
AN EXCEPTIONAL CRUISE: CYPRUS AND THE HOLY LAND (PORT-TO-PORT CRUISE) - NEW

Trip Code: LIR_PP

Duration: 8

Destination: LARNACA - LARNACA (Cyprus) - HAIFA (Israel) - LIMASSOL

Travel Dates: 2021/2022

DAY 1 LARNACA

Passengers are welcome to board our ship at 6:00 p.m. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail before dinner. <>The evening is free to do as you please.

DAY 2 LARNACA (CYPRUS)

This morning, join us for an optional excursion to Nicosia. The Cypriot capital has two faces and symbolizes two contrasting cultures united by a shared history. <>Brimming with gems to discover, Nicosia stands as the last officially divided European city. This afternoon, enjoy some free time to discover Larnaca on your own. We'll start sailing towards Israel at the end of the day.

DAY 3 HAIFA (ISRAEL)

Included full-day excursion to Jerusalem (lunch included; approx. 10 hours total, including 4 hours round trip). We'll travel through the Judea Mountains and the entrance to the valley which was besieged during the 1948 War of Independence. In Jerusalem, you will visit the Mount of Olives and the Church of Gethsemane, where Jesus Christ was betrayed by Judas Iscariot and captured by the Romans. We'll also visit the Old Town of Jerusalem. <><>We will first amble down the colorful market where the three main religions (Christianity, Judaism and Islam) live side by side before reaching the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the holiest Christian site in the world believed to encompass both the Calvary where Jesus Christ was crucified as well as the cave where his body was placed after his death. We'll move on along the Via Dolorosa all the way to the Wailing Wall, the most sacred place of worship for Jews, where they write their wishes on slips of paper which are then placed in the wall. Finally, we'll get to see Mount Zion where Jesus Christ ate the Last Supper with his disciples, which inspired the Cenacle.

DAY 4 HAIFA (ISRAEL)

Optional full-day excursion through Galilee including the Sea of Galilee (lunch included; approx. 9 hours total, including 4 hours round trip). The Sea of Galilee, a freshwater lake also known as Lake Tiberias or Kinneret in Hebrew, is the main water source in Israel and crystallizes for Christians the place where many of the events

described in the Bible occurred. <>>Our excursion will first take you to Cana (or Kafr Cana), where Jesus performed the miracle of transforming water into wine. We'll continue on to the Mount of Beatitudes, from where there are wonderful views of Lake Tiberias. This is the hill where Jesus is believed to have delivered his "Sermon on the Mount". We'll next head for Tabgha, believed to be the most beautiful and peaceful of holy Christian sites and which was the scene of many Gospel stories, before moving on to Capernaum, the base camp for Jesus during his Galilean ministry.

DAY 5 HAIFA (ISRAEL)

We'll spend the whole day on an optional excursion to Bethlehem and Jericho (lunch included, approx. 12hrs).<>> We'll cross the Judaeen Desert to reach Jericho, one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. Also known as the "City of Palm Trees", it is famous for its historic sites and fertile ground. It is also the lowest city in the world, located 258 metres below sea level. We'll discover the sycomore tree which, according to Luke's Gospel, Zacchaeus resorted to climbing in order to get a better view of Jesus. We'll then continue towards the Mount of Temptation where the ruins of over 25 different ancient towns were discovered. We'll finally head to Bethlehem, City of David and Jacob and visit the famous Church of the Nativity.

DAY 6 HAIFA (ISRAEL) - LIMASSOL (CYPRUS)

This morning, included guided tour of Nazareth. We'll set off for our discovery tour of Nazareth, travelling through the lovely hills of Upper Galilee and the historic Jezreel Valley until we reach the spot where the Angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she would give birth to the Messiah. We'll visit the Church of the Annunciation, the largest Catholic church in the Middle East and one of the holiest shrines in the Christian world. Then, we'll continue to the Greek Orthodox Church of St Gabriel, where the water from an underground spring flows through the apse and into the adjacent Mary's Well. Finally, we will visit St Joseph's Church, built in 1914 on the very spot believed to be the workshop of Joseph the carpenter.<>> We'll spend all afternoon sailing towards Limassol.

DAY 7 LIMASSOL - LARNACA (CYPRUS)

This morning, optional excursion to Paphos Archaeological Park. Listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site since 1980, this exceptional site features the Tombs of the Kings, a mysterious underground necropolis located amidst an almost deserted landscape. We'll then visit the houses of Dionysos, Theseus and Aion whose splendid mosaics were discovered by chance in 1962. A few kilometers further on, we will stop in the village of Yeroskipou to visit a small workshop where Loukoum (Cyprus Delight) is made, followed by a tasting session.<>> The afternoon will be spent sailing towards Larnaca.<>> Tonight's our gala dinner and evening.<>>

DAY 8 LARNACA

Enjoy one last buffet breakfast on board before disembarking at 9:00 a.m. End of our services.

DAY

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