EGYPT UNCOVERED

Your passport to adventure

Country(ies): Israel

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: A/C minibus/coach

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 45

Days: 8 days

Start Location: Tel Aviv, Israel

End Location: Jerusalem, Israel

Meals: Breakfasts - 7, Lunches - 0, Dinners - 0

Highlights:

Tel Aviv, Caesarea, Haifa, Acre, Galilee, Tiberias, Golan Heights, Nazareth, Qumran, Masada, Megiddo, Beith Shean, Bethlehem, Dead Sea, old & new Jerusalem

Map Image

Day 1: Arrive into Tel Aviv

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport and after completing passport control, a representative will greet you and escort you to your hotel in Tel Aviv. The remainder of the day is yours to spend at leisure, whether relaxing or exploring the city.

OVERNIGHT:

Tel Aviv hotel

MEALS:

EXTRAS:

Day 2: Jaffa - Caesarea - Megiddo - Tiberias

We officially kick off the tour with a visit to the port city of Jaffa (Joppa). We'll take a short walking tour through the alleys of the old, fortified town, passing by the house of Simon the Tanner and enjoying the views from the hilltop.

Next, we head north along the coastal road, or Via Maris, to the archaeological ruins of Caesarea, built by Herod the Great in honour of Augustus Caesar. From there, we visit Megiddo, the ancient city mentioned in the Book of Revelations as the site of "Armageddon." The city was inhabited continuously for more than five millennia, from 6000 to 500 B.C.

We end our day with a drive towards the Sea of Galilee, descending to Tiberias, one of the Holy cities in Judaism.

OVERNIGHT:

Tiberias hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 3: Journey Through Galilee: Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Tabgha, Mount of Beatitudes, and Golan Heights

Embark on a journey along the northern shoreline of the Sea of Galilee, a region steeped in biblical history. Our exploration takes us to Capernaum, the central hub of Jesus' ministry, and Tabgha, where the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 unfolded. We'll also visit significant landmarks such as the Church of Multiplication and the Church of the Primacy of St Peter.

Continuing our pilgrimage, we'll ascend the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered his renowned Sermon on the Mount. Afterwards, we'll venture to the Golan Heights, taking in breathtaking panoramic views of Mount Hermon and the dramatic landscape.

Our itinerary also includes a visit to Banias (Caesarea Philippi), one of the sources of the River Jordan, and the Yardenit Baptismal Site, located on the southern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

OVERNIGHT:

Tiberias hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Galilee, Nazareth, Cana and Beit Alpha

Weather permitting, our day begins with an optional boat trip on the Sea of Galilee (additional cost applies). We then travel to Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up, to explore the Church of the Annunciation, Mary's Well, and Joseph's Church.

Our next destination is Cana, the site of Jesus' miracle of turning water into wine. We'll also visit the ancient synagogue at Beit Alpha, renowned for its exquisitely preserved mosaic floor.

Our day concludes with a scenic drive through the Jordan Valley, passing by Jericho, before ascending into Jerusalem through the picturesque Judean Mountains.

OVERNIGHT:

Jerusalem hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 5: Masada, Qumran, and the Dead Sea

Embark on a journey through history and nature with a visit to the captivating Dead Sea region. Our adventure begins at Masada, a UNESCO World Heritage Site dramatically situated on a cliff overlooking the Judean Desert. This ancient fortress, the last stand of Jewish rebels against Roman rule, offers a glimpse into the past with its well-preserved ruins, including King Herod's palace, a synagogue, and a bathhouse.

We'll then delve into the Qumran Caves, where the remarkable Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient Jewish manuscripts dating back centuries, were discovered. Finally, experience the extraordinary sensation of floating effortlessly in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea (weather permitting). The high salt content creates a buoyancy that makes sinking nearly impossible!

OVERNIGHT:

Jerusalem hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 6: Jerusalem: Israel Museum, Yad Vashem, and Ein Karem, with a Bethlehem Excursion

Our day commences at the Israel Museum, where we'll delve into the Shrine of the Book, custodian of the Dead Sea Scrolls. We'll then encounter a remarkable scale model of Jerusalem during the Second Temple era, providing a window into the city's past.

Subsequently, we'll pay our respects at Yad Vashem, Israel's poignant memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, an essential and moving experience.

Our journey continues to the picturesque village of Ein Karem, traditionally recognized as the birthplace of John the Baptist.

Finally, we'll arrive in Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, where we'll visit the revered Church of the Nativity and the bustling Manger Square.

OVERNIGHT:

Jerusalem hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 7: Jerusalem

As a holy city for Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, Jerusalem holds immense significance for the world's three great religions. Our tour begins at Mount Scopus, where you'll get a spectacular panoramic view of the city.

Our next stop is the Mount of Olives, the site where Jesus first gave the Lord's Prayer. We'll then visit the Garden of Gethsemane, where Judas betrayed Jesus.

While in the Old City, we'll stop at the Western Wall, a holy site for Judaism. We will also visit Temple Mount, the site of the Second Temple. The tour continues to other famous monuments as we walk the Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross) to Calvary and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which houses both the traditional site of the Crucifixion and the Tomb of the Resurrection.

We then head just outside the Old City to Mount Zion to visit the traditional tomb of King David and the Room of the Last Supper.

OVERNIGHT:

Jerusalem hotel

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 8: Today, you will be transported to the airport for your departing flight

Today marks the end of our Israel tour, and we'll be providing a transfer to the airport for your flight home. Should you wish to prolong your stay in Israel, we would be happy to assist you with arranging additional accommodations and activities. Just let us know!

OVERNIGHT:

N/A

MEALS:

Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Included:

- All accommodation as stated in the itinerary
- All transport and transfers
- 24-hour airport arrival & departure transfer service
- Specialist English speaking guide during touring days
- All site entry fees
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary

Excluded:

- International flights (available on request)
- Visa fees (if applied)
- Travel insurance (compulsory, get a quote here)
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks, tips and other personal expenses (e.g. laundry)
- Tips for your tour leader & driver
- Any other items not mentioned above

Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you???re visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

Single room supplement (ISSGFI)

Single room supplement (ISSGFI)

From $895.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

This tour is based on twin-share accommodation, where solo travellers are paired with another same-sex member of the group. Should the final group composition preclude a room share, you will not be required to pay the single supplement. However, if you wish to guarantee a single room for the duration of the tour, please add this option to your booking.

Please note: Single supplement prices are subject to seasonal variations.

Comfort hotel upgrade (ISSGFI)

Comfort hotel upgrade (ISSGFI)

From $335.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

The standard tour price is based on comfortable mid-range hotels, typically at the

local 3 and 4-star level (comparable to 3-star international standards). This option upgrades your accommodation to our popular 'Comfort' level, featuring superior 4-star hotels in Tel Aviv, Tiberias, and Jerusalem.

While the hotels listed below are usually used, please note that these may be substituted with similar alternatives on certain dates, subject to availability at the time of booking.

- **Tel Aviv:** Metropolitan or Grand Beach Hotel
- **Tiberias:** Golan or Leonardo Hotel
- **Jerusalem:** Grand Court or Leonardo Hotel

Solo travellers will need to add the single room supplement for the main tour, as well as an additional supplement to cover the extra cost of a single room in the upgraded hotels. Please consult the tour reservation form for prices or contact us for further details.

Superior hotel upgrade (ISSGFI)

Superior hotel upgrade (ISSGFI)

From $820.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

The standard tour price is based on comfortable mid-range hotels, typically at the local 3 and 4-star level (comparable to 3-star international standards). This option upgrades your accommodation to our 'Superior' level, featuring 5-star hotels in Tel Aviv, Tiberias, and Jerusalem.

While the hotels listed below are usually used, please note that these may be substituted with similar alternatives on certain dates, subject to

availability at the time of booking.

- **Tel Aviv:** Crowne Plaza/Dan Panorama Hotel
- **Tiberias:** Caesar/Ron Beach Hotel
- **Jerusalem:** Crowne Plaza Deluxe/Dan Panorama Hotel

Solo travellers will need to add the single room supplement for the main tour, as well as an additional supplement to cover the extra cost of a single room in the upgraded hotels. Please consult the tour reservation form for prices or contact us for further details.

Deluxe hotel upgrade (ISSGFI)

Deluxe hotel upgrade (ISSGFI)

From $1590.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

The standard tour price is based on comfortable mid-range hotels, typically at the local 3 and 4-star level (comparable to 3-star international standards). This option elevates your experience with a 'Deluxe' upgrade, featuring some of the finest 5-star hotels in Tel Aviv, Tiberias, and Jerusalem.

While we typically use the hotels listed below, please note that these may be substituted with similar alternatives on certain dates, subject to availability at the time of booking.

- **Tel Aviv:** Carlton or Sheraton Hotel
- **Tiberias:** Scots or Galei Kinneret Hotel
- **Jerusalem:** American Colony Hotel

Solo travellers will need to add the single room supplement for the main tour, as well as an additional supplement to cover the extra

cost of a single room in these upgraded hotels. Please consult the tour reservation form for prices or contact us for further details.

Please note: This Deluxe hotel level is not available during peak season dates (Passover, after Yom Kippur, and over Christmas).

Extra night in Tel Aviv - pre-tour

Extra night in Tel Aviv - pre-tour

From $110.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

This option allows you to begin your tour a day early with an extra night in Tel Aviv, staying at the same hotel as your main tour (subject to availability at the time of booking). Your airport arrival transfer is included. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a twin/double room on a bed and breakfast basis.

Please note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Extra night in Jerusalem - post-tour

Extra night in Jerusalem - post-tour

From $100.00

Min numbers:

*Based on person/s

This option allows you to extend your tour by one day with an extra night in Jerusalem, staying at the same hotel as your main tour (subject to availability at the time of booking). Your airport departure transfer is included. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a twin/double room on a bed and breakfast basis.

Please note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

1. Accommodation

We use good quality hotels rated at the Israeli 3-4-star level on this tour, Options are available to upgrade the accommodation if you would like a higher level of hotel. Please contact us for prices to match your dates. The normal hotels we use for these upgrades are shown below, though these may changes to alternate hotels of a similar standard on some dates:

Comfort (4-star): Tel Aviv - Metropolitan / BY14 | Jerusalem - Grand Court / Leonardo | Tiberias* - Lake House / Royal Plaza
Superior (4/5-star) : Tel Aviv - Dan Panorama / Crowne Plaza Beach | Jerusalem - Dan Panorama / King Solomon | Tiberias* - Caesar / Ron Beach
Deluxe (5-star): Tel Aviv - Carlton | Jerusalem - American Colony | Tiberias* - U-Boutique / Scots

* On some dates the tour may stay in Nazareth or Haifa instead of Tiberias

As different hotel levels are available, this does mean that if some people take up the upgrades there will be more than one hotel pick-up and drop-off each day, though we do aim to plan these to minimise any extra travelling time.

Accommodation is based on twin or double en-suite rooms with air conditioning. All couples will be given a private double room.

Please check the Single Room Supplement option for details on room sharing options and charges for solo travellers on this tour.

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2. Group Size/Tour Leaders/Guides

This tour typically operates with a small group, usually around 14-18 people, and a maximum of 45. To ensure departures, we only require a minimum of 2 passengers. This small group size allows us to keep the tour affordable in a destination where prices can be high, and we work with a few other select operators to achieve this. As a result, you might travel alongside other explorers who booked through different agencies.

At Egypt Uncovered, we prioritize authentic experiences. To that end, we use local Israeli guides and representatives whenever possible, believing they offer the most genuine insights into the country and its attractions. Please note that a different guide may be used for sites within the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

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3. Entrance Fees

The tour price covers entry fees for all the tourist attractions listed in the itinerary. Entrance fees for any additional sites you choose to visit will be at your own expense.

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4. Dates & Prices

This tour departs regularly on Thursdays year-round, with all trips guaranteed to run with a minimum of two participants. We also offer private departures on alternative dates. For more information on pricing and scheduling based on your group size and preferred dates, please reach out to us.

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5. Voltage - Israel

Sockets in the area have two round prongs and operate at 220 volts (Type C). Universal adaptors can usually be found in airport shops if you don't already have one. Standard European adapters will work, though they might

occasionally fit a bit loosely in the sockets. Every hotel room is equipped with electrical sockets, so you can easily recharge devices such as phones and cameras. If a hair dryer isn't already in your room, you can request one from the hotel reception.

If you're bringing US appliances (110 volts), you'll need both a voltage converter and a plug adapter.

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6. Transport

Our tours combine various transport options to ensure you fully immerse yourself in the country you're exploring. At the same time, we aim for you to arrive at each destination feeling rested and ready for the next part of your journey. In Israel, the short distances between locations allow us to use private vehicles for the entire tour.

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7. Transfers

Your airport transfers are included only on the first and last day of the scheduled tour itinerary, as well as on any extra days if you book your accommodation with us. If you choose to organise your own accommodation at the start or end of the tour, you will be responsible for arranging your own airport transfers on those days.

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8. International Flights

We aim to provide you with as much flexibility as possible when it comes to booking your holiday with us. In order to accommodate various travel plans, we do not include international flights in the main tour price. However, we are more than happy to recommend flights that suit your tour. Simply let us know your preferred dates and departure airport, and we'll provide you with a range of airlines, timings, and fares to choose from.

Transfers to and from the airport are included on the first and last days of your tour. All our group tours in Israel start and end at Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv (TLV), while private and tailor-made tours may start at either Tel Aviv or Eilat.

Occasionally, we offer flight-inclusive packages from selected airports. Where these packages appear on our website, the prices are accurate at the time of quoting but may be subject to availability. Prices will be reconfirmed when you make your booking, and we will provide you with flight details, including timings and the airline, before your tickets are issued.

Flight-inclusive prices are based on the cheapest available Economy ticket, which is generally non-refundable and non-changeable, unless the flight is cancelled due to reasons such as Covid-19, in which case the airlines tend to offer more flexibility. More flexible ticket options, along with Premium Economy and Business Class tickets, are available upon request for an additional fee. Any changes to flight-inclusive bookings will be governed by the rules of the airline's ticket.

Flight CO2 Emissions:

Flying is a fantastic way to explore the world, but it also contributes to carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions that affect the environment. When you choose your flight, we encourage you to consider the airline's CO2 emissions to help reduce your environmental impact.

When selecting your international flights, we recommend taking the flight's CO2 emissions into account. Some airlines and flight search platforms (such as Google Flights or Skyscanner) provide this information, allowing you to compare your options and make a more informed decision. Many airlines are working towards more sustainable practices, so by opting for a greener choice, you can make a positive impact while still enjoying your remarkable journey.

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9. Tipping

Tipping is a common practice in Israel, serving as a way to show gratitude for services received. As such, you may want to tip your guide and driver at the conclusion of your tour. There's no obligation to give a specific amount; it should align with your personal budget. However, we are frequently asked for guidance on this, and would recommend approximately GBP 5 / USD 8 per person per day as a reasonable amount.

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10. Health and Vaccinations

Make sure you have comprehensive insurance that covers medical emergencies, including emergency evacuation and repatriation.

For the latest health advice and vaccination requirements for Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, it's best to consult your GP, medical practitioner, or a travel clinic. You can also find useful information here:

www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations/middle-east/israel.aspx

Common vaccinations recommended for Israel are Tetanus, Typhoid, Polio, and Hepatitis A.

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11. Passports & Visas - Israel & OPT

Passports must remain valid for at least six months beyond your scheduled departure from the country. Avoid carrying passports that are nearly full or about to expire. It is the traveller's responsibility to handle visa arrangements, and requirements may change based on local regulations.

Starting from 1st January 2025, all travellers to Israel must have a pre-approved visa or ETA-IL. Many nationals, including those from the UK, EU, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, do not need a visa for stays of less than three months. However, an ETA-IL approval is mandatory even for those exempt from requiring a visa. Travellers from other countries should consult their local consulate.

From 1st January 2025 onwards, all travellers to Israel must apply for ETA-IL approval online at https://israel-entry.piba.gov.il/visa-option/. A fee of 25 shekels (approximately GBP 5 or USD 7) will be charged during the application process. If you are travelling before January 2025, ETA-IL approval is not required.

Many of our tours to Israel also visit the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT). No special visas are necessary, but please be aware that checkpoints and border posts are managed by Israeli authorities, and access may occasionally be restricted or limited.

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12. Time

The time zones for Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and Lebanon are GMT plus 2 hours, while the UAE operates on GMT plus 3 hours. Daylight saving time has been used intermittently over the years, though the situation can change. As of now, it seems there will be no daylight saving time adjustments in Egypt after 2016, but this could change unexpectedly, affecting flight schedules and timings. In Jordan and Israel, daylight saving is typically observed from late March to late October, shifting the time to GMT plus 3 hours. However, the specific dates for these changes can vary annually, and occasionally, the adjustments might be cancelled altogether.

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13. Money - Israel

The currency used in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories is the Israeli Shekel (ILS). There's no need to bring Shekels with you, as currency exchange services are available at international airports, most hotels, banks, and exchange offices in major cities. It's a good idea to carry small denominations of notes or coins during your trip, as these will come in handy for items such as toilets, tips, and minor purchases. ATMs are widespread in larger towns, and many local stores accept VISA, Mastercard, or American Express, although they may apply fees of up to 10%, so it's wise to check beforehand. Traveller's cheques are no longer widely accepted and can

incur high fees.

While visiting Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, you will need enough funds for meals not included in your itinerary, drinks, snacks, souvenirs, and other personal expenses such as laundry. These should generally be paid in local currency, though tips for guides and drivers may be given in foreign currencies (GBP, USD, EUR).

It’s hard to suggest an exact amount of spending money as it varies depending on individual preferences, but as a general guide, we recommend budgeting around USD 25-35 per person per day. You may need more if you plan on shopping extensively or purchasing a lot of alcoholic drinks.

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14. What to take

Luggage: Suitcases, rucksacks, or fabric holdalls are all acceptable to bring with you to Israel and Jordan. Additionally, it's a good idea to bring a small daypack or bag for daily use. Your main luggage will typically be stored in the hotel during sightseeing trips, so you won't need to carry it around much. Hotels generally provide porters to assist with luggage when needed.

Luggage Limits: There is no specific luggage limit for this tour. However, most airlines typically allow between 20kg and 25kg for checked luggage and between 5kg and 10kg for hand luggage. It’s best to check your airline’s luggage policy before heading to the airport.

Clothing: The climate in Israel and Jordan can vary greatly, ranging from hot summer days to cooler and sometimes wet winter months. Nights, especially in the deserts, can be quite chilly. Therefore, you should pack for cooler conditions. Formal attire (such as suits and ties) is not necessary. Modesty is highly valued in Jordan and some parts of Israel, especially for women, so please wear loose-fitting, non-revealing clothing to respect local customs. While shorts (not hot pants) and T-shirts are acceptable at tourist sites, avoid showing too much bare skin (it’s best to keep your shoulders covered). When visiting mosques, legs and arms should be covered.

Other Items: Bedding is provided at the Bedouin camp, but we suggest bringing a light sleeping sheet or sleeping bag liner for added comfort throughout the year (sand tends to get everywhere). In winter or if you prefer to sleep under the stars instead of in your tent, consider bringing a sleeping bag as it can get very cold at night. Other recommended items include a sun hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, a basic first aid kit, toiletries, a money belt, a small torch, a camera, and a charger.

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15. Airport Transfers

This tour includes a meet-and-greet service and airport transfer on the first day. Our representative will be waiting with an Egypt Uncovered signboard or your name clearly displayed for easy identification. If you are unable to locate our representative, emergency contact numbers will be provided on your tour confirmation voucher.

A transfer to the airport is also included at the end of the tour. Please review the tour itinerary and your flight times carefully. Most international flights departing from Khartoum are scheduled in the early hours of the morning. If you have upgraded to a 4 or 5-star hotel in Khartoum, only a day-use room is typically included for your final day. A full night's stay is provided at the standard 3-star hotel. If you require a full night’s accommodation in an upgraded hotel, an additional charge may apply.

Refunds are not available for missed transfers or parts of your trip due to incorrect flight details or delayed arrivals. Any additional expenses incurred to join the group will be your responsibility.

If your flights are scheduled to arrive before the tour starts or depart after the tour ends, we can arrange extra accommodation and airport transfers. We will strive to book these at the same hotel as the main tour, subject to availability (upgraded hotels can also be arranged upon request). Please note that if you do not book additional accommodation through us, arrival and departure transfer services will not be included, and you will need to organise your own transport.

Arrival Procedure

Be prepared for potential delays at immigration, especially if you are obtaining a “visa on arrival” (refer to the Passports and Visas section). After passport control, proceed to baggage reclaim, where further waiting times are common. Once you collect your luggage, you will need to show your baggage receipts (typically attached to your boarding pass), and your bags may be manually inspected by airport staff. This is standard procedure to ensure no prohibited items, such as alcohol or inappropriate materials, are brought into Sudan. Be aware that some magazines with certain images might also be considered inappropriate and could be confiscated without return.

After completing these formalities, you will find our representative waiting just outside the glass doors with an Egypt Uncovered signboard or your name clearly displayed.

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Note: Please download an up-to-date copy of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.
