



College Study Tours

ISRAEL

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Day 1: Fly to Israel

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Tel Aviv.

Day 2: Tel Aviv

Arrive in Tel Aviv: Welcome to Tel Aviv, Israel's cosmopolitan city by the sea. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to explore Old Jaffa, an ancient port city believed to be nearly 4,000 years old.

Day 3: Tel Aviv | Haifa

Sightseeing tour of Tel Aviv: Millions flock to Tel Aviv each year to experience the juxtaposition of modern globalized culture thriving among ancient history. Pass through Robin Square, Independence Hall and Rothschild Boulevard on your way to the White City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site recognized for its 4,000 buildings built in the Bauhaus style.

Caesarea National Park: Named in honor of Julius Caesar, the city of Caesarea boasts a number of impressive relics from the Roman Empire—including an ancient theater, aqueduct and Hippodrome. After your visit, make your way to Acre to see Knight's Hall, an underground complex that once served an order of medieval knights.

Arrive in Haifa: Built on the slopes of Mount Carmel, Haifa offers a glimpse into the past, boasting some of the most impressive remains in the region. Your tour guide will lead you on a tour through Haifa which includes photostops at Haifa Port and the stunning Bahá'í Gardens. You'll also see Elijah's Cave, where the prophet hid from King Ahab and fought defenders of Baal.

Day 4: Nazareth | Haifa

Nazareth: Begin today's journey in bustling Nazareth, which was once no more than a small village in biblical times. Visit the Church of the Annunciation and its Greek Orthodox counterpart with Mary's Well, a holy Christian site where Mary was told that she would be the mother of Jesus.

Cana and Tiberias: Stop in Cana, the site of Jesus' first miracle, as you continue north. In Tiberias, enjoy a short boat ride on the Sea of Galilee to ancient Capernaum. Here you will visit the Roman ruins, including an ancient synagogue and the House of St. Peter.

Tabgha: At your next stop, see the site where the story of the loaves and fish took place as you make the final ascent to the summit of the Mount of Beatitudes. Stop in Yardenit to visit the site of St. John's legendary baptism on your return to Haifa.

Day 5: Jordan Valley | Jerusalem

Travel to the Dead Sea region: Drive along the Jordan Valley towards the Dead Sea, a salt lake situated between Israel and the West Bank that has attracted visitors for thousands of years. In seaside Qumran, you'll explore the caves where the first Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947. Journey up the Mount of Temptation in Jericho and visit the Quarantal Monastery. You'll also get the chance to float on this "Sea of Salt" and see the West Bank from a unique perspective.

🚗 **Jeep adventure:** Opt to join a safari by Jeep this afternoon to explore the wonders of this desert region.

Travel to Jerusalem: Set course for the holy city of Jerusalem, where you'll enjoy an included dinner.

Day 6: Masada | Jerusalem

Travel to Masada: This morning, visit the Fortress of Masada, which served as the stronghold of the last resistance against the Romans. Journey up to the fortress by cable car and take some time to explore the site before continuing on to Jerusalem.

Mount of Olives: Ascend the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of the city and a visit to the Chapel of Ascension, where Jesus was lifted into Heaven, before entering the Garden of Gethsemane.

Day 7: Bethlehem | Jerusalem

Bethlehem: Spend the morning in Bethlehem, revered as the birthplace of Jesus. On your tour, behold the very site where Christianity was born at the Church of Nativity.

Explore the Old City of Jerusalem: Your first stop is the Temple Mount, home of the Dome of the Rock and the site at which two world religions converge. Back in the city, walk through the Jewish Quarter to the Western Wall and the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

Day 8: Jerusalem

Israel Museum: Marvel at a massive collection of archaeological relics and art on a tour of Israel's national museum. A number of impressive religious artifacts, including the Dead Sea Scrolls, offer yet another testament to the profound significance of the region in religious history.

Yad VaShem Memorial and Holocaust Museum: Discover the country's deeply moving and heartfelt tribute to the millions lost during one of history's darkest hours. The accompanying museum takes you on a journey through these chilling times. Afterwards, return to Jerusalem for some free time.

Day 9: Depart For Home

🚗 4 DAY TOUR EXTENSION

Day 9: Travel to Petra

Jordan Valley Crossing: Continue through Israel into Jordan via the Jordan Valley Crossing.

Ruins of Jerash: Stop to visit Jerash, a modern city that neighbors the ancient ruins of Gerasa—one of the largest and best-preserved sites of Roman architecture in the world.

Day 10: Petra

Sightseeing tour of Petra: Discover the lost city of Petra as your ride on horseback and walk through its ancient rock-cut architecture. Carved into the red rocks of Mount Hor, Petra has been immortalized in verse as "the rose-red city half as old as time," and has fascinated visitors since its rediscovery in 1812.

Day 11: Madaba

Sightseeing tour of Madaba: Explore Madaba, known throughout Jordan as "The City of Mosaics", where the Basilica of St. George holds an ancient mosaic map of Jerusalem on its floor. Head to Moses' burial place at Mount Nebo and the ruins of the ancient Crusader castle of Montreal in the town of Shobak. Afterwards you'll transfer to Amman, where you will spend the night.

Day 12: Amman

Sightseeing tour of Amman: Visit Jordan's desert castles and temples, a collection of historic ruins sprawled across the landscape. Return to Amman in the afternoon and enjoy a tour of Jordan's capital and largest city.

Depart for home: Enjoy free time in the evening to relax before boarding your late-night flight home.

For the most recent itinerary and a full list of everything included in your program, visit efcst.com/isra