



*Biblical Travel that Transforms*

# WELCOME!

This guide contains important information and travel tips that will make your journey easier and more enjoyable.

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***Inspired Travel specializes in other Biblical Tours:***

**Footsteps of Paul**

Explore the lands of Greece, Turkey, and Italy as the history of the New Testament comes alive. Retrace the journeys of Paul as you learn about the early church and the spread of the Gospel. Start your journey in Athens and Corinth, then onto Ephesus and Patmos as you make your way to Rome.

**Seven Churches of Revelation**

Learn about the last days as you delve into the Book of Revelation. Discover the historical and spiritual situation of each of the seven churches mentioned by the Apostle John in his apocalyptic vision about the future of the church and the world.

**Last Days of the Apostle Paul and the Renaissance**

Discover the wonders of Italy in a spiritual and cultural experience. Feel the pressures faced by the first century Christians as you begin in Rome, visiting the Coliseum, Catacombs, and Mamertine Prison. Enrich yourself in masterful works of Renaissance art while exploring Florence. Enjoy excursions to Pompeii, Sorrento, Siena, Assisi, and Venice.

**The Reformation**

Embark on a life changing tour through Europe learning about the history of the Protestant Reformation. See where it all started as you follow in the footsteps of Jan Hus, Martin Luther, and other Reformers. Gain insight into the stories and struggles that shaped our modern faith. You will come away with a greater appreciation for God's Word and what a privilege it is to be able to read it!

**English Reformation**

Journey back to the time of Henry VIII and the creation of the Church of England. Learn about William Tyndale and other reformers who worked heroically to translate the Bible into the English language. Visit the homes of John Wesley and C. S. Lewis. Discover the link between Shakespeare and the King James Bible as you explore the town of Stratford Upon Avon. Enjoy a visit to the medieval city of York. Why not add an extension to Edinburgh and learn about John Knox and Scottish Reformation?

## MAP OF ISRAEL



# Getting Ready For Your Tour

## FULL PACKAGE PASSENGERS

This ALL INCLUSIVE package provides all touring, site admission fees, scheduled meals, tips and hotel accommodations, airport transfers in Country, as well as group air in economy class flying with the church group.

## LAND ONLY PASSENGERS

This package provides all touring, site admission fees, scheduled meals, tips and hotel accommodations. PLEASE NOTE: For this option traveler assumes ALL responsibility for air travel and airport transfers in Country.

If you have arranged your own air transportation, the "Land Only" portion of your tour begins at the first hotel and ends on the last tour day. ***Expenses incurred in getting to and from the airport, or due to schedule changes of the group, are the responsibility of the "Land Only" passenger.***

## PASSPORT

- Make two copies of your passport picture page. Leave one copy with someone at home and keep one with you (separate from your passport). If you lose your passport, it is easier to obtain a new passport if you have this copy.
- It is extremely important that your passport has not expired. In the past, some travelers have arrived at the airport the day of departure only to find their passport has expired the day of the trip. Please make sure this does not happen to you. **Your passport must be 90 days after the time of your entry.** For example, if your trip returns April 1st, you will need to make sure that your passport does not expire until after July 1st of that year.
- Normal processing for a new or renewal passport is usually six to eight weeks. Allow yourself plenty of time in case there is a delay.

## ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

- An Electronic Travel Authorization approval is required for entry into Israel. You can start your application by visiting this site: <https://israel-entry.piba.gov.il/> An approval is typically emailed to you immediately after submitting your application. The cost for an ETA is estimated 7.00 USD or 10.00 ILS. Be cautious of websites asking to collect a higher fee. We encourage you to utilize the link provided.

## NON-U.S. PASSPORT

- Travel with a passport from your country of citizenship that is valid for at least 90 days after the time of your entry. We recommend checking <https://travel.state.gov/> for latest updates.
- Travel with a valid Green Card or Visa that allows you to leave and re-enter the United States.
- Contact the Consulate of each country you will be visiting to get specific travel instructions and visa requirements.
- If you are part of an extension to another country, you may be required to have a multiple entry visa. Please check your itinerary.
- Please be advised that failure to travel with these documents or have proper visas may drastically hinder your travel and re-entry into the United States and you are responsible for any additional costs you may incur.
- Check with each Consulate as to vaccination requirements for visitors from your country.
- If you have any questions, please contact the Consulate of your country of citizenship.

## LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

- **CONFIRM LUGGAGE RULES on your airline's website.**
- Most airlines will allow you to **CHECK-IN ONE** piece of luggage.
- Each piece up to 50 pounds/23 kilograms and up to 62 linear inches/158 linear centimeters. *Linear measurement = length + width + height of your bag.*
- You will be charged for each additional piece of checked luggage. The airline will charge you additional fees for overweight or oversized luggage and may force you to ship it as freight.
- *Most airlines have a weight restriction on CARRY-ON luggage up to 18 pounds/8 kilograms and up to 45 linear inches/115 linear*

*centimeters. Linear measurement = length + width + height of your bag.*

- Your **ONE carry-on** must not exceed 22 in x 14 in x 9 in (height x width x depth) including handles and wheels and must fit in the overhead compartment or under the seat in front of you.
- Follow the 3-1-1 rule. Liquids, gels, aerosols, creams and pastes must be 3.4 ounces (100ml) or less per container; must be in 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in screening bin. The bag limits the total liquid volume each traveler can bring in their carry-on.
- Most airlines allow a personal item (purse/computer or camera bag) as an additional carry-on.
- Only one piece of luggage per person will be stored in the tour bus luggage compartment, as storage space is very limited.
- Onboard bus storage space is limited to the space under the seat in front of you and the shallow space above your head.
- ALWAYS pack fewer clothes and bring more money than you think you will need.
- It is always a good idea to “cross pack”. If you are traveling as a single passenger, pack a change of clothing in your carry-on just in case your luggage is temporarily misplaced by the airlines. Husbands and wives should pack some of each other's clothing in their suitcases for the same reason. Delayed arrival of luggage can be inconvenient, but these precautions can lessen that effect.
- Always keep your written prescriptions for life dependent medications packed in a different case from the one used to hold your supply of medication.

## **LUGGAGE ETIQUETTE**

- Neatly print your full name on all luggage tags. It is wise to use an office or friend's address on your tags.
- Extra tags/labels for your carry-on are available at the airport.
- Have your name and address on a card or paper INSIDE your luggage in the event that your luggage tags are removed or lost.
- Use the Inspired Travel luggage strap provided in your packet to help identify your bag on the carousel.
- Always check carefully that a piece of luggage is yours before you take it from the carousel.

- If you take someone else's luggage, it can cause a significant delay for the group, as the person with the missing luggage must go through the "Lost Luggage" procedure.
- Your tour cost includes tips to the hotel porters for ONE piece of luggage per person. This service begins when you bring your luggage to the bus outside the terminal and ends when the bus arrives at the airport for your departure home.
- You will need to take your luggage from the carousel, through customs and to the bus. At departure, you will take your luggage from the bus through security to check-in. (It really helps to have wheels on your luggage!)

**CARRY-ON:** Please remember that your carry-on luggage is always your responsibility to take with you to and from the bus to the hotel. Please do not leave your carry-on with your one checked luggage to be handled by the porters.

- Porters **MAY NOT** be available in countries on a tour extension.

## **MONEY**

- The currency in Israel is the shekel (sometimes called the "new shekel"). Please check the internet for the most current exchange rates. [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)
- We suggest that you take enough money to pay for items that are not included such as: lunches, snacks, beverages, postcards, stamps, room service, laundry, taxi, souvenirs, and other items.
- The US dollar is accepted almost everywhere in Israel. Bring smaller bills including about \$50.00 in one-dollar bills. If you use traveler's checks, \$10 & \$20 denominations are the best. Change is usually given in shekels.
- Visa and MasterCard are usually accepted for larger purchases and allow you to dispute any incorrect charges. **IMPORTANT: ADVISE YOUR BANK OR CREDIT CARD COMPANY THAT YOU ARE TRAVELING INTERNATIONALLY OR THEY WILL DENY THE CHARGES.**
- Be aware that some credit card companies charge a foreign transaction fee to use a card in a foreign country.
- ATM machines are available at the airport and in major cities but may not always be easy to find. Remember that the ATM machines dispense money in LOCAL CURRENCY - NOT US DOLLARS.

## ELECTRICAL ADAPTERS & CONVERTERS

You will need an electrical converter; Israel uses 220 volts instead of 110 used in North America. You will also need a two-pronged round adapter to plug into the wall outlet. Most electronics, such as laptops and cell phones, are dual voltage. **Please check the voltage requirements for all electronic devices.**

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- **NEVER leave electronic equipment unattended in your hotel room.**
- Remember that any laptops, tablets, phones, cameras, etc., should be kept with you at all times, or in the safe in your hotel room.
- For *digital cameras*, make sure you bring a large enough storage card to accommodate all your photos and movies. Many people will take upwards of 500-1000 pictures.
- Don't forget your electrical chargers – bring an extra one just in case.
- It is also handy to have a portable external battery pack for emergencies.

**Some people, especially on Shabbat (Saturday), may not want their picture taken. When in doubt, ask for permission. Please be courteous and cautious.**

**If you take pictures of locals or someone's camel or donkey, you may be asked for money.**

***A camera can become a barrier between you and your experience with the Lord, the land, and the people. Don't miss out!***

## MEDICATIONS

- Be sure to pack enough medication to last through the tour.
- Only life dependent or narcotic prescriptions need to be in their original bottles.
- Not all prescriptions are interchangeable. Have your doctor write a foreign-equivalent prescription for life-depending medications.
- If you are allergic to any medication, please keep a list of these with your passport.

- You may need a prescription for medications which are sold over the counter in the U.S.
- You should pack some aspirin, antacids, and other similar items you use at home if you feel you might need them.
- If you suffer from motion sickness, bring along any medication you use to prevent this on the bus and plane.
- **Never allow prescription medication out of your possession. If the airline requires you to check-in your carry-on, take your medication with you.**

## VACCINATIONS

There are no vaccination requirements for visitors with U.S. Passports entering Israel (at the time of this printing). Please check with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for recommended travel vaccinations to other countries you are visiting.

## GET INTO SHAPE

START READING ABOUT THE SITES YOU WILL VISIT. Your Bible is the best reference for Biblical sites. Rather than bringing a large study Bible, you may want to pack a smaller, more compact version.

START WALKING! You will do a lot of walking (and standing) on the tour, and it is wise to build up your stamina now!

## CLIMATE

Jerusalem	<u>Average</u> Temperature	<u>Average</u> Rain Fall
Jan-Mar	45-57F	5"
Apr-Jun	59-76F	1"
Jul-Sep	66-84F	0"
Oct-Dec	54-67F	3"

- Israel has a pleasant spring and autumn. The weather is similar to Southern California year-round.
- Winters in the north can be cool, with frequent chances of rain or even some snow. (low 40's to the mid-70's)
- Summers can be very hot, especially near the Dead Sea. (70's to above 100).
- Check your newspaper's international weather column or **www.weather.com** about a week before your departure.

# What To Take With Me

## HELPFUL THINGS TO BRING

- A spot remover and sewing kit can be handy.
- Wrinkled clothing: Rather than trying to pack a travel iron, a Wrinkle Release spray is useful for eliminating wrinkles. Bring some in a smaller spray bottle for convenience.
- “Disposable” socks and underwear: Bring your old socks and underwear and dispose of them before departing Israel, making more room for souvenirs in your luggage.
- Mesh bags: for loose items, toiletries, dirty laundry, etc.
- Mailing tube: for posters and art.
- Cough drops and Vitamin C tablets.
- Zip-lock bags: always useful for small liquid toiletry bottles or gifts/souvenirs.
- Eyeglasses prescription or extra contact lenses.
- Journal for pictures and notes.
- Small travel sized Bible.
- A facemask may be required for your flight, check with your airline regarding their face mask policy during flight.

## PACKING YOUR LUGGAGE

- **Do not pack your passport or your Itinerary in your luggage.** Your passport should be kept with you at all times. Place your itinerary in your carry-on bag.
- Pack appropriate clothes that you can mix and match.
- It is easy to overpack for this sort of trip. We recommend that you pack just the essentials and be strategic about what you bring.
- To prepare for variations in weather, bring layers of clothing to add or remove as needed. Rather than packing a bulky or heavy coat, try a simple light-weight raincoat or windbreaker. It takes up less space and worn over a few layers of clothing will keep you warm and dry.
- A hat and sunglasses (plus sunscreen) are also highly recommended.
- Don't forget to bring gloves and a scarf if you are traveling in the winter.
- Be sure to bring a good pair of walking shoes (tennis shoes or sport sandals work well) so that you will not mind getting dirty. Break them in before the trip!
- Modest dress may be required at some of the locations we visit. In fact, some "Holy sites" will not allow you to enter unless your knees and shoulders are covered.
- Bring a bathing suit just in case you want to take a dip in the hotel pool or when you are visiting certain sites, like the Dead Sea.
- You may visit Hezekiah's Tunnel (optional). The shaft typically flows with knee-deep water year-round. You will need a change of clothes, a flashlight, and a pair of shoes you don't mind getting wet.

## **SUGGESTED PACKING LIST**

- Bible, notebook, pen, highlighter
- Binoculars
- Small book light
- Baggies for souvenirs or snacks
- Prescription medicine in original container
- Earplugs for the plane (or snoring roommates)
- Monthly necessities for women
- Snacks
- Travel alarm clock
- Moistened towelettes, facial tissue
- Hand Sanitizer Gel
- Bathroom tissue in travel pack
- Detergent (for hand washables)
- Hand, body lotion, and lip balm (dry climate)
- Swimsuit, cover-up, small towel
- Small flashlight
- Sunglasses and sunscreen
- Shampoo and hand soap (usually available in hotels)
- Motion sickness medicine

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## MY CHECK LIST FOR THE THINGS I HAVE TO TAKE

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# At The Airport

**SECURITY CHECK:** You may be pulled aside to answer security questions before you actually check-in with the airline. Please just answer their questions and do not chat, make jokes or volunteer information unless you are asked for it.

## AIRLINE CHECK-IN

- **ELECTRONIC TICKETS:** All you need to check-in is your passport and flight number. The ticket agent will print your boarding passes and tag your luggage. Please bring a copy of the Passenger Information Sheet, which contains your flight and hotel information.
- **The airline may hold you responsible for the cost of replacing a missing boarding pass.** Keep your boarding passes until you return home in case of lost luggage or mileage credits.
- Make sure the airline properly tags your luggage with the correct destination city. The last city code listed on the tag is TLV.

**SEATING:** Group seating is usually done alphabetically, and we regret that we are unable to guarantee specific airline seat assignments. We do try and accommodate requests and always try to seat couples and families together.

- Verify with the ticketing agent that you are seated with your roommate or family members.
- **You may have to change seats on the plane with another tour member if you are separated from your traveling companion.**

## FREQUENT FLYER INFO

- When you check-in at the ticket counter, advise them of your frequent flyer account number.
- If you do not have an account with them and would like one, ask for an application and complete it before leaving the ticket counter. This may be done in advance by contacting the airline's frequent flyer program personally.

## TSA FLIGHT PRE-CHECK / GLOBAL ENTRY

If you are registered as full package and did not provide your TSA/Pre-Check/Global Entry during registration, you may email your number no later than 5 days prior to departure at [info@inspiredtravel.com](mailto:info@inspiredtravel.com) so we may add to your flight reservation. Important note: when your flight is booked with mixed carriers TSA numbers may not carry over to the domestic carrier, i.e. if you are flying United from your home departure city and connecting to Lufthansa, United will most likely not have your numbers and TSA privileges may not be available to you.

## SECURITY CHECK POINTS

- Have all travel documents and ID readily available at check-in. Place them in your carry-on or purse, NOT in your luggage.
- Be prepared to open all luggage and bags for inspection at check-in. All packages, including gifts, may be opened.
- Be prepared to submit yourself to a body check by metal detector, body scan, or by physical means if necessary.
- Put pens, keys, cell phones, badges, etc., in your carry-on *before* the security check to reduce the chance of setting off the alarm.
- Place all fluids (under 3-ounce bottles) in a **quart sized** plastic zip-top bag.
- Please do not say or do anything during security checks that may cause delay in departure.
- NEVER JOKE about hijacks or bombs. Airline and security personnel take these matters very seriously.
- Do not accept packages or gifts unless you have inspected the contents.

**Use the “buddy system” so someone knows if you get delayed!**

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

- MEDICAL: Many seasoned travelers are not aware that their health insurance may not cover them outside of the country. Inspired Travel provides complementary medical evacuation insurance (unless otherwise specified). Please contact us for more information.

- CANCELLATION: If you need to cancel your trip due to an unforeseen emergency or serious illness, most of your trip may be non-refundable if you are not insured. Cancellation insurance is not included in the tour price but is available for purchase. Please call Inspired Travel or go to our website for further information on cancellation insurance. **[www.Inspiredtravel.com](http://www.Inspiredtravel.com)**

# Once You Arrive

## AIRPORT PROCEDURES

- ALWAYS wear your name tag when exiting the plane upon arrival.
- After landing, you will enter the terminal and follow the signs to passport control. Here you will present your passport.
- After exiting passport control, look for a staff member who will be holding a sign that reads “INSPIRED TRAVEL” or the name of your group. That person will tell you which carousel your luggage is on and where to gather to be escorted to your bus.
- Luggage carts are readily available.
- You will be taken as a group through the “NOTHING TO DECLARE” exit. You will be led to your tour bus. The driver will put your one piece of luggage in the storage compartment under the bus. You will need to take your carry-on with you onto the bus. Once the entire group has boarded the bus, you will proceed to your hotel.
- Should you somehow be separated from the group while inside the airport terminal, or if you cannot locate our staff or your tour leader, exit through customs and the terminal (with your luggage) to the bus area. If you are lost, please ask an airport employee (wearing badges) for assistance. Emergency contact numbers are also printed on your Passenger Information Sheet.

## CHECKING INTO YOUR HOTEL

You will be given a key and room number stickers for your luggage. This is for your ONE LUGGAGE only. Take your “carry-on” to the room with you and your luggage will be delivered by the hotel staff.

## HOTEL SERVICES

- Services: Your hotels provide a variety of services. The tour pays for all taxes and tips, as well as all breakfasts served in the hotel dining rooms. **If you use any additional hotel services such as room service, laundry service, outside phone calls, or internet usage, you will be billed accordingly and must pay at the front desk upon check-out.** You are also responsible for any additional tips and taxes these services may incur.
- **Laundry:** Most hotels offer a professional laundry service. **Check the price with the front desk before you send it out and make sure it will be done before your group leaves the hotel.**
- Some hotels provide a clothesline that extends across the bathtub for drying laundry, should you wish to wash them in the sink or bathtub. However, you will need to provide your own detergent.

## ROOMMATE ETIQUETTE

If you are sharing a room with someone you do not know, there are a few guidelines that will make your trip more enjoyable.

- If you are an early riser and your roommate is not (or vice versa), make sure that you do not disturb them with either noise or light.
- If there is only one key per room, make sure you leave it at the front desk if you are the last person to leave the room.
- Please do not smoke in the room.

## TIME DIFFERENCE

Israel is seven hours **ahead** of New York  
and ten hours **ahead** of California  
(except during daylight savings changes)

## CALLING HOME

- Credit cards can be used at some pay phones.
- **A call from your room through the hotel** may cost from \$4 to \$10 per minute, even to a toll-free number.

## DATA PLANS

- Check with your cell phone carrier and get the details! Most International Services are still very expensive. Roaming charges are even higher and WILL be applied if you are even near the border of another country.
- If you have a data plan/email/texting, you may be charged for all downloads and incoming data. **CHECK WITH YOUR CARRIER.**
- Wi-Fi cards can be rented in advance. Some hotels provide free Wi-Fi or will have it available for purchase.
- A safe alternative is to switch your phone to Airplane Mode and turn Data Roaming off. That way you will still be able to use the hotel Wi-Fi without additional charges.

## MONEY AND SHOPPING

- Jerusalem has the widest variety of souvenirs at the best prices. In most places, they take U.S. dollars, so it is not necessary to exchange your money.
- If you decide to change your money into a foreign currency, use only an official money-changer, or do it at your hotel, or at an ATM. The exchange rate usually varies between 3 to 4 shekels to the dollar.
- The most reliable stores and restaurants display the emblem of the Israeli Ministry of Tourism, recommending these establishments for their high quality of merchandise and service. The emblem is a simple icon of two men carrying a large cluster of grapes between them.
- If you intend to buy anything described as "antique," be sure to get a certificate of authenticity from the sales clerk or else do not buy it.

**There will be multiple shopping opportunities during your tour. Also, some guides have "special shops" where the store pays them a commission. Stops at these stores are optional and occur after touring hours.**

- **VAT TAX:** In many countries there is a value added tax, known as a “VAT”, on all merchandise purchased. This tax is refundable upon your departure from the airport. When you purchase an item over \$100 (as of the time of this writing), you will be given a special receipt verifying that you paid the VAT tax on that item. As you are preparing to leave the country, go to the booth in the airport terminal designated for VAT refunds and fill out the paperwork. **You MUST present your VAT tax receipt and the items for inspection in order to receive your refund.** *Please note that if your tour leaves the country where the merchandise was purchased, you may forfeit your eligibility to claim a VAT refund.*
- If you make a major purchase, be sure to take note of the name of the salesperson, the store name, address, and phone number. It is best to purchase items that you can have shipped home or pay with a credit card so that you can dispute the charges if there is a problem.

## FOOD AND BEVERAGES

- Most people think Israeli food is excellent. Breakfast and dinner are provided daily, as well as some lunches (Check your brochure to see what meals are included).
- Be sure to bring local currency or a credit card when dining out at smaller establishments.
- Please check the country's tipping policy if you plan to eat out at a restaurant.
- Some cultural advice about the food: you cannot order milk or any dairy products with meat or poultry – it is not “kosher” and as a rule will not be served. Other foods that you will not find available are pork products and shellfish.
- Most Israeli tap water is considered safe to drink. To be safe, bottled water is available everywhere. Most bus drivers stock water on the bus which you can purchase for about \$1 per bottle.

**Coffee and juices are usually included with breakfast and dinner. Soft drinks are usually not included with any meals.**

**\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\***

**Be sure you drink plenty of water on the plane and on the buses during the tour to avoid dehydration. (This is the most frequent reason for hospitalization.)**

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

**Sometimes tourists, in the excitement of being in a foreign country or as a result of “jet lag”, temporarily fail to exercise the same caution they use at home.**

Here are a few things to remember:

- Do not bring anything that you cannot afford to lose.
- No smoking on the bus or in your hotel rooms.
- *Stay with the group and avoid straying off on your own.*
- Since Muslim women are covered from head to foot, Muslim men think that Western women's clothes are "loose and immoral". For this reason, we ask that you dress modestly at all times.
- Do not leave possessions (backpacks, purses, etc.) unattended, as they may be considered by authorities as a potential danger and be disposed of.
- Avoid any object that does not seem to have an owner.
- Never accept gifts from strangers in or en-route to the airport.
- Beware of locals asking you to follow them to a store or an attraction.
- Avoid friendly embraces from strangers. Beware of pickpockets.
- In any crowded area, keep your backpacks and purses in front of you with your arms folded across them.
- Keep your wallet in your front pants pocket or zippered purse. It is wise to separate your cash so that it is not obvious to onlookers.

## THINGS TO DO

- Keep your passport on your person **at all times**. Misplacing or losing your passport can result in serious delays and extra costs for you.
- Keep a copy of the photo page of your passport in your luggage.
- Never leave valuables (jewelry, cash, iPods, laptops, cameras, electronics, etc.) in your hotel room, even if they are locked in your luggage. It is better to leave significant valuables at home if you don't need them. Keep your journey simple.
- All hotels have a safe at the front desk where your important items may be stored when you are away from your room. Some hotels provide a personal safe in your own room.
- ***Always check the safe before checking out of the hotel.***

## TURN OFF ALL CELLPHONES WHILE AT THE SITES.

- **While touring, always stay with your group.** Be aware of where they are going. Though you may discover something interesting to investigate, it could cause you to lag behind and become lost.
- **Tell someone in the group (preferably your guide or group leader) if you are staying at the hotel instead of touring or leaving the tour for any reason.**
- If you decide to go out after hours, always tell someone else in your group where you are going and when you intend to return.

## USEFUL THINGS TO KNOW

**TAXI SERVICE:** If you decide to take a taxi, make sure you agree in advance with the driver on the fare per person or for all passengers. You will need local currency for most taxis.

**RESTROOMS/BATHROOMS/WC:** in some countries, toilets are typically identified as the “WC” and you may be expected to pay a small amount to the attendant, if there is one.

**BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN RIVER:** If you plan on being baptized in the Jordan River, you will need to bring a change of clothes or bathing suit. For a few dollars you can rent a baptismal robe to be worn over your clothes/swimming suit. You also receive a towel and a baptismal certificate. If you choose not to rent a robe, you must wear a modest tee shirt over your swimsuit.

## **TIPPING/GRATUITIES**

- We know that you are going to become very fond of your bus driver and your tour guide. They are skilled professionals who enjoy working with tourists. Sometimes, tour members will try to take a collection on the bus to give to the driver and guide, to show their appreciation. However, Inspired Travel tips the bus drivers and the tour guides near the top of the scale. We therefore ask that no one start or contribute to such a collection. If you personally want to bless them, feel free to do so.

## **THE LOCAL PEOPLE**

- A good “Shalom” goes a long way.
- Always be kind and courteous. Remember that you are an ambassador for your country.
- A firm handshake is obligatory upon meeting and departing. Never remain seated when shaking a standing person's hand.
- When speaking directly to an Israeli, always look them in the eye.
- Police wear blue uniforms and usually speak English; paramilitary police (border police/security forces wear dark green uniforms and a beret of similar color and usually do not speak English).
- Israeli religiosity ranges from the Ultra-Orthodox to the complete atheist.

**Avoid criticizing the country, the people, the food, or the customs. If you have a problem, please talk to your tour leader or guide.**

## **PRAY**

Ask God to do a beautiful work in your heart and in the hearts of all who will be joining you on the tour. Pray that through this tour you and your fellow travelers would come to know Him more intimately and understand His Word more completely.

**“Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
May they prosper who love you.”**

**Psalm 122:6**

## INSPIRED TRAVEL TOUR CONDITIONS

Registration and payment for this tour constitutes your acceptance of the following Tour Conditions and Responsibility statements.

**TOUR PRICE:** We endeavor to provide the ultimate experience at the lowest possible cost. All prices are per person based on two people sharing a room with a private bath. Single rooms are subject to availability and may be smaller than twin rooms. Hotels may allow a maximum of three people to a room. The tour price is based on air, hotel and exchange rates in effect the date the tour was booked and on a specific number of tour members traveling together. In case of fewer participants, or a fluctuation in the value of the US dollar, prices may increase. Any subsequent increase in fuel surcharges and/or airline taxes will be borne by the passenger.

**INCLUDED:** Buffet breakfast and hotel dinner daily (and other meals listed in the brochure), entrance fees, airport and departure taxes, group visas for U.S. Citizens, transfers, porterage, tips to hotels, drivers, and guides and emergency medical insurance (unless stated otherwise on your group's brochure).

**NOT INCLUDED:** Passports, individual visas, cancellation insurance, porterage at U.S. airports, any expenses incurred resulting from injury or accident, loss of, damage to, or theft of luggage or contents, and items of a personal nature such as laundry, phone calls, sodas, bottled water and food or beverages not on the regular menu of the included meals. If you are in doubt whether food or beverage is included, please ask the guide or the tour leader.

**REGISTRATION FOR THE TOUR:** A deposit is required to secure air and hotel reservations. Registrations will be processed on a space available basis. No registration will be processed without a deposit and a completed registration form.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** The final payment date is printed on your brochure. Failure to send in your final amount by the deadline will result in forfeiture of your space on the tour and your deposits.

**ROOMMATES:** The tour price is based on two people in a room. If you do not have a roommate, we can usually arrange one for you, unless you are the last to register without a roommate. If we are unable to do so, you must pay the single occupancy rate. If this occurs, you will be informed within three weeks after final payments are received.

**SIGHTSEEING:** Subject to local conditions at the time of the tour. Adjustments in the sightseeing program may be made as the tour leader or guide deem necessary.

**MEMBERSHIP:** In an honest effort to ensure congenial fellowship on the tour, the organizer reserves the right to refuse the application of anyone considered incompatible with the interests of the party as a whole. ***Applying for membership on this tour constitutes consent to abide by the discretion of the organizer and to absorb any expenses resulting from dismissal from the tour.***

**PASSPORTS:** All passengers are required to have a valid passport to depart or re-enter the USA. A copy of your passport will be required at time of final payment. Your passport must not expire for at least six months after the date you will return to the U.S. To find the nearest passport office, look online at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com). *This should be done immediately.* An embossed birth certificate (one with a raised seal) is required to obtain a passport. To obtain a birth certificate, contact the Hall of Records in the county in which you were born.

**U.S. CITIZENS:** Please check if a Visa will be required for your trip. In some countries, entry Visas can be acquired at passport control as you enter the country.

**NON-U.S. CITIZENS:** You must inform Inspired Travel of citizenship immediately, and you must have a Resident Alien registration card (Green Card) in order to re-enter the U.S. You must call the consulate of each country to be visited and arrange any required visas and find out what vaccinations are required. A multiple-entry visa may also be required for your trip.

**VACCINATIONS:** Please check with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for recommended travel vaccinations.

**LUGGAGE:** Portage (tips) for one piece of luggage per person is included from your arrival until you check-in for departure. You will be responsible at all times for your carry-on, so we suggest you keep it as lightweight as possible. Passengers are allowed one checked bag with total dimensions not to exceed 60 linear inches. **Most Airlines allow one piece of checked luggage that must weigh less than 50 pounds.** To find the size of your suitcase, measure it once from left to right, once from front to back, and once from bottom to top. You are usually allowed a carry-on bag not to exceed 36 linear inches (measured the same way you measure your luggage) and it usually must weigh **less than 15 pounds.** (Carry-on luggage should fit either in overhead bin or in the space under your seat.) **Baggage restrictions are changing constantly.** It is the responsibility of the passenger to verify the current rules of your airline before departure. Excess weight or size of luggage is subject to additional charges by the airlines and are the responsibility of the passenger.

**CHANGES OR LATE BOOKINGS:** If you want to deviate from the group itinerary (return home after the group returns), please advise Inspired Travel in writing as soon as possible. *Late bookings, changes, or deviations made after the final payment date will be subject to a \$150 per change service fee plus any airline charges.*

**LAND ONLY PASSENGERS:** If you arrange your own air transportation, the "Land Only" portion of your tour begins at the first hotel and ends on the last tour day. *Expenses incurred in getting to and from the airport, or due to schedule changes of the group, are the responsibility of the "land only" passenger.*

**CANCELLATION:** Cancellation penalties are listed as follows; specific dates are listed in the brochure. All cancellations must be submitted *in writing* and will be charged a \$400 processing fee per person. Please refer to your tour brochure for your cancellation deadlines. Cancellations within two weeks of departure date will be charged 100% penalty.

**All cancellations must be received at the Inspired Travel office by fax or mail. Cancellation may NOT be made by telephone.** Refunds are processed on a monthly basis. Cancellation after final payment deadline may require eight to ten weeks processing time to recover funds paid.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** INSPIRED TRAVEL, in accepting booking for the tour, clearly stipulates that they are not liable for the faults or defaults of other companies and persons that may be used in carrying out the tour services, nor for accidents, baggage damage or loss, strikes, political unrest, riots, acts of war or terrorism, or acts of God. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or due to any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operator. Additional expenses, such as food and lodging costs resulting from such changes, shall be borne by the passengers. The right is also reserved to withdraw this tour and to decline to accept or retain any persons or members of the tour. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time passengers are not on board. The passage contract in use by the companies concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the company and the purchaser of this tour.

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