

## " Tour of Joy & Celebrations " Christmas in Israel and New Year in Jordan 12 days, 11 nights

Day 1: Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> : Arrival – Ben Gurion Airport (ISRAEL) – Bethlehem Overnight (Driver only) Arrival to the Holy Land via Ben Gurion International Airport. Go through passport control and customs. Retrieve your luggage from luggage claim and continue to the arrival hall where you will meet your driver. Transfer to Bethlehem for check-in and overnight.

#### Day 2: Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> : Old City Tour Jerusalem – Overnight Bethlehem (guide and driver)

After breakfast at the hotel, meet with your driver for a tour of the Old City. Jerusalem occupies a unique place in the world. It is holy to Judaism Christianity, and Islam. This day's tour starts on Mt. Scopus with a panoramic view of the city from the east. Mount Scopus is part of a ridge of mountains that includes the Mount of Olives. Scopus deserves its name as one of the best places to get an overview of Jerusalem especially from the mount's promenade. Then to Mount of Olives. The Mount of Olives, one of three hills on a long ridge to the east of Jerusalem, is the location of many biblical



events. Rising to more than 800 meters, it offers an unrivalled vista of the Old City and its environs. Continue to Garden of Gethsemane. The Garden of Gethsemane, near the foot of the Mount of Olives, named in the New Testament where Jesus went with his disciples to pray the night before he was crucified. In the afternoon, walk into the Old City to see and touch the Western Wall (Wailing Wall), the only one remnant of the Second Temple. Walk the Way of the Cross, the Via Dolorosa, to Calvary and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, housing both the traditional site of Crucifixion and the Tomb of the Resurrection. Then turn southwest, just outside the Old City, visit Mount Zion, with the traditional tomb of King David and the Room of the Last Supper. Finish your day by transferring



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to your hotel in Bethlehem for an overnight.

# Day 3: Dec 24<sup>th</sup> : Christmas Eve | Bethlehem and Midnight Mass - Overnight Bethlehem (Guide and Driver)

After breakfast, we go to the Mount of Olives and visit Pater Noster Church. Continue to see the panoramic view of the old city of Jerusalem. Proceed to Dominus Flevit then walk the Palm Sunday route and descend to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus spent the last night before he was arrested. Visit the famous Church of All Nations. Go to Saint Ann's Church through the Lions Gate and visit Pools of Bethesda. Start walking the Via Dolorosa and end at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Overnight in Bethlehem



Day 4: Dec 25<sup>th</sup> : Christmas in Bethlehem - Overnight Bethlehem (No services)

Merry Christmas! After breakfast at your hotel, spend today at your leisure. In the evening, meet with your driver and enjoy a Christmas Dinner (seated) at a local restaurant. Overnight at your Bethlehem Hotel.

#### Day 5: Dec 26<sup>th</sup> : Allenby – Jordan – Amman City Tour – Overnight Amman (Driver only)

After breakfast at the hotel, check-out, and transfer to Allenby Bridge for Jordan crossover. Arrival to Jordan. Meet with your driver at the arrival hall and transfer to Amman. Roam around the city of Amman touring its sites. First, visit the Citadel with beautiful views over Amman City. It is an archeological site located on top of Jebel Al Qala'a at the center of downtown. This historic site comprises a 1700-meter wall that dates back to the Bronze Age, the iconic Temple of Hercules, and the Umayyad Palace. Continue to the Roman Theatre, located in the heart of the city. This magnificently restored theatre is the most obvious and impressive remnant of Roman Philadelphia and is the highlight of Amman for most foreign visitors. The theatre itself is cut into the northern side of a hill and has a seating capacity of 6000. At the end of your day, transfer to your hotel for





check-in and overnight in Amman. \**If arriving QAIA, this day is subject to arrival time* 



Day 6: Dec 27<sup>th</sup> : Amman – Madaba – Mt. Nebo – Bethany – Overnight Dead Sea (Driver only)

After breakfast at the hotel, get ready to travel the lowest point on Earth: Dead Sea. While stopping along the way. First stop will be St. George Church in Madaba. Here you will view the Madaba Map, also known as the Madaba Mosaic Map, a part of a floor mosaic in the early Byzantine church. Continue to Mt. Nebo, from where Moses viewed the Promised Land. Afterwards, visit Bethany and transfer to the Dead Sea for a float in its mineral rich water. Check-in and overnight at your Dead Sea hotel.

\*Dead Sea Float is subject to weather conditions



Day 7: Dec 28<sup>th</sup> : Dead Sea Free Morning – Petra Transfer – Overnight in Petra (Driver only) After breakfast at the hotel, spend the morning at your leisure. In the afternoon, meet with you driver and transfer to Petra for check-in and overnight.

Optional activities for tonight: Petra by Night 20:30 to 22:30 (every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening), Petra Kitchen cooking course, local Turkish Bath. Can be pre-arranged as supplement.







#### Day 8: Dec 29<sup>th</sup> : Petra Full Day – Overnight Wadi Rum (Guide and Driver)

After breakfast at the hotel, check-out and meet with your driver. Today you'll visit Petra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Also known as one of the seven wonders of the world. Petra was carved out of the rocky southern Jordanian desert by the Nabateans over 2000 years ago. What was then the capital of the Nabatean Kingdom, Petra was lost for 2000 years until it was rediscovered 200 years ago by a Swedish explorer. Over the past 200 years, more and more of Petra has been uncovered, and more treasures are still being uncovered to this day.

Here you will have a full-day guided tour. Enter through the Siq and visit the Treasury, Street of Facades, Theater, Colonnaded Street etc. After lunch, if time permits, visit the Monastery and/or the High Place of Sacrifice. It is a lot of climbing but definitely worth the views! Transfer to Wadi Rum approximately at 15:00/30 for check-in, dinner and overnight.



#### Day 9: Dec 30<sup>th</sup> : Wadi Rum Jeep Tour – Overnight Aqaba (Driver only)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out and meet with your driver. Transfer to Wadi Rum and stop at the Visitors Centre. Here you will enjoy a 4 hour-day jeep tour of Wadi Rum and a freshly prepared lunch. A jeep tour is the best way to discover many sites in Wadi Rum. The jeep will stop at each





site giving you time to roam around and a chance to climb some of the beautiful natural formed bridges in Wadi Rum. Afterwards, transfer to Aqaba for check-in and overnight. *Optional before the jeep tour, enjoy a half-hour camel ride. Can be pre-arranged as supplement.* 



Day 10: Dec 31<sup>st</sup> : Aqaba Free Day – Overnight Aqaba (No services)

New Year's Eve! Spend today at your leisure. Red Sea beaches and snorkeling put Aqaba on the travel map, but Jordan's only coastal city is an enticing destination in its own right. Along with a well-earned reputation for friendly locals, Aqaba boasts seafood cafés, a waterfront promenade, and gorgeous desert scenery. There will be a New Year's Eve Gala dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Aqaba hotel.

Optional activities in Aqaba: Snorkeling, Glass-bottom boat ride, diving, Ayla Golf Club, Tennis, Inflatable water castle and so much more. Can be pre-arranged as supplement.







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#### Day 11: Jan 1<sup>st</sup> : Aqaba Free Day – Transfer to Amman – Overnight Amman (Driver only)

After breakfast at the hotel, spend the morning at your leisure. In the afternoon, meet with you driver and transfer to Amman for check-in at your hotel. Meet with your driver at 18:30 for a farewell dinner at Reem Al Bawadi Restaurant. At the end of the day transfer back to your hotel for an overnight.

#### Day 12: Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> : Departure – Queen Alia International Airport (Driver only)

Check out of your hotel and transfer to Queen Alia International Airport for departure. Keep in mind that you need to be at the airport 3 hours prior to your departure time.

### End of your tour to Israel and Jordan!

\*Note that sites and visits will be subject to traffic and time restrictions \*Arrival and Departure days can be switched

