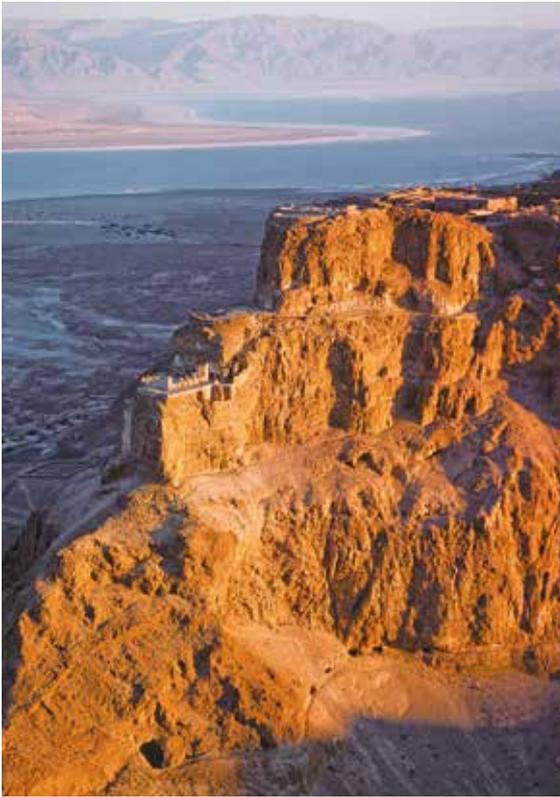


CLASSIC ISRAEL

A luxury escorted tour of the Holy Land
16th to 25th April 2020



NOBLE CALEDONIA



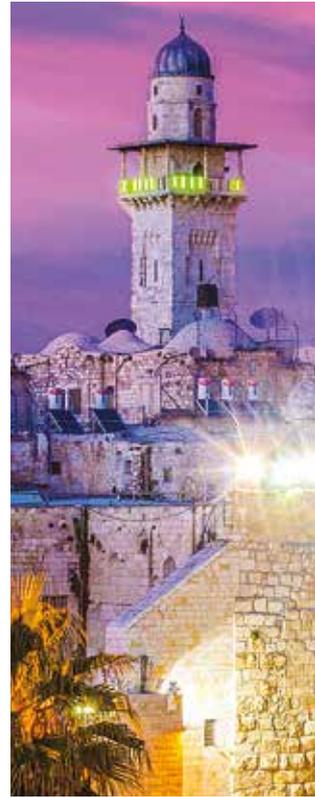
The Fortress of Masada



Mount Carmel and Bahai Gardens, Haifa



Waterfall, Banias Nature Reserve



A journey to Jerusalem and the Holy Land allows you to explore an extraordinary collection of both classical and Biblical sites, unequalled anywhere else in the world. Here the layers of architectural and archaeological heritage come to life from the Canaanites, Egyptians, Assyrians and Babylonians to the Romans, Crusaders and Ottomans. A plethora of famous landmarks await from the palaces of Herod the Great to the pastoral landscapes of Northern Israel, the old city of Jerusalem with its divisions of Christian, Jewish, Armenian and Muslim quarters to modern day world-class museums. Then of course there is another dimension to any trip to the Holy Land that is the faith that has brought believers to this historic land. Walking along Jerusalem's Via Dolorosa, or approaching the Dome of the Rock or Wailing Wall, the beliefs of those on pilgrimages or simply travellers with a thirst for knowledge and a spiritual predisposition means that the very sites take on great significance. No matter what your faith and beliefs, this land of antiquity offers an insight into a past and the greatest stories that have influenced the course of Western civilisation.

For this exclusive tour you will be travelling with no more than 25 fellow guests and for your comfort and convenience we have selected some of the finest five-star accommodations available.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tel Aviv, Israel. Fly by scheduled flight to Tel Aviv. On arrival transfer into the city and check in to the Carlton Tel Aviv for a two night stay. Enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel this evening. (D)

Day 2 Jaffa & Tel Aviv. Enjoy a morning tour to Jaffa, the ancient port city from which Tel Aviv developed. Famous for its association with the biblical stories of Jonah, Solomon and St Peter, it has a fascinating history stretching back over four thousand years. We will explore the highlights including the Clock Tour, Flea Market and the renovated alleys and

buildings of the fascinating city. Returning to the hotel, the afternoon and evening are at leisure, allowing you to explore Tel Aviv independently. (B, D)

Day 3 Haifa, Acre & Galilee. Leaving Tel Aviv this morning we head along the coast to Caesarea, a city dedicated to Caesar Augustus by Herod more than 2000 years ago. Explore the archaeological excavations including Herod's Palace, the theatre, hippodrome and the famous Amphitheatre. Continue on to Haifa, Israel's third city and a major seaport, where we drive up Mount Carmel for a breathtaking view over the bay from the top of the city's famous Bahai Gardens. Following lunch, we will visit the Crusader Fortress in Acre



Church of the Annunciation, Nazareth

before transferring to Galilee to check in to the Setai Galilee for a two night stay. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Upper Galilee & Banias. This morning we head for the Upper Galilee, where we can see the remains of the Syrian fortifications from 1967's Six Day War, and the present day villages of the area's Druze communities. We will visit



The Old City, Western Wall and the Dome of the Rock



The Dead Sea



Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem

Banias Nature Reserve, home of the source of the River Jordan before continuing on to the Hula Valley, one of Israel's most beautiful regions and a major bird migration centre. Every spring and autumn an estimated 500 million birds pass through on their journeys between Africa, Asia and Europe. After lunch in a local restaurant return to the hotel to enjoy the facilities and beautiful surroundings. **(B, L, D)**

Day 5 Nazareth & Beit Shean. After checking out of the hotel we drive to Nazareth, the childhood home of Jesus. Called the City of Annunciation, Nazareth is revered as the spot where the Angel Gabriel appeared before Mary to tell her she was to bear the Son of God. Enjoy panoramic views of the city and visit the Church of the Annunciation, which is built where Mary is said to have lived. Leaving Nazareth we travel on to Beit Shean to visit the excavations of this beautiful Roman City. Arrive in Jerusalem in the early evening and check in at the Orient Hotel for a five night stay. **(B, L, D)**

Day 6 Masada & the Dead Sea. Depart this morning on a full day excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Masada and the Dead Sea. Visit the Masada Fortress, located a little to the north of ancient Sodom. The mountain fortress of Masada looms high above the Dead Sea's



Holocaust Memorial at Yad Vashem

desolate landscape and is often described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel. It was here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies.



Ancient Beit Shean

Around 73 AD, after a prolonged Roman siege, over 950 members of the Jewish faith took their own lives rather than risk the faith of retaliation and a future of slavery. We will enjoy a cable car ride to the top of the summit for a walk around the site of this heroic last stand. Among the fascinating sights you will see are the casement wall, the bath house, the magnificent three-tiered Northern Palace, the synagogue, the Western Palace, the Roman ramp and siege camps. Following lunch we transfer to the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth, where you have the opportunity to take an "unsinkable" dip in its salty waters. **(B, L, D)**

Day 7 Jerusalem (New City). We will learn about the region's more modern history today during our tour of 'New Jerusalem'. We will spend the morning at the World Holocaust Remembrance Centre at Yad Vashem before visiting the Israel Museum and the open-air market of Mahane Yehuda. The late afternoon and evening will be at leisure for you to explore independently. **(B, D)**

Day 8 Old Jerusalem & Bethlehem. This morning we will visit the Mount of Olives from where we can enjoy spectacular views over the 'Golden City' of Jerusalem. Follow in the footsteps of Jesus as you walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest. See the place where early Christians held gatherings before

the first church was built around 380 AD. Next, we will drive to Bethlehem and visit the Church of the Nativity, built over the Grotto where, according to tradition, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before returning to Jerusalem and taking a walking tour of the Old City from Jaffa Gate to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Following his official recognition of Christianity, Emperor Constantine constructed a vast sanctuary, built on what he believed was the site of Christ's resurrection. Continue your walk through the Christian Quarter to the bazaar, passing the Roman Cardo in the Jewish Quarter and the Western (or Wailing) Wall. **(B, L, D)**

Day 9 Jerusalem. Enjoy a day at leisure to further explore Jerusalem independently. **(B, D)**

Day 10 Jerusalem to London. Following a leisurely morning at the hotel, check out and transfer to Tel Aviv. Stop at a local restaurant for a light lunch before continuing to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London. Arrive this evening. **(B, L)**

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£4995** Single: **£6495**

Group Size: We are restricting the group size to just 25 participants.

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Nine nights hotel accommodation • Meals as shown (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner) • Wine or beer with included lunches & dinners • Guided excursions as stated in the itinerary • All entrance fees • English speaking local guide • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Gratuities • Transfers • Complimentary Wi-Fi on coach • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, meals other than those shown.

YOUR ACCOMMODATION

For our escorted tour of Israel we have selected some of the finest accommodation available and will be staying at the following five-star properties:



Tel Aviv from the Rooftop Balcony



The Carlton on the Beach Restaurant



Hotel Grounds and the Sea of Galilee



Restaurant



Swimming Pool



Hotel Room



Hotel Room



Swimming Pool

Carlton Tel Aviv

Located on the seafront overlooking the city's marina, the Carlton Tel Aviv is the ideal base for our stay in Israel's second city. Simply cross the road to enjoy the great beaches and soft sands of the Mediterranean or take a stroll to discover Independence Park a short distance away. The hotel's central location means that a wealth of shopping and dining options can also be found nearby. All rooms are air-conditioned with private bathrooms, minibar, safe, satellite TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, tea and coffee making facilities, hairdryer and telephone.

Setai Sea of Galilee

In a fantastic location right on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, the Setai is the ideal starting point for us to explore the north of Israel and discover the region's famous historic and cultural sights. The rooms overlook the glistening waters, with views to the distant Golan Heights and the ancient town of Tiberius. All of the rooms at this upscale property are air-conditioned and feature a private outdoor hot tub, bathroom, coffee machine, mini-bar, telephone, safe-deposit box, satellite TV and hairdryer. The hotel also offers complimentary use of bicycles.



Hotel Exterior



Restaurant



Hotel Room

Orient Jerusalem

Located in the heart of the city's German Colony this recently opened hotel is within close walking distance of the First Station, Liberty Bell Park, and the historic Mishkenot Sha'ananim district, as well as many charming boutiques and bistros. The hotel and residence features 240 luxurious rooms and suites spread throughout the main building as well as a collection of breathtaking Templar-style buildings typical of the neighborhood's architecture. Our spacious Orient Rooms come with a balcony, complimentary Wi-Fi, satellite TV, minibar, safe and hairdryer.



Rooftop Pool



Lobby

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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.

Cover image: The Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem