



ITALY & ISRAEL TOUR

15 Days / 14 nights

A very interesting journey to combine the major religious and cultural stages in Italy between Milan and Rome with those in Israel, the "Holy Land", with stages in Jerusalem, Nazareth and Bethlehem, places with a thousand-year-old history.

SCHEDULE:

Day 1 Milan

Included meals: none

You are going to arrive at Milan airport and the driver is going to help you loading your luggage onto the private bus. Then you will be transferred at the hotel where accommodation in the rooms and overnight is planned.

Day 2 Milan

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you are going to visit the city with the guide passing by Alla Scala Theatre, Vittorio Emanuele Gallery and Duomo Square. There, you are going to visit the gothic Cathedral and go up to the roof, if you would like to, by walk or by elevator. Free time for lunch is planned. During the afternoon, you are going to have a sightseeing tour passing by Sforza Castle, St. Holy Mary of Graces Basilica, the new districts of the city and the Darsena, the ancient harbor of Milan. Finally, you are going to return to the hotel, have free time for dinner and overnight.

Day 3 Trip to Lake Como

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you will leave for Como and visit the most impressive villages along the lake banks: Varenna, Bellagio, Mandello, Dervio. In the evening, you are going to return to the hotel and overnight. Free time for lunch and dinner at your disposal.

Day 4 Milan/Florence

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, the driver is going to help you loading your luggage onto the private bus and then leave for Florence. There, you will meet the guide and start a walking tour around the city center: Signoria square, Ponte Vecchio bridge, the Cathedral with the well-known Brunelleschi's dome and the Giotto's bell-tower. Finally, you are going to check-in at the hotel, have free time for dinner and overnight. Free time for lunch is planned during visits.

Day 5 Florence

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you are going to spend the entire morning visiting the Uffizi Gallery, a treasure chest of priceless masterpieces. Free time for lunch is planned. During the afternoon, you will continue the visits discovering S. Maria Novella and S. Croce churches. Then, you will return to the hotel, have free time for dinner and overnight.

Day 6 Florence/Siena/Rome

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, the driver is going to help you loading your luggage onto the private bus and leave for Siena, the city of the Palio. You are going to meet the guide and visit Campo square, the Cathedral and San Domenico church. You will have free time for lunch and then leave for Rome. You are going to arrive in the evening, check-in at the hotel and overnight. Free time for dinner is planned.

Day 7 Rome

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you are going to meet the guide and visit the "eternal city". First of all, a stop to St. Peter's Basilica, the emblem of Christianity: the Basilica has been built upon a previous Constantinian temple, on the same place where the first Apostle Peter is told to have been buried after his crucifixion. There, you could admire the famous "Pietà" by Michelangelo, the Bernini's canopy and tombs of the major popes. Among them are that of St. Jean Paul II and that of St. Peter. You will have free time to go up to the dome and for lunch. In the afternoon, you are going to visit Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel. Finally, you are going to return to the hotel, have free time for dinner and overnight.

Day 8 Rome

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you will meet the guide, catch the bus and have a sightseeing tour of Rome: Gianicolo Belvedere, Sisto bridge upon Tevere river, Massimo Circus, Colosseum (externally), Romano court, Venezia Square and the Patria Altar. Then you are going to have some free time for lunch and in the afternoon you will visit the mundane center of the city, passing by Navona Square, Trevi fountain, governmental palaces and the Pantheon. Finally, you are going to return to the hotel, have free time for dinner and overnight.

Day 9 Rome/Tel Aviv/Nazareth

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, the driver is going to help you loading your luggage onto the private bus and you will be transferred to Fiumicino airport. There, you should deal with customs checks and then boarding on a flight to Israel. When landed in Tel Aviv, you are going to meet the local guide who will assist you for the entire stay. Finally, you are going to reach Nazareth and check-in at the hotel. Free time for dinner and overnight is planned.

Day 10 Nazareth

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you will visit the major meaningful sites of Galilee: Beatitudini mount, Tabga, where Jesus multiplied breads, and the church of Peter's *Primato*; Cafarnao and its excavations with ruins of Peter's house, the sixteenth-century Synagogue. In the afternoon, you are going to take a taxi in small groups and reach Tabor Mount, the mount of transfiguration of Christ. Finally, you are going to return to the hotel and overnight. Free time for lunch and dinner at your disposal during visits.

Day 11 Nazareth/Bethlehem

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you are going to visit the village of Nazareth passing by Annunciation Basilica, Saint Joseph church, the souk and the Virgin fountain. During the morning, you are going to visit Cana to celebrate the marriage miracle. In the afternoon, you are going to leave for Judea across the Jordan Valley with a stop along the river to renew baptismal promises. Finally, you are going to reach Bethlehem in the evening, check-in at the hotel and overnight. Free time for lunch and dinner is planned during visits.

Day 12 Trip to Jerusalem

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you are going to leave for Jerusalem and admire Omar and El Aqsa Mosque, passing by the Wailing Wall and the Jewish district. In the afternoon, you are going to cover the Via Crucis through the souk ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Finally, you are going to return to the hotel in Bethlehem and overnight. Some free time for lunch and dinner is planned during visits.

Day 13 Trip to Jerusalem

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you will come back to Jerusalem to visit the Mount of Olives passing by the Ascension niche, Paternoster cave, Dominus Flevit, the Getzemani Basilica and garden, the Virgin Mary's grave. During the afternoon, you are going to visit the Christian Sion with Saint Peter in Gallicantu, Cenaculum and the Dormition of the Virgin. Finally, you will return to the hotel in Bethlehem, have free time for dinner and overnight.

Day 14 Bethlehem

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, you are going to leave for Judas' desert, where you will see the Monastery of Saint George of Koziba from a distance. During the trip, you will stop in Jericho and then Qumran, along the Dead Sea banks, where the ancient Bible's roll had been discovered and nowadays preserved at the Books Museum. Later on, you are going to return to Bethlehem and visit the Church of the Nativity and the Shepherds' Field. Finally, you are going to return to the hotel and overnight. Some free time for lunch and dinner is planned during visits.

Day 15 Bethlehem/Tel Aviv

Included meals: breakfast

After a breakfast in the hotel, the driver is going to help you loading your luggage onto the private bus and transfer at Tel Aviv airport, where you will take off for your city of origin.

Note: The itinerary could change due to organizational reasons. Visits will be respected or substituted with others with the same value, if necessary.

TOUR PRICE PER PERSON STARTING FROM:

- € 1.700 with minimum 20 persons
€ 1.580 with minimum 30 persons
€ 560 single supplement (limited availability)

Tour price includes:

- Transfers from/to airport in Italy
- Sightseeing and transfers with private coach during the journey
- Assistance at the airport in Italy and Israel
- Accommodation in double occupancy at 3 stars hotels as indicated in itinerary with private bath or shower
- Meals: breakfast as indicated in itinerary
- Guide: professional English-speaking local guide in Italy and professional tour escort/guide in Israel as per program
- Wireless head-phones
- Taxes: all taxes charged by local government on services which are part of the land program are included except those imposed by airports or accommodation
- Not refundable administration fee

Tour price DOES NOT include:

- Flight ticket to Italy, flight ticket Rome-Tel Aviv, flight ticket from Tel Aviv to your city of origin
- Any meals and beverages not specified in the itinerary
- Personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, room service, excess baggage charges, travel insurance and travel documentation.
- Tour escort in Italy
- Entrance tickets in Italy and Israel to museums, archeological sites and so on
- Visa to enter Italy and Israel, if required by your nationality
- Any local accommodation charges in Italy which must be paid locally
- Tips to coach driver, guide and local guides will be collected by the tour escort from each participant
- Any other items not indicated as included on the itinerary

Documents:

Regular Passport valid for 6 months beyond the conclusion of the trip. You will be informed if there will be any change about it.
Visa: you will be given any information to obtain it, if necessary