

# Israel & Jordan 16 days



*While much of Israel and Jordan's history is related to the Bible, this is a multi-cultural and historical adventure dating back 8000 years. We visit way more sites than these maps could hold.*

## Dates & Prices

Leave **Fri. Mar. 10** – Return **Sat. Mar. 25, 2023** - **\$8,785**

Single Supplement - \$2,515 / Travel Protection – \$580 / \$790

First 15 to sign up **Save \$100**. Second 15, **Save \$75**.

## Highlights

- 13 nights in Superior First Class to Deluxe hotels, 1-night airport hotel. **Custom Deluxe Alexander + Roberts**. 12 (B) Breakfasts; 5 (L) Lunches including one at the *Dead Sea*, barbecue in Petra, and in a Bedouin Tent at *Wadi Rum*; 8 (D) Dinners including a Shabbat dinner in Jerusalem and a Jordanian dinner in Amman.
- Hosted by **Alex Dold** from Honolulu. Specially chosen Israeli and Jordanian directors supplement with local guides. Twin-bedded rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, service charges, and tips for baggage handling.
- **United Airlines** from Honolulu. **Lufthansa** (*United partner*) from the west coast. Deluxe motorcoach with air-conditioning, extra leg room, and emergency washroom.
- Overnights Tel Aviv (2 nights), Tiberias (2 nights), Jerusalem (4 nights), Amman (1 + 2 nights) and Petra (2 nights)
- Six **UNESCO** World Heritage Sites: White City of Tel Aviv; Megiddo – *Valley of Armageddon*; Old City of Jerusalem; Masada; Petra (*NEW Seven Wonders of the World*), and Wadi Rum.
- Also visits Jaffa, Caesarea, Cana, Nazareth, Capernaum, Tabgha, Caesarea Philippi, Golan Heights, Jewish Quarter, Mount Zion, Bethlehem, Jericho, Sheikh Hussein Bridge, Madaba and more...
- Amazing highlights include Yardenit, Beit She'an, Garden of Gethsemane, Tower of David, Western (*Wailing*) Wall, Hurva Synagogue, *Via Dolorosa*, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Tomb of King David, Qumran Caves, Masada Fortress, Wadi Qelt, Yad Vashem Holocaust Center, Israel Museum, Crusader town of Kerak, the *Siq* and Treasury of Petra, Jerash, Saracen Castle at Ajlun, plus, plus, plus...
- Unique experiences like a boat ride on the *Sea of Galilee*, Arab Bazaar, mingle with merchants at the Mahene Yehuda Market, cable car ride to Masada; lunch with a Palestinian Christian family in Bethlehem, a hands-on culinary experience at the *Petra Kitchen*, drive through the desert landscape in 4WD vehicles and ride a camel in Wadi Rum.
- Some of the scenic points are Israel's Mediterranean shore, Mount Hermon, *Sea of Galilee*, *Jordan River*, Mount of Beatitudes, Mount of Olives, Judean Desert, *Dead Sea*, the King's Way, Mount Nebo, Wadi Rum, and Khazali Canyon.

# Itinerary

**Day 1. Fri., Mar. 10. HONOLULU DEPARTURE.** Our adventure into ancient history begins this morning with a departure for the west coast where we overnight. The preliminary flight schedule is displayed at [doldworldjourneys.com](http://doldworldjourneys.com) under the journey's page.

**Day 2. Sat., Mar. 11. VIA FRANKFURT GERMANY TO TEL AVIV, ISRAEL.** After a comfortable rest we head to the airport in before noon for our flight to Frankfurt, Germany where we make our connection to Israel.

**Day 3. Sun., Mar. 12. ARRIVAL IN TEL AVIV, ISRAEL.** *Welcome to fascinating Israel!* Upon arrival we are met and assisted through immigration and customs. Then transfer to the Drisco Hotel *a member of the Leading Hotels of the world.* We spend our next two nights at this luxury heritage hotel set in the heart of the picturesque and pastoral American-German colony established in 1866.

**Day 4. Mon., Mar. 13. DISCOVERING TEL AVIV AND JAFFA.** In the later morning our leisurely sightseeing begins in **Jaffa**, one of the oldest areas of **Tel Aviv**. An important seaport since antiquity, its ancient streets and still lively waterfront offer a palpable sense of the ancient traders who came here – both by sea and camel caravan. Continue along **Rothschild Boulevard** to explore the distinctive **White City of Tel Aviv**. Founded in 1909 and developed under the British Mandate in Palestine, this outstanding example of innovative, early 20th-century town planning is now a **UNESCO** World Heritage Site - recognized as a fine architectural ensemble of the European Modern Movement in a new cultural context. (B, D)

**Day 5. Tue., Mar. 14. ALONG THE COAST TO TIBERIAS ON THE SEA OF GALILEE.** We journey northward along Israel's *Mediterranean Shore* to the ancient city of **Caesarea**. Built by Herod the Great and once the seat of Roman rule in the region, its excavated highlights include an impressive theater and the aqueduct that brought water to the city in ancient times. Enjoy a visit and tasting at *Tishbi Winery* and learn about ancient **Megiddo (UNESCO)** in the Valley of Armageddon, an ancient city inhabited continuously for more than five millennia (6000-500 BC).

We continue to **Cana** to see the Wedding Church where Jesus performed his first miracle, turning water into wine. In **Nazareth**, visit the **Basilica of the Annunciation**. The current 60-year-old landmark is the fifth church built on the same site. The first was likely a simple 4th-century altar set in the grotto that was believed to be the site of Mary's house. Many historians maintain that the first actual *Church of the Annunciation* was commissioned by Emperor Constantine and completed in 470 AD. Our coach takes us **Tiberias** where we spend two nights at the U Boutique Kinneret Hotel on the *Sea of Galilee*. (B, D)

**Day 6. Wed., Mar. 15. EXPLORING THE SEA OF GALILEE.** After breakfast, a boat ride on the tranquil *Sea of Galilee* offers a terrific introduction to this beautiful region - so rich in Biblical history. Back on land, we'll visit the **Yigal Allon Museum** to see a remarkably preserved wooden fishing boat. Discovered in 1986, scholars have since dated it to the 1<sup>st</sup> century CE during the time of Jesus. Then on to **Capernaum** where Jesus spent much of his ministry and chose his first disciples. You'll also see the *2nd-century synagogue* where extensive excavations have shed light on ancient life here.

We continue to **Tabgha** to admire the fine mosaics at the *Church of the Multiplication*, the site of Christ's feeding the 5,000. On Galilee's northwestern shores, we visit the **Mount of Beatitudes**. Although there is still discussion among scholars, this spot has long been commemorated by many as the hill where Jesus delivered the *Sermon on the Mount*. Continue our discovery with the archaeological site at **Caesarea Philippi** at the foot of *Mt. Hermon*. Built around a spring, one of the main sources of the *Jordan River*, this Greco-Roman city was in ancient times associated with the *Greek God Pan*. Ascend the **Golan Heights** for sweeping clear-day views that stretch all the way to **Syria** and then return to our luxury resort. (B, D)

**Day 7. Thu., Mar. 16. VIA THE JORDAN VALLEY TO JERUSALEM.** Begin another day of enriching discovery at **Yardenit**, a popular Baptismal site on the *Jordan River*. Continue to **Beit She'an** where extensive archaeological excavations that have revealed many ancient landmarks including an impressive Roman amphitheater. This is a rich site where we learn about Israel's many layers of civilizations, dating back 5,000 years to an early settlement that later saw successive waves of conquerors including Egyptians, Philistines and Assyrians. Rebuilt as a Hellenistic city about 2,000 years ago before reaching its peak as a 5th-century Roman metropolis with as many as 40,000 inhabitants. Here we see the unusual Zodiac-motif mosaics of **Beit Alpha**, a Byzantine synagogue, before continuing to **Jerusalem**.

Before entering the city, we stop at the **Mount of Olives** for a breathtaking panoramic view of the *Holy City*, considered *one of the oldest places in the world*, with a history dating back as far as 4000 BC. Then stroll in the **Garden of**

**Gethsemane** where ancient, gnarled olive trees still bear fruit and give the Garden a timeless feel. Our next four nights are at the 5-star Inbal Hotel overlooking the **Old City of Jerusalem (UNESCO)**. This evening stroll to the **Tower of David**, an ancient citadel near the **Jaffa Gate** entrance to *Jerusalem's Old City*. As darkness envelops the site, a spectacular *Sound and Light Show* unfolds with breathtaking virtual reality images and sophisticated *trompe l'oeil* technology to tell the story of **Jerusalem**. (B)

**Day 8. Fri., Mar. 17. EXPERIENCING OLD JERUSALEM.** *A Holy City for three of the world's great religions – Judaism, Christianity and Islam – Jerusalem occupies a unique place in humanity.* Enter the Old City and stand before the **Temple Mount** and the **Western (Wailing) Wall** - the holiest of Jerusalem's Jewish sites, sacred because it is a surviving remnant of the Herodian retaining wall that once enclosed and supported the **Second Temple**. In front of the Western Wall is a large plaza that was created in 1967 as an area for prayer. Continue along the winding streets of the **Jewish Quarter** to visit the historic **Hurva Synagogue**. Destroyed in 1948 during the Arab Israeli War, it was recently rebuilt in its original 19<sup>th</sup>-century style.

Walk along the *Via Dolorosa* to visit the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, an important pilgrimage site since the 4th century, and then continue through the lively **Arab Bazaar**. On *Mount Zion*, we'll see the traditional **Tomb of King David** and the **Room of the Last Supper**. A highlight today is the colorful **Mahane Yehuda Market**; established nearly a century ago, it's still the largest open-air market in Israel. Engage with friendly vendors and mingle with the city's rich mosaic of residents as our guide shares insight into Israel's modern food scene and enduring traditions. And with a prepaid *Bites Card*, you can sample exotic *Middle Eastern* delicacies and foods from around the world. Tonight, experience a traditional **Shabbat** dinner at our hotel. (B, Bites Card, D)

**Day 9. Sat., Mar. 18. EXCURSION TO THE DEAD SEA AND MASADA.** After breakfast, we embark on a full day excursion to explore the region of the **Dead Sea**; at nearly 1,400 feet below sea level, it's the *lowest point on Earth*. First, we visit the site of the **Qumran Caves** where the *Dead Sea Scrolls* were discovered. Then continue to the spectacular cliff-top Fortress of **Masada (UNESCO)**, where we ascend by cable car to visit the hilltop ruins and hear the chilling tale of its brave inhabitants. Overlooking the *Judean Desert* and *Dead Sea*, Masada is a natural fortress of rugged beauty. Atop this strategic site, Herod the Great built a palace complex in the classic style of the early Roman Empire. In 73 A.D., it was the site of a violent clash where Jewish patriots made their heroic last stand in the face of an overwhelming Roman army. Today, the fortifications and attack ramp that encircle the monument are the most complete Roman siege works surviving to the present day.

Our next stop is the **Dead Sea**! Be sure to bring your *swimsuit* as we will *savor lunch* and time for a relaxing float in the buoyant therapeutic waters. On our return journey to Jerusalem, we stop to see **Wadi Qelt** and its 5th-century **Monastery of St. George**, still inhabited by monks, and built into the side of a cliff. Back in Jerusalem, our evening is free to dine and enjoy as we wish. Alex and our director will be around to assist. (B, L)

**Day 10. Sun., Mar. 19. DISCOVERING MODERN JERUSALEM AND BETHLEHEM.** This morning, browse through **Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center**. Founded in 1953 as a principal center for the documentation, research, education and commemoration of the *Holocaust*, Yad Vashem remains a dynamic and vital place dedicated to safeguarding the memory of the past and imparting its meaning to future generations. Then enjoy an expertly guided tour through the **Israel Museum**. Established in 1965 as the largest cultural institution in Israel, it's now ranked as *one of the leading art and archaeology museums of the world*. Among the highlights in its vast millennia-spanning collection are the **Dead Sea Scrolls** and a detailed model of ancient Jerusalem during the Second Temple Period.

Later travel to **Bethlehem** to have *lunch in the home* of a *Palestinian Christian* family. With a tempting variety of Middle Eastern salads and appetizers and a main course, this congenial lunch is enhanced by lively conversation with our hosts – and a chance to gain genuine insight into their lives. Then visit the **Nativity Church**, the oldest standing church in the Holy Land. Originally built in the 4th century by St. Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine, the present 6th-century structure was erected by Justinian. This evening's farewell dinner celebrates the end to our historical visit of Israel. (B, L, D)

**Day 11. Mon., Mar. 20. VIA JERICHO TO JORDAN.** If permitted by local authorities, we will visit the Palestinian city of **Jericho**. Commonly known as *“the oldest city in the world,”* Jericho has a wealth of historic roots, in Arabic, Hebrew, and Greek alike. Later we cross the historic **Allenby Bridge**, now called *Sheikh Hussein Bridge*, into the Hashemite Kingdom of **Jordan**. Take in our first glimpses of the Biblical lands of the Ammonites, Amorites, Edomites, and Moabites as we climb toward the country's capital, Amman. Experience a fascinating fusion of *‘east meets west’* and a melting pot of cultures on our city exploration. Discover the rich flavors of Jordanian cuisine at tonight's dinner at a local restaurant. Our stay is at the W Hotel in the heart of the city. (B, D)

**Day 12. Tue., Mar. 21. ALONG THE KING'S WAY TO PETRA.** This morning we set out along the historic *King's Way*, a trade route of vital importance in the ancient Near East. Traveling southward, our coach makes its way to **Madaba** where we visit **St. George Church** to see an incredible 6th-century mosaic depicting Biblical sites from Egypt to Palestine; with 157 Greek captions, it is the *oldest-known map* of the Holy Land. Then sit down to a **home-cooked meal** in a restored century-old residence before ascending **Mt. Nebo**, where Moses viewed the Promised Land and lived out his life. At the summit, with its panoramic views of the *Jordan Valley*, there stands a Franciscan structure that was erected to protect the remains of a 4th-century Byzantine church. Continue along the *King's Highway* to the fortified Crusader town and castle of **Kerak** (or *Montreal*). Then on to the fabled Rose Red City of **Petra (UNESCO)**. Here we spend two nights at the deluxe Movenpick Hotel, ideally located across from the visitor's entrance. (B, L)

**Day 13. Wed., Mar. 22. EXPLORING PETRA.** Mighty **Petra**, one of the "*Seven New Wonders of the World*," was a strategic link in ancient caravan routes and is still stunningly preserved after nearly 2,000 years. Built by the Nabataeans and later abandoned, it was lost to civilization for centuries until its accidental rediscovery by a Swiss adventurer. The entire city is carved into the sides of a deep gorge, and the only entrance is through a narrow opening called the *Siq* which was the dramatic backdrop of a scene in one of the *Indiana Jones films*. This morning we begin our journey into *Petra* from between these 100-foot cliffs, a remarkable vista will unfold before us. Temples, tombs, and dwellings chiseled out of the solid, rose-hued stone. Over the next 3 hours, our exploration of Petra includes the famous **Treasury**, a monumental 131-foot building artfully carved out of the sheer rock, and other ancient monuments like the haunting **Street of Facades** and the **Roman Theater**.

Our lunch today is a delicious **barbecue at Basin Restaurant** located inside Petra. Free time to linger on to explore more of the Valley at our own pace: Numerous tombs, large and small residences, temples, bathhouses, and other public spaces offer fascinating insight into what life was like when Petra was a thriving city. As we walk down the rock stairs and rock streets past the *Qasr al-Bint Castle Shrine* and the *Al-Habis Caves*, you will feel as if you have traveled back in time.

We've included full-day entry, so we can even return to our hotel to relax before returning later in the afternoon to continue your independent exploration. This evening, visit the **Petra Kitchen** for a hands-on culinary experience. Working alongside local villagers under the supervision of a skilled chef, we will prepare a variety of traditional Jordanian dishes. It's a congenial, enriching, and fun evening. Enjoy the bounty of our labors when we sit down for a wonderful well-earned dinner! (B, L, D)

**Day 14. Thu., Mar. 23. VIA WADI RUM TO AMMAN.** Today's adventure that takes us deep into the captivating landscapes of **Wadi Rum (UNESCO)**, a historic fort run by the desert patrol, or "Camel Corps." This illustrious site with its colorful past is strongly associated with T.E. Lawrence, widely known as *Lawrence of Arabia*. Traveling in comfortable *4WD vehicles* over moonlike desert landscape, discover a remote region where sandstone and granite mountains rise sheer sided from wide sandy valleys to reach spectacular heights of 4,000 feet and more. An exciting *camel ride* promises a timeless and intimate experience of *Wadi Rum's* evocative beauty. At **Khazali Canyon**, enjoy a short hike to see ancient *Nabataean* inscriptions and drawings. Then sit down to a traditional **Bedouin lunch** with a local family before returning to the W Hotel in Amman for the next two nights. (B, L)

**Day 15. Fri., Mar. 24. EXCURSION TO JALON AND JERASH.** This morning we take a short drive north through the picturesque hills of ancient Gilead to **Jerash**. Known as *one of the best-preserved provincial Roman cities in the world*, Jerash is often referred to as the "*Pompeii of the East*." Our local guide will tell us 2,500 years of history as we stroll past the magnificent Triumphal Arch, the Hippodrome, the great elliptical forum, the impressive Roman Bridge, and a wide street lined with columns that leads to the Temple of Artemis. Next, we visit to the magnificent 12th-century **Saracen Castle** at **Ajlun**. Originally built in 1184, the castle was used as a base in his successful campaign to drive the Crusaders from Jordan. Sadly, it's time to pack and rest before our early **farewell dinner** at our hotel. (B, D)

**Day 16. Sat., Mar. 25. HEADING HOME.** Early this morning we head to the airport with vivid memories of a historical once-in-a-lifetime adventure. We arrive home in the evening of the same day.

# General Conditions – Israel & Jordan

**DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT:** A \$600 per person **CHECK DEPOSIT** (*please make check out to Dold World Journeys*) is required to secure your space and your **RESERVATION FORM** to set your possible discount spot. The deposit is part of your final payment, which is due no later than **90 days** prior to departure. You will receive a final payment request approximately two weeks before its due date. **Payment for this journey is by CHECK ONLY.** Sign-up discounts are combinable with other discounts but are not transferable to other programs.

This program is sold as a **FULL PACKAGE** (*air & land*). **LAND ONLY space is on a WAIT LIST.** If your LAND ONLY space clears, you will have to make your own airport transfer arrangements (*and/or dayrooms arrangements if applicable*).

**DOLD WORLD JOURNEYS TERMS & CONDITIONS: NEW** - Joining our program is a multiple step process. For one of them, each member must accept the **Dold World Journeys Terms & Conditions**. A copy will be provided via email.

**CANCELLATION AND REFUND:** **Deposit refunds** will be made, if cancellation is received up to **120 days** prior to departure; thereafter, only the monies which will be recovered from the hotels, tour operators, airlines, etc., will be refunded. No refund will be made for services not used once the tour commences. All refunds or penalties are subject to the rules and tariffs of the vendors concerned. (*\*Note: once your airline ticket is issued it is non-refundable.*) There is a \$50 fee for any changes made after 90 days.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION: NEW** – Travel Insurance must be purchased with your deposit and paid by **CHECK**. It becomes **NON-REFUNDABLE** at **120 days out**. You can find a copy of the coverage at [doldworldjourneys.com](http://doldworldjourneys.com).

**PRICE:** Price is per person based on two people sharing a room and accurate as of September 8, 2022. Our program is guaranteed (unless taxes increase). We need a minimum of 20 people to operate this program.

**PRICE INCLUDES:** The journey price includes **AIRFARE** based on a special GROUP fare, which is subject to certain restrictions; accommodations in Superior First Class to Deluxe hotels based on two people sharing a room/cabin with private facilities (*bath or shower*); meals as indicated in the itinerary: (B) breakfast, (L) lunch, and (D) dinner; and entrance fees where applicable.

**NOT INCLUDED:** The trip price does not include passport expenses; meals not listed in itinerary; all beverages; airport tax; airline baggage fee, travel protection; laundry expenses; and all items of a personal nature. Tips to directors, drivers, local guides, and hotel personnel; excursions; city sightseeing; and entrance fees are excluded unless specifically noted in the itinerary.

**PASSPORT AND VISA:** A passport, valid 6 months past the date of your return with at least **THREE** blank pages, is required. A Tourist Visa is required for Jordan (approx. \$85). Visa fees are NOT included in the journey price. We will help you obtain all visas necessary. A **COPY** of your passport is due with final payment (*or sooner*).

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** Single rooms are **limited** and on REQUEST.

**SIGHTSEEING AND TRANSFERS:** All sightseeing and transfers are by private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach with extra leg room. No Smoking on motor coaches.

**BAGGAGE:** Due to limited motorcoach capacity, only **one suitcase** (50 lbs. maximum) and one carry-on per person will be allowed. Portage for this suitcase is included in the journey's price. Airline baggage fees are not included. No responsibility is accepted for loss of or damage to baggage or any of the passengers' belongings. We recommend buying travel insurance.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Dold World Journeys, LLC, 5383 Manauwea St, Honolulu, HI 96821 (hereinafter referred to as "DWJ") is responsible to you in making arrangements for the services offered in the itinerary or on its Web site, including transportation, sightseeing, and hotel accommodations through independent contracts.

The carriers, hotels and other suppliers providing journey services are independent contractors and are not agents, employees, or servants of, or joint ventures with DWJ or its affiliates. All certificates and other travel documents for services issued by DWJ are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the supplier and to the laws of the countries in which the services are supplied. If, after departure, the services included in the program cannot be supplied or there are changes in an itinerary for reasons beyond the control of DWJ and its affiliates, they will arrange for the provision of comparable services. Any resulting additional expense will be payable by group participants and any resulting savings will be refunded by DWJ to group participants.

Any disability requiring special attention should be reported to Globus at the time the reservation is made. Globus will make reasonable attempts to accommodate the special needs of disabled tour participants, but the Companies are not responsible for any denial of services by carriers, hotels, restaurants, and other independent suppliers. The motorcoach company and other carrier employees may not physically lift participants or assist them on or off transportation vehicles. Persons requiring such assistance must be accompanied by a qualified companion.

DWJ reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a group participant, to expel any group participant from the journey, to make changes in the itinerary whenever DWJ deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the group, and to cancel a journey at any time.

You are voluntarily participating in this journey with knowledge of the inherent risks (*including COVID19*), and you agree to assume all risks. **You are aware that payment of the deposit on the reservation indicates acknowledgement and acceptance of these risks.**

The group participant agrees that neither DWJ nor its affiliates shall be liable for any damages, loss (*including personal injury, death, and property loss*), or expense occasioned by any act or omission of any supplier providing journey services or of any other person. (Travel Agents Registration #7051)