

Day 13 Thursday 28 March

Tel Aviv to Bedouin Camp

After breakfast you travel to Bethlehem, the noted birth place of Jesus. Here you explore the old city, Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity, the oldest active church in the world never to be destroyed. Next you travel to the sheer-sided plateau of Masada. This important Jewish site was built by King Herod but overrun by Zealots during the first Jewish revolt in 66 AD. The Romans surrounded the city but the Jewish occupants chose to be killed rather than surrender. There is also time for a float in the Dead Sea en-route before descending on the original Roman ramp to overnight in a Bedouin-style camp. Here you experience full Bedouin hospitality and cultural activities. Options also include a camel or donkey cart ride. *(If a Bedouin tent is not for you air conditioned rooms are available at an additional cost).*

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Kfar Hanokidin Bedouin Camp

Day 14 Friday 29 March

Bedouin Camp to Aqaba

Today you visit Timna Park, the oldest copper mines in the world. Here you see extraordinary rock formations, mushroom rocks, the Arches and Solomon's Pillars and amazing rock-inscriptions, among them the oldest known alphabetical scripture in the world. You then return to Jordan via the Yitzhak Rabin border crossing between Eilat in Israel and Aqaba in Jordan. You spend the next two nights in the Red Sea coastal town of Aqaba.

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Aqaba



Day 15 Saturday 30 March

Aqaba

Aqaba although now a modern town, dates back to 4000 BC and abounds with ancient history. You have a half day tour which includes a glass bottom boat tour on the Red Sea. In the afternoon you have free time to explore or relax. Aqaba has an excellent downtown shopping area and a beachside promenade to explore.

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Aqaba

Day 16 Sunday 31 March

Wadi Rumm

Take an exciting Jeep Safari this morning and enjoy a Bedouin lunch before arriving at Wadi Rumm a spectacular desert resort famed for its high mountains and pink sand. The area surrounding Wadi Rumm is a journey into another world, a vast and starkly beautiful place. Uniquely shaped mountains rise vertically out of the pink sandy desert and the faces of the sheer rock cliffs have been eroded by the wind into weird and wonderful formations. Wadi Rumm is also famous for its associations with T.E Lawrence 'Lawrence of Arabia'. Continue on to amazing Petra for the next three nights.

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Petra



Day 17 Monday 01 April

Petra

Today you behold the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Petra, a wondrous treasure of the ancient world hidden behind an almost impenetrable barrier of rugged mountains. The rose-red city of Petra is full of mystery and charm and one of the most majestic and unique archaeological sites in the world. Approaching through a long, cool chasm obliterating the sun is dramatic as the gorge opens into a natural square dominated by Petra's most well-known monument the Treasury. From here you arrive at the theatre which has been carved into the hillside. Next there are two alternatives, climbing to the 'high place' which requires a good fitness level or wandering through the Nabataean tombs, Qasr al-Bint Temple and the Temple of the Winged Lion.

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Petra



Day 18 Tuesday 02 April

Petra

Today you have further opportunities to explore the archaeology of Petra and the museum on the way to the spectacular ad-Deir, the Monastery. The walk is best taken at a leisurely pace to absorb the beautiful scenery and also requires a reasonable level of fitness although donkeys can be hired.

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Petra

Day 19 Wednesday 03 April

Petra to the Dead Sea

Depart Petra this morning and travel the Kings Highway to Madaba. This scenic route was the ancient one used by traders, armies and pilgrims. All have left their legacy. You see many castles en-route including Shobak which was constructed in 1115 AD and the remains of Kerak Castle mainly from the Mameluke period which makes for an interesting stop. Lunch is taken at a local restaurant in Madaba which was settled by Christians in the 18th and 19th centuries and is now the centre of the Greek Orthodox Church. The town is famous for its mosaics especially the Madaba Map of Jerusalem in the Church of St George. Other striking mosaics can be seen in the Church of the Apostles in the Archaeological Park. Madaba is also known for its beautiful rugs. Overnight at your lovely Dead Sea Spa resort.

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Dead Sea Spa Resort



Day 20 Thursday 04 April

Amman to Dubai

This morning you relax before transferring to Amman airport for your afternoon flight to Dubai.

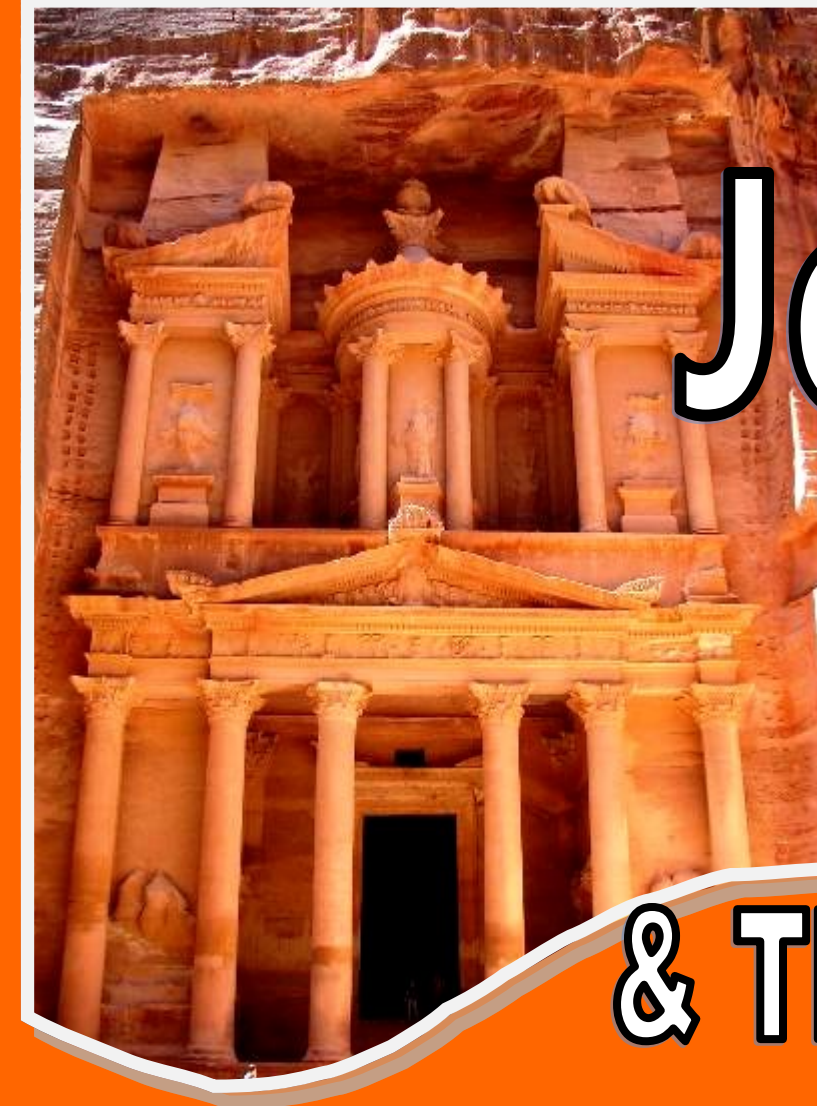
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight in flight

Day 21 Friday 05 April

Dubai to Adelaide

Connect with your Adelaide bound flight from Dubai which arrives in the early evening.

Israel



Jordan



& The Dead Sea

16 March - 05 April 2019

E&OE



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EDUCATIONAL and CULTURAL TOURS

223 Angas Street, Adelaide SA 5000
T (08) 8223 1979 • E tours@wea-sa.com.au

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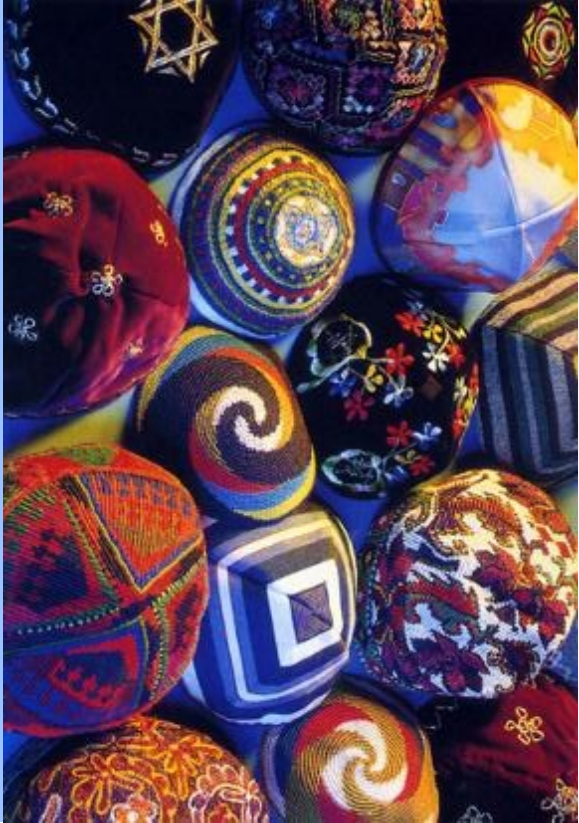
**Amman • Jerash • Jerusalem • Beth Shean • Zippori • Tiberius
Tsfat • Haifa • Tel Aviv • Masada • Aqaba • Timna Park • Wadi Rhum
Madaba • Dead Sea • Petra**

A journey to Israel resonates deeply within the soul. It is a place like no other, its very name conjuring up biblical images, extraordinary history, parched deserts and profound questions of antiquity and western civilization. Explore intriguing archaeological sites, ancient cities and dramatic landscapes as well as Mediterranean, Dead Sea and Red Sea coastlines. Neighbouring Jordan too stirs a romantic image with its mysterious lost cities, epic Lawrence of Arabia landmarks and the spectacular pink desert sands of Wadi Rhum. The rose city of Petra might be compared in mystique and grandeur to Machu Picchu or Angkor Wat as one of the great ancient cities of the world. With a perfect balance of both historical and modern exploration, unique adventures and time to relax, join experienced archaeologist Dr Robert Stone on this carefully designed tour to discover the wonders of these holy lands.

TOUR LEADER: Dr Robert Stone: Robert is an experienced archaeologist, having spent many years in the Middle East primarily in Jordan. He has led many successful tours for WEA Travel to Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Asia.

INCLUDED: Flights Adelaide to Adelaide • Fully escorted Adelaide to Adelaide • Local guides • Hotel accommodation (approx. 4 star plus 1 night Bedouin camp) • Meals as per itinerary • Entrance fees • Pre & Post tour meetings • Comprehensive tour notes • Visa arrangements

INTERSTATE PASSENGERS WELCOME



21 days \$8590
twin share + airline taxes (\$240 as of April 2018) & Jordanian Visa (\$235 April 2018)
Single supplement \$1375 (Bedouin camp twin share) **Balance due 14 December 2018**

Day 1 Saturday 16 March

Adelaide to Dubai
Depart Adelaide this evening with Emirates to Dubai.
Meals in flight
Overnight in flight

Day 2 Sunday 17 March

Dubai to Amman Jordan
After a good connection in Dubai you board your Emirates flight to Amman, the capital of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The history of this fine city dates back 9000 years having been ruled by many kingdoms over the millennia. It became prominent when the city was rebuilt and renamed Philadelphia by Ptolemy II 285-247 BC and when absorbed by the Roman Empire it became the southern most city of the Decapolis. Today nearly half of Jordan's population lives in Amman. You arrive in the morning and have a short orientation tour of the city before checking into your hotel for the next three nights. You are then free to rest or begin exploring at your leisure. In the evening a welcome dinner has been arranged.
Lunch • Welcome Dinner
Overnight Amman

Day 3 Monday 18 March

Amman
Today is spent exploring the major historical sites of Amman. From the colonnaded streets you visit the second century Roman theatre built by Marcus Aurelius which is estimated to have held 6000 people. Adjacent to the theatre you see the restored Odeon and nearby Nymphaeum which is still being excavated and restored. Next you visit the citadel which is dominated by the Temple to Zeus and the restored Umayyad Palace 720-750 AD. You also tour the new Jordan Museum which is packed with treasures including the Copper Scroll from the Dead Sea Scrolls and a copy of the Meshe Stele one of the most important direct accounts of biblical history.
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Amman



Day 4 Tuesday 19 March

Amman
Dotted across the steppe-like terrain of eastern Jordan are numerous historic ruins. These are collectively known as the Desert Castles and include ruined castles, forts, baths, caravan inns and fortified palaces. Enjoy a full day tour today including Qasr al-Mushatta, Qasr al-Kaharaneh the best preserved Umayyad monuments in the Jordanian steppe and Quasayr Amra arguably the most charming of the desert castles.
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Amman



Day 5 Wednesday 20 March

Amman & Jerash
To the north of Amman lies the city of Jerash, the site of the rich provincial city of the Roman Empire known as the 'Pompeii of the East'. A tour highlight is entering the city through Hadrian's Arch and passing the Hippodrome and southern gates to admire the theatres, temples, churches and colonnaded streets. On the way to Jerash you visit Ajlun Castle built by the nephew of Salah al-Din Al Ayyubi in 1184-1185 AD and also stop at the archaeological site of Pella where Australians (including your tour leader) have been excavating for decades.
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Amman

Day 6 Thursday 21 March

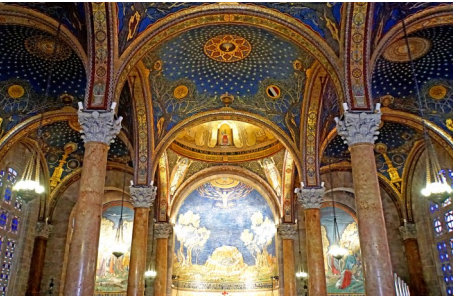
Amman to Jerusalem
Depart for Israel today, crossing the King Hussein Bridge just north of Amman and pausing at the Baptismal area on the River Jordan. You then enter Jerusalem, as in ancient times from the Mount of Olives, a most holy place with a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem. It is the perfect place for an introduction to the Old City and its history. The remainder of the day is spent visiting numerous sites in old Jerusalem including the Wailing Wall and the Dome of the Rock.
(please note: entrance to Mosques is not permitted to non-Muslims. The border crossing can sometimes be slow.)
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Jerusalem



Day 7 Friday 22 March

Jerusalem
Today you continue to explore Jerusalem and its surrounds including the City of David with the newest and most astonishing findings from the Iron (Old Testament) and Roman (New Testament) ages. You also see the Roman-era Siloam-Pool and walk through the Monumental Road connecting it with the Temple, ending at the excavations of the Southern Wall and the Davidson Centre where you have a guided tour of the virtual model of King Herod's Temple. Visit archaeological sites in the Jewish Quarter such as the Cardo and Broad Wall and time

permitting, the Herodian Quarter or the Burnt House. Continue to Mount Zion and King David's Tomb which is a holy place for Jews, Christians and Muslims alike. You also see the room of the Last Supper which was built by the Crusaders, then turned into a Mosque and is now serving Christian pilgrims. You also follow the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The beautiful Church of All Nations next to the Garden of Gethsemane is also visited.
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Jerusalem



Day 8 Saturday 23 March

Jerusalem
Enjoy a free day in Jerusalem to explore the myriad sights at your leisure. These may include the Archaeological Gardens, the Israel Museum to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Citadel Museum or the maze of narrow lanes and markets within the old city walls.
Breakfast
Overnight Jerusalem

Day 9 Sunday 24 March

Jerusalem to Tiberias
Depart Jerusalem for Beth Shean with its ancient 'tel' and well-preserved Roman city. This historical gem is one of the most ancient cities in Israel with over twenty layers of human civilisation tucked away inside its ancient tel. Continue to Zippori, which gets its name from the Hebrew word 'bird'. This city has a long and colourful history and was described by the first century Jewish historian as the Ornament of all Galilee. It has an abundance of ancient ruins, mosaics and sophisticated watering systems and an extraordinary mix of Roman and Jewish art. An interesting experience is lunch at a Kibbutz.
Breakfast • Lunch at Kibbutz • Dinner
Overnight Tiberias



Day 10 Monday 25 March

Tiberias to Acre
After breakfast you travel to Tiberius to begin exploring with a visit to Capernaum, an important early Christian settlement, followed by Tsfat, a town huddled on top of one of Israel's highest peaks. Tsfat has a rich heritage, a rambling artists' quarter and magnificent views. Continue to Acre with its fascinating underground crusader city which you explore before visiting a Turkish Bath-house where an audio visual representation of the history of the city is presented in local story-telling style.
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Acre



Day 11 Tuesday 26 March

Acre to Tel Aviv
Today you make your way to the Mediterranean port city of Haifa to explore sights such as the ancient Roman city of Caesarea, complete with its aqueduct and Roman Theatre. Visit the town of Nazareth and also Megiddo before arriving in the modern and vibrant city of Tel Aviv which stretches out along the Mediterranean coastline. You check in to your hotel here for the next two nights.
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
Overnight Tel Aviv



Day 12 Wednesday 27 March

Tel Aviv
Take a morning tour to the old port city of Jaffa in southern Tel Aviv. According to legend, Jaffa was named after Noah's son Japhet. It is a significant port dating back over 4,000 years and has associations with the Apostle Peter, Richard the Lion Heart and Napoleon. Your sightseeing includes a walk along the battlements, St Peter's Monastery, the audio-visual exhibition and remnants of the city from Pharaonic times. The afternoon is free to relax and enjoy the Mediterranean ambience of Tel Aviv.
Breakfast • Lunch
Overnight Tel Aviv

