

## Israel Highlights Tour

8 Days | 7 Nights | 6 Guided Touring Days

### Sunday *Arrival*

Pick up from Ben Gurion Airport. Our BGN Airport representative will meet you at the arrival hall (as per your landing details) & will lead you to the car for transfer to Tel Aviv. **Overnight in Tel Aviv.**

### Monday *Tel Aviv - Beer Sheba - Masada & Dead Sea*

Travel from Tel Aviv via Ashdod & Ashkelon to **Beersheba** for a short tour of the Negev Desert capital. Continue via Arad to **Masada**. Tour the new visitors' center and ascend Massada by cable car for a tour of the archaeological site known as the fortress of King Herod and last stronghold of the Zealots. Descend by cable car & travel for the last part of the day for some fun & relaxation at one of the **Dead Sea** beach resorts. Enjoy a float and cover yourself with the therapeutic Dead Sea mud. Travel to Jerusalem. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

### Tuesday *Jerusalem New City*

Day begins with a panoramic view of Jerusalem atop **Mount of Olives**. On to visit the Garden of Gethsemane and Church of the Agony. Continue to visit the **Shrine of the Book**, exhibiting the famous Dead Sea scrolls, then to see the renovated **Model of the Second Temple** - Herodian City of Jerusalem. Proceed to **Yad Vashem** Holocaust Memorial. In the afternoon visit to the picturesque village of **Ein Karem**, recognized as the birth place of John the Baptist. Return to Hotel. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

### Wednesday *Jerusalem Old City & Bethlehem\**

Enter the Old City for a walking tour including visits to the: renewed Jewish Quarter; the **Western Wall**, the Temple Mount area; the colorful **Arab Bazaar**; Via Dolorosa and the **Stations of the Cross** ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Proceed to **Mount Zion** and visit King David's Tomb, the **Last Supper Room** and the Dormition Abbey. In the afternoon travel to **Bethlehem\***, cross the check point & visit the Church of the Nativity and view the Shepherds Fields. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

\* Site under the Palestinian Authority Jurisdiction. Visit subjected to situation.

### Thursday *Beit She'an - Nazareth - Safed*

Leave Jerusalem and travel east towards Jericho\*, the oldest city in the world. Then, northbound via the **Jordan Valley** and the new settlements till **Beit Shean** and tour the excavations of this striking Roman City. Proceed to **Nazareth** to visit the Church of the Annunciation & Mary's Well. On to **Safed** (tzfat), known as a world Kabbalah center; walk its mystic alleys and artists' quarter. **Overnight in the Galilee.**

### Friday *Golan Heights - Sea of Galilee*

The Day begins with a ridden ascent to the **Golan Heights**. Visit former Syrian fortifications, Birkat Ram - the Israeli version of "Crater Lake". Pass by some of the Golan Druze villages and on to the **Banias Nature Reserve**, a main water source to the Jordan River. On to the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Visit **Capernaum** – a Biblical fishermen's Village, seeing the ruins of its ancient synagogue and Peter's House. Proceed to visit Tabgha, site of the Miracle of the Fish and the Loaves, then to **Mount Beatitude**. Towards the end of the day, proceed for a short tour of Tiberias. **Overnight in the Galilee.**

### 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**, sightseeing tour of Haifa, including the Bahai Shrine, Persian Garden and **Mount Carmel** for a panoramic view of the city. Proceed southwards to **Caesarea** to visit the Roman Theater and the Crusader fortress. Continue south for a short city tour of Tel Aviv-Jaffa. **Overnight in Tel Aviv.**

### Sunday *Departure*

Transportation to Ben Gurion Airport. End of service or proceed with your chosen extension.