

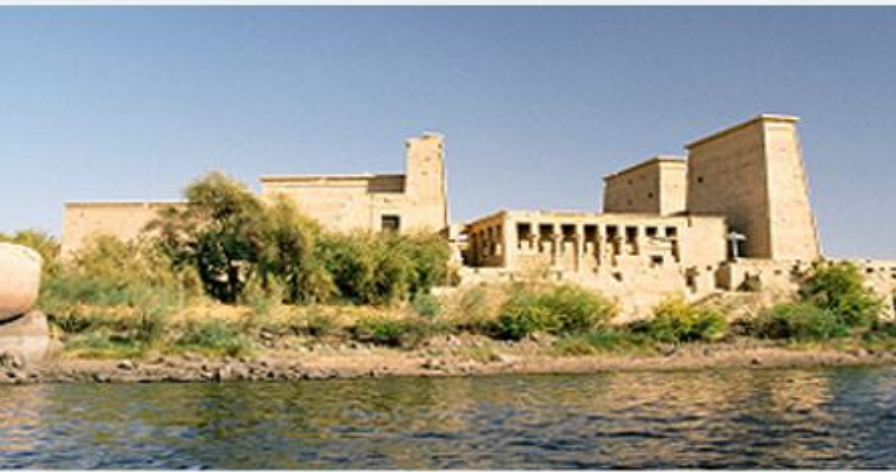


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# RIO TRAVEL INC

*Jordan / Israel / Egypt*



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Jordan/Israel/Egypt.

1. **11 Sep:** Arrival QAIA time **unknown** M/A on arrival transfer to Hotel in Amman for overnight
2. **12 Sep: Petra:**  
After a buffet breakfast and check out we drive through the King's highway to Petra. We spend the day exploring the magnificently mysterious rock carved rose red city of Petra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and now one of the new seven wonders of the world.

Various walks and climbs reveal literally hundred of rock cut tombs, baths, funeral halls, temples, arched gateways, colonnaded streets and haunting rock drawings - as well as a 3000 seat open air amphitheatre, a gigantic first century monastery and a modern archaeological museum, all of which can be explored at leisure.

See Petra's most famous monument, the Treasury, the setting for the film 'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade'.

A horse ride is also included for you.

We then proceed to our hotel check in at the Dead Sea Spa Hotel dinner and overnight.



### 3. Sep 13th Jordan to Israel: Dead Sea/Qumran/ Siesta Beach/Jericho/Nazareth:

After early morning breakfast & check out drive to King Hussein border crossing (formerly Allenby Bridge) and after passport formalities proceed to Qumran to visit the caves where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered. Most scholars believe the location to have been home to a Jewish sect, perhaps the Essenes. A Bedouin shepherd found a cave full of jars. These jars were found to contain 190 linen-wrapped scrolls which were preserved for 2,000 years thanks to the dry desert climate.

After lunch drive to Siesta Beach to bath in the mineral laden waters of the Dead Sea.

Later we drive to Jericho 258 m (846 ft) below sea level the oldest city in the world. We visit Tel Jericho (Tell es-Sultan) the sun backed earthen mount that represents something like 10,000 years of continuous settlement.

Stop for a view of the Monastery of Temptations (Deir Qruntul).

Drive to Jerusalem time allowing picture stop at the Good Samaritan Inn.

Proceed to Nazareth for check in dinner and overnight.



#### 4. Sep 14 Mount Tabor/Sea of Galilee/Mount of Beatitudes/Capernaum/Yardenit/Cana/Nazareth: `

After breakfast we drive to Mount Tabor where the transfiguration of Christ took place. Mount Tabor is a hill rising 500m above the Jezreel Valley in the region of Galilee. Due to its strategic location along the north-south road, it has been an important fortress since ancient times.

We then drive to Capernaum on the northern shoreline of the Sea of Galilee to visit the site where Jesus preached healed the sick and performed many miracles.

Proceed to Mount of Beatitudes to visit the octagonal church commemorating the eight beatitudes.

Continue to Tabgha one of the most important sites of Christ's ministry in Galilee where He did much of His preaching. Then on to the site of the Multiplication of Loaves and Fishes to visit the Church built in the 1980s over the spot from which Jesus Christ fed 5000 followers with five loaves and two fish. We will also visit the Church of the Primacy of St Peter nearby to the east on the lakeside. The black basalt Franciscan chapel is built on the site where Jesus is said to have appeared to the Apostles after His Resurrection.

Take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee with St. Peter's fish for lunch at Ein Gev.

After lunch stop at the Baptismal site situated at the southern end of the Sea of Galilee at the place where the Jordan River flows out of the Sea on its way down to the Dead Sea located more than 100KM to the south. This site is believed by some traditions to be the actual site where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3: 13: "Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John").

In the afternoon we drive to the Church of the Wedding in Kufur Cana in the Galilee built by the Franciscans to commemorate the first miracle of Jesus where he turned water into wine at the wedding feast. Continue to Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up. Our visit will begin with the Basilica of the Annunciation, built over Mary's House walk across the courtyard to St. Joseph's home and workshop.

Return to our hotel in Nazareth in the evening for dinner and overnight

## 5. Sep 15 Haifa/Caesarea:

After early morning breakfast and check out we drive to Haifa is the largest city in northern Israel and the third-largest city in the country, The city is a seaport located on Israel's Mediterranean coastline in the Haifa Bay , about 90km north of Tel Aviv. The city is hilly, being located below and on the historic Mount Carmel, and is first mentioned historically in the 3rd century CE as a dye making centre.

Mount Carmel (Hebrew: God's vineyard) and Kishon River are both mentioned in the Bible. Mount Carmel is riddled with caves and one of those near Haifa is traditionally known as the Cave of Elijah, and considered by many Jews to have been the home of the Jewish biblical Prophet Elijah and his apprentice, Elisha. The highest peak of the Mount Carmel range is named El-Muhrrakah, an Arabic term meaning the burning, named on account of the belief that this was the exact spot of Elijah's biblical confrontation with hundreds of priests of a Baal; the Baal in question was probably Melqart.

Haifa is also home to the Baha'i world Centre a central location to the Baha'i. The city is cherished by members of the Baha'i as it is an important site of worship, pilgrimage and administration for the members of the religion. The Baha'i world Centre (comprising the Shrine of the Baha'i; terraced gardens and administrative buildings) is all on Mount Carmel's northern slope.

After lunch we drive to Caesarea Maritima also called Caesarea Palaestina from 133 A.D.onwards. This was a city built by Herod the Great about 13 BC. Today, the city lies on the Mediterranean coast of Israel about halfway between the modern day cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa, on the site of a place previously called Pyrgos Stratonos ("Strato" or "Straton's Tower," in Latin Turris Stratonis. The city was described in detail by 1st century Jewish historian Josephus (Jewish Antiquities XV.331ff; Jewish War I.408ff), for the massacre of Jews at this place led to the Jewish rebellion and to the Roman war. Herod the palace-builder did not neglect his new city: his palace at Caesarea was built on a promontory that jutted out into the sea, with a decorative pool surrounded by stows. The civil life of the new city began in 13 BC, when Caesarea was made the civil and military capital of Judea, and the official residence of the Roman procurators and governors, Pontius Pilatus, praefectus and Antonius Felix. Remains of all the

principal buildings erected by Herod existed down to the end of the 19th century.

Remains of the medieval town are also visible, consisting of the walls (one-tenth the area of the Roman city), the castle, the site of the modest Crusader cathedral and church.

Carry on to Bethlehem en route stopping by Jaffa, visit St. Peter's Church, the House of Simon the Tanner, the Old City of Jaffa, and the old port.

Check in at hotel in Bethlehem dinner and overnight

6. **Sep 16th Bethlehem: Shepherds Fields/Basilica of the Nativity/Milk Grotto/  
Ein Karem - Abou Gosh:**

After breakfast we start our visit to the Shepherds' Fields, Where the Angels appeared to shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus.

We then proceed to the Basilica of the Nativity, the birthplace of Jesus Christ. We will visit the Church of St Catherine built on the site of the 12th Century Augustinian Monastery, the Manger Crusader's cloister and the Grotto of St. Jerome.

The Milk Grotto a few minutes walk from the Manger Square is considered sacred because tradition has it that the Holy Family took refuge here during the Massacre of the Innocents before their flight to Egypt. While Mary was suckling Jesus a drop of milk fell to the ground turning it white.

Just off the Manger Sq. in an old Palestinian house the Arab Women's' Union mounted a small and interesting museum with typical embroidery silver jewelry,old photographs oil lamps and other items of a by gone era. Traditional hand made embroidery is on sale here.

Later drive to Abou Gosh the village considered by the crusaders to be Emmaus where Christ made himself known to two disciples following His Resurrection.

In the early 12 century the Knights of the Hospitaliers built one of the most beautiful Romanesque buildings in the Holy Land simply known as the Crusader Church. We will visit the adjacent Olivetan Benedictine monastery where monks produce and sell pottery.

After the visit proceed to Ein Karem the city of Judah and birthplace of John the Baptist son of Elizabeth and Zacharia and visit the Church of Visitation.

Dinner & overnight in Bethlehem



## 7. Sep17th: Jerusalem:

After early morning breakfast we start our day by driving to the Mount of Olives visiting the Mosque of the Ascension, the Church of the Paternoster where Christ had taught the Disciples the Lord's Prayer and enjoy the magnificent views of the Dome of the Rock and the Old City of Jerusalem.

Proceed on foot through the Palm Sunday road to Dominus Flevit meaning The Lord wept; visit the Church of all Nations also known as the Church of the Agony built over the rock in the garden of Gethsemane on which it is believed Christ prayed the night before he was arrested.

After visiting the Garden of Gethsemane we continue by bus to Mount Zion to visit St. Peter in Gallicantu, Caphias's House, Where Jesus was kept overnight and where St. Peter denied Jesus three times we carry on to visit the Cenacle, the Upper Room in which Jesus had His Last Supper with the Apostles and finally go on foot to visit The Dormition Church which was built between 1906 and 1910, after Sultan Hamid gave this plot of land to Kaiser Wilhelm II as a gift.

According to Catholic legend, this is the place where Mary, the mother of Jesus, "fell asleep", hence the full name of the Church: Dormitio Beatae Marie Virginias. The church is located near King David's Tomb.

Later drive to the Old City and enter on foot through Lion's Gate towards the beautiful Crusader Church to St. Anne's where Anne & Joachim the parents of the Virgin Mary lived.

Next to the Church are two cisterns built in the 3rd & 8th centuries to collect rainwater that were turned under Herod the Great into curative baths. It is widely believed that this is the site of the Pool of Bethesda described in St John's account of Christ curing a paralyzed man.

We proceed through Ecce Homo Arch that spans the Via Dolorosa for the 14 Stations of the Cross linked with events that occurred on Christ's last fateful walk. The last five Stations are all within the Holy Sepulcher Church. Roman emperor Constantine the Great built the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on what was thought to be the sepulcher of Jesus in 326 - 335, near Calvary or Golgotha. According to Christian legend, the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine, discovered the Tomb of Jesus and the True Cross at that site in 325.

See the Dome of the Rock on Temple Mount one of the first and greatest achievements of Islamic architecture and Al Aksa.

We complete our day by visiting the Old Jewish Quarter the Cardo and walk towards the Western Wall Judaism's Holiest Site with the plaza in front a permanent place of worship.

Return to Hotel in Bethlehem dinner & overnight.



**8. Sept 18 Depart to TABA border crossing after breakfast.**

- Early morning arrive at Taba Border, transfer to St, Catherine.
- Visit the monastery and the Burning Bush before noon.
- Dinner and overnight in St. Catherine Monastery Guest House.

**9. 19 Sep. (Sun.) Cairo:**

- Transfer to Cairo after breakfast.
- On the way, stop at Moses Springs.
- Lunch in included on the way to Cairo.
- Check-in at the hotel.
- Dinner and overnight in Cairo.



10. **20 Sep. (Mon.) Pyramids, Sakara & Memphis :**

- Day tour in Cairo: Pyramids, Sakara and Memphis.
- Dinner cruise on the Nile.
- Overnight in Cairo.

11. **21 Sep. (Tue.) Cairo:**

- Day tour in Cairo: Egyptian Museum and Old Coptic Cairo.
- Dinner and overnight in Cairo.

12. **22 Sep. (Wed.) Departure:**

After breakfast, transfer to Cairo Airport for final departure.



**Price per person sharing a double room is US 1972.00. Air from USA to JORDAN and return from CAIRO to USA is not included**

**Accommodations & hotels in Jordan:**

11 - 12 Sep 10 Amman: Grand Palace or similar / 1 night BB

12 - 13 Sep 10 Petra: Golden Tulip Kings way or similar/1 night BB

Grand Palace Hotel [www.goldentulipgrandpalace.com](http://www.goldentulipgrandpalace.com)

Amman West Hotel [WWW.AMMANWESTHOTEL.COM](http://WWW.AMMANWESTHOTEL.COM)

Ramada Hotel [www.ramada.com/Ramada/control](http://www.ramada.com/Ramada/control)

**Petra 4\* hotels:**

Petra Golden Tulip Kingsway hotel

<http://www.goldentulipkingsway.com/>

Grand View hotel [WWW.GRANDVIEW.COM.JO](http://WWW.GRANDVIEW.COM.JO)

Petra Panorama hotel [WWW.PETRAPANORAMA.COM](http://WWW.PETRAPANORAMA.COM)

**Price Includes:**

M/A on arrival only

Transfers & tours by Van 10 PAX

Accommodations at 4\* hotels 2 nights HB as mentioned above

Entrance Fees to Petra with Local Guide for 2 hours

Lunch in Petra only

**Price doesn't include:**

Any thing not mentioned above

Any kind of insurance

Visa on arrival

Exit tax

Drinks or mineral water with meals

Tips to drive, portrage, hotels etc....

## Price includes in Israel/Palestine:

### Meet at Border.

Departure taxes

Transportation by a/c van as per itinerary.

Private English speaking guide throughout the tour.

Entrance fees to specified sites.

Two night's accommodation HB at the Plaza Hotel in Nazareth

[www.crownplaza.com](http://www.crownplaza.com)

Three night's accommodation HB at the Pilgrims Residence

hotel in Bethlehem [www.pilgrimsresidencehotel.com](http://www.pilgrimsresidencehotel.com)

### Petra 4\* hotels:

Petra Golden Tulip Kingsway hotel

<http://www.goldentulipkingsway.com/>

Grand View hotel [WWW.GRANDVIEW.COM.JO](http://WWW.GRANDVIEW.COM.JO)

Petra Panorama hotel [WWW.PETRAPANORAMA.COM](http://WWW.PETRAPANORAMA.COM)

### Price Includes:

Meet and Assist on arrival

Transfers & tours by Van 10 PAX

Accommodations at 4\* hotels 2 nights HB as mentioned above

Entrance Fees to Petra with Local Guide for 2 hours

Lunch in Petra only

### Price doesn't include:

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**THIS INFORMATION BELOW IS FOR ANYONE WANTING TO STAY 4DAY/3NIGHTS MORE AND DO THE NILE CRUISE BETWEEN ASWAN AND LUXOR FOR SEP 2010.**

Price per person in a double is: USD 1084

Price per person in a triple room is: USD 1088

Price per person in a single room is: USD 1392

**Price includes:**

Transfers: hotel/Cairo Airport - Aswan Airport/Boat - Boat/Luxor Airport-Cairo Airport/Hotel

1. Flight ticket: Cairo/Aswan-Luxor/Cairo.
2. 03 nights cruise boat trip on board a 5 stars boat, including all meals, entrance fees to sites, transportation and guiding. Sites included in the itinerary are: High Dam, Un-Finished Obelisque and Phila Temple in Aswa, Komombo and Edfu Temple as well as Valley of the Kings, Temple of Hatshepsut, Karnak and Luxor temples in Luxor.

**Price does not include:**

1. Tips to guide, drivers and boat staff.
2. Beverage on the boat.
3. Visa

