transfer to the Ben Gurion Airport. Alternatively extend your stay to enjoy more time in cosmopolitan Tel Aviv, please enquire.

For information about visas, top travel tips and much more, take a look through our travel guide.

(B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Hotel Metropolitan

Within easy walking distance from major city attractions, Hotel Metropolitan is a modern hotel with excellent amenities. Guest rooms are designed in a contemporary style with soft furnishings and stylish en suite bathrooms. The hotel also has an onsite bar and cafe serving food throughout the day. In the summer head to the outdoor pool with sunbeds - the perfect way to start the day! Perfectly located in the centre and very heart of Tel Aviv.



Hotel Grand Beach

Located just a few minutes walk from Tel Aviv's golden beaches, the Hotel Grand Beach offers a comfortable and luxurious atmosphere. Guest rooms are modernly furnished and include free Wi-Fi. With a number of excellent eating options including a lavish buffet in the 'Jerusalem' dining room. The roof top pool is another highlight affording stunning views of the seafront and the city and is a great place to cool off! Perfectly located close to the sea front and the bustling city centre with lots of restaurants and cafes nearby.



Hotel Grand Court

Centrally located, the Hotel Grand Court is a very modern hotel and an excellent base for exploring the holy city. Guest rooms are bright and well furnished with free Wi-Fi throughout. The Garden Court is the perfect spot to enjoy breakfast al-fresco. There is also a refreshing outdoor pool to relax in or by (open April - September). Perfectly located just a short walk from the Old City.



Leonardo Jerusalem

The modern Leonardo Hotel is in an ideal base for exploring the sites of Jerusalem. Centrally located within a short walk of famous sites such as the Via Dolorosa, Western Wall and the Old City. Rooms are spacious and tastefully decorated, with all modern amenities. The two restaurants serve delicious local and international cuisine and breakfast is plentiful. After a long day of sightseeing, the large outdoor pool is the perfect place to relax and enjoy a refreshing swim, while those who can't resist a holiday workout can head to the fitness centre.



Kibbutz Kfar Giladi

Founded in 1916, the Kibbutz Kfar Giladi is a recently renovated hotel in a former Kibbutz. All of the guest rooms are well furnished and include breathtaking views across the dramatic Golan Heights. Internet access is available and the hotel also offers a sauna and massage service for guests who fancy a bit of pampering. Delicious kosher food is served for breakfast; and lunch and dinner can be ordered upon request. The accommodation is located in Upper Galilee offering stunning views of the Hula Valley and Mount Hermon.

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PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. The 'Twin Share' price is per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. The 'Solo Room' price is applicable to all solo travellers or if your booking party cannot reach the minimum of 2 persons in a room. Solo Rooms can also be booked by any other person wanting the comfort and privacy of their own room.

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
06 Dec	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
13 Dec	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
20 Dec	USD 2,345	USD 2,345
27 Dec	USD 2,345	USD 2,345

PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
03 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
10 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
17 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
24 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
31 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
07 Feb	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
14 Feb	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
21 Feb	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
28 Feb	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
07 Mar	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
14 Mar	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
21 Mar	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
28 Mar	USD 2,495	USD 3,435
04 Apr	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
11 Apr	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
18 Apr	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
25 Apr	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
02 May	USD 2,145	USD 3,085

PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
09 May	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
16 May	USD 2,345	USD 3,285
23 May	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
30 May	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
06 Jun	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
13 Jun	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
20 Jun	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
27 Jun	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
04 Jul	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
11 Jul	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
18 Jul	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
25 Jul	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
01 Aug	USD 2,345	USD 3,285
08 Aug	USD 2,345	USD 3,285
15 Aug	USD 2,345	USD 3,285
22 Aug	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
29 Aug	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
05 Sep	USD 2,345	USD 3,285
19 Sep	USD 2,495	USD 3,435
26 Sep	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
03 Oct	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
10 Oct	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
17 Oct	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
24 Oct	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
31 Oct	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
07 Nov	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
14 Nov	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
21 Nov	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
28 Nov	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
05 Dec	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
12 Dec	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
19 Dec	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
26 Dec	USD 2,345	USD 3,285

PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
02 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
09 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
16 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
23 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
30 Jan	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
06 Feb	USD 2,145	USD 3,085
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