

Ayelet Tours, Ltd.

®

ISRAEL HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

8 DAYS & 7 NIGHTS

SUNDAY ARRIVAL

DAY 1, SATURDAY: DEPARTURE

Depart the United States on overnight flight to Tel Aviv.

DAY 2, SUNDAY: ARRIVAL

Upon arrival to airport meet group representative and transfer to hotel in Tel Aviv... Overnight Tel Aviv.

DAY 3, MONDAY: TEL AVIV - BEERSHEBA - ARAD - MASSADA - JERUSALEM

Breakfast... Leave Tel Aviv via Ashdod, traveling through Ashkelon on our way to Beersheba for a short visit to the Negev capital... Continue via Arad to Massada... Ascend by cable car to the fortress, which was the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots in their war against the Romans... Visit the excavations, Herod's palaces, the synagogue, and bathhouse... Enjoy the breathtaking view of the Roman camps and the Dead Sea... Enjoy an "unsinkable swim" in the salty water of the Dead Sea ... Travel via Ein Gedi & Kalya to Jerusalem... Overnight Jerusalem.

DAY 4, TUESDAY: JERUSALEM - SIGHTSEEING OF THE NEW CITY

Breakfast... Drive to Mt. Scopus for a panoramic view of Jerusalem... On to the Garden of Gethsemane and Church of the Agony... Continue to 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... Continue to Yad Vashem, Israel's memorial to the six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust... Afternoon visit to the Hadassah Medical Center's synagogue, with Marc Chagall stained glass windows... Drive back to the hotel via Ein Karem (the birth place of John the Baptist)... Overnight Jerusalem.

DAY 5, WEDNESDAY: JERUSALEM'S OLD CITY AND BETHLEHEM

Breakfast... This morning we walk through one of the gates to enter the Old City... Tour the renewed Jewish Quarter, the Western Wall and Temple area... Walk through the colorful bazaars to the Via Dolorosa and the stations of the cross ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher... Drive to Mt. Zion and visit the tomb of King David, the Room of the Last Supper and Dormition Abbey... In the afternoon we continue to Bethlehem** to visit Rachel's Tomb and the Church of the Nativity... Return to Jerusalem... Overnight Jerusalem.

DAY 6, THURSDAY: BEIT SHEAN - TIBERIAS - GALILEE

Breakfast... Depart Jerusalem and drive north via Jericho**, the oldest city in the world... Travel through the Jordan Valley and the new settlements to Beit Shean... Visit the excavations of this beautiful preserved Roman City... Proceed to Tiberias, the old center of Jewish learning... Drive along the shores of the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, to visit the ruins of the ancient synagogue... Continue to our Kibbutz in the Galilee... Overnight at Kibbutz.

DAY 7, FRIDAY: UPPER GALILEE AND GOLAN HEIGHTS - NAZARETH

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Breakfast... Drive to the Golan Heights... Visit the former Syrian fortifications, the Druze villages, and Baniyas, the source of the Jordan River... Proceed via the Hula Valley to Safed, center of Kabala, to visit a synagogue and the artists' colony... Continue to Nazareth to visit the Christian Holy Sites... Return to the Kibbutz hotel for overnight.

DAY 8, SATURDAY: ACRE - HAIFA - TEL AVIV

After breakfast drive west to Acre for a visit of the old, famous Crusader stronghold and medieval fortifications... Continue to Haifa for a sightseeing tour of the city... Visit the Bahai Shrine, Persian Garden and Mount Carmel for a panoramic view of the city and the bay... Proceed along the coast to Caesarea to visit the Roman Theater and the Crusader fortress... End the day with a short city tour of Tel Aviv and Old Jaffa, the city's ancient port ... Overnight Tel Aviv.

DAY 9, SUNDAY: DEPARTURE FOR HOME

Breakfast and transfer to the airport for departure home to the United States.

The memories last forever!

Itinerary subject to change

****Site under the Palestinian Authority Jurisdiction. Visit subjugated to situation.**

