

# Abercrombie & Kent



## ISRAEL CROSSROADS OF HISTORY – A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY

Discover Biblical and historic sites in Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem; explore Masada and Yad Vashem; privately cruise the Sea of Galilee; and visit the site of the Sermon on the Mount.

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Small Group Journeys, Luxury Small Group Journeys



North Africa & Arabia, Israel



8 days, from AU\$8,815



18 Guests

## Journey Overview

Discover Biblical and historic sites in Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem; explore Masada and Yad Vashem; privately cruise the Sea of Galilee; and visit the site of the Sermon on the Mount.

### A&K Advantages

- Discover a land held sacred by three faiths, visiting places where events recorded in the Bible unfolded, and learning about life in its iconic cities and towns, from antiquity to today
- Stay close to the action in the historic Scots Hotel in Tiberias and the iconic King David hotel in Jerusalem
- Explore a vast array of Biblical and historic sites with a local expert, including Masada, stronghold of the Zealots
- Gain perspective on Israel's varied cultures with visits to Yad Vashem, Bethlehem and Jerusalem
- Privately cruise on the Sea of Galilee
- Breeze through customs and immigration with VIP service at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion International Airport



## Itinerary

### DAY 1: Arrive Tel Aviv, Israel

Arrive in Tel Aviv, where you are met and transferred to your hotel overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

***Dan Tel Aviv Hotel***

### DAY 2: Caesarea & Acre | Capitals & Seaports

Take a scenic coastal drive to the ancient Roman capital, Caesarea, where Herod laid out a classical city and constructed a revolutionary, artificial harbor. Near its amphitheatre, view a partial inscription mentioning Pontius Pilate — the only secular reference to his existence. Then, visit the seaport cities of Haifa and Acre, the latter a UNESCO World Heritage Site that dates back to Phoenician and Crusader times. While at Acre, tour the Knights' Halls, view the El Jazaar Mosque and explore the elaborate covered markets. Later, gather for a welcome dinner, savoring your first taste of the kinds of dishes that have become part of Israel's vibrant culinary scene.

***Scots Hotel | Meals: B L D***

### DAY 3: Sea of Galilee | In the Footsteps of Jesus

Begin a day that carries you back in history to the time of Jesus. Cruise the Sea of Galilee by private boat and stop at Capernaum, site of the synagogue where Jesus taught. See St. Peter's House, now a converted church; Tabgha, where the miracle of the loaves and fishes is said to have occurred; and the commemorative fifth-century mosaic in the Church of Multiplication. Then, visit the Mount of Beatitudes, site of the Sermon on the Mount, perhaps imagining yourself as part of the crowd that was the first to hear a doctrine that changed the world. Shift perspectives from the ancient to the modern, as you continue to the Golan Heights, the much-disputed rocky plateau bordering Syria and Lebanon, overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

***Scots Hotel | Meals: B L D***

### DAY 4: Nazareth | Sites of the New Testament

Visit Nazareth, where Jesus spent much of his life. See the Basilica of the Annunciation, built on the traditional site of Mary's home; Mary's Well, where an angel is said to have visited; and the basement of the Church of St. Joseph, with its cavern believed to have been the carpentry workshop of Joseph. Continue through the Jordan Valley to the Decapolis city of Beit Shean. Later, arrive in Jerusalem.

***The King David | Meals: B L D***

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**DAY 5: Jerusalem | Spiritual Epicenter**

Explore the fascinating, history-rich Old City of Jerusalem, built by King David in 1004 BC. Start at the Mount of Olives for a view of the city. Visit the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed with his disciples before his crucifixion. Stop at the Western Wall, one of Judaism's most sacred sites and a tangible link between Israel's past and present. View the Temple Mount area (Al Haram el-Sharif) with its Dome of the Rock; El Aksa Mosque, built on a site revered by both Jews and Muslims; and the Davidson Center, home to fine art and archaeological finds. In the Christian Quarter, stroll the Via Dolorosa, where Jesus carried the cross, and stop at the Convent of Zion Sisters, where Pilate tried Jesus. Passing the Stations of the Cross, arrive at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, traditional site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

***The King David | Meals: B L***

**DAY 6: Jerusalem | Yad Vashem**

Pass the Knesset (Israel's Parliament) en route to the Israel Museum, which houses a portion of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Then, visit Yad Vashem, Israel's poignant and moving memorial to Holocaust victims. Finish in Bethlehem, visiting the Church of the Nativity, birthplace of Jesus.

***The King David | Meals: B L***

**DAY 7: Masada | Zealot Stronghold**

Drive to Masada, and take a cable car to the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots; here, Israelite fighters held out for three years against the invading Roman army before taking their own lives rather than allowing themselves to be enslaved. Stop at the Dead Sea before returning to Jerusalem. Tonight, gather for a special farewell dinner.

***The King David | Meals: B L D***

**DAY 8: Depart Tel Aviv**

Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for your flight home.

***Meals: B***

**Journey Details**

Please note the 27 October departure will operate with a slightly modified itinerary. Please contact A&K for details.

## Accommodation

### The King David



The King David hotel Jerusalem, a six-storey landmark opened in 1931, offers 283 guest rooms and suites. All uniquely designed to fit the special architectural design details of the building, many of the rooms are overlooking the unique old city walls of Jerusalem. Stately pink quartz exteriors and exotic public rooms are decorated with motifs that recreate a bygone romantic era. Superbly located on an elevated site, the King David Hotel Jerusalem offers incomparable views of the walls, minarets and domes of the Old City.

Spacious private gardens that enclose green lawns, a tennis court, adults' and children's swimming pools (heated during the season), as well as a children's playground and quiet corners for relaxing. After an invigorating swim, the ideal way to savour the beautiful garden setting is at the pool bar over a refreshing drink or a light meal. Exercise options include a sleek and contemporary new Fitness Centre offering state-of-the-art training equipment by TechnoGym coupled with a Spa with a wide range of skin and body treatments. Play a game of tennis or relax in the Finnish sauna after wandering in the Old Town.

### Why we like it

- The King David Hotel is a unique landmark in the heart of Jerusalem
- Within walking distance to the Old Town
- Rooms have views of the New City or Old City
- Extensive lawns, gardens and pool area - one of the best in Jerusalem
- La Regence is one of the finest dining experiences in Jerusalem

### Scots Hotel, Tiberias



The luxurious Scots hotel was established by the Scottish Church in 1999 in the historical compound of the Scottish Hospital, and uniquely combines the 19th century basalt buildings with a modern and up-to-date hotel with 68 rooms located in the heart of Tiberias.

The hotel comes with layers of history and character that no other hotel in the area can match. The public areas and gardens have a colonial atmosphere and the hotel has a Ceilidh Bar with 80 types of whisky on offer and a spa boasting a range of treatments.

Unique rooms are of uniform modern standard. Antique rooms located in the Doctor's House are steeped in history and boast exposed basalt stone walls and high ceilings. The Antique rooms with Lake View are well worth the extra.

Extending down to the Sea of Galilee and across to the hotel's swimming pool, the beach garden is a great place to relax.

Enjoy an archaeological visit on your doorstep. The path starts at the restaurant's balcony and ends at the Visitors' Centre via the Gazebo Terraces. The path includes relics from the Roman and Byzantine periods; these relics have been kept in their natural surroundings for over 2,000 years.

The hotel's restaurant Torance is situated in the David building which was originally the maternity hospital. You can eat on the restaurant's balcony surrounded by lush gardens, almost all year round. The combination of Israeli cuisine with Galilean cooking tradition and influences from Scotland contributes to a flavour-rich culinary experience, turning every meal into an unforgettable gourmet journey. The various dishes use local produce, herbs grown in the hotel's garden, cheeses, fruit and vegetables, homemade jams and a selection of wines all from the farms of the North.

### **Why we like it**

- Set in beautiful gardens with an unrivalled view of the Sea of Galilee
- Steeped in history and charm
- Half sized Olympic pool and located in the beach garden with magnificent views
- Israeli cuisine with Galilean cooking tradition and influences from Scotland
- We recommend the Antique rooms as they are more luxurious

## Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

**Dec 22, 2019 - Dec 29, 2019**

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$8,815 pp</b>	AU\$4,255	AU\$0	Call for Availability

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