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Best of Israel and Jordan

Tour Dates: October 25 – November 5, 2023

Hosted By



Van and Becky Harden

Best of Israel and Jordan



Mount of the Beatitudes



Ancient ruins of the Citadel in Amman, Jordan

DAY 1 Depart the USA: Depart the USA on your transatlantic flight to Tel Aviv, Israel.

DAY 2 Welcome to Tel Aviv, Israel: After arrival in Tel Aviv, you are met by a representative of Mayflower Cruises & Tours and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is free to relax or explore this vibrant city on the shores of the Mediterranean. Tonight, join your Tour Manager and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at the hotel. **Meal: D**

DAY 3 Tel Aviv / Jaffa / Caesarea / Megiddo / Tiberius: After breakfast, embark on a full day of sightseeing. Begin in Tel Aviv, often called “The White City” for its UNESCO-designated Bauhaus architecture. Boasting an amazing blend of ancient and contemporary sites, visit Rabin Square and see Independence Hall where David Ben Gurion declared Israel’s independence.

In Jaffa, see the Ottoman clock tower, Church of St. Peter, Simon the Tanner’s house – of historical importance from its references in the Book of Acts, and Andromeda Rock, known for its reference in Greek mythology. Continue to Caesarea, built by King Herod. See its ancient Roman theatre, still used today, and stand in awe of the ancient hippodrome, the Crusader moat and massive aqueduct. A stop is also made in the Armageddon village of Megiddo, site of many battles in ancient times. Its strategic location at the crossroads of the Jezreel Valley was a key factor in controlling trade routes through the area. Arrive in Tiberias for overnight and an included dinner. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 4 Mount of the Beatitudes and Tabgha: Depart by coach for the Mount of Beatitudes, the church with the octagonal dome where Jesus blessed his disciples some 2,000 years ago and gave his Sermon on the Mount. Enjoy a visit to Tabgha, where Jesus fed the 5,000 with two fish and five loaves of bread. Visit the Church of the Primacy of St. Peter (Mensa Christi) and Capernaum where the ruins of the village are explored. Continue to the beautiful Banias Falls and ascend the Golan Heights to visit Nimrod Fortress and the Mt. Bental overlook. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 5 Sea of Galilee and Nazareth: Experience a sailing across the Sea of Galilee and visit the Ancient Boat Museum. Enjoy a traditional St. Peter’s Fish lunch at Ein Gev and witness first-hand what daily life is really like on a kibbutz, Israel’s communal living system. During the excursion in Nazareth, visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and St. Joseph’s Church before arriving in Jerusalem this evening. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 6 Jerusalem: Today’s city tour includes many Biblical and historical sites important in Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Drive up to the Mount of Olives for beautiful panoramic views of the Holy City. Visit the Garden of Gethsemane, the Basilica of Agony and the Tomb of the Virgin Mary. Enter through Damascus Gate and enjoy a walking tour of the Old City and the Four Quarters. Walk up the Via Dolorosa to Calvary Hill, regarded in Catholicism as the site where Christ was crucified and ascended into heaven. Continue with a walk through the narrow “souk” of Jerusalem to the Western Wall. Wander through the Cardo, the reconstructed shopping arcade of Roman times before returning to the hotel. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 7 Jerusalem: Drive through the Jordan Valley and the Judean Wilderness enroute to Masada. Visit the beautiful waterfalls of Ein Gedi, an oasis some 1,200-feet below sea level. Ascend by cable car to Masada and marvel at the ancient ruins of King Herod’s fortress. A visit to Qumran, where the Dead Sea scrolls were found, completes the tour. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 8 Jerusalem: The day begins with an included excursion to Bethlehem, birthplace of Jesus. Visit Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity. Built over the cave where Jesus was allegedly born, this Byzantine Basilica is one of the oldest churches in the world. Inside the cave is the Grotto of the Nativity, the original manger of Jesus’ birth.

In the nearby village of Beit Sahour see the Shepherds’ Field, one of the most sacred places to Christians. This is the location where the shepherds saw the star of the nativity and the Angel of

the Lord informed them of Jesus' birth. In the afternoon, you may choose an optional excursion to the museum of Yad Vashem, a living museum memorial to the six million Jews who perished during the Holocaust. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 9 Jerusalem – Amman, Jordan: After breakfast, travel by coach to Jordan, crossing at the King Hussein Bridge. The life-enriching experience in Jordan begins with a visit to the Dead Sea – the lowest point on the face of the Earth, at 1,368 feet below sea level. You'll have time to experience the "healing waters" of this remarkable "natural health spa" and enjoy an included lunch. After lunch, continue to Madaba to view the 6th-century mosaic map on the floor in St. George's Church. The day ends with a visit to Mt. Nebo, a holy site from where Moses was said to have seen the forbidden 'Promised Land'. Enjoy beautiful views of the Holy Land from your vantage point at 2,330 ft. above sea level. Continue to the hotel in Amman for check in and dinner. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 10 Petra: This morning, depart by motorcoach for Petra, the "Rose Red" city. Upon arrival, your life-enriching experience begins. Your guide leads you on a walk through the Siq – a narrow gorge carved by the forces of water erosion, complete with fossils embedded in the rock. As you exit the Siq, the awe-inspiring view of the Treasury awaits. It is impossible to describe the feeling of standing at the foot of this amazing archeological masterpiece, whose carvings have survived for centuries. Continue exploring the site as you see the Monastery, the Silk Tomb and the Roman Colonnade and Amphitheater which could seat 7,000 people. The sheer size of the monuments throughout the site is breathtaking! After this incredible day, return to the hotel in Amman for dinner and overnight. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 11 Amman: On a morning tour of this capital city, discover fascinating contrasts – a unique blend of old and new, ideally situated on a hilly area between the desert and the fertile Jordan Valley. See the Citadel, the Roman Theater and a view of the residential areas. In Jerash, walk among the ruins of the former walled Roman settlement – said to be the best preserved Roman ruins outside of Italy. Hadrian's Arch, a monument from the 2nd century, greets you as you pass through it on the way to the site. Once inside, marvel at the Corinthian columns of the Temple of Artemis, see the Forum surrounded by 160 columns, visit the Hippodrome and stroll along the Cardo – a colonnaded street running the length of the city. All of this was buried after an earthquake devastated the area in 749 A.D., and was only discovered 200 years ago! This evening, join your Tour Manager and fellow travelers for a farewell dinner. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 12 Amman / USA: Today will be an early morning as you transfer to the Amman airport and return home filled with memories of life-enriching experiences in Israel and Jordan. **Meal: B**

Itinerary is subject to change.



Tour Highlights

- 23 Meals: 10 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 10 dinners
- Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Included orientation tour of Jaffa and the White City of Tel Aviv
- Visit Caesarea with its ancient Roman Theatre as well as Nazareth and Tiberias
- Visit the Armageddon city of Megiddo
- Visit Banias Falls and Nimrod Fortress
- Visit the biblical sites of Capernaum, Tabgha and the Mount of Beatitudes
- Enjoy a unique lunch – St. Peter's Fish at Kibbutz Ein Gev
- Visit the Ancient Boat Museum near Tiberias
- Full-day tour of Jerusalem includes the Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Basilica of Agony, the Old City, Four Quarters, the Via Dolorosa, Calvary Hill and Western Wall
- Included excursions to Masada and Bethlehem
- Visit Madaba and Mount Nebo in Jordan
- Experience the "healing waters" of the Dead Sea
- Excursion of Petra includes the Siq, the Treasury, Roman Colonnade and Amphitheater
- Panoramic city tour of Amman including the Citadel, Roman Theater and residential areas
- Visit Jerash with its Roman ruins

Best of Israel and Jordan



See the remarkable Treasury in Petra, Jordan

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Day 2 – Hotel Herods, Tel Aviv

Days 3 and 4 – Hotel Nofey Gonen, Tiberias

Days 5 through 8 – Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem

Days 9 through 11 – Ambassador Hotel, Amman

Travel Dates	Per Person Twin	Single Room add
October 25 - November 5, 2023	\$6,099	\$1,549

Pricing Includes Roundtrip DSM Airfare, Hotel Baggage Handling, 23 Meals, Israel departure tax, Jordan visa fee, Professional Tour Manager and Hosted by Becky and Van Harden!

\$750 per person deposit to save your space

Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group. Seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of tickets and documents at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend individual air reservations rather than booking air with the group.



Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) - \$299 per person - Highly Recommended See Dean for Details

This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP guarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

Cancellation Charges Without Traveler's Protection Plan (TPP)

- | | Deposit Amount |
|--|------------------------------|
| • 91 days or more | 20% of tour cost |
| • 90 to 45 days prior | 30% of tour cost |
| • 44 to 15 day prior | 40% of tour cost |
| • 14 to 1 day prior | 100% of tour cost |
| • Day 1 of departure | or early departure from tour |
| • No refund on unused portions of the tour | |

Exclusions: Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours.



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