

Israel Trip 2018

March 1-12, 2018



Preparing for the Trip of A Lifetime!

What you will most probably find, is that you can take vacations to many parts of the world, but a trip to Israel is much more of a pilgrimage.

Although it has been a great vacation for many people, it is also a spiritual experience that will change your understanding and reading of the Scriptures!

Getting There!

You will purchase your own flight (but I will help with the process if you need it).

We will give you the date to arrive and leave, but you can come early or stay late.

The advantages of booking your own flight:

- Probably cheaper and you can set a schedule that works best for you.
- If you have FF points, you can use them.
- You can use your own credit card and get points for the purchase.
- You can book the seats and class that you prefer, leaving from your preferred airport.
- You can go early, stay late or visit another country during your trip.

You need to arrive in Tel Aviv no later than March 2nd and leave Tel Aviv on March 12th or later. We will be happy to help you with this!

You may come earlier to Israel and/or stay later but you will need to book your own accommodations.

TYPICAL DAY

7 a.m. – Breakfast buffet

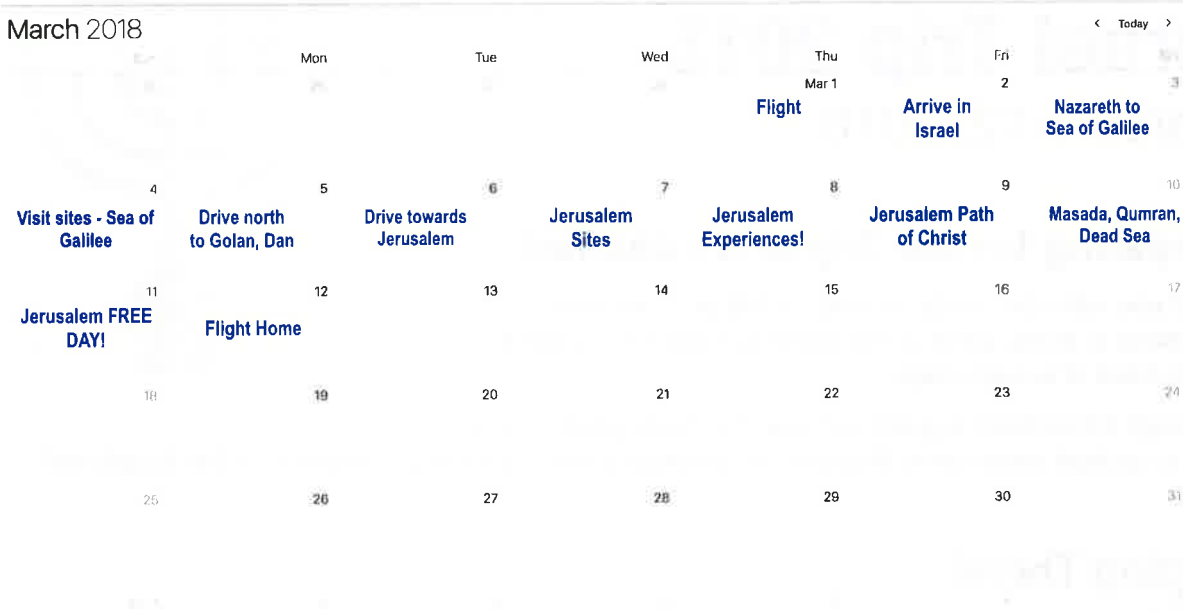
7:45 am – Board bus

Noon – Lunch

4:30 pm – Back to hotel

6 pm – Dinner buffet

Evenings – free and explore



ECC ISRAEL TRIP — MARCH 2018

DAY	Date	Plan	Lodging
1	Thu, Mar 1, 2018	Flight to Tel Aviv	Plane
2	Fri, Mar 2, 2018	Arrive in Tel Aviv; drive to Herzliya (or arrive whenever you'd like using your own flight)	Herod Herzliya
3	Sat, Mar 3, 2018	Caesarea Maritima, Mt. Carmel, Nazareth & Nazareth Village, Cana	Scotts, Tiberias
4	Sun, Mar 4, 2018	Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Ginosaur, Migdal, Korazin, Tabgha, Baptisms, etc.	Scotts, Tiberias
5	Mon, Mar 5, 2018	North to Golan, Naot, Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Katzrin, Olive Oil factory	Scotts, Tiberias
6	Tue, Mar 6, 2018	Mount Arbel, Beth Shan, Gilboa, Jericho(?), Up to Jerusalem	Prima Kings, Jerusalem
7	Wed, Mar 7, 2018	Jerusalem -- Model, Western Wall, Rabbinical Tunnels, Pools of Bethesda, St. Annes, Cardo, Laser Light Show	Prima Kings, Jerusalem
8	Thu, Mar 8, 2018	Jerusalem — Hezekiah's Tunnel, Walk the walls, The Shook, Bethlehem, Herodian	Prima Kings, Jerusalem
9	Fri, Mar 9, 2018	Jerusalem - Path of Christ - Palm Sunday to Easter, Mt. of Olives, Upper Room, Gethsemane, House of Caiaphas, Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Garden Tomb	Prima Kings, Jerusalem
10	Sat, Mar 10, 2018	En Gedi, Masada, Dead Sea	Prima Kings, Jerusalem
11	Sun, Mar 11, 2018	Your day (explore the old city; take a jeep trip into the desert; see the museums, go shopping, etc.)	Prima Kings, Jerusalem
12	Mon, Mar 12, 2018	- Flight Home (or continue on with personal plans)	Plane

The Cost of the Trip

The land portion of the trip which includes lodging, breakfasts, dinners, transportation, bus driver, guide, entrance fees, tips, notebook, trip insurance, etc. is @ \$2,895. (Based on 40 passengers)

The only other money that you will need is for lunches, whatever you do on the free day and personal items or souvenirs.

A \$500 deposit will be due October 1, 2017.

Our Hotels

1. Herod Hotel — Herzliya - 1 night
2. The Scotts Hotel — Tiberias - 3 nights
3. The Prima Kings Hotel — Jerusalem - 6 nights

How to Prepare Now

1. Check your Passport now. It must be valid for six months after leaving Israel so the expiration date must be AFTER September 12, 2018.
2. Think about places from Scripture or your reading that you would like to visit. Let Pastor Denny know asap so that we could possibly include it.
3. Study a map of Israel. (A basic one is attached.)
4. Listen to some good Hebrew music. (Paul Wilbur is one of my favorite artists for Messianic Hebrew music.)
5. READ. You will be given a Bible reading schedule to read the Gospels a few months before we leave, but in the meantime, You can look through Israel tour books or read a book like the following:
 - **O Jerusalem** —By Collins
 - **Israel, My Beloved** — By Kay Arthur
 - **ISRAEL** — an introduction: An amazing introduction to Israel, this book offers a definitive account of the nation's past, its often controversial present, and much more. Written by Barry Rubin, a leading historian of the Middle East, the book is based around six major themes: land and people, history, society, politics, economics, and culture. You can't go wrong with this book if you're looking for the perfect intro to the Holy Land and what it's all about.
 - **Our Man in Damascus – Elie Cohen**: This was one of the first books I read upon arriving in Israel many moons ago, and it still holds firm in my memory. A truly amazing story, this is a great read for those of you interested in Israel, and especially espionage enthusiasts. It will add depth and understanding of a crucial and fascinating story of a great man who died a master spy. Now out of print, try and grab a used paperback on Amazon.
 - **Six Days of War – June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East**: The Six Day War in 1967 was a moment that defined this small nation, and in fact, the whole of the Middle East. What is chilling about this book (which details the war in detail in a highly readable and

very gripping manner), is that over forty years later, not much has changed, as the author points out. An exciting historical documentary, and not your typical war book!

— **A History of the Jews:** This amazing history of the Jewish people is a great read, written by renowned Christian British historian Paul Johnson. If you are looking for a book to take you through through 4000 years of Jewish history, this has to be on your shopping list. The book is structured in such a way that the author makes this huge chunk of history understandable and extremely engaging. It also covers not only Jewish history but the impact of Jewish brains and imagination on the world.

— **A History of Israel – From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time:** A great book that does a fine job of supplying a detailed history of Israel. It's a long read at well over 1000 pages long with a TON of well-researched information, but covers the rise of Zionism from the 1880s up to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and is, despite its length, a great read. Quite possibly the definitive work of reference on the Palestinian – Israel issue.

— **Israel from the Air:** One of the first presents I took home with me was a book of aerial views of Israel. This is perhaps the most updated version out there, considering the much changing skyline in places like Tel Aviv, and really gives a great glimpse of the Holy Land, highlighting the various deserts, seas, hills and cities you'll just want to see live or revisit. This could be a beautiful memento of a trip or the perfect taster for an impending visit!

Packing

You can take one suitcase with total measurement of 62 inches and 50 pounds or less.

And one carry on of 45 inches (22x14x9) and 40 pounds or less.

At Our Next Meeting

Preliminary Meeting this fall to give you some more ideas on planning and preparing.

Oct 15th at 12:15 after second service

But, for Now . . .

We have time to make adjustments and additions:

1. Do you want to add an optional side trip to the end of our trip? 3-4 days in Rome, Jordan, England, . . . ?
2. There would need to be 15 of us traveling on the side trip to make it happen (not so costly as you are already "there.").

Flying for Less to Israel

Not for you if don't...

- you do not pay your bills on time;
- have a credit score of at least ~700;
- pay attention to detail;
- track your credit card balances;

Get a Credit Karma Account

www.creditkarma.com

Banks Card Travel Programs

AMEX – Membership Rewards

CITI – Thank You Points

CHASE – Ultimate Reward Points

Airline Miles – Co-Branded Cards

Delta Skymiles

AAdvantage

United Explorer

One Simple Strategy

Chase Ultimate Rewards

Be approved for two credit cards...

Spend \$4500.00 in three months total...

Earn 65,000 bonus points plus 4500 spend points...

You now have 70,000 Chase Ultimate REwards

Redeeming on Flights

Example 1:

Indy to Tel Aviv - \$956.08 OR 70,000 points plus \$81.08

PROS: Lowest Price, Flying with Others CONS: Two Stops, 20 Plus Hours

Example 2:

FWA to Tel Aviv - \$1562.68 OR 70,000 points plus \$687.68

PROS: Convenient CONS: Most Points

Example 3:

DTW to Tel Aviv - \$1309.18 OR 70,000 points plus \$434.18

PROS: Shortest Time, One Stop CONS: Farthest Airport

