



ISRAEL & PALESTINE 2023

OCTOBER 8 - 21

Explore the ancient port city of Jaffa. The Biblical sites at Haifa, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, and Jordan River. The Arabic village of Kafr Qasim. Walk through the Old City of Jerusalem with a deaf rabbi. Meet deaf Palestinians in Ramallah, Bethlehem and Hebron. Take the cable car up to Masada. Float in the Dead Sea. Meet deaf Bedouins in a village in the Negev Desert.

OPTIONAL: 7 day extension in Jordan, including Wadi Rum, Petra and Amman.

OCTOBER 8

Arrival into Tel Aviv. Transfer to hotel. Enjoy the beach alongside the Tel Aviv Promenade. Welcome dinner. Stay in Tel Aviv for 3 nights.

OCTOBER 9

We spend two full days in and around Tel Aviv. Visit Ben Gurion House, Tel Aviv City Hall, ANU Museum of Jewish People, and Israeli Deaf Association at Helen Keller Center. Evening walkabout at hipster Florentin to see various graffiti and dinner at a Yemeni restaurant.

OCTOBER 10

Visit "Invitation to Silence" exhibit at the Israel Children's Museum in Holon. Explore the ancient port city of Jaffa, which is the oldest part of Tel Aviv. If possible, we may enjoy a show by the Nalaga'at Theater Deaf-Blind Acting Ensemble.

OCTOBER 11

Drive to the city of Haifa in northern Israel. Enroute, we stop to visit the ancient Roman port city ruins of Caesarea, Elijah's Cave as well as Bahai Gardens with beautiful views over the harbor. In the afternoon we continue to Nazareth, where Jesus grew up. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, where Angel Gabriel visited Mary. Stay in Nazareth or Tiberias for 2 nights.

OCTOBER 12

Today we explore Sea of Galilee and surroundings. We step '*in the footsteps of Jesus*' and visit different places that are mentioned in the Bible including taking a boat trip on the lake where Jesus walked on water, held the sermon at Mount of Beatitudes, fed 5,000 people with loaves and fishes at Tabgha, and was baptized in the Jordan River. Enjoy a lunch at a local fish restaurant. Visit ancient town of Capernaum.

OCTOBER 13 • • •

In the morning, we visit Golan Heights, and see Mount Hermon. Arrive into Jerusalem in the afternoon. Stay in Jerusalem for 3 nights.

OCTOBER 14 • • •

We head out to the Arabic village of Kafr Qasim, which is the hometown of one of our local deaf guides. Kafr Qasim has a lively Deaf community, who will be happy to welcome us for lunch at the community center. Return to Jerusalem. Starting at Mount of Olives, we walk down through the cemetery to the Garden of Gethsemane, before entering Old Jerusalem through Lion's Gate where we begin following Via Dolorosa, the processional route that Jesus walked on the way to his crucifixion. At the end of the route, we enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

OCTOBER 15 • • •

Early in the morning on our own, we visit the Dome of the Rock. Afterwards with a local deaf guide, we walk through the Armenian and Jewish sectors of Old Jerusalem including the Western Wall and Hurva Synagogue. After lunch at Mahane Yehuda, we visit the Israeli Museum and walk through the ultra-orthodox Haredim Jewish neighborhoods.

OCTOBER 16 • • •

Visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. Leave Jerusalem and enter the Palestinian territories. Visit Ramallah, the defacto capital of Palestine. We visit the deaf association for an introduction to the Palestinian deaf community and their way of life. Visit a deaf school. Overnight in Ramallah.

OCTOBER 17 • • •

We travel further to the town of Bethlehem, the place where Jesus was born. Visit the Shepherds' Field and the Church of Nativity. Palestinian lunch at a deaf family's home. Check out some of Banksy's art work, including the Walled Off Hotel. Overnight in Bethlehem.

OCTOBER 18 • • •

In the morning, we visit Hebron with our deaf Palestinian guides. It is a holy site for both Judaism and Islam. Meet a deaf ceramic painter at a glass blowing studio. Visit the Tombs of the Patriarchs - where Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob and Leah were buried. By the end of morning, we drive to Jericho, one of the oldest cities in the world. Take a cable car ride up to the cliff to visit the Monastery of the Temptation. After lunch, we continue towards Dead Sea, which is almost 10 times as salty as the ocean. Stay at Ein Bokek for 2 nights.

OCTOBER 19 • • •

Visit one of most spectacular and intriguing historical sites in Israel: Masada. We take the cable car up to the citadel. Return via either cable car, or a hike down the Snake Path. In the afternoon, we float ourselves in the salty Dead Sea.

OCTOBER 20 • • •

Head into the Negev Desert. Visit a deaf Jewish settler in Susya. Stop at the village of Al-Sayyid to meet Deaf Bedouins. Learn a bit of Al-Sayyid Bedouin Sign Language. Visit the Museum of Bedouin Culture in Be'er Sheva. Overnight at Be'er Sheva.

OCTOBER 21 • • •

Return back to Tel Aviv for your flight back home. Or continue with our optional 7 day extension in Jordan.

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\$500 deposit per person is required to reserve space. The availability of space is based on a first come, first serve basis. 100% of the balance is required 90 days before the first day of the tour.

\$4,520
per person /double occupancy

14 DAYS

SMALL GROUP 8 - 14

TOUR MANAGER: Dan Brubaker • dan@handson.travel • 520-385-5411

WHAT'S INCLUDED??

- 13 nights in 3-star accommodations.
- 18 meals: Breakfast (13), Lunch (2), Dinner (3)
- Services of a deaf group leader on call 24 hours a day.
- Services of local deaf and/or hearing guides.
- All transportation expenses.
- All admission fees for attractions and museums mentioned in the itinerary.
- Israeli border exit tax (\$30)
- Most tips, except for your Tour Manager.
- Informative travel preparation packet.
- Pre-tour and/or post-tour itinerary consultation.
- \$100 discount per person on your next regular tour.

WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

- Domestic and/or international airfares.
- All other meals not mentioned in the itinerary and personal expenses.
- Any COVID-19 related tests.
- Travel insurance.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Tour will be confirmed when we meet the minimum number of participants.
- When the tour is confirmed, additional deposits/payments may be required.
- Substantial amount of walking expected during the tour. Appropriate physical fitness is necessary.
- Please consult the most recent version of the HOT terms and conditions.
 - <https://handson.travel/resources/terms/>
 - Hands on Travel recommends that you purchase a travel insurance plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. To learn more, please view the following link:
<https://handson.travel/resources/protection/>
- **Tour itinerary and price are subject to change.**