



## JORDAN AND ISRAEL

JUNE 3-12, 2011

9 Nights | 10 Days

### **PROGRAM:**

03JUN: Arrival to Queen Alia airport  
Transfer to Host Hotel.  
Overnight in Aman.

04JUN: Transfer to Wadi Moussa  
Dinner and overnight: Bait or Taybat Zeman

05JUN: An early start as a very exciting day unfolds as you visit the red rose Nabatean capital of Petra. Enter the site by foot (recommended) or on horseback. Proceed by foot through the siq, the narrow chasm chiseled by centuries in between two 80 meter high cliffs. The colors and formations of the rocks are dazzling. As you reach the end of the Siq you will catch your first glimpse of Al-Khazneh (Treasury). This massive facade carved out in the first century of the sheer, dusky pink, rock-face and dwarfs everything around it. The Treasury is just the first of the many wonders that make up Petra. There are hundreds of elaborate rock-cut tombs with intricate carvings, designed to last throughout the afterlife. 500 have survived - empty but bewitching as you file past their dark openings.. There are obelisks, temples, sacrificial altars and colonnaded streets, and high above, overlooking the valley, is the impressive Ad-Deir Monastery. After a quick lunch at Qantara, we proceed along the winding roads of Southern Jordan, until we reach Wadi Rum. "Vast, echoing and God-like" – this is the way T.E. Lawrence described Wadi Rum. The largest and most magnificent of Jordan's desert landscapes, board your "jeeps" to tour and visit this amazing landscape – exploring the caves, sandstone mountains, sand dunes, and never-ending sites of natural beauty. From here we proceed to the Arava border. Following the border formalities we head to Eilat airport to catch the quick flight up to Tel Aviv. Our driver will be waiting for you for the drive to Jerusalem.

- 06JUN: Today is a day to explore the city that is home to 3 great religions. Our appreciation of the Old City of Jerusalem begins as we enter through the gates of the city at the Jaffa Gate. While admiring the amazing architecture of the city walls, we can pay our respects in front of the two almost forgotten tombs on your left- those of the architects of the Old City Walls killed by the Ottoman Sultan Suliman the Magnificent in 1538 (as they were the only people that knew all of the "secrets of the wall")  
Walk past the Citadel of David through the Armenian Quarter and into the Jewish Quarter. Visit the Western Wall and the Southern Wall excavations. On to the Broad Wall and the Cardo, the shopping street of Jerusalem 2000 years ago. Enter the area of the Temple mount (pending confirmation) for a visit to Dome of the Rock, Islam's 3rd holiest site. Walk through the Rabbinical Tunnel (pending confirmation) to the Via Dolorosa and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Christian Quarter. No visit to the Old City would be complete without testing your negotiating skills in the marketplace.  
Leave the Old City of Jerusalem through the Dung Gate and return to your hotel.  
Overnight: Jerusalem –Prima Royale Hotel
- 07JUN: An exciting day awaits you as we leave Jerusalem, driving through the Judean desert towards the shores of the Dead Sea. Drive to Mount Scopus, passing by the campus of Hebrew University. Proceed through the new underground tunnel through the Judean desert eastwards until you reach the shores of the Sea. Enjoy a "swim" in the rejuvenating waters of the Dead Sea. Don't miss the opportunity to use the natural black mineral mud. On to Qumran for a quick lunch. From here we continue to Massada, the last stronghold in the zealots battle against the Roman Empire. Ascend to the top via the new cable car. After a tour of this mountaintop fortress, we descend down the Roman Ramp and proceed to a nearby Bedouin Village. Enjoy traditional Bedouin hospitality and dinner. For those up for it, a short camel ride awaits you.  
Overnight: Jerusalem – Prima Royale Hotel
- 08JUN: We bid farewell to Jerusalem and drive through the Judean Desert. Proceed along the shores of the Jordan River passing by the ancient city of Jericho. Our first stop of the day are the amazing excavations of Beit Shean. First established during the 5th Century B.C. in the heart of the fertile Galilee area, excavations in Bet She'an have uncovered the remains of a Canaanite city, a Hellenistic city (renamed Scythopolis) and a Roman Byzantine city. During its Hellenistic period, the city was the capital of the 10 Greek Decapolis cities (including nearby Jerash). A short drive north through the Galilee brings us to the Sea of Galilee. Time permitting enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, with the Golan Heights off to the east. Drive along the shores of the sea of Galilee through Tiberias to Capernaum, home of St. Peter where the remains of a majestic synagogue were found. On to Mount of Beatitudes, the traditional site of Jesus' delivery of the Sermon on the Mount. Drive to Nazareth, where Jesus spent his boyhood. The New Testament mentions Nazareth many times, referring to it as

the home of Mary and Joseph, the town that inspired Jesus during his childhood and early manhood, the place of the Annunciation and his clash with fellow citizens who disapproved of his non-conventional way of thinking. Proceed through the Jezreel Valley passing by the Druze Villages. Arrive to the Mediterranean coast, passing the towns of Netanya and Herzlya – and finally to Tel Aviv.

Evening: Welcome dinner in one of Tel Aviv's local restaurants

Overnight: Tel Aviv – Carlton Tel Aviv (superior seaview rooms)

09JUN: Drive along Tel Aviv's coastline to Jaffa. Visit the artists' quarter and Jaffa's ancient flea market. Passing the renovated Turkish train station, proceed to Neve Tsedek, Tel Aviv's first neighborhood. On to Rothschild Blvd where there are over 5000 Bauhaus buildings, the largest number in any one city in the world; a fact that led UNESCO to recognize it as a "[World Heritage Site](#)." Tel Aviv is also known as, "The white city", named so in account of the bright colors of the building style: white, off-white, light yellow. On to Rabin Square, the large public square in front of Tel Aviv's city hall, where, in November 1995 Prime Minister Rabin was assassinated.

Enjoy free time this afternoon to get acquainted with the city on your own or to meet the locals on the beach.

Evening: We will advise you of all of the pride events taking place in the city.

Overnight: Tel Aviv - Carlton Tel Aviv (superior seaview rooms)

10JUN: 12.30pm – We meet at the Meir Park - participate in the Tel Aviv gay pride happening. Lots of mingling, dancing and fun. We then parade (dancing and singing along the way) down to the beach, where on the shores of the Mediterranean participate in an amazing beach party. Further details to be advised. (the main beach event is a 4 minute walk from your hotel)

Overnight: Tel Aviv - Carlton Tel Aviv (superior seaview rooms)

11JUN: Day at leisure in Tel Aviv

Overnight: Tel Aviv - Carlton Tel Aviv (superior seaview rooms)

12JUN: Departure transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for your flight home. (or on Saturday night depending on flight)

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**\$3,488 Per person double occupancy**

**Single Occupancy:** If you are single and would prefer your own room then there will be a 50% surcharge.

**Passports required. Must be valid for 6 months after return date.**

**What's included:**

Includes all transfers, accommodations, meeting assistance at airports and border crossings, land transportation and private guides throughout touring and sight seeing. Includes all breakfast, welcome dinner, and meals during guided tours.

**Not Included: International Airfare, Travel Insurance, and Gratuities.**