

# Rhapsody Tour

**Duration: 12 days / 10 nights**

**A Dan Tours Exclusive Tour. Wednesday Departure**

| Day | Location         | Details  | Meal                |
|-----|------------------|--|---------------------|
| 1   | En Route         | <p>Welcome to Israel! Arrive Ben Gurion Airport; please exit the aircraft and continue to Passport Control. Just before entering Passport Control, you will be met by our representative ("SMILE" Service). You will then be assisted through all the required formalities including luggage claim; then you will be accompanied to the awaiting vehicle for transfer to your hotel on the Mediterranean shore in vibrant Tel Aviv. (Kindly note, there is also a SMILE counter in the Baggage Claim area in the unlikely event that you did not locate our representative at the designated meeting point). Balance of the day and evening at leisure in the "city that never sleeps".</p> <p><b>Kindly Note:</b> Upon entering Israel, please be sure to retain the stamped separate slip that is issued at Israeli Passport Control. This form indicates whether you are Israeli or a foreigner according to your passport (Israeli passport holders, even with dual citizenships are required to pay 17% Vat for hotels, car rentals and other services). As a foreigner, the slip allows for your exemption from this VAT payment as long as it is presented as required.</p> |                     |
| 2   | Tel Aviv         | <p>Today, a great adventure! You will be picked up from your hotel at 8:30 A.M. Spend the morning digging and excavating at the <b>Tel Maresha Dig at Beit Guvrin National Park</b> (<i>weather permitting</i>). Continue to the 4,000-year-old port city of <b>Jaffa</b>. Explore the magnificently reconstructed Artists' Quarter with its unique art galleries. Afterwards, on to Tel Aviv's bustling <b>Carmel Market</b> and lively <b>Nachlat Benjamin Street</b> with its delightful craft stalls. Adjacent is <b>Sheinkin Street</b> one of the most popular streets in Tel Aviv, for the trendiest boutiques or just some coffee and people watching—definitely the place to be on Friday afternoon! Tonight, <b>Get Together Dinner</b>.</p>   | Breakfast<br>Dinner |
| 3   | Tel Aviv         | <p>Morning walking tour through the city's well-known streets including Dizengoff Square ending at <b>Ben Gurion House</b>, former residence of the First Prime Minister.</p> <p>Early afternoon <i>Optional</i> visit to <b>Machon Ayalon</b>, the fascinating underground Ammunitions Factory (<i>highly recommended and must be pre-booked; \$120 per person including roundtrip transfers, minimum 2 persons required</i>). Remainder of the day at leisure to enjoy all of the delights of this Mediterranean paradise. Tel Aviv's museums and restaurants are world-class. Don't miss Tel Aviv's hip port neighborhood, with its yachts, eateries and café-filled boardwalk.</p>   | Breakfast           |
| 4   | Tel Aviv / Haifa | <p>Depart Tel Aviv. Drive to the extraordinary <b>Israeli Museum</b> at the <b>Yitzhak Rabin Center</b> chronicling the life of the late Prime Minister and the development of the State of Israel. Continue to ancient <b>Caesarea</b>; explore the Roman and Crusader ruins including the impressive 2,000-year-old theater (still in use!) and aqueduct. Arrive in <b>Nazareth</b>, the sacred town where</p>   | Breakfast<br>Dinner |

**Highlights:**

- Professional Tour Director
- 7 Days of Comprehensive Sightseeing
- Walking Tour of Tel Aviv
- Arrival and Departure Transfers

**Special Features:**

- Archeological "Dig" at Beit Guvrin National Park
- Tour the Israeli Museum at the Rabin Center Dinner and special presentation in Haifa Descend to the Underwater Grottos at Rosh Hanikra
- Enjoy wine tasting at a Golan Winery
- Visit an Army Bunker in the Golan
- Tour the spectacular FOZ Heritage Center Night Tour of "illuminated" Jerusalem
- Tour Herodian Mansions or Hasmonean Tunnel
- Sound & Light Show in Jerusalem Shabbat
- Dinner with Home Hospitality in Jerusalem
- WiFi enabled buses and Free WiFi at all hotels
- Tips to all restaurant staff
- Express Airport Check-in Service & Dan VIP Lounge at Ben Gurion Airport (upon return to the USA)

**Meals**

- Daily Israeli Buffet Breakfast
- Friday Dinner Get-together in Tel Aviv
- 1 Dinner in Haifa
- Lunch at Kibbutz Kfar Charuv Restaurant
- Dinner in Jerusalem
- Traditional Friday Night Dinner-Israeli home in Jerusalem

(B) Breakfast (L) Lunch (D) Dinner

Jesus spent part of his youth; visit the Church and view **Mary's Well**. On to the sparkling port city of **Haifa**; check into your hotel atop Mt. Carmel. Evening: Enjoy **Dinner** and a special cultural presentation (subject to min. 10 participants).

**NOTE: Visit to Nazareth requires modest dress. Shorts must be knee length and not shorter (for men and women); no sleeveless shirts or blouses.**

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| 5 | Haifa | View the golden-domed <b>Baha'i Shrine</b> and visit the breathtaking " <b>hanging gardens</b> ," – a UNESCO World Heritage site. Drive along the coast to <b>Rosh Hanikra</b> ; descend by cable car to see the magnificent underwater grottoes. Continue through the picturesque seaside town of Nahariya to the timeless Crusader city of <b>Acre</b> ; walk through the subterranean city and bazaars that recall the colorful Middle Ages. Then, to <b>Safed</b> , one of Judaism's holiest cities, where the Kabbalah was developed in the 16 <sup>th</sup> -century; visit the ancient synagogues and the charming Artists' Quarter. Return to your hotel. The balance of the evening is free at leisure to enjoy a stroll under the Carmel skies and the glow of this beautiful port city. | Breakfast<br>Dinner |
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**NOTE: Visit to Safed requires modest dress. Shorts must be knee length and not shorter (for men and women); no sleeveless shirts or blouses.**

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| 6 | Haifa/Jerusalem | We'll depart Haifa driving first to <b>Capernaum</b> , by the Sea of Galilee, to see the fantastic ruins of the ancient synagogue dating back to the 5 <sup>th</sup> -century. Ascend the strategic Golan Heights and learn about the 20 <sup>th</sup> century battles that protected Israel's future. On to <b>Katzrin</b> , capital of the Golan and to the <b>Monument of the 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade</b> . It is here, in the magnificent strip of the Golan that has become known for producing the finest wines in the world, that we will enjoy a tour of the wine making process as well as <b>sample some of the Golan's tastiest wines</b> . Continue for a visit to a former Syrian <b>army bunker</b> at <b>Kibbutz Kfar Charuv</b> , settled by Americans and Israelis together; view of the fertile valleys below as you tour the kibbutz and enjoy a late <b>lunch</b> in the communal dining room. Then drive south and rise through the mountains to "golden" Jerusalem, stopping first for a blessing and a toast to our arrival in the eternal city. Overnight in Israel's capital. | Breakfast<br>Lunch |
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**NOTE: Visit to Capernaum requires modest dress. Shorts must be knee length and not shorter (for men and women); no sleeveless shirts or blouses.**

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| 7 | Jerusalem | Drive to <b>Hadassah Medical Center</b> to see the sublime <b>Chagall Windows</b> . On to <b>Yad Vashem</b> , Israel's national Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust, with its Children's Pavilion and Avenue of the Righteous. Then, to <b>Mount Herzl</b> to pay respects to Israel's founders and heroes. Pass the post-modern <b>Supreme Court</b> and the <b>Knesset</b> (Parliament) en route to the <b>Shrine of the Book</b> , home of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Time to walk through the <b>Israel Museum</b> and the <b>Billy Rose Sculpture Garden</b> ; see the <b>Scale Model</b> of ancient Jerusalem. Evening: <b>Night Tour of illuminated Jerusalem</b> followed by a <b>Restaurant Dinner</b> and the " <b>Night Spectacular</b> " <b>Sound &amp; Light Show</b> at the Citadel Museum (schedule permitting) accompanied by the Isram Israel Tour Manager. The walls of the Citadel serve as a stage for a nighttime show which is a celebration of sight and sound. Amidst the archaeological remains in the Citadel's courtyard and to the sound of original music, the story of Jerusalem | Breakfast<br>Dinner |
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unfolds through giant, breathtaking, virtual reality images using spectacular laser technology. (Show runtime: 45 minutes.)

**Please note: This evening's events may be rescheduled for Thursday night due to the Sound & Light Show altering their schedule.**

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| 8  | Jerusalem        | <p>Drive to <b>Mt. Zion</b> to visit the traditional <b>Tomb of King David</b> and the <b>Room of the Last Supper</b>. Enter the <b>Old City</b> to the restored <b>Jewish Quarter</b>; walk along the <b>Cardo</b>, the colonnaded main street of Byzantine Jerusalem. Walk to the <b>Western Wall</b>, last remnant of the Second Temple. View the <b>Dome of the Rock</b>. Proceed through the extraordinary <b>Hasmonean Tunnel</b> (<i>tunnel schedule permitting</i>) or tour the <b>Herodian Mansions</b>, a completely excavated residential quarter from 2000 years ago. Follow the <b>Via Dolorosa</b> to the <b>Church of the Holy Sepulchre</b>; stroll through the exotic <b>bazaars</b> with their wondrous aromas. End today with a visit to the fabulous <b>Friends of Zion Heritage Center</b> celebrating the Christian heroes who have contributed to the Jewish people and the State of Israel. The cutting-edge technology is amazing. Or, an <i>optional</i> visit to <b>Bethlehem</b> may be arranged. A free night tonight. The shops are open late as it's the start of the Israeli weekend. Enjoy the many eateries along the outdoor Mamilla Mall, Ben Yehuda Street, or the "Tachana".</p> <p><b>NOTE: Visit to the Old City and Bethlehem requires modest dress. Shorts must be knee length and not shorter (for men and women); no sleeveless shirts or blouses.</b></p> | Breakfast           |
| 9  | Jerusalem        | <p>Descend through the Judean desert to the <b>Dead Sea</b>, lowest point on Planet Earth. Ascend <b>Masada</b> by cable car and see this last stronghold of the Zealots in their struggle against the Romans. Visit the excavations, Herod the Great's palace, synagogue and bathhouse. Then, opportunity to enjoy an "unsinkable" <b>swim</b> in the buoyant waters of the <b>Dead Sea</b>. Drive via the <b>Qumran Caves</b>, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, on your return to Jerusalem. We'll stop at the Western Wall, beautifully illuminated on this Sabbath eve before arriving to the hotel (<i>time permitting</i>). Tonight, enjoy the traditional <b>Friday dinner</b> together.</p>  | Breakfast<br>Dinner |
| 10 | Jerusalem        | <p>Enjoy a full day at leisure for relaxation and on your own exploration. For those still craving to see and do as much as possible, your tour manager will provide tickets to the <b>Museum of the History of Jerusalem</b> in the Old City - definitely worth a visit. Overnight in Jerusalem.</p>  | Breakfast           |
| 11 | Depart Jerusalem | <p>Transfer to the Airport for your international departure flight; special assistance is provided for check-in service.</p>   | Breakfast           |