

Egypt • Greece • Turkey • Morocco • Jordan • Israel & Palestine
Gulf States • Iran • Cyprus • Malta • Lebanon

2020
**Ancient
Kingdoms
Holidays**



Private Holidays



History



Cruise Holidays



Small Group
Tours



Coach Tours



Cultural
Experiences

Experience the Innovative Difference



Presenting Your Keys to the Kingdom

When New Zealand based founder Robyn Galloway created Innovative Travel in 1990, it was with large dreams and humble beginnings. Having experienced an amazing warm welcome as she travelled through the ancient kingdoms of Egypt, Jordan, and Israel in the late 1980's, a passion was born to connect with other likeminded travellers and share these amazing experiences.

In 1996 there was a keystone moment when Innovative Travel had the privilege of Egypt based Elhamy ElZayat joining Innovative Travel, and he later became a Director, expanding on his role of local representative in Cairo. This coincided with Elhamy being appointed as Honorary Consul General for New Zealand to Egypt. He was later awarded the Queen's Birthday Honor, NZ Order of Merit, MNZM by former Prime Minister Helen Clarke, when the NZ Embassy opened in Egypt in the late 1990's.



Robyn Galloway, MD & Elhamy ElZayat MNZM, Innovative Travel's Cairo based Director & former Chair of the Egyptian Tourism Federation

As CEO of one of Egypt's largest tourism companies, Elhamy and Robyn worked collaboratively with the Innovative Travel team, to further expand our local networks through the Middle East, Mediterranean, Asia, Europe and East Africa. These networks now include diplomats, local operators, and further professional networks; all of whom work together to create a stable and unforgettable holiday experience.

As Innovative Travel has expanded, we remain true to the original dream of connecting inspired travellers to our experience, providing benefits for you from our comprehensive global, local network.

Whilst seeking the assurance of our comprehensive local back up from both local operators and Innovative Travel, you want to be out there connecting with locals, seeing incredible sites, and along the way discovering some amazing experiences. If this sounds like you, you're in the right place.





Your Holiday Menu

Experience the Innovative Benefits 4
 A Guide to Icons 5
 Map 6-7
 Are you an Innovative Traveller / Special Occasions 8
 A Guide to Accommodation Standards 9

MULTI COUNTRY

Multi Country Introduction 10
 Egypt, Israel, Jordan 11
 Jordan, Israel 12
 Egypt, Turkey, Greece 13
 Turkey, Greece 14
 Spain, Portugal, Morocco 15

EGYPT

Egypt Introduction 16
Egypt Select & Mix 17
Nile Cruise Ships 18
 In the Footsteps of Pharaohs 19
 Egypt of a Bygone Era 20
 Glories of Ancient Egypt 21
 Showcasing Egypt 22
 Realm of the Pharaohs 23
 Discovering Egypt's Pharaonic History 24
 Jewels of the Nile 25
 The Nile Encompassed 26
 Upper Egypt and Eternal Nile 27
 The Nile Rediscovered 28
 Mysteries of Ancient Egypt 29
 Essence of Egypt 30
 Egypt Extensions 31

ISRAEL

Israel Introduction 32
Israel Select & Mix 33
 Journey through the Holylands 34
 Israel Discovery 35
 Classic Israel 36
 Holyland Heritage 37
 Jordan Extensions 38
 Travel Companions Club 39

JORDAN

Jordan Introduction 40
Jordan Select & Mix 41
 Royal Jordan 42
 Treasures of Jordan 43
 Petra Extensions 44
 Jordan Discovery 45

GREECE, CYPRUS, MALTA

Greece Introduction 46
Greece Select & Mix 47
 Grand Tour of Greece 48
 Greek Classics 49
 Aegean Splendours 50
 Highlights of the Cyclades 51
 Milos, Folegandros, Santorini 52
 Greek Island Hoping 53
 Crete 54-55
 Cyprus 56
 Malta 57

TURKEY

Turkey Introduction 58
Turkey Select & Mix 59
 A Taste of Istanbul (article) 60
 Glories of Turkey 61
 Magical Turkey 62
 Charming Turkey 63
 Classical Turkey 64
 Authentic Turkey 65
 Gallipoli 66
 Independent Turkey 67
 Turkey Extensions 68

MOROCCO

Morocco Introduction 69
Morocco Select & Mix 70
 Morocco in Splendour 71
 Complete Morocco 72
 Imperial Cities and Desert 73
 Royal Cities ex Casablanca 74
 Morocco Extensions 75

OMAN

Classic Oman 76
 Frankincense and Mirages 77

IRAN

Glorious Iran 78

LEBANON

Classic Lebanon 79

Experience the Innovative Benefits

At Innovative Travel, we understand that a holiday is so much more than a break - it is a chance to experience regions of the world you may have been dreaming about for your entire life. Great importance is placed on ensuring that your time exploring our destinations is memorable. From the moment you step off the plane, you will receive the benefit of 30 years' experience, local experts, carefully vetted accommodation, and many more of the thoughtful little extras that ensure your holiday is as perfect as possible. At Innovative Travel, we take great pride in helping thousands of people turn their dreams into cherished memories. So where do you dream of visiting?

✓ 30 Years of Experience

In 2020, Innovative Travel celebrates 30 years of helping international travellers to experience the wonders of the Ancient Kingdoms. From the days of organising the outdoor Dame Malvina Major concert at the Pyramids in 1996, to the thousands of clients who have joined us for a pilgrimage to the ANZAC day commemorations in Turkey, Innovative Travel has the experience to make your holiday everything you have dreamt of.

✓ Local Representatives

Many of our local operators have worked with us from the very beginning, and have forged strong relationships with the team here at Innovative Travel. You will benefit from our representatives in most cities in the Middle East, Greece, Turkey, Morocco, and with all the destinations we offer, you can relax knowing that our friends are nearby and willing to help in any way.

✓ 24/7 Assistance

Wherever your journey with Innovative Travel takes you, you can relax knowing you have full 24/7 wraparound support with you every step of the way. With local representatives in most cities in the regions, as well as a phone line staffed 24 hours a day here in New Zealand, multiple tiers of support are on hand to ensure that any local, unexpected disruption is sorted out on the spot, allowing you to get on with your exploration.

✓ Private airport transfers

After a long-haul flight, the unfamiliarity of a large airport and myriad transport options to your accommodation can create stress for some travellers. This is why every Innovative Travel itinerary includes Private airport transfers with drivers in A/C vehicles. Your first experience of a new country will be full of wonder as you watch the local area whiz by through the window of your car, safe in the knowledge your professional driver will deliver you as expected to your hotel.

✓ VIP Meet & Assistance

Travelling to an exotic destination can be a little intimidating for some, which is why Innovative Travel can help from the very moment you step off the plane, with VIP Meet & Assistance inside immigration available in many destinations, and included in every Egypt package. Our local operator will be there to help you with Visa and immigration processes, and guide you all the way to your private transportation, ensuring you begin your exploration in the best possible way.

✓ Special Experiences

The comfort provided by choosing a holiday with carefully inspected accommodation and sightseeing packages is great, but most travellers have their own idea as to what they want to experience when visiting other countries. Innovative Travel has many special and exclusive experiences, to help you create a holiday which may be tailored to your requirements.

✓ English Speaking Guides

Our network of professional, local guides have been carefully selected for their understanding of international travellers and their passion for sharing their home country. Friendly and welcoming, our English speaking guides will discuss options available to ensure that you get the most out of your time with them and that any particular activities you want to do can be accommodated.

✓ Egypt - Your Special Keys to this Ancient Kingdom

Your holiday is off to a seamless start, as you are met inside immigration, with your Egyptian visa ready on arrival. Express through immigration and meet your guide on the other side. Collect your bags and transfer to your selected hotel (visa offer valid for UK, NZ, USA, Australian & Canadian passport holders). With local representatives in Alexandria, Cairo, Hurgada, Luxor, Aswan & Abu Simbel, benefit from true local backup, in-depth knowledge and experience. Let Innovative Travel take you to discover this incredible country.

A Guide to Icons

Knowing where you want to travel to is often the easy part. More of a challenge can be in deciding how to travel. There are many different kinds of holidays you can choose from, and this brochure features many travel style options. This brief rundown will help you to ensure the holiday you choose is the right fit for you.



Private Holiday

The perfect getaways for solo travellers, couples, or small groups of friends and families. Private transfers, guides, and sightseeing make these itineraries just for you.



Select & Mix

Included in the price are multiple options for Select & Mix Experiences days, which can be dropped into the itinerary, allowing you to customise your holiday.



Coach Tour

Get on board with these itineraries which transport you around all the unmissable sites and experiences of a destination. With set departures and programmes, the shared cost nature of these holidays make destinations more accessible.



Small Group Tour

Join a small group of likeminded travellers to explore exotic destinations in comfort. Usually including welcome dinners, these holidays are a great way to meet new friends while discovering the world.



Cruise

Some say the ultimate way to experience a destination is on board a boutique cruise ship – your floating hotel taking you from place to place. With land accommodation also included, these itineraries offer the best of both worlds.

Holiday Style



Foodie Tour

Bring your appetite and get ready to explore the cuisine of a destination like a local when you see this icon. These special experiences can be tailored on the spot depending on tastes, and always satisfy the soul as well as the stomach.



Cooking Class

Gain a deeper understanding of local life by experiencing a cooking class while you are away, then bring the flavours back home with you. A cooking lesson is a perfect way to remember and share your travel experience when you return from your holidays.



Wildlife

With a very careful vetting process in place, Innovative Travel can offer some truly unforgettable wildlife experiences which you can trust to be ethical and sustainable.



History

The world is full of fascinating and important historical sites. Innovative Travel has spent 30 years crafting itineraries which include both ancient and more recent locations which bring history to life.



Walking

Many Innovative Travel itineraries include days in which walking is the preferred mode of transport. A more leisurely way of exploring means more time to experience local life.

Activities



Urban Excursions

Go behind the scenes of the great cities of the world with local guides helping you to discover secret places and fascinating stories.



Meet the Locals

Visit a local family to gain the ultimate insight into different ways of life. With time to experience their food and culture, as well as time to simply chat, these experiences are a holiday highlight for many.



Beach Break

Seeing all the sites and experiencing all that a destination has to offer is great, but it is also important to relax. This icon means you have time up your sleeve to simply flop down and relax for a day.



Cultural Experience

One of the main reasons we travel is to explore other cultures, and most Innovative Travel itineraries will include shows, museums, galleries, or other cultural experiences.



Hands on Experience

Roll up your sleeves and give something new a go, or hone existing talents and passions with an Innovative Travel Hands on Experience such as a photography course, pottery lesson, or horse trek.

Your Guide to the Ancient Kingdoms



1 Watch the sunset over the sand dunes of the Sahara Desert, then spend a night under the stars in a Bedouin camp.



2 Explore the stunning world heritage city of Porto including a visit to a famed local winery.



3 Walk the halls of Alhambra, where Christopher Columbus received royal support for his expedition from Ferdinand and Isabella in 1492.



4 Drive your way through Piedmont, discovering why this region was home to the Kings of Italy.



9 Experience the day-to-day life inside the Old City of Jerusalem, the heart of the three great monotheistic religions of the world.



10 Experience the wonder of walking through the narrow siq pathway to the famed Treasury of the ancient Rose Red City of Petra.



11 Marvel at the only remaining Great Wonder of the World, the incomparable Great Pyramid of Giza.



12 Feel the pulse of this electrifying city in the midst of desert, home to the 2020 World Expo



5 Discover your own vantage point to watch an unforgettable sunset over the sparkling Aegean in Santorini



6 Experience New Zealand's deep connection to Turkey at ANZAC Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula.



7 Discover why Cyprus has been attracting visitors since the 10th millennium BC, and is fast becoming the must-visit Mediterranean destination today.



8 Explore the ancient Roman city of Baalbek, once known as Heliopolis, home to some of the largest and best preserved Roman buildings.



13 Watch as giant sea turtles climb up the beach to lay their eggs at the Ras Al Jinz Nature Reserve



14 Experience Persian hospitality as you explore sites including Persepolis, capital of the Archaemenid Empire founded by Cyrus the Great

Are you an Innovative Traveller?



The joy of experiencing new cultures has the ability to change us. Opening the senses and the soul, exploring new destinations, new flavours, and new traditions are, for many, the fondest of memories we collect on our journey through life. Living in a time where international travel is more accessible than ever means we have options our ancestors could only ever dream of – or in fact never knew existed!

Innovative Travel is proud of our 30 year history helping travellers to explore exotic destinations around the world. Our travellers come to us with a dream, often nothing more than a desire to place themselves in the middle of an experience they may have seen as a child or later in life. Around these experiences, the Innovative Travel team has crafted hundreds of itineraries which feature the unmissable as well as the secrets of each destination.

When you travel, you expect a certain level of comfort and security. You want things to run smoothly but also want to take advantage of the unplanned opportunities which can pop up. You will have a well-developed idea of what you want to do, but you may not be comfortable trusting internet booking services in foreign lands.

With 24/7 wraparound support available in every destination, accommodation which is personally inspected and vetted by Innovative Travel, arrival and departure airport transfers included in every itinerary, and local support in over 80 cities in the Middle East and Mediterranean, booking a holiday with Innovative Travel allows you to relax and get on with what you want to do – turn your dreams into cherished memories.



Special Occasions

Many Innovative Travellers have a particular reason for visiting a destination. It may be a show or sports event, a life milestone, a club on a special pilgrimage, or even a veteran travelling with their loved ones. Each one of these reasons is as unique as it is special, and Innovative Travel is particularly proud of the many travellers whom we have helped to experience these meaningful occasions.

Innovative Travel works closely with those arranging group travel to our destinations to ensure each itinerary we craft is perfectly tailored to the group. Often with diverse interests and ages, although always with a common theme uniting the party, an Innovative Travel group celebration takes advantage of 30 years of connecting travellers with local experts. Whether it is a memorial tour to Gallipoli, the Western Front, or other battlefield sites, a foodie tour with renowned local chefs, a hosted religious pilgrimage, a wedding anniversary floating through the rivers of the Nile, or any other special occasion, Innovative Travel can turn your dreams into reality.

Group travel allows connected people to create shared memories, and is also more accessible. If you have something special in your future, use this brochure to spark your imagination, then get in touch with us to talk through your ideal options.





Super deluxe (luxury)



Deluxe (approx 5 star)



First (approx 4 star)



Tourist (approx 3 star)

A guide to accommodation style

The feeling you get when you first arrive at your holiday accommodation, and when you first open the door to your room, has the ability to define your travels – both in good and bad ways! But how can you decide where to stay based on a few photos and dubiously accurate reviews on the internet?

Around the world, hotels and other accommodation are rated in numerous ways – most commonly using local star ratings. This attempt at standardising service expectations is great in theory, however can have issues where the ratings bodies in various countries differ in their measurement standards.

Because of this, Innovative Travel, and our local representatives, personally inspect every hotel used in each itinerary. Using our own criteria, we rate not just the hotels but also the various room categories, based on western standards which are applied internationally, allowing you to compare “apples with apples”. We understand (because we asked!) that the star rating is not as important to Innovative Travellers as the specific room. A great room with a beautiful view in a three or four star hotel may be far better than a small room next to a main road in a five star hotel. For this reason, we will often only use certain accommodation if the room category is deemed acceptable for your chosen class.

The hotels are carefully selected by Innovative Travel, including some boutique hotels, with incredible service but limited availability due to their popularity. It is for this reason that we may occasionally confirm your hotel room a bit later in the process. We will work our way through a list of great rooms in our vetted hotels, getting you the best possible option from our approved list.

We all have different priorities when we determine what makes accommodation great. Some relish a lively part of town with options for food, drink, and shopping. For others, a peaceful retreat after a day of sightseeing is most important. A lot of travellers want to experience something a bit different, such as a cave hotel in Cappadocia, Turkey. Many like sleek and modern décor, while others want to feel like they are a part of the history of a hotel, such as at the Sofitel Legend Old Cataract in Aswan, Egypt, where Dame Agatha Christie wrote Death on the Nile, and dignitaries such as Winston Churchill have suites named after them following long-term stays.

When planning your explorations with Innovative Travel, we will work with you to ensure that from the first moment you step into the reception or open the door to your room, the accommodation we provide is a wonderful fit for your holiday.

Multi Country

Although the world is becoming more accessible each year, Innovative Travellers understand that combining multiple destinations into one trip makes for a more enriching and cost-effective experience. With 30 years' experience in the Ancient Kingdoms, Innovative Travel has helped thousands of travellers to explore multiple destination.

From our original Ancient Kingdoms tour of Egypt, Turkey, and Greece, to the ever popular Egypt, Israel, and Jordan combination, Innovative Travel specialises in crafting itineraries which put many ticks next to any bucket list.

Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Airport assistance upon arrival at each destination
- ✓ Local operators in most cities in each country
- ✓ Departure and arrival transfers to and from each airport
- ✓ Border crossing and visa assistance available
- ✓ Multiple travel styles and classes available for most itineraries
- ✓ 24/7 local support in each destination
- ✓ One single point of contact throughout journey planning
- ✓ 24/7 New Zealand-based phone assistance if required





Egypt, Israel, Jordan

Private Holiday, Cruise and Coach Tour



- Have ancient sites of the Pharaohs, Nabateans, Saladin, Hadrian, and Lawrence of Arabia brought to life by experienced local guides
- Experience the sensory delight of a float in the Red and the Dead Seas
- Savour regional cuisine including lunch in a Druze village, a night in a kibbutz and a wine tasting on the Golan Heights

22 Days ex Cairo or Amman

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome meet, assist and visa on arrival. Transfer to your Pyramids area hotel.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Awake in the shadows of the Pyramids before spending a day of discovery as your Egyptologist unlocks the secrets of the Giza Plateau and Sakkara.

Day 3: Cairo - Luxor (BLD)

Fly to Luxor and join your Nile cruise. Discover Karnak and Luxor Temples and the Avenue of the Sphinxes.

Day 4: Luxor - Edfu (BLD)

Retrace the footsteps of Howard Carter on the West Bank of the Nile, including the Valley of the Kings, Temple of Queen Hatesput, and the Colossus of Memnon.

Day 5: Edfu - Aswan (BLD)

Watch the life on the Nile as you sail along on your cruise before going ashore to explore the Temple of Horus and stunning Kom Ombo Temples.

Day 6: Aswan (BLD)

Discover Nubian Egypt before a felucca cruise towards the cataracts. Later, visit Lake Nasser, The Temple of Philae and the unfinished Obelisk.

Day 7: Aswan - Cairo (B)

Fly to Cairo for the culmination of your pharaonic experience with a tour through the treasures at Egyptian Museum finishing at the famous Khan El Kahili markets.

Day 8: Cairo - Tel Aviv (B)

Fly to Tel Aviv to join your coach tour. Remainder of the day at leisure. (Air ticket additional)

Day 9: Tel Aviv - Caesarea (BLD)

Today visit the ruins of Judea and a Druze village for a local lunch. Later, explore Mt Carmel, and Haifa.

Day 10: Upper Galilee (BD)

Explore Safed's ancient synagogues, before visiting Golan Height and an afternoon wine tasting.

Day 11: Sea of Galilee - Nazareth - Jerusalem (B)

Today visit Tiberias, Jesus's ministry at Capernaum, Nazareth's Church of Annunciation, and the mosaic of Biet Alpha.

Day 12: Jerusalem Old City & Bethlehem (B)

Step through the pages of the Old and New Testament at The Mount of Olives, the Room of the Last Supper on Mt Zion, and The Western Wall. Walk the Via Dolorosa where Jesus carried his cross before visiting Bethlehem.

Day 13: Jerusalem (BD)

Visit the Shrine of the Book, home to the Dead Sea Scrolls, before a visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. Later, experience a Middle Eastern dinner and show at the Tower of David Museum.

Day 14: Dead Sea - Jerusalem (B)

Drive to the lowest place on earth - the Dead Sea - to experience the strange sensation of floating atop the water. Later, visit the cliff fortress of Masada.

Day 15: Jerusalem - Eilat (B)

Fly to Eilat for the remainder of the day at leisure. A good opportunity to relax by the beach.

Day 16: Eilat (B)

Day at leisure on the Red Sea to relax or try some water activities

Day 17: Eilat - Wadi Rum (BD)

Cross into Jordan and onto Lawrence of Arabia's Wadi Rum for an unforgettable night in a Bedouin tent.

Day 18: Petra (B)

Explore the other-worldly landscapes of Wadi Rum by 4wd, then on to Petra.

Day 19: Petra (B)

Discover the spectacular Rose Red City of Petra, including the Treasury, and Royal Tombs.

Day 20: Petra - Dead Sea (B)

Travel to the Dead Sea via Madaba - City of Mosaics - and Mt Nebo.



Tourist Class

from NZ\$8995 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$9995 pp tw'n

Deluxe Class

from NZ\$11,095 pp tw'n


What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Saturday

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA) / Airport Greeting on Arrival
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 4 nights Nile cruise - all meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal driver in private A/C vehicle in Jordan and Egypt, A/C coach transportation in Israel
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist Guide in Cairo, group sightseeing on the Nile Cruise and Israel coach Tour, private sightseeing with English speaking local guides in Jordan
- Domestic flights Cairo - Luxor, Aswan - Cairo, Tel Aviv - Eilat
- Daily drinking water

 2 Guaranteed

Day 21: Dead Sea - Jerash - Amman (B)

Head to Jerash, one of the best preserved Greco Roman cities on the Middle East, before finishing in Amman.


Day 22: Amman (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.





Israel Wonders & Jordan

Coach Tour   

Highlights

- Explore the stunning fortified city of Jaffa, the ancient port where Andromeda of Greek mythology was offered as a sacrifice to appease Poseidon
- Experience the wondrous sites of the Old City of Jerusalem and Bethlehem
- Discover the ancient Rose Red City of Petra, lost to antiquity for millennia

11 Days ex Tel Aviv

Day 1: Tel Aviv

On arrival you will be met by a representative of our local operator and then transfer to your Tel Aviv hotel. Remainder of day at leisure.

Day 2: Tel Aviv – Coastal Plains – Galilee (B)

Start your day with a short walking tour in picturesque alleys of the old, fortified town of Jaffa. Drive northwards along the coast to the archaeological ruins of Caesarea, built by Herod the Great. From there go on to visit Megiddo. Continue to Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee.

Day 3: Sea of Galilee (B)

Visit Capernaum to see the synagogue where Jesus preached. Continue onto Tabgha, where Jesus multiplied five loaves and two fishes. Ascend to the top of the Mt. of Beatitudes and then the Golan Heights.

Day 4: Lower Galilee – Jerusalem (B)

This morning visit the holy sites of Nazareth - See the Basilica of the Annunciation, and visit Mary's Well and the Church of St. Joseph. Visit the wedding church at Cana where Jesus turned water into wine. See the ancient city of Beit She'an, then ascend the mountains to the holy city of Jerusalem.

Day 5: Masada – Dead Sea (B)

Depart Jerusalem via the Inn of the Good Samaritan. Visit the caves of Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Ascend the mighty fortress of Masada - the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots in their war against the Romans. Experience a 'float' in the salty waters of the Dead Sea.

Day 6: Jerusalem – Old City (B)

Start with a spectacular view of Jerusalem from Mount Scopus, and then onto the Garden of Gethsemane. In the Old City visit the Western Wall and the Temple Mount. Walk the Via Dolorosa until the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Visit the tomb of King David and the Room of the Last Supper on Mount Zion.

Day 7: Jerusalem – New City (B)

See the famous Dead Sea Scrolls at the Shrine of the Book. View a detailed model of Jerusalem from Herodian times. Visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. Explore the quaint village of Ein Karem where John the Baptist was born. Drive by the Knesset and the beautiful campus of Hebrew University. Continue to Bethlehem to visit Shepherds Fields, Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity.

Day 8: Jerusalem – Jerash – Amman (B)

Transfer to Sheikh Hussein Bridge for border crossing to enter Jordan. Explore Jerash, the ancient Roman city of the Decapolis. Visit the Citadel and Roman Amphitheatre on a panoramic city tour of Amman.

Day 9: Amman – Petra (B)

Depart along the Desert Highway to Wadi Musa - the village of Petra. Depart for a spectacular tour exploring the rose-red city of Petra. Enter the narrow siq and follow its twists and turns, before revealing the ancient city of Petra. Visit the Treasury, and explore hundreds of buildings, tombs, temples, and a 3,000-seat theatre from the first-century AD.

Day 10: Petra – Wadi Rum – Kings Highway – Amman (B)

Travel south to the towering mountains and rock formations of Wadi Rum, which mesmerised Lawrence of Arabia. Drive through the stunning desert landscapes on a 4WD safari, visiting the Lawrence Spring and Khazali Canyon. Later drive back to Amman along the Kings Highway stopping at Madaba and Mt. Nebo.

Day 11: Amman (B)

Departure transfer to Amman airport or cross the Allenby Bridge and transfer back to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv for your flight.



Tourist Class

from NZ\$4791 pp tw'n

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$5540 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$6530 pp tw'n

Superior First Class

from NZ\$8444 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs on Thursdays

Tour inclusions:

- Airport greeting on arrival
- Private airport transfers
- Welcome briefing
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Transportation by A/C Coach
- Group sightseeing with English speaking guide





A Journey through Ancient Civilisations

Small Group Tour, Greek Island Hopping,
Private Touring & Nile Cruise



Superior Tourist Class
from NZ\$7499 pp tw'n

Highlights

- From Troy to the Pyramids of Giza; from Constantinople and Thebes to Athens, uncover the treasures of civilisations past – and stand in the shadows of history
- Visit the original location of three of the seven wonders of the ancient world
- Recount legends of past whilst cruising on the Nile or relaxing in the idyllic beauty of the Greek islands

25 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Istanbul

Arrival transfer to your hotel. This evening meet your fellow tour companions.

Day 2: Istanbul (B)

Visit the magnificent Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque and the Grand Bazaar.

Day 3: Istanbul – Canakkale (BD)

Morning departure to Gallipoli to visit Anzac Cove, Chunuk Bair and Lone Pine before crossing the Dardanelles to Canakkale.

Day 4: Troy – Pergamum – Kusadasi (BD)

Morning drive to Troy, site of the legendary Trojan War. Cross the Ida Mountains and visit the Pergamum Acropolis before continuing to Kusadasi.

Day 5: Ephesus – Kusadasi (BD)

Visit Ephesus and the House of the Virgin Mary.

Day 6: Hierapolis – Marmaris (BD)

Visit the ancient Hierapolis Roman health spa ruins and take time to explore the lime cascades of Pamukkale. Continue to Marmaris.

Day 7: Marmaris – Rhodes (B)

Depart the small group tour and begin your island hopping programme with a ferry to Rhodes. Afternoon to explore this ancient city.

Day 8: Rhodes (B)

Day at leisure

Day 9: Rhodes – Milos (B)

Morning flight to Milos known for its beaches and relaxed Greek island lifestyle.

Day: 10 -11 Milos (B)

Free time in Milos to experience the atmosphere of this beautiful Island.

Day 12: Milos – Santorini (B)

Ferry trip through the Cycladic islands to Santorini

Day: 13 – 14 Santorini (B)

Days at leisure to explore this stunning island paradise.

Day 15: Santorini – Athens (B)

Fast ferry from the islands of the Aegean to Athens – the heart of Greek history.

Day 16: Athens (B)

Morning tour of Athens including Constitution Square, Hadrian's Arch, the Acropolis.

Day 17: Athens – Cairo (B)

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Cairo (not included). Warm welcome, visa assistance and transfer to your Pyramids hotel. Take in spectacular views of the pyramids area.

Day 18: Cairo (B)

Private tour of the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, the ancient capital of Memphis and the Step Pyramids of Sakkara with an Egyptologist guide. (B)

Day 19: Cairo – Aswan (BLD)

Fly to Aswan and board your cruise boat. Visit the restored Philae Temple and Aswan Dams

Day 20: Aswan – Edfu (BLD)

Cruise down the Nile visiting Kom Ombo, the crocodile Temple stopping at Edfu.

Day 21: Edfu – Luxor (BLD)

Visit Edfu Temple one of the most complete Temples in Egypt and cruise to Luxor and explore the Temple complex of Luxor and Karnak.

Day 22: Luxor (B)

Disembark your cruise and travel to the Valley of the Kings visiting the tombs of the pharaohs and the sites of the West Bank. Overnight in Luxor.

Day 23: Luxor – Cairo (B)

Fly to Cairo and have a private tour of the Cairo Museum.

Day 24: Cairo (B)

Private tour to explore Old Cairo and wander through Khan el Khali markets.

Day 25: Cairo (B)

Farewell to your Ancient Civilisation masterclass.

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs Saturdays from 09 April to October





Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service (NZ, AU, USA) inside immigration in Egypt
- Airport greeting on arrival in Istanbul
- Shared airport transfers in Istanbul, Greek Islands, private in Cairo
- Accommodation in Moderate First Class hotels with private facilities
- 3 Night Nile Cruise – All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout; A/C coach in Turkey.
- Group sightseeing on Turkey Coach Tour, Athens & Nile Cruise with English Speaking Guides, Private Sightseeing with Egyptologist Guide in Cairo
- Flights; Rhodes – Milos, Cairo – Aswan, Luxor – Cairo
- Fast Ferry Milos – Santorini – Athens
- Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel





Best of Turkey and Greece

Coach Tour and Cruise    



Superior Tourist Class
from NZ\$4791 pp tw'n

Highlights

- Experience the moving sites of Gallipoli – Chunuk Bair, Lone Pine Cemetery, and Anzac Cove
- Explore the Greek islands with ease in the comfort of a cruise
- Discover the antiquity of ancient Greek sites such as the Acropolis

11 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. On arrival please clear customs and immigration. In arrivals area you will be met by a representative and then transferred to your tour hotel. Remainder of day at leisure. Tonight meet your tour companions at a Welcome briefing. Your accommodation is reserved for two nights on a bed and breakfast basis.

Day 2: Istanbul (B)

Start your discovery of Istanbul with a visit to Topkapi Palace (excluding harem), residence of the Ottoman Sultans from 1453 to 1852. Visit the Hippodrome, once the centre of life, where chariot racing and other public events took place. Continue to the Blue Mosque, built between 1609 and 1616 and famous for its blue ceramic tiles. Next see St. Sophia, a church converted to a mosque by the Ottomans, now a museum, and one of the world's greatest architectural wonders. Your last stop will be the famous Grand Bazaar the world's largest and oldest covered market with over 60 streets.

+ Option: Dinner with belly dancing. (Supplement applies)

Day 3: Istanbul - Gallipoli - Dardanelles - Canakkale (BD)

Morning departure for Gallipoli. On arrival visit Anzac Cove, Lone Pine Cemetery, and Chunuk Bair, then across the Dardanelles to Canakkale for your overnight accommodation at your hotel.

Day 4: Canakkale - Troy - Pergamum - Izmir (BLD)

Today visit Troy, famous for its wooden horse. Before arriving into Asclepion, join a local family for lunch and the opportunity to learn more of local life. Then continue to Pergamum to visit the ancient Medical Centre in Asclepion and continue to Izmir for two nights.

Day 5: Ephesus & St. Mary's House - Izmir (B)

Tour the famous ruins of Ephesus an important cultural centre of the ancient world and explore the 2000 year-

old marble streets, the theatre, the library of Celsius, and Hadrian's Temple. Continue to St Mary's stone cottage, where it is believed Virgin Mary spent her last years, accompanied by St. John.

+ Option: Dinner at a local restaurant (Supplement applies)

Day 6: Izmir - Greek Islands Cruise (BD)

After breakfast, transfer to the pier and embark on a cruise ship at Kusadasi for 3 nights on the Greek Islands.

Day 7: Cruise - Rhodes (BLD)

An early morning arrival in Rhodes, the island of roses. You have a full day to explore on your own. Join an optional sightseeing tour or simply take a taxi to one of the many nearby beaches for a swim in the crystal clear Aegean waters.

Day 8: Heraklion - Santorini (BLD)

Early morning arrival into Heraklion, Crete. Here you may discover the town on your own or join an optional excursion to the Palace of Knossos. Your next port of call is Santorini where you are free to explore the land of the fabled Atlantis.

Day 9: Santorini - Athens (B)

Arrive in Athens and after breakfast disembark from the cruise and transfer to your Athens hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to discover this ancient city.

Day 10: Athens (B)

A morning city tour includes the famed Acropolis, with its dominating views of the city, and the site of the renowned Parthenon, followed by a visit to the Acropolis Museum. The afternoon is at leisure. Overnight in Athens.

Day 11: Athens (B)

Today you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

What you need to know:

Departures:

Thursdays Apr 16 - October 29

Tour inclusions:

- Airport greeting on arrival
- Shared airport transfers
- Welcome briefing
- Accommodation in First Class Hotels with private facilities
- 3 Night Tourist Class Mediterranean Cruise – All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C Coach transportation in Turkey and Athens.
- Group sightseeing with English Speaking Guides
- Portage at Hotels

 4 Guaranteed





Spain, Portugal & Morocco

Coach Tour    



Tourist Class
from NZ\$3917 pp tw'n

First Class
from NZ\$4238 pp tw'n

Highlights

- Be captivated by the Moorish, Colonial, Arabic and African influence on architecture
- Attend the Procession of Candles at the world heritage sanctuary of Fatima
- Explore the Imperial Cities and Medinas in Marrakech and Fez

18 Days ex Madrid

Day 1: Tuesday: Madrid - Avila - Salamanca - Porto

This morning drive to Avila - a city that preserves its medieval wall - then to Salamanca. Rest of the day at leisure.

Day 2: Wednesday: Porto (B)

Tour of Porto, including the Cathedral, Stock Exchange building and Santa Clara Church. In the afternoon, optional visit to a famous winery.

Day 3: Thursday: Porto - Coimbra - Fatima (B)

Departure to Coimbra with some free time before departing to Fatima. World Pilgrimage Sanctuary with its impressive Basilica. This evening optional visit to the Procession of Candles.

Day 4: Friday: Fatima - Batalha - Nazare - Alcobaça - Lisbon (B)

Departure to the Batalha Monastery, a masterpiece of Gothic and Manueline design. Continue to the picturesque fishing town of Nazare before continuing to Alcobaça and then to Lisbon.

+ **Option:** Attend a show of Fado, typical Portuguese song and music.

Day 5: Saturday: Lisbon (B)

Morning sightseeing tour of the ancient Olissipo. Afternoon at leisure for you to visit the nostalgic corners of Alfama Quarter, with old buildings nested in narrow twisting "Ruas" and "tabernas."

Day 6: Sunday: Lisbon - Caceres - Cordoba (BD)

Early departure to Caceres to experience the city's blend of Roman, Islamic, Northern Gothic and Italian Renaissance architecture. Afterwards, continue on towards Cordoba.

Day 7: Monday: Cordoba - Seville (BD)

Morning tour of the Mosque and other sites including the Jewish Quarter. In the afternoon, drive to Seville.

Day 8: Tuesday: Seville (BD)

Morning city tour visiting the exterior of the Cathedral, Santa Cruz quarter, Maria Luisa Park and Plaza de España. Afternoon at leisure.

+ **Option:** Flamenco tour

Day 9: Wednesday: Seville - Ronda - Costa del Sol (BD)

Drive south passing typical villages. Reach Ronda; free time to admire this town of Celtic origin and the marvellous view of the valley and mountain range. In the afternoon continue on to the Costa del Sol.

Day 10: Thursday: Costa del Sol (BD)

Day at leisure to visit the wonderful beaches of the Costa del Sol and surrounding areas. Optional tours.

Day 11: Friday: Costa del Sol - Tarifa - Tangier - Rabat - Casablanca (B)

Drive along the picturesque route from Costa del Sol to Tarifa. Travel by boat on a short trip on the Strait of Gibraltar into Africa. From Tangier, drive southwards to Rabat for a city tour before departure to Casablanca.

Day 12: Saturday: Casablanca - Marrakech (BD)

Morning city tour through the most interesting sites of Casablanca. Later, depart for Marrakech where sightseeing includes historical sites and a walk around the medina, souks and the magic Jma El Fna Square - packed with fortune tellers, acrobats, and dancers.

+ **Option:** Dinner and show at Chez Ali Fantasia

Day 13: Sunday: Marrakech - Meknes - Fez (BD)

Morning departure to Meknes, old walled imperial city in the heart of the Mid Atlas Mountains. Visit the great Bab Al Mansour Gate, Morocco's most beautiful Gate. Afterwards departure to Fez.

Day 14: Monday: Fez (BD)

Morning city tour visiting the most interesting sites of Fez. Afternoon at leisure.

+ **Option:** Dinner with show

Day 15: Tuesday: Fez - Tangier - Tarifa - Costa del Sol (BD)

Morning departure to Tangier. Transfer to the pier to board the ferry to return across the strait of Gibraltar back to Spain and on to Costa del Sol.

Day 16: Wednesday: Costa del Sol (BD)

Day at leisure to experience the wonderful beaches of the Costa del Sol and surrounding areas. Optional tours available.

What you need to know:

Departures:

Tuesdays 07 April - 27 October 2020

Tour Inclusions:

- Accommodation in tourist or superior tourist class with private facilities
- Transportation as per itinerary in air-conditioned deluxe coach
- Professional English-speaking tour escort throughout the tour (although tour is multi-lingual)
- Panoramic and sightseeing tours with local guides as per itinerary
- Daily breakfast and 12 dinners

Day 17: Thursday: Costa del Sol - Granada (BD)

Depart for the city of Granada, last stronghold of the Moorish Kingdoms up to 1492. Visit the world famous Alhambra complex and Generalife Gardens. Afternoon at leisure.

+ **Option:** Gipsy Flamenco show at Sacromonte Square

Day 18: Friday: Granada - Toledo - Madrid (B)

Drive northward toward Toledo for a short guided tour through its narrow streets. Then proceed with a visit to a famous "Damasquinado" (gold and silver inlaying in iron) factory. Continue to Madrid and the end of services.



Egypt

The only survivor from the original list of the Great Wonders of the World, the Great Pyramid of Giza, may be the quintessential Egyptian experience, but these days visitors to the intoxicating land of Egypt are spoilt for choice with astounding ancient monuments, museums, warmly hospitable people, amazing food, vibrant markets, and incredible artistic and cultural diversity.

The Nile has long been the focal point of Egyptian civilisation, and today provides a wondrous way to experience temples and other monuments, as well as the day-to-day life of locals living alongside these life giving waters.



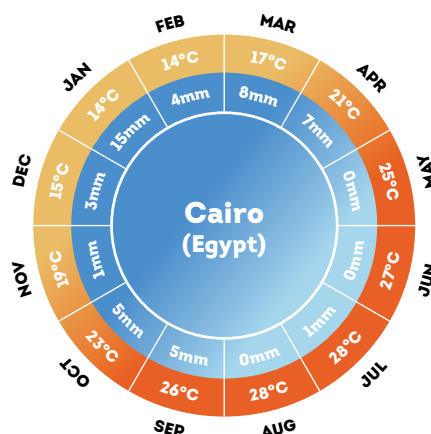
Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Warm Welcome Visa assistance inside immigration included with every itinerary
- ✓ University-qualified Egyptologist guides
- ✓ 24/7 local back up and telephone assistance
- ✓ Preferential access to pyramids, tombs and other sites
- ✓ Local offices and support in Cairo, Aswan, Luxor, Alexandria, Hurghada, Abu Simbel, Sharm el Sheikh
- ✓ Personally inspected and vetted accommodation and cruise options
- ✓ Female guides available
- ✓ 30 years of continuous local experience

Climate and best time to travel

Many of Egypt's most popular sites are located in or on the fringes of desert. With this in mind, climate is an important factor for many when deciding when to visit Egypt. The winter months, running from October through to April, provide milder conditions for mid-day sightseeing. Outside of these months, morning and evening sightseeing is preferred.

The Muslim holy month of Ramadan will run from 23 April to 23 May in 2020. During this period some local businesses operate on reduced hours, many restaurants operate on normal hours.



Select & Mix Experiences

Take one of our itineraries and make it your own by selecting one or more of the below Select & Mix options.



Discover how the ancient Egyptians first perfected their Pyramid design at the Dahshur complex, including the Bent and Red Pyramids.



Step quite literally into history as you enter the Great Pyramid, then view the ancient solar barge museum.



Take a guided walk through Medieval Cairo and the tent makers market, before having a local tea experience.



Discover the modern life of a Cairo local on a guided foodie tour featuring everyday food and local delicacies.



Have a hands-on cooking school experience learning to cook Egyptian and other Middle Eastern food with a mother and daughter team.



Discover the lives of Egypt's Royals at the former Royal Residence Abdeen Palace's War, Peace, Royal and Silverware Museums.



Take the opportunity to enter the previously closed and now stunningly restored tombs of Seti I or Nefertiti - strictly limited daily numbers.



View the world's largest open air museum from above with a Hot Air Balloon experience over Luxor.



Explore two of the least visited temple sites in Egypt: Dendera and Abydos - featuring of the enigmatic Dendera "lightbulb," and the Abydos King List.



Take a guided walk through the Aswan markets, including a café break and a backgammon lesson with some locals.



Explore Southern Egyptian culture as you mingle with locals at a Nubian Village on Soheil Island.



Experience life from a bygone era with high tea at the Old Cataract Hotel, where Dame Agatha Christie wrote Death on the Nile



View the strikingly vivid wall decorations in the Tombs of the Nobles, a fascinating and beautiful record of daily life from 4,000 years ago.



Learn the story of the Goddess Isis and God Osiris at the unforgettable Sound and Light Show at the Phillae Temple.



Discover many of the species represented on the walls of Egyptian tombs with a half day guided bird watching trip



Explore Old Alexandria and the Corniche on a horse-drawn Caleche ride.



Tour to the battlefield and cemetery at El Alamein with a historian guide (tours in Cairo also available).



View the ruins Cleopatra's Palace with a dive in the Mediterranean.



Experience another of Egypt's many cultures with a Bedouin experience, including 4wd trip, village visit, and BBQ dinner.



Snorkel amongst the stunningly vibrant reefs of the Red Sea off the Mahmya Eco-Tourism Island.

Cairo

Luxor

Aswan

Alexandria

Hurghada / Red Sea

Nile Cruise Ships



TuYa

Our entry level cruise ship, which we rate as Moderate First Class, has 58 cabins and three suites, all of which feature panoramic windows, a swimming pool, and three bar/dining facilities.



Nile Goddess

Rated by Innovative Travel as First Class, this ship has 47 Deluxe cabins, 2 Senator Suites, and four Presidential Suites with private terrace. An outdoor swimming pool and spa with sauna and Jacuzzi are available.



Sonesta St George

One of our Deluxe rated ships, the St George has 47 Deluxe Cabins, 9 Presidential Suites, and one Royale Suite. The classically styled décor is complimented by a large outdoor pool with Jacuzzi, and five bar/restaurant areas including piano bar.



Star Goddess

Recently refurbished, the Star Goddess is another deluxe rated vessel, but a more intimate size. With only 33 suites, each with a terraced balcony, the smaller number of passengers are still afforded luxuries such as swimming pool, spa, Jacuzzi, and full size baths in each bathroom.



Oberoi Philae

Our platinum rated, top of the range Nile cruise ship, the more modern and elegant décor of this ship includes French balconies in all 22 cabins (36sqm) and several 55 sqm luxury suites including their own private deck with Jacuzzi.




Merit Dahabiya

A traditional sailing boat used since the time of the Pharaohs, Innovative Travel have exclusive access to a modern take on these elegant vessels. With only 10 cabins, a Nile cruise on a Dahabiya is a perfect for small groups and those wanting a truly authentic experience.





In the Footsteps of Pharaohs

Private or Small Group luxury holiday and Nile Cruise 

Highlights

- Cruise in refined luxury down the 'the Lifeblood of Egypt' discovering the ancient wonders that grace its shoreline
- Dine in the style of Kitchener at the 1902 Restaurant at the Old Cataract Hotel in Aswan
- Wander the streets of Medieval Cairo and dine in the surroundings that inspired literary giant Naguib Mahfouz

12 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome to Egypt. Meet, assist inside immigration & arrival transfer to the historic Mena House Hotel, sitting in the shadows of the great Pyramids of Giza.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Spend the day exploring the most illustrious sites of Pharaonic Cairo - the Great Pyramids of Giza, legendary Sphinx, the ancient capital of Memphis and the step pyramids of Sakkara.

Day 3: Cairo - Aswan (B)

Depart Cairo for Aswan. Gain an insight into Nubian trading life on the Nile at the Animalia Homemade Museum on Elephantine Island. Spend the afternoon overlooking cataracts of the Nile.

Day 4: Aswan (BD)

Day at leisure to soak up the essence of Aswan in preparation for a special culinary experience at Restaurant 1902 this evening.

 Optional excursion to Abu Simbel - see page 29

Day 5: Aswan (BLD)

From one experience to another after breakfast board your luxury Nile cruise ship, renowned for its service and elegance. After lunch visit the Nubian Museum before retiring to the boat for a welcome reception and dinner.

Day 6: Aswan - Edfu (BLD)

A day of travelling through the stories and legends of the Gods of Ancient Egypt with visits to Phillae Temple, Kom Ombo Temples.

Note:

- Cruise itinerary may be changed without prior notice due to navigational circumstances. The sequence of sightseeing and may vary is subject to change. Please use as a guide only.

Day 7: Edfu - Luxor (BLD)

Edfu Temple is brought to life by your resident Egyptologist. Spend the remainder of the day cruising up the Nile where life is seems timeless and unchanged.

Day 8: Luxor (BLD)

Uncover the hidden treasures, detailed carving, hieroglyphs and decorated ceilings of the tombs and Temples of Thebes with a tour to the West Bank of the Nile including the Valley of the Kings, Dier El Madina and Habu, returning to the East bank to view the magnificent Luxor Temple and follow the Avenue of the Sphinx to the Temple complex of Karnak.

Day 9: Luxor

Farewell your cruise. Day at leisure to explore Luxor. Or optional tour to Dendara home to the Temple of Hathor, Goddess of love and one of the best preserved temples in Egypt.

Day 10: Luxor - Cairo (B)

Fly back to Cairo and where a visit to the Egyptian Museum and explanations from your Egyptologist links together all the piece of the jigsaw of the past 9 days into a complete picture of Ancient Egypt.

Day 11 Cairo (BD)

Today is about Cairo, its opulence, famous mosques and cultural heart. In the afternoon walk through the streets of Medieval Fatimid Cairo, down Moez Street, into Khan el Khalili Market finishing with a dinner in the renowned Naguib Mahfouz Restaurant.

Day 12: Cairo (B)

Say farewell to Cairo and welcome to memories.



Super Deluxe Class

From NZ\$8175 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

24 Jan, 21 Feb, 20 Mar, 17 Apr, 15 May, 10 Jul, 07 Aug, 04 Sep, 02, 31 Oct, 28 Nov

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Superior Deluxe Accommodation with views and private facilities
- 4 Night Platinum Class Nile Cruise - All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Small group sightseeing with Egyptologist guide throughout
- Domestic flights; Cairo - Aswan, Luxor - Cairo
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes by Innovative Travel





Egypt of a Bygone Era

Boutique Small Group Tour or Private Holiday



Super Deluxe Class
from NZ\$6420 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

15 Jan; 19 Feb; 12 Mar; 16 Apr; 30 Apr;
24 Sep; 15 Oct; 07 Nov; 28 Nov; 10 Dec

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Welcome briefing
- Deluxe Class accommodation with private facilities
- 5 Night boutique Dahabiya Nile Cruise – All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Small group sightseeing with Egyptologist guide
- Domestic flights: Cairo – Luxor, Aswan – Cairo
- Daily drinking water

4 Guaranteed



Highlights

- Sail down the Nile on your luxury Dahabiya experiencing age old traditions along the banks of this life-giving river
- Watch the sun set or rise over the Pyramids and view the Nile from your hotel
- Recapture the golden era of travel while staying in historic palaces and colonial era hotels

12 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Tuesday: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and transfer to the Marriott Mena House, a beautifully restored palace hotel. Welcome drink in the shadow of the Pyramids.

Day 2: Wednesday: Cairo (B)

After breakfast take a tour of the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx with an Egyptologist guide. Then explore the ancient capital of Memphis and the Step Pyramids of Sakkara. This evening attend the Sound and Light Show at the Pyramids.

Day 3: Thursday: Cairo (B)

Today explore Old Cairo's Coptic Churches (including the Hanging Church), Roman Fortress and the unique Ben Ezra Synagogue. Later, visit the famous Egyptian museum to view the glittering treasures of the Pharaohs. Then join the lively Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

Day 4: Friday: Cairo – Luxor (B)

Morning flight to Luxor and transfer to the Sofitel Old Winter Palace, an historic British colonial era hotel located on the Nile Corniche. This afternoon free time savour the local atmosphere.

Day 5: Saturday: Luxor (BLD)

Today embark on a boutique Dahabiya to sail the Nile in style. Visit the temple complex of Karnak and the Luxor Temple build in the 14th century by two kings - Amenophis III and Ramses II. Overnight on the West Bank.

Day 6: Sunday: Luxor – Esna (BLD)

This morning visit the West Bank Necropolis, the burial ground of the Pharaohs – the Valley of the Kings – where Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922. Also visit the nearby Valley of the Queens, the mortuary temple of Hatchepsut, and the Colossi of Memnon. After lunch set sail for Esna. Moor tonight at an island and experience the tranquillity of the Nile.

Day 7: Monday: Esna – Edfu (BLD)

Sail towards Edfu, one of the best preserved temples of the Greco-Roman era, dedicated to Horus. Arrive at the temple by horse and carriage. Moor overnight beside Al Ramady Island.

Day 8: Tuesday: El Sheikh Fadd Island (BLD)

A relaxing day today letting the wind and the current dictate your pace. Sail overnight to Aswan.

Day 9: Wednesday: Aswan (BLD)

Arrive to Aswan the heart of Nubia. Take a boat to the Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis, then travel to the High Dam, the Old Dam and the 'unfinished Obelisk', lying in the ancient granite quarries of Aswan. Afternoon at leisure to explore the market.

Day 10: Thursday: Aswan (B)

Farewell your Dahabiya for the Sofitel Old Legend Cataract, one of Egypt's finest hotels built in 1899. Savour the superb views of the Nile and Elephantine Island.

Option: Abu Simbel tour – see page 29

Day 11: Friday: Aswan – Cairo (B)

Fly to Cairo and transfer to the Marriott Hotel, a stylish converted palace overlooking the Nile. This afternoon walk along Al Moez Street viewing the magnificent Islamic architectural heritage and medieval houses that date from the Fatimid and Mamluke Eras. Reenergise with a refreshing drink at Fishawy Café amidst Khan El Khalili bazaars. Finish the tour by Bab Zويلة and tent makers.

Day 12: Saturday: Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the Airport.

Note:

- For groups of 6 or fewer passengers the tour will be unescorted with local representatives in each city meeting and assisting the group.





Glories of Ancient Egypt

Private Luxury Holiday and Nile Cruise



Historic Deluxe Class
from NZ\$6450 pp tw'n

Highlights

- Spend your evenings being inspired and surrounded by the architectural mastery and cultural diversity of Egypt staying in lovingly restored Old Palaces, Residences and a classic ottoman houses.
- Savour sundowners while gazing over the Pyramids or the Nile
- Cruise the waters of the Nile on your luxurious Nile Cruise. Recline on your private balcony and admire the lands of ancient Pharaohs drifting by
- Discover the hidden treasures of the Valley of the Kings with exclusive entry Nefertari's or Set I Tombs

13 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Thursday: Cairo

Welcome to Egypt. Meet, assist inside immigration and arrival transfer to the remarkable Marriott Mena House Hotel, sitting in the Shadows of the Great Pyramids of Giza.

Day 2: Friday: Cairo (B)

Spend the day exploring the most illustrious sites of Cairo – the Great Pyramids of Giza, legendary Sphinx, ancient capital of Memphis and the step pyramids of Sakkara, the first to be built in ancient Egypt, preceding those at Giza by many centuries.

Day 3: Saturday: Cairo (B)

This morning discover Old Cairo with its Synagogues and Churches. Explore Coptic churches and art housed inside the Coptic Museum, built around 30BC, on the site of the Roman fortress of Babylon. Continue to Ben Ezra Synagogue. Surrounded by serene gardens, the synagogue contains a number of artefacts including the manuscript known as the 'Atlas of Moses.'

Day 4: Sunday: Cairo – Luxor (B) ✈️

Morning flight to Luxor. Later, unearth the secrets behind Howard Carter's life and discoveries as you visit his former home and visit Nefertari's tomb, a stunning artistic representation of Egyptian life.

Day 5: Monday: Luxor (BLD) 🚢

Embark on your luxury all balcony Nile Cruise. After lunch begin exploring one of the world's greatest open air museums - Thebes. Visit the magnificent Luxor Temple, follow the Avenue of the Sphinx to the Temple complex of Karnak. It is a gigantic and imposing monument showcasing precious relics of ancient Egyptian Dynasties.

Day 6: Tuesday: Luxor – Esna – Edfu (BLD) 🚢

Cross the Nile to the West Bank. Today's highlights include the Valley of the Kings, where you'll find the tombs of the Theban Rulers including Tutankhamun. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and see the famed Colossi of Memnon. This afternoon sail to Esna and cross the lock.

Day 7: Wednesday: Edfu – Kom Ombo – Aswan (BLD) 🚢

Today visit Edfu's Temple of Horus and houses of the Byzantine period. Sail to Kom Ombo and visit Kom Ombo Temple, which was shared by the two Gods, Sobek and Horus. See the beautiful murals, bas relief and fine views of the river. Continue to Aswan.

Day 8: Thursday: Aswan (BLD) 🚢

Explore the heart of Nubia including a visit to the Aswan Dams and the re-sited and beautifully restored Temple of Philae dedicated to the goddess Isis. Later sail by felucca around the lush islands of Aswan.

Day 9: Friday: Aswan (B)

After disembarking your Nile cruise, visit the Nubian Museum to discover ancient Nubian artefacts, art & life-style. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 10: Saturday: Aswan (B)

Day at leisure to relish the peaceful atmosphere of Aswan. Perhaps indulge in a High Tea at the historic Old Cataract & take in scenery of the river Nile.

➕ **Option:** Abu Simbel tour – see page 29

Day 11: Sunday: Aswan – Cairo (B) ✈️

Morning flight to Cairo. Today uncover the celebrated treasures of ancient Pharaohs at the Egyptian Museum. Afternoon at leisure to relax or explore Cairo's downtown at your own pace.

Day 12: Monday: Cairo (B)

This morning visit the Citadel, dominating Cairo's skyline, this beautiful monument was the nerve of the city and Egypt for almost 700 years. Continue to the majestic Mosque of Sultan Hassan, built between 1356 and 1363. Spend the afternoon shopping at the 14th century Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

Day 13: Tuesday: Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Thursdays

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in historic hotels and palaces with private facilities
- 4 Night Luxury Nile Cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist guide in Cairo & Luxor, Small group sightseeing with Egyptologist guide on the Nile Cruise
- Domestic flights: Cairo – Luxor, Aswan – Cairo
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes by Innovative Travel





Showcasing Egypt

Private Holiday, Select & Mix & Nile Cruise



First Class

from NZ\$5695 pp tw'n

Deluxe Class

from NZ\$6590 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Saturdays - for alternate departures, please check the website

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 4 Night Nile Cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist in Cairo, Alexandria, Aswan, Luxor, group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist guide on the Nile Cruise
- Your choice of 3 Select & Mix Experiences
- Domestic flights; Cairo -Aswan, Hurghada - Cairo
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes by Innovative Travel

- * Option: Walk eat and chat - Foodies tour of Cairo
- * Option: Cooking Class

Day 14: Cairo (B)

A morning to explore Cairo's skyline from the Citadel and wander through Khan el Khali markets. Afternoon at leisure or choose to explore more of Cairo.

- * Option: Medieval Cairo walking tour and tea
- * Option: Dinner Cruise on the Nile in Cairo

Day 14: Cairo (B)

A last breakfast before departing Egypt.

Highlights

- A show case of ancient wonders and monuments that have formed the cornerstone of our art, culture from Ancient Egyptian through to Greek civilisations.
- A combination of the Nile, Mediterranean and Red Seas
- Select your own cultural or culinary activities to create your Egyptian travel experience with our included 3 select and mix

14 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome Meet, Visa assistance and transfer to your Pyramids area hotel.

- * Option: Sound and light show Pyramids

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Today embark on your introduction to Ancient Egypt with a private tour of the Pyramids of Giza and the Cairo Museum with our Egyptologist.

- * Option: Solar Barge and walk inside a pyramid

Day 3: Alexandria (B)

This morning take the train to the Mediterranean coast and Alexandria. Take an orientation tour including Pompeii's Pillar, the catacombs and National Museum.

Day 4: Alexandria (B)

Day at leisure or choice of select and mix.

- * Option: Tour of El Alamein Battlefield
- * Option: Seafood Fish Dinner on the Med
- * Option: Scuba Dive on Cleopatra's Palace (supplement applies)

Day 5: Alexandria - Aswan (B)

Transfer to Cairo and take a flight to Aswan. Meet your guide and wander through Aswan' market getting a sense of Nubia and try a game of Tawlah.

Day 6: Aswan (B)

Day at leisure or your choice of one select and mix.

- * Option: Visit Nubian Village and Soheil Island
- * Option: Afternoon Tea at the Old Cataract Hotel
- * Option: Explore the Tomb of the Nobles,
- * Option: San Simeon Monastery & camel ride
- * Option: Abu Simbel (supplement applies)

Day 7: Aswan (BLD)

Board your Nile Cruise. After lunch tour the restored Philae Temple and Aswan Dams.

Day 8: Aswan - Edfu (BLD)

Cruise down the Nile visiting the interesting Kom Ombo Temple stopping at Edfu.

Day 9: Edfu - Luxor (BLD)

Explore Edfu Temple one of the most complete Temples in Egypt and cruise to Luxor, home of one of the ancient's world's largest open air museums. Marvel at the the Temple complex of Luxor and Karnak before a Galabeya Party in the evening.

Day 10: Luxor (B)

Disembark your cruise and travel to the Valley of the Kings visiting the tombs of the pharaohs and the sites of the West Bank. Afternoon at leisure or select and mix.

- * Option: Howard Carters House and Madinat Habu
- * Option: Half day tour to Dendara Temples
- * Option: Felucca lunch cruise
- * Option: Special Entry to Seti I or Nefretari Tombs

Day 11: Luxor - Hurghada (B)

Farewell the ancient sites and drive through desert mountains to the Red Sea and time to relax and unwind at your resort.

Day 12: Hurghada (B)

Day at leisure or Select and Mix experience.

- * Option: Mahmya Island Snorkelling
- * Option: Bedouin Experience

Day 13: Hurghada - Cairo (B)

Morning spent relaxing at your Red Sea resort before flying to Cairo.





Realm of the Pharaohs

Private Holiday with Nile Cruise



Price per person twin

Tourist Class from NZ\$5344

First Class from NZ\$5940

Deluxe Class from NZ\$7530

Historic Class from NZ\$7625

Super Deluxe Class from NZ\$8825

Highlights

- Step back in time with a private tour of the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, then come back to the present with the spectacular Sound and Light Show
- Embrace history with an unforgettable night at the stunning temples of Abu Simbel
- Retrace the footsteps of Cleopatra as you journey to Alexandria – carpet wrapping optional!

14 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Pyramids area hotel.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Today visit the ancient capital of Memphis, the enduring monuments of Sakkara, the awesome Pyramids of Giza plus the mysterious Sphinx. Attend the Sound and Light Show at the Pyramids this evening.

Day 3: Cairo - Abu Simbel (BD)

Fly to Abu Simbel. Marvel at the magnificent Temples of Ramses II, which celebrate this mighty Pharaoh and Queen Nefertari. See the amazing engineering that saved the temples from a watery grave below Lake Nasser.

Day 4: Abu Simbel - Aswan (B)

Fly to Aswan. Later explore the desert refuge of St Simeon's Monastery or visit the Nubian Museum

Day 5: Aswan (BLD)

Morning at leisure in Aswan. At midday, join your Nile cruise boat. Later take a relaxing felucca sail around the islands of Aswan.

Day 6: Aswan - Kom Ombo - Edfu (BLD)

View the huge Aswan High Dam and the Temple of Philae, before cruising to the Temple of Kom Ombo. Later sail on to Edfu.

Day 7: Edfu - Esna - Luxor (BLD)

Explore Edfu's mysterious temple, then cross Esna Lock on your way to Luxor.

Day 8: Luxor (B)

Disembark your cruise ship and spend an unforgettable day exploring the Valley of the Kings,

Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and Colossi of Memnon. Later visit the awesome Luxor and Karnak Temples.

Day 9: Luxor (B)

Depart with your private guide for a memorable discovery of Luxor. Your first visit of the day will be to the Temple of Medinet Habu, the mortuary temple of Ramses III. Later, visit the fascinating house of Howard Carter. Neglected for a long time, the house has been restored to its former state and now offers a fascinating insight into the life of Howard Carter in an amazing 1920's atmosphere. This afternoon, visit the Mummification Museum and return to your hotel for time at leisure, or take the opportunity to explore the Luxor markets.

Day 10: Luxor - Cairo - Alexandria (B)

After breakfast fly to Cairo, then board your train to Alexandria. Transfer to hotel.

Day 11: El Alamein Battlefield (B)

Explore El Alamein, site of the epic World War II battle, visiting the Allied Cemetery and museum.

Day 12: Alexandria - Cairo (B)

Visit the newly restored library, the National Museum, 'Pompeii's Pillar' (red Aswan granite) and the mysterious catacombs. Later return to Cairo by train and transfer to your central city hotel.

Day 13: Cairo (B)

This morning explore Old Cairo's Coptic churches (including the Hanging Church). Later visit the famous Egyptian Museum to see the glittering treasures of the Pharaohs. Then experience the lively atmosphere of the Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

Day 14: Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Mondays - for alternate departures, please check the website

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 3 Night Nile Cruise – All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal driver in private A/C vehicle in Cairo, Alexandria, Luxor and Abu Simbel, A/C transportation on Nile Cruise sightseeing
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist guide in Cairo, Luxor, Alexandria & Abu Simbel, group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist guide on the Nile Cruise
- Domestic flights; Cairo – Abu Simbel, Abu Simbel – Aswan, Luxor – Cairo
- Daily drinking water




Note:

- On some itineraries the cruise will be 4 nights with no overnight hotel in Luxor required.
- Superior Tourist Class hotel best available at Abu Simbel.





Discovering Egypt's Pharaonic History

Nile Cruise ex Cairo  

Highlights

- A unique cruise charting the Pharaonic period from the first Pyramids and pharaohs to Cleopatra rein.
- Float serenely down the Nile from Cairo to Aswan and appreciate the significance of the term "life blood of Egypt"
- Discover some of Egypt's most important historical sites that are seldom - rock tombs of Beni Hassan, the ruins of Tuna el-Gebel and the temple of the Rebel pharaoh Akenaten and Hermopolis

16 Days ex Cairo | 14 Days ex Aswan

Day 1: Cairo (D)

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Nile Cruise boat.

Day 2: Cairo (BLD)

Visit the Egyptian Museum, where you can view glittering treasures of ancient Egypt. After lunch, discover the famous Pyramids of Giza and the enigmatic figure of the Sphinx.

Day 3: Cairo (BLD)

Visit the Egyptian Museum where you can view the treasures from the Tomb of the Boy King Tutankhamun. After lunch, discover the famous Pyramids of Giza and the enigmatic figure of the nearby Sphinx.

Day 4: Cairo - Beni Suef (BLD)

Sail to Beni Suef. Unwind on board while you follow the relaxing rhythm of the Nile. Egyptian wine tasting on board.

Day 5: Beni Suef - Minya (BLD)

Leisurely sail towards Minya.

Day 6: Beni Hassan - Minya (BLD)

Today visit Beni Hassan tombs. The site lies on the Eastern Bank and houses 39 rock-cut tomb decorated with scenes depicting local and regional life during the Middle Kingdom. Then, visit Tuna El Gebel and the Tomb of Petosiris which is a fusion of Greek and Egyptian styles.

Day 7: Minya - Assiut (BLD)

Cruise to Tel El-Amarna, the home of the Amarnian Experience. In Amarna, learn about tombs and the temple of the Rebel pharaoh Akenaten who built

his capital here for himself and his famous queen, Nefertiti. Sail to Assiut and view Prince Tawdrous Monastery.

Day 8: Assiut - Sohag (BLD)

Pass the lock of Assiut and sail south towards Sohag.

Day 9 Sohag - Naga Hammadi (BLD)

Morning visit to Abydos, the ancient holy city of the God Osiris Temple. Visit the unique L shaped temple which served seven gods of Ancient Egypt.

Day 10 Naga Hammadi - Qena - Luxor (BLD)

Visit one of the best preserved temples of Egypt, Denderah Temple, dedicated to Hathor the goddess of love, music and fertility. Afternoon Cookery lesson.

Day 11 Luxor - West Bank (BLD)

Cross the Nile to the West Bank. Today highlights including the Necropolis of Thebes and the Valley of the Kings, the Valley of the Queens and the Mortuary Temple of Hatchepsut.

Day 12 Luxor East Bank - Edfu (BLD)

This morning visit Luxor Temple, built by two kings, Amenophis III and Ramses II and continue to Karnak Temple, the main centre of worship in ancient Egypt. Cruise to Edfu.

Day 13 Edfu - Kom Ombo - Aswan (BLD)

Visit the temple dedicated to the god Horus and one of the largest and best preserved Ptolemaic temples in Egypt. Sail to Kom Ombo and visit the twin temple dedicated to Sobek and Haroeris.

Day 14 Aswan (BLD)

Highlights include the Aswan Dams and the re-sited Temple of Philae. This afternoon visit the Nubian Museum.

Note:

- Note: Cruise itinerary may be changed without prior notice due to navigational circumstances.



www.innovativetravel.co.nz/akpage24



Deluxe Class

from NZ\$8960 pp twn

What you need to know:

Departures:

Cairo - Aswan (16 days) Feb 25, Mar 22, Apr 17, May 13, Oct 09, Nov 04

Aswan - Cairo (14 days) Feb 12, Mar 09, Apr 04, 30, Aug 31, Sep 27, Oct 23

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Deluxe accommodation with private facilities
- 14 night Deluxe Nile Cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist guide on the Nile Cruise
- Domestic flights; Aswan - Cairo
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes by Innovative Travel

Day 15 Aswan - Cairo (B)

Disembark after breakfast and fly back to Cairo. One last night in Egypt overlooking the Pyramids

 Optional excursion to Abu Simbel - see page 29


Day 16 Cairo (B)

Breakfast overlooking the pyramids and a private transfer to the airport.





Jewels of the Nile

Private Holiday with Nile Cruise 

Highlights

- See the origins of Egypt's greatest monuments at the Step Pyramid of Sakkara
- Cruise around the enchanting islands of Aswan on a traditional felucca boat
- Marvel at the glittering treasures at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo

9 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Pyramids area hotel.

+ Option: Upgrade to Pyramids view room.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

A day to remember! Visit the ancient capital of Memphis and the enduring monuments of Sakkara, prototypes for Ancient Egypt's most enduring architectural legacy the Pyramids. Explore the sand strewn temples and tombs before travelling to the Pyramids of Giza and Sphinx, sights that are both magnificent and awe inspiring.

Day 3: Cairo - Luxor (BLD)

Fly to Luxor and embark on your Nile Cruise Boat. After lunch begin exploring one of the world's greatest open air museums - Thebes. Visit the magnificent Luxor Temple, follow the Avenue of the Sphinx to the Temple complex of Karnak. The site comprises a vast mass of temples, chapels, pylons, shrines and intricately carved columns. It is a gigantic and imposing monument showcasing precious relics of ancient Egyptian Dynasties.

Day 4: Luxor - Esna - Edfu (BLD)

Cross the Nile to the West Bank. Today is full of highlights including the Necropolis of Thebes and the Valley of the Kings, where you'll find the tombs of the Theban Ruler's including Tutankhamun. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and see the famed Colossi of Memnon facing the Nile. This afternoon sail to Esna and cross the lock.

Day 5: Edfu - Kom Ombo - Aswan (BLD)

Today visit Edfu where remains from the Old Kingdom can be viewed as well as the Temple of Horus and houses of the Byzantine period. Sail to Kom Ombo and

visit Kom Ombo Temple, which was shared by the two Gods, Sobek and Horus. See the beautiful murals, bas relief and fine views of the river. Continue to Aswan.

Day 6: Aswan (BLD)

Visit the Aswan Dam at the end of Lake Nasser, the re-sited and beautifully restored Temple of Philae dedicated to the goddess Isis and the granite quarries which provided stone for Karnak & Luxor Temples. Later sail by felucca around the lush islands of Aswan.

Day 7: Aswan - Cairo (B)

Disembark, fly back to the capital and transfer to your city hotel, conveniently located in the centre of Cairo, close to the Egyptian Museum. Remainder of the day at leisure.

+ Option: Abu Simbel tour - see page 29

Day 8: Cairo (B)

Marvel at the glittering treasures on your tour of the Egyptian Museum. Later visit the towering Citadel, Mohamed Ali Mosque, the vibrant Khan El Khalili Bazaar, and the Hanging Church.

Day 9: Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.



Price per person twin

Tourist Class from NZ\$2510

First Class from NZ\$2985

Deluxe Class from NZ\$3535

Historic Class from NZ\$4332

Super Deluxe Class from NZ\$4760

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Super Deluxe - Sat & Sun

Deluxe - Thu, Sat & Sun

Tourist/First Class - Thu & Sat

For alternate departures, please check the website

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 4 night Nile Cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal driver in private A/C vehicle in Cairo, A/C transportation on Nile Cruise sightseeing
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist guide in Cairo, group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist Guide on the Nile Cruise
- Domestic flights; Cairo - Luxor, Aswan - Cairo
- Daily drinking water






Note:

- Cruise schedules may operate in reverse.





The Nile Encompassed

Private Holiday including Nile and Lake Nasser Cruises   

Highlights

- Transport yourself to ancient Egypt, where the temples and tombs are brought to life by your Egyptologist guide
- Watch the sun setting over the stunning Temples of Abu Simbel from the deck of your cruise ship
- Discover the hidden reaches of Egypt's waterways in old world style, as you sail the Nile and Lake Nasser

12 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Pyramids area hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Full day tour to Memphis, Sakkara, the awesome Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx.

Day 3: Cairo - Luxor (BLD)

Fly to Luxor and board your cruise ship. Excursion to the Luxor Temple and the Karnak Temple.

Day 4: Luxor - Edfu (BLD)

West Bank exploration including the Necropolis of Thebes and the Valley of the Kings, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut and Colossi of Memnon.

Day 5: Edfu - Aswan (BLD)


Visit to the Edfu Temple site. Horse drawn carriage ride to and from the Temple. Afternoon visit to the Kom Ombo Temple known for its murals, bas relief and fine Nile views. Continue to Aswan.

Day 6: Aswan (BLD)

Visit the Aswan Dams at the end of Lake Nasser, the re-sited Temple of Philae dedicated to the Goddess Isis, and the granite quarries. Afternoon Felucca sail around Kitchener Island.

Day 7: Aswan - Abu Simbel (BLD)

Disembark your Nile Cruise and flight to Abu Simbel to join your Lake Nasser Cruise. Step ashore and visit Abu Simbel's incomparable temples dedicated to Ramesses II and his wife Nefertari.

 **Option:** Sound & Light show at Abu Simbel Temples

Note:

- Cruise schedules may operate in reverse. Cruise itinerary confirmed based on season & day of travel and may vary from the included itinerary.

Day 8: Abu Simbel - Kasr Ibrim - Wadi El Seboua (BLD)

Watch the sunrise at Abu Simbel or take an early morning visit to the temples (entrance ticket is not included). Sail to Kasr Ibrim Citadel- a relic of Nubian culture. Visit the temples of Amada and Derr as well as the tomb of Penout. A relaxing afternoon sail to Wadi El Seboua.

Day 9: Wadi El Seboua - Aswan (BLD)

Visit Wadi El Seboua Temple, the Temple of Dakka and visit the Greco Roman Temple of Meharakka. Sail to Aswan.

Day 10: Aswan

One final insight into Nubian culture as you visit Kalabsha Temple, dedicated to the Nubian god Mandulis, and the Kiosk of Kertassi - a remarkably elegant roman structure. After breakfast disembark the cruise and transfer to your Aswan hotel.

Day 11: Aswan - Cairo (B)

Early flight to Cairo for a full day tour. This morning visit the Egyptian Museum where you can view Pharaonic treasures. Continue to the Citadel which dominates Cairo's skyline. Visit the Mohammed Ali Mosque commissioned by Mohammed Ali Pasha between 1830 and 1848. Tour ends with a visit to the 14th century Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

Day 12: Cairo departure (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.



Deluxe Class

from NZ\$6198 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Preferred Departures:

Saturday

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 4 Night Nile & 3 Night Lake Nasser Cruise - All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal driver in private A/C vehicle in Cairo & Aswan A/C transportation on Nile & Lake Nasser Cruise sightseeing
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist guide in Cairo, group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist guide on the cruises
- Domestic flights: Cairo - Luxor, Aswan - Abu Simbel, Aswan - Cairo
- Daily drinking water





Upper Egypt and the Eternal Nile

Private Holiday and Nile Cruise



Price per person twin

Tourist Class from NZ\$2785

First Class from NZ\$3395

Deluxe Class from NZ\$3945

Historic Class from NZ\$4395

Super Deluxe Class from NZ\$5165

Highlights

- Wake up in the shadow of the Pyramids of Giza – the only remaining Seven Wonders of the Ancient World
- Cruise the life blood of Egypt from Luxor to Aswan, discovering temples and tombs of the Pharaonic Age
- Learn the ancient Egyptian rites and secrets of immortality at the Mummification Museum

10 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Pyramids area hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure to view the spectacular Pyramids from the Giza area.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Awake in the shadows of the Pyramids. Today explore the impressive site of Giza; constructed over 4,000 years ago, the Pyramids of Mycerinus, Chefnen, & the Great Pyramid of Cheops, are the only survivors of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Face the mystical Sphinx. Continue to the ancient capital of Memphis and visit the Step Pyramids of Sakkara. This evening option to attend the inspiring Sound & Light Show at the Pyramids.

Day 3: Cairo – Luxor (B)

This morning fly to Luxor where you will continue to retrace history & uncover a world of ancient legends. Visit the Temple of Medinat Habu, the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III. Continue to Howard Carter's house. Neglected for a long time, the house has been restored to its former state and now offers a fascinating insight into the life of the one who discovered the tomb of the Boy King Tutankhamun, in an amazing 1920 atmosphere.

This afternoon, return to the East Bank and visit the Mummification Museum. The ancient Egyptians believed that in order for a person to reach the afterlife, it was essential that both their body and their name remained, so their soul would be transported from one life to the next. In order to achieve this, the mummification rituals were developed to preserve the body. The museum contains several human and animal mummies as well as the tools and the canopic jars needed for the ritual. Evening at leisure to explore the markets of Luxor.

Day 4: Luxor (BLD)

Leisurely morning before embarking on your Nile cruise. This afternoon, visit the magnificent Luxor Temple, built in the 14th century by two kings –

Amenophis III and Ramses II. Follow the Avenue of the Sphinx to the Karnak Temple complex and gaze in awe at this imposing monument housing precious relics of Ancient Egyptian dynasties.

Day 5: Luxor – Esna (BLD)

Today cross to the West Bank and visit Thebes Necropolis and the burial ground of the Pharaohs – the Valley of the Kings – where Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922. Proceed to the nearby Valley of the Queens, the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon facing the Nile. Explore the myriad of tombs and temples before cruising via Esna lock to Edfu.

Day 6: Esna – Edfu – Kom Ombo – Aswan (BLD)

This morning visit the Temple of Horus, one of the best preserved temples of the Greco-Roman era. Continue cruising to Kom Ombo and visit the Temple shared by two Gods, Sobek & Horus, before sailing to Aswan.

Day 7: Aswan (BLD)

Visit the Philae Temple, dedicated to the goddess Isis, rescued from the rising waters of Lake Nasser at the time of the High Dam's construction. Later visit the High Dam, the Old Dam and the 'unfinished Obelisk', lying in the ancient granite quarries of Aswan.

Day 8: Aswan (B)

Disembark this morning and let the natural beauty of Aswan capture your imagination. Sail in a felucca around the lush islands of Aswan and view the Agha Khan Mausoleum. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Aswan's markets and sip a drink on the banks of the Nile.

+ Option: Abu Simbel Tour – see page 29

Day 9: Aswan – Cairo (B)

This morning fly to Cairo, a modern cosmopolitan capital with a rich heritage of cultural influences & echoes of ancient civilisations. Today, visit Old Cairo's

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Super Deluxe - Fri
Tourist/First/Deluxe - Mon & Fri
For alternate departures, please check the website

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 4 Night Nile Cruise – All meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal driver in private A/C vehicle in Cairo & Luxor, A/C transportation on Nile Cruise Sightseeing
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist guide in Cairo & Luxor, group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist guide on the Nile Cruise
- Domestic flights; Cairo – Luxor, Aswan – Cairo
- Daily drinking water

Coptic Churches, including the Hanging Church. Continue to the Roman Fortress, the unique Ben Ezra Synagogue, Mohammed Ali Mosque and the Citadel dominating Cairo's skyline. Later, visit the famous Egyptian Museum, which preserves the golden treasures of ancient Egypt. This evening explore the vibrant Khan El Khalili Bazaar.


Day 10: Cairo (B)

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.





The Nile Rediscovered

Private Holiday and 7 Night Nile Cruise 



Deluxe Class
from NZ\$4460 pp tw'n
Super Deluxe Class
from NZ\$5695 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Friday

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome Visa Service Inside Immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Return Cairo Airport transfers
- Dinner in Cairo at the Marriott Mena House Hotel on Day 2
- 7 night Super Deluxe Nile Cruise with private balcony cabin
- Daily buffet breakfast at all hotels
- All private transfers in A/C transportation
- Sightseeing and entrance fees for all specified sights
- Special feature: Entrance to Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings
- All entertainment on the Nile Cruise
- Flights Cairo/Luxor/Cairo
- Professional English speaking local guides in Cairo
- On board Nile Cruise English speaking guide
- Pyramids view room at the Marriott Mena House - subject to availability
- Nile view room at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Central Cairo

Day 9: Luxor (BLD)

Free day. Today you may wish to explore the streets of the Nile and nearby Luxor markets or relax by the pool overlooking the Nile.

Day 10: Luxor - Cairo (BLD)

This morning transfer to the Airport and fly to Cairo. On arrival travel into the city centre to visit Egypt's Museum, where you will view many sparkling treasures with your Egyptologist guide. Continue to the famous Cairo Bazaar for some local bartering, before transferring to your centrally located Ritz Carlton Hotel with Nile views.

Day 11: Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.

Highlights

- A more leisurely Nile Cruise combining the traditional 3 and 4 night's programmes allowing more time to relax aboard or explore the local surrounds
- Take in the iconic view in Egypt from your hotels. Gaze out at the Pyramids from the historic Marriot Mena House Hotel, and overlook the Nile from the centrally located Ritz Carlton Hotel minutes from the Cairo Museum


11 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo (B)

Welcome to Egypt. Our representative will provide visa assistance, guide you through customs and immigration and transfer you to your Pyramids area hotel.

Day 2: Cairo (BD)

A day to remember! The ancient capital of Memphis, the monuments of Sakkara, and the incomparable Pyramids of Giza and mysterious Sphinx will have their secrets revealed by your private Egyptologist guide.

 **Option:** Attend the spectacular Sound and Light Show at the Pyramids

Day 3: Cairo - Luxor (BLD)

This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Luxor. On arrival transfer to the Sonesta Moon Goddess, where you are reserved in a cabin with a private balcony. Lunch is served on board. This afternoon discover the awesome grandeur of the Luxor and Karnak Temples. Return to your cruise boat in time for a traditional belly dancing show followed by dinner.

Day 4: Luxor-Edfu (BLD)

Spend an unforgettable morning exploring the Valley of the Kings. (Entrance to 3 tombs plus entrance the Tomb of Boy King Tutankhamun included). At the entrance see the Colossi of Memnon, this giant statue is named for the Ethiopian King who brought his army to Troy's defence during the Trojan War, before being killed by Achilles. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut one of Egypt's ruling female Pharaoh's. Return on board and sail to Edfu, where there is time to explore the local markets. This evening the Captains Cocktail party (non-alcoholic drinks are included). Overnight at Edfu.

Day 5: Edfu - Kom Ombo - Aswan (BLD)


This morning after breakfast, set sail for Kom Ombo, the temple shared by two Gods, Sobek and Haeroris. With insights into the heliocentric solar system, surgical instruments and crocodile mummies, this temple is

unforgettable. Later this afternoon set sail to Aswan. This evening a Galabeya Party is on board, an opportunity to relax and dress in local costume.

Day 6: Aswan (BLD)

Wake up in Aswan. This morning is free time to either explore this town, once a frontier for Egypt or join a tour.

 **Option:** Abu Simbel Tour - see page 29

 **Option:** Morning Nubian Museum Tour, including a visit to the Sofitel Old Cataract

This afternoon at 3.30pm, sail by felucca around Lord Kitchener's Island. Return for a local Nubian Show at 7.30pm. Overnight in Aswan.

Day 7: Aswan-Kom Ombo-Edfu (BLD)

This morning visit the High Dam, the Granite Quarries and the Temple of Philae (by local boat). Sail to Kom Ombo with lunch on board and continue sailing to Edfu for an overnight.

Day 8: Edfu - Luxor (BLD)

This morning visit the mysterious temple at Edfu, the Temple of Horus constructed upon the site of the final battle between the good and just god Horus and his strong Uncle Seth. Cruise to Luxor.

OPTIONAL PRIVATE TOURS IN LUXOR

- Half Day private tour to the Mummification Museum
- Visit the spectacular temples of Seti 1st or Queen Nefertari and the original house where archaeologist Howard Carter was based
- Half day private tour to the Temples of Dendara





Mysteries of Ancient Egypt

Private Holiday with Nile Cruise



Price per person twin

Tourist Class from NZ\$2020

First Class from NZ\$2570

Deluxe Class from NZ\$2835

Historic Class from NZ\$3150

Super Deluxe Class from NZ\$3395

What you need to know:

Preferred departures:

Super Deluxe - Wed
Deluxe - Mon, Wed & Sat
First Class - Wed
Tourist Class - Mon & Fri
For alternate departures, please check the website

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- 3 Night Nile Cruise – all meals included on cruise
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal driver in private A/C vehicle in Cairo, A/C transportation on Nile Cruise sightseeing
- Private sightseeing with Egyptologist guide in Cairo, group sightseeing with English speaking Egyptologist guide on the Nile Cruise
- Domestic flights; Cairo –Aswan, Luxor – Cairo
- Visas for Egypt
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel

Highlights

- Encounter the grandeur of the Great Pyramids and the Sphinx on a private guided tour
- Feel dwarfed by the incomparable Colossi of Memnon
- Experience the languid pleasure of a Nile cruise

7 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Pyramids area hotel

Day 2: Cairo (B)

Visit the truly wondrous Pyramids of Giza and the enigmatic Sphinx. Later marvel at the glittering treasures in the Egyptian Museum.

Day 3: Cairo – Aswan (BLD)

Fly to Aswan and board your Nile cruise boat. This afternoon visit the High Dam and the Temple of Philae.

Day 4: Aswan – Kom Ombo – Edfu (BLD)

A morning visit to the Temple of Kom Ombo before sailing to Edfu.

Day 5: Edfu – Esna – Luxor (BLD)

After visiting the Temple of Horus in Edfu, sail across Esna Lock before arriving in Luxor. Later visit the ancient Temples of Karnak and Luxor.

Day 6: Luxor – Cairo (B)

Disembark this morning and explore the Valley of the Kings, Queens Hatshepsut's Temple and the Colossi of Memnon before your flight to Cairo.

Day 7: Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.



Note:

- Cruise schedules may operate in reverse.





Essence of Egypt

Private Holiday  



Price per person twin

Tourist Class from NZ\$1915

First Class from NZ\$2100

Deluxe Class from NZ\$2285

Historic Class from NZ\$2755

Super Deluxe Class from NZ\$2810

What you need to know:

Departures:

Daily

Tour inclusions:

- Welcome visa service inside immigration (NZ, AU, USA)
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Personal Driver in Private A/C Vehicle in Cairo & Luxor
- Private Sightseeing with Egyptologist Guide throughout
- Domestic Flights: Cairo - Luxor, Luxor - Cairo
- Visas for Egypt
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes - issued by Innovative Travel

Highlights

- Experience the grandeur of the Great Pyramids of Giza, the Sphinx and many more wondrous sites
- Discover the old and new capitals of Egypt - Cairo & Luxor (Thebes)
- Explore the Tombs of the Pharaohs on the West Bank

6 Days ex Cairo

Day 1: Cairo

Welcome, visa assistance and private transfer to your Pyramids area hotel.

Day 2: Cairo (B)

A day to remember! Visit the ancient capital of Memphis, the enduring monuments of Sakkara, the awesome Pyramids of Giza and the mysterious Sphinx.

Day 3: Cairo - Luxor (B)

Fly to Luxor. Later visit the Mummification Museum with its fascinating and unusual display of age-old mummies.

Day 4: Luxor (B)

Today cross the Nile to the Valley of the Kings where so many fabulous tombs have been uncovered, including those of Ramses II and Tutankhamun. Also visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon. Later visit the immense temples of Luxor and Karnak, plus the Avenue of the Sphinxes.

Day 5: Luxor - Cairo (B)

Fly to Cairo and transfer to your centrally located city hotel. Later marvel at glittering treasures in the Egyptian Museum. Visit the Hanging Church before experiencing the lively Khan El Khalili Bazaar.

Day 6: Luxor - Cairo (B)

Departure transfer to the airport





Historic Alexandria

The city of Alexandria, nestled on the shores of the Mediterranean, has a rich and colourful history. Founded by Alexander the Great in 332 BC, it is now the second largest city in Egypt, and a unique destination in its own right. Blending two great cultures of antiquity, the Macedonian and Egyptian influence on this vibrant city are still in evidence today.

Home to such marvels as the famed lighthouse (one of the Seven Great Wonders of the World) and the library said to have contained the largest collection of books and manuscripts in the ancient world, Alexandria is also scene of such dramatic historical events as Cleopatra sneaking into see Caesar inside a rolled up carpet, Alexandria is a city with a story around every corner.

This is especially true for New Zealanders with many Kiwis having fought in the nearby desert battlefield of El Alamein. A visit to the memorial sites and cemeteries is included in all Innovative Travel Alexandria extensions.



Abu Simbel

Visit the incomparable temples of Abu Simbel, whom many say are the highlights of Egypt, with either half day or overnight trips from Aswan fitting seamlessly into most of Innovative Travel's Egypt itineraries.

Begin with an early morning transfer to the airport and flight to Abu Simbel, where on arrival you will be transferred to the entrance of the temple complex. These celebrate this mighty Pharaoh, often regarded as the greatest of all the Pharaohs (also known as Ozymandias by the ancient Greeks), and Queen Nefertari, a famed Queen and diplomat in her own right. Marvel at the amazing engineering that saved the temples from a watery grave below Lake Nasser.

At the conclusion of your tour, you will be transferred either to the airport and your flight to Aswan, or to your Abu Simbel hotel for overnight.



Grand Egyptian Museum

Following a decades long design and construction process, the new Grand Egyptian Museum is in the final stages of preparation for a public opening, expected during 2020. This museum, sitting on 50 hectares of land and only 2km from the Giza Pyramids, will include the largest collection ever dedicated to a single entity - the Boy King Tutankhamun. Featuring the entirety of the funerary treasures discovered by Sir Howard Carter, this collection will finally be shown in the light it deserves.

Also included in the museum's thousands of exhibits will be statues, papyrus, jewellery, and other treasures from throughout Egypt's incredible pharaonic ages dating from 3200 BC, all carefully restored by experts who have worked tirelessly to breathe new life into this incomparable history.

The opening date is to be reconfirmed for 2020, subject to the Ministry of Antiquities final decision.



Hurghada

For a different side of Egyptian life, an extension to the Red Sea resort of Hurghada is a wonderful way to relax after the activity of other Egyptian cities. Featuring white sand beaches, and a plethora of dive and snorkel spots and options for 4WD off-road experiences, Hurghada is perfect for both those who want to relax next to the water with a cold drink, and those who want to excite their senses.

With options to either drive the stunning route from Luxor through the desert, or fly from Cairo, Hurghada is an accessible and surprising beach destination on the famous Red Sea renowned for its warm water and abundant sea life. If driving, the long trip back to Cairo is best broken up with an overnight stay at the Monastery of St Anthony, a wonderfully authentic working monastery.

Israel

As the beating heart of the three great monotheistic religions of the world, the Holylands of Israel and Palestine are held sacred to billions of people around the world. Having attracted visitors for millennia, the incredible blend of ancient antiquity, Mediterranean beaches, desert, and hospitality make this an unforgettable destination.

From the cosmopolitan Tel Aviv to the sacred walled city of Jerusalem, and from the Sea of Nazareth to the other-worldly Dead Sea, the Holylands of Israel and Palestine will amaze, surprise, and leave you with lasting memories.



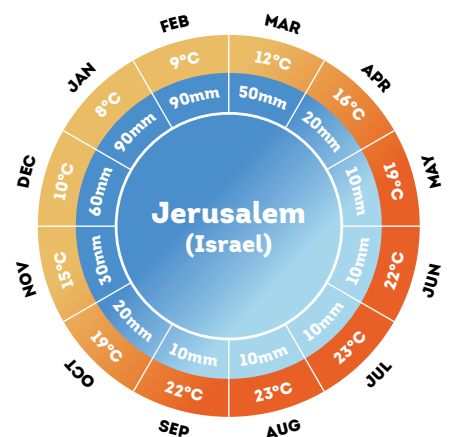
Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Warm Welcome service available (NZ & AUS passports)
- ✓ Private return airport transfers included in every tour
- ✓ VIP border crossings into Jordan (surcharge applicable)
- ✓ Connect directly with Egypt, Malta, Turkey, and other countries
- ✓ Personally inspected and vetted hotels
- ✓ 24/7 local back up and telephone support
- ✓ WiFi & USB enabled transport for coach tours
- ✓ Fully customisable itineraries

Climate and best time to travel

Israel experiences a surprising diversity of weather with the landscape varying across Mediterranean coastline, inland deserts, and forested hills in the north. Jerusalem and the eastern mountains can even experience snowfall occasionally. Summer, running April through October sees temperatures in the late 20s to early 30s, while the winter months range between 10 and 25 degrees.

Religious festivals are also a major consideration when travelling to this region. For many these are a highlight, however others prefer to avoid the crowds. Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest, takes place between sundown Friday and sundown Saturday each week, with many restaurants, businesses, and public transport not operating.



Select & Mix Experiences

Take one of our itineraries and make it your own by selecting one or more of the below Select & Mix options.



Take a guided walking tour through Tel Aviv, focusing on the world-renowned street art and graffiti.



Explore your choice of the three vibrant markets in Tel Aviv with a guided tour including tastings.



Taste your way through the neighbourhoods of Tel Aviv on a guided street food tour, including familiar favourites and secret specialties.



Discover the cosmopolitan heart of Tel Aviv nightlife on a guided three hour pub crawl including tastings



Learn about the diamond trade with a visit to the Diamond Exchange where you will speak with a designer and have a wine tasting.



Experience Bedouin life with a hosted family dinner, exploring homemade treats and deserts with a unique twist.



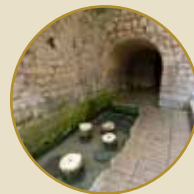
Explore the Kana'im Valley in the Judean Desert on the back of a camel as your Bedouin guide explains the secrets of desert life.



Learn about the mystic Israeli martial art Krav-Maga with a half day training experience.



Feel the pulse of the vibrant Jerusalem art scene with a contemporary art gallery and street art tour including artist studio visit.



Explore the tunnel system underneath the walled city of Jerusalem or City of David with an archaeologist guide.



Step back through time with a guided tour of the Herodian Quarter, home to Jerusalem's wealthy priests during the second temple period.



Learn about the personal effect of the Roman capture of Jerusalem with an Archaeological and audio-visual show at the Burnt House.



Hike the Route of Fountains from Sataf, a preserved agricultural centre displaying millennia-old farming techniques.



Visit an Argan Oil, Grape, and Fig farm in the Jordan Valley, including tastings of seasonally available products.



Learn the ways of life on a Kibbutz, including the technology that makes agriculture in the Negev Desert.

Tel Aviv

Jerusalem

Northern Israel



Journey through the Holylands

Boutique Small Group Tour 



Deluxe Class
from NZ\$10,534 pp tw'n


What you need to know:


Departures:

Departs selected Wednesdays

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival & departure VIP airport assistance
- Private airport transfers
- Transportation in modern deluxe vehicles
- Accommodation in Deluxe Class hotels
- Daily breakfast, 1 lunch & 3 dinners
- Professional English-speaking tour escort guide
- Activities & entrance fees as per itinerary
- Shuk bites card (allows tasting of different foods at the Jerusalem Machane Yehuda market)
- Spectacular Sound & Light show at the Tower of David Jerusalem

 2 Guaranteed

 12 Maximum

Day 10: Friday: Fein Gedi Nature Reserve – Masada – Dead Sea (BL)

Today drive through the Judean Desert, home of the nomad Bedouin people. Visit the Ein Gedi nature reserve and explore this lush oasis. Continue to the mountain top fortress ancient fortress of Masada built by King Herod. Later, drive to the Dead Sea and experience a float in its therapeutic waters. Tonight, return to Jerusalem.

Day 11 Saturday: Jerusalem (B)

Day at leisure to explore at your own pace.

Day 12 Sunday: Jerusalem (B)

Farewell to Israel with a transfer to the airport.

Highlights

- Discover Biblical sites as you explore the myriad of small streets in the walled city of Old Jerusalem
- See the colonies occupied by Templars and Crusaders
- Explore the 8000 year old port town of Jaffa
- Experience the sensation of floating in the therapeutic waters of the Dead Sea

12 Days ex Tel Aviv

Day 1: Wednesday: Tel Aviv

Welcome to the Holyland. On arrival, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel in Tel Aviv.

Day 2: Thursday: Tel Aviv (B)

Spend the day exploring Tel Aviv. Visit the Yitzhak Rabin Centre and the Independence Hall where Ben Gurion declared the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. Travel through Neve Tzedek – the first neighbourhood of Tel Aviv established in 1887. Later, experience the vibrant sounds, scents and colours of the Carmel market. Continue to Jaffa and explore the history of this 8,000 year old port town, today an artists' quarter.

Day 3: Friday: Tel Aviv (B)

This morning, visit the Tel Aviv Museum of Modern Art. Witness where old meets new in Sarona, the 140 year old German Templars' colony which was occupied by the British until 1947. The area has now been restored, preserving the original architecture and converted into a lively pedestrian open air commercial centre. This afternoon drive to the Old Port of Tel Aviv and explore the unique shops & cafés – experience the ambiance of the seafront promenade.

Day 4: Saturday: Tel Aviv (B)

Day at leisure to explore at your own pace; you may wish to visit the old train station.

Day 5: Sunday: Tel Aviv – Coastal Plain – Haifa – Acre (BD)

Embark on a morning drive via the coastal road to Caesarea, once the Roman capital of the region. Explore the ruins and excavations of this Crusader's city, including the restored amphitheatre and the old port. Continue to Haifa. Visit the Clandestine Immigration and Naval Museum. View the beautifully sculptured Baha'i Gardens. Continue to Acre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the ancient port cities in Israel. Explore its unique buildings, fortresses, turrets & mosques, and wander through the old city & the local market.

Day 6: Monday: Safed – Mt Bental (Galilee) (BD)

This morning explore Safed, the heart of the Kabbalah, the Jewish mysticism. Visit Joseph Caro and Ha'Ari synagogues. Stroll through the artists' quarter and the picturesque alleyways. Ascend the Golan Heights and stop at Mitzpe Gadot, a former Syrian base where the fallen Israel soldiers of the 33rd Battalion of the Golani Brigade are commemorated. Continue to the old Talmudic village of Katzrin and visit restored homes, an olive press, and the ancient synagogue. Continue to Mt. Bental, a dormant volcanic mountain and have a panoramic view of Mt. Hermon and the Golan Heights. Hear the story of one of the largest tank battles that took place during the 1973 war.

Day 7: Tuesday: Capernaum – Sea of Galilee – Jerusalem (B)

Descend the Upper Galilee towards Tiberias, and visit Capernaum – explore the ruins of the synagogue and the church of St. Peter. Embark on a serene boat ride across the Sea of Galilee. Visit the Igal Alon Museum and continue to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation. Drive to Beit Shean, one of the biggest archaeological parks in Israel with beautiful excavations from the Roman and Byzantine periods. Later, journey via the Jordan Valley to Jerusalem.

Day 8: Wednesday: Jerusalem Old City (BD)

Spend the day exploring Jerusalem Old City. Walk along the Cardo – former market place during the 2nd Temple. Visit the Western Wall and its labyrinth of underground tunnels. Continue to the City of David, founded more than 3,000 years ago. Dine at a Middle Eastern restaurant and attend the spectacular Sound & Light show at the Tower of David.

Day 9: Thursday: Jerusalem New City (B)

Explore Jerusalem New City. Visit the Israel Museum, Yad Vashem – Holocaust Memorial, the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are preserved, Knesset and its gardens. Experience the contemporary Jerusalem at the renowned Machane Yehuda Market where you will get an opportunity to sample various local delicacies.





Israel Discovery

Private with Small Group Daily Tours



Tourist Class

from NZ\$2287 pp tw'n

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$2418 pp tw'n

Superior First Class

from NZ\$3098 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival & departure transfers
- Air-conditioned transportation
- Accommodation in your choice of Tourist to First Class hotels
- Daily breakfast
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Small group sightseeing, activities & entrance fees as per itinerary

2 Guaranteed

19 Maximum

Highlights

- Experience floating on the salty waters of the Dead Sea
- Explore crusader's castles and the rock fortress of Masada
- Discover Nazareth, the town of Joseph & Mary

6 Days ex Jerusalem

Day 1: Jerusalem

Welcome to the Holyland. Upon arrival you will be met at and assisted at the airport. You will then be transferred to your accommodation in Jerusalem.

Day 2: Jerusalem Old & New (B)

Spend the day discovering the biblical & cultural highlights of Old & New Jerusalem. Explore the alleyways of Old Jerusalem where you will see Mt Zion, the Western Wall, and the Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa. Later, visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum and see some of the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Shrine of the Book.

OPTIONAL

Bethlehem

Visit Bethlehem instead of the above itinerary to experience the Church of the Nativity - supplement applies.

Day 3: Masada & the Dead Sea - Jerusalem (B)

A fascinating day today as you visit Masada and Herod's Palaces, the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots during their war with Rome. Later, continue to the lowest place on Earth, the Dead Sea, where you can experience the truly strange sensation of floating on the rich mineral waters.

+ Option: Extend in Jerusalem

Day 4: Nazareth & Sea of Galilee - Tel Aviv (B)

Today discover Nazareth and the Church of Annunciation. Continue to the Sea of Galilee. Visit the ruins at Capernaum and Tabgha, site of the Miracle of the Fishes and Loaves. Continue to the cosmopolitan coastal city of Tel Aviv via the Baptismal site at Yardenit.

Note:

- The order of touring may vary depending on the tour start day.



Day 5: Caesarea & Coastal Plain - Tel Aviv (B)

Explore the Roman Theatre and the Crusader Fortress with its unique dry moat at Caesarea. Continue to the charming port city of Haifa and view the magnificent Bahai Gardens from atop Mount Carmel. Later, explore the Knights' Halls at Acre and the secret escape tunnel dug by the Crusaders. At Rosh Hanikra, the most northern point on the coast, walk through the beautiful grottos carved by the sea.

Day 6: Tel Aviv (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.





Classic Israel

Coach Tour 



Tourist Class

from NZ\$3919 pp tw'n

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$4125 pp tw'n

Superior First Class

from NZ\$4888 pp tw'n


What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs Tuesdays

Tour inclusions:

- Airport Greeting on Arrival
- Private airport transfers
- Welcome briefing
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Group Sightseeing with English Speaking Guides
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes - issued by Innovative Travel

 2 Guaranteed

 30 Maximum



Highlights

- Gain insight into the rich and diverse heritage of the birthplace of the world's three major religions
- Visit the renowned historic and Biblical sites in Jerusalem, the Dead Sea and Galilee
- Experience local culture and hospitality including lunch in a Druze village, overnight in a kibbutz and a wine tasting on the Golan heights

9 Days ex Tel Aviv

Day 1: Jerusalem

Welcome to Israel. On arrival you will be met by a representative and transferred to your Jerusalem hotel. Remainder of day at leisure.

Day 2: Jerusalem - Old City & Bethlehem (B)

Visit the tomb of King David and the room of the Last Supper on Mt. Zion. Enter the walled city and walk through the newly restored Jewish Quarter. Visit the Roman Cardo, the Herodian Quarter and continue to the Western Wall. Walk along the Via Dolorosa to the church of the Holy Sepulchre, proceed to Mount Scopus and then to the Mount of Olives for a magnificent panoramic view of the Old City. Continue to Bethlehem (subject to security clearance), stopping at Rachel's Tomb and to visit the Church of the Nativity.

Day 3: Jerusalem - New City (BD)

Start your day with a visit to the Israel Museum - Tour the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed. Later tour the New City - including viewing the Knesset (Israel's Parliament), a visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum and Meah Shearim, the ultra-orthodox neighbourhood in Jerusalem and learn about their unique lifestyle. Middle Eastern dinner followed by the spectacular "sound and light" show at the Tower of David museum.

Day 4: Dead Sea - Tel Aviv (B)

Depart Jerusalem via the Judean Mountains and descend to the lowest place on earth. Visit the ancient city of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Continue along the shores of the Dead Sea to the magnificent cliff top fortress of Masada. Ascend via cable car to explore the remains of King Herod's luxurious palace. Take the chance to float in the salty waters.

Day 5: Tel Aviv (B)

Day at leisure. Take a walk along Tel Aviv's famous beaches or explore Old Jaffa's art scene

Day 6: Coastal Plain (BLD)

Depart along the coastal plain to Caesarea. Visit the excavations of the ancient city, the Roman theatre and aqueduct. Drive to the Druze village at Daliat El Carmel and enjoy lunch and famous Druze hospitality at a local restaurant. Continue on via Mount Carmel to Haifa for a panoramic view of the Haifa bay and the Golden domed Bahai shrine and gardens. Overnight in a kibbutz guesthouse.

Day 7: Upper Galilee (BD)

Proceed to Safed, the centre of Jewish mysticism and visit the ancient synagogues and the artists' colony. Drive to the Golan Heights to see the former Syrian bunkers, later stop at a Golan winery for a tour and wine tasting. Onto "Kessem Hagolan", a multimedia presentation of the area and its history.

Day 8: Sea of Galilee - Jerusalem (B)

Start the day with a tour of Tiberias. Explore the centre of Jesus' ministry at Capernaum to see the remains of the synagogue where he preached, and the octagonal church of St. Peter. Onto Nazareth to visit the church of the Annunciation. See the remains at Beit Shean of the mosaic floor of an ancient synagogue depicting the zodiac before arriving into Jerusalem.

Day 9: Jerusalem (B)

Finish your tour with a transfer to the airport.





Holyland Heritage

Coach Tour    

Highlights

- Step into Biblical times as you explore the Old City of Jerusalem and its many historically significant sites
- Stand atop the Mount of Beatitudes, traditional site for the Sermon on the Mount
- Visit the famed site of Megiddo and discover why this ancient crossroads was so significant, and why it may be again one day!

8 Days ex Tel Aviv

Day 1: Tel Aviv

Welcome to the Holyland. On arrival in Ben Gurion Airport, you will be transferred to your hotel in Tel Aviv.

Day 2: Tel Aviv – Caesarea – Megiddo – Haifa – Acre (BD)

Embark on a morning drive along the coastal plain to Caesarea, capital of Judea under the Romans. Explore the excavations of the ancient city, including the Roman theatre & aqueduct. Continue to Muhraka for spectacular views of the Jezreel Valley & the Lower Galilee. Visit Megiddo, identified as the site of Armageddon, and its archaeological excavations including the well-preserved water supply system. Later, continue to Acre, the capital of the Crusaders for more than a century. Visit the ancient city & harbour before continuing eastwards across the plains of Galilee to your Kibbutz hotel for overnight.

Day 3: Sea of Galilee & Golan Heights (BD)

After a short exploration of the Kibbutz grounds, embark on a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum. Visit the remains of the 2nd century synagogue and the Yigal Alon Centre where the "Jesus boat," an ancient fishing boat from the 1st century is displayed. Continue to Tabgha, the site of the miracle of fish & loaves, and visit the Church of Multiplication with its 4th century mosaic floor. Later, ascend the Mount of Beatitudes, overlooking the Sea of Galilee, where the Sermon on the Mount took place, and drive to the Caesarea Philippi Spring & Waterfall. Journey through the Golan Heights with its valleys, grazing land and snow-capped mountains before returning to the Kibbutz.

Day 4: Nazareth – Beit Shean – Jerusalem (BD)

Travel via Cana of Galilee to Nazareth. Visit St. Joseph's workshop, Mary's Well and the Church of Annunciation. Continue the baptismal site on the Jordan River at Yardenit and explore the excavations of the ancient Roman city of Beith Shean. Later, ascend to the Golden City of Jerusalem.

Day 5: Jerusalem Old City (BD)

Start the day with a panoramic view from the Mount of Olives, overlooking the walls of the city and the ancient Jewish cemetery. Visit the Church of All Nations and continue to Mount Zion for a visit of the Tomb of King David and the nearby Room of the Last Supper. Enter the Old City and begin exploring the wonders of Jerusalem. Visit the Temple Mount, the Western Wall, the Garden Tomb and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Walk through the Cardo, the old main street of Jerusalem, and along the Via Dolorosa, where Jesus carried his Cross. Later, explore the colourful Arab Bazaar.

Day 6: Jerusalem New City & Bethlehem (BD)

Spend the day exploring the New City of Jerusalem. View the miniature model of Jerusalem as it was during the time of King Herod. Continue to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial. Enter the site by walking along the Street of the Righteous Gentiles, dedicated to the non-Jews that risked their lives in order to save their Jewish neighbours. Later, visit Ein Karem, considered the birthplace of John the Baptist and continue to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity (visit to Bethlehem subject to security clearance.)

Day 7: Dead Sea – Jerusalem (BD)

This morning embark on a drive via the Judean Mountains and descend to the lowest place on earth. Visit the ancient city of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found unearthed in 1947 by a Bedouin boy. Continue along the shores of the Dead Sea to the magnificent cliff top fortress of Masada. Ascend via cable car to explore the remains of King Herod's luxurious palace and hear about the zealots who defied the Roman Empire from this location. Later, experience the amazing sensation of floating on the salty waters of the Dead Sea before returning to Jerusalem.

Day 8: Jerusalem – Tel Aviv Airport (B)

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Tourist Class

from NZ\$3447 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$3653 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$4475 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs every Sunday except during religious holidays

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival & departure transfers
- Air-conditioned transportation in modern coach
- Accommodation in your choice of Tourist, Moderate First Class or First Class hotels
- Daily breakfast, 7 dinners
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Sightseeing, activities & entrance fees as per itinerary

 2 Guaranteed




Israel Extensions



Israel in Brief

Tourist Class from \$1638
First Class from \$1697
Superior First Class from \$2109
 Prices per person twin share

Private with Group Daily Tours 

4 Days ex Jerusalem | Departs Daily

Israel is the beating heart of the three great monotheistic religions of the world, and this compact itinerary makes the most of time spent here with visits to many of the most important sites. For those passing through the Middle East, this three-night tour offers a fantastic insight into why this land is so sacred to so many.


Highlights:

- Walk the Stations of the Cross, along the Via Dolorosa, believed to be the path Jesus walked on his way to crucifixion
- Experience the sensory wonder of a float in the Dead Sea
- Explore the temple site of Masada, last stronghold of the Jewish zealots in their struggle against the Romans



Mini Classic Tour to Jerusalem & the Dead Sea

Tourist Class from \$1500
First Class from \$1525
Superior First Class from \$1888
 Prices per person twin share

Coach Tour 

3 Days ex Jerusalem | Departs selected Wednesdays

Experience the iconic sites of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Dead Sea on this three day exploration of Israel. From the Western Wall and the Via Dolorosa in Old Jerusalem, to the Church of Nativity in Bethlehem, then onto the sites of the New City including Yad Vashem and the ultra-orthodox areas of Jerusalem, then finally exploring the Dead Sea sites of Masada, Qumran, this tour packs a lot into three days!


Highlights:

- Experience the Church of the Nativity, built on the site where Jesus was born
- Explore the settlement at Qumran, home to the Essene sect who hid the Dead Sea Scrolls in the nearby caves
- View the unforgettable sound and light show at the Tower of David



Mini Classic Tour to Galilee

Tourist Class from \$1549 pp twin share
First Class from \$1634 pp twin share
Superior First Class from \$1694 pp twin share

Coach Tour 

3 days ex Tel Aviv | Departs selected Sundays

Highlights:

- Explore the archaeological excavations of Megiddo, purported site of Armageddon
- Partake in a wine tasting at a local Golan winery
- Visit Nazareth and the Basilica of the Annunciation

This short extension takes you along the coastal plain north of Tel Aviv to first visit Caesarea, capital of Judea under Roman rule, then via Megiddo into the Galilee region where you will experience Druze hospitality over lunch at a local restaurant. Over the next two days, visit Safed, Golan Heights, a winery, before your final day takes you to Tiberias and Capernaum – the centre of Jesus' ministry and home to the ruins of the synagogue where he preached.



TRAVEL COMPANIONS.CLUB

Travel Companions Club was launched following feedback from many of our past and current travellers who appreciate the Innovative style, in-depth local connections and resources and who wish to further explore the world with 'peace of mind'. Travel Companions Club (TCC) welcomes solo travellers, friends and couples onto a range of hosted tours throughout the Ancient Kingdoms.

Please see www.travelcompanions.club for more information and detailed itineraries.

Egypt Unveiled with optional post-tour Jordan extension

Hosted tour ex Cairo departing 22 May 2020

\$7995 pp twin share, \$9690 single (Egypt Only)

\$12,350 pp twin share, \$14840 single (Egypt and Jordan)

A fully hosted tour ex Cairo with experienced tour host, Colleen Doyle.

All participants will be met inside immigration at Cairo Airport and assisted with your Egyptian visa, available on arrival, before transferring to a special Pyramids location hotel (visa offer valid for NZ, AU and US passport holders).

With our Earlybird offer, you will appreciate the bonus upgrade to Pyramids view rooms. On your first stay in Cairo at this amazing location you will visit the great Pyramids, and Memphis and Sakkara. Then fly to Upper Egypt for a special Nile cruise between Luxor and Aswan. After experience overnight in Aswan before returning to Cairo. More highlights in Egypt include a visit to the magnificent Sphinx, High Tea at the Sofitel Old Cataract Hotel in Aswan, and a cooking school in Cairo to learn more about Egyptian cuisine. Continue to Jordan including 2 nights in the amazing red rose city of Petra and many other highlights. Option to depart after your Jordan tour, or continue to Israel/Holyland and experience this fascinating country for 7 nights with many highlights.

This specially hosted Travel Companions Club tour will be offered with three flexible choices:

1. Full Tour: Ancient Egypt and Jordan
2. Ancient Egypt only
3. Discover Jordan only
4. Add one or both of the above tours to one of our many touring options in Israel



Hosted Oberammergau Tour & Cruise

Ex Budapest: 24 August/Ends Munich 03 September 2020

\$7,795 pp twin share, \$10,690 single



You are invited to join our special European cruise/tour including the Oberammergau Passion play, in 2020.

On Monday 24th August, arrive into Budapest by 3pm. You will be transferred to our centrally located hotel. This evening meet your fellow travellers for a welcome cocktail function and canapes. Over the next couple of days, explore Budapest including local markets and museums, with a special feature dinner.

On 26 August embark your CroisiEurope special 6 day cruise from Budapest to Passau. Highlights include stops at Bratislava, Vienna, Melk and Passau. Europe is built along the rivers, so our cruise ship will be a great base to explore the historic old quarters and surrounding countryside. Our all-inclusive option on board, includes all sightseeing, beautifully served cuisine with table service for lunch and dinner, with a choice of local wine, beer or juice with meals. During our cruise, we can relax amidst convivial surroundings, with CroisiEurope's open bar policy which offers a wonderful selection of local wines, beer, cocktails, aperitifs, spirits, juice and soft drinks.

On Monday 31st August we will depart the ship and transfer to the Oberammergau region where we are reserved for two nights. On Tuesday 1st September, you will be seated in the best orchestra seating area, to view the live spectacle of this historic Oberammergau Passion Play. Wednesday 2nd, we will transfer to Munich for an overnight and a special dinner to farewell our fellow travellers.

Jordan

Set at the crossroads of ancient trade routes connecting Asia, Europe, and the Middle East, Jordan is a destination full of mystical history, and no site typifies this more than the rose red city of Petra. This incredible collection of treasures, tombs, and other structures was carved out of the solid rock at the height of the Nabataean Kingdom's power, but lost to antiquity over the centuries. Rediscovered in 1812 by a Swiss adventurer disguised as a local, Petra is now the most visited site in Jordan but is only one of the incredible memories this destination will gift you.

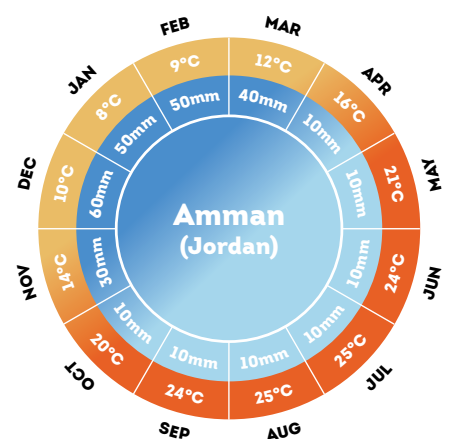
Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Warm Welcome Visa service included in every itinerary (NZ, AUS & US Passports)
- ✓ Private return airport transfers included in every tour
- ✓ VIP land border crossing service with Israel
- ✓ Local offices in Aqaba, Amman, Petra
- ✓ 24/7 local back up and telephone support
- ✓ Long-term relationships with our network of professional guides
- ✓ Exclusive access to unique cultural experiences
- ✓ Personally inspected and vetted hotels and desert camps

Climate and best time to travel

The Jordanian climate is surprisingly diverse, with seasonal Mediterranean weather influencing the western regions, and increasing temperature variations accompanied by less rain as you move east into the desert regions. Summer runs May – September and has an average temperature of 32 degrees.

As a Muslim country, the holy month of Ramadan (23 April – 23 May 2020) is observed and should be considered when planning travel. Although some local restaurants will be closed during daylight hours, a festive atmosphere pervades once the sun goes down and for many this cultural experience is a cherished highlight.



Select & Mix Experiences

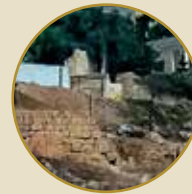
Take one of our itineraries and make it your own by selecting one or more of the below Select & Mix options.



Take a guided tour of the incredible Royal Automobile Museum, dedicated to King Hussein and featuring vehicles from 1916 through to modern supercars.



Visit three of the finest art galleries in Jordan before stopping for a light lunch and the famed Knafeh dessert from Habiba.



Explore Jerash, the Roman city known as "the Pompeii of the East" for its unique state of preservation.



Spend a day visiting Bethany, the site Jesus was baptized on the River Jordan, followed by a trip to float in the Dead Sea.



Learn the secrets of traditional Arabic cuisine with a cook and dine session at Beit Sitti restaurant.



Explore Wadi Rum, the lands made so famous by Lawrence of Arabia, with a three hour 4X4 desert safari.



Make a full day of your time in Wadi Rum by adding a camel ride up the desert dunes for sunset, followed by dinner at a Bedouin camp.



Discover the incredible Rose Red City of Petra with a full day tour including guide and optional horse ride.



Explore the fascinating site of Little Petra before hiking 8km overland to the main site of the Treasury in Petra.



Take more than photos and souvenirs home with you by learning traditional recipes at the Petra Kitchen Cooking School.



Experience the incomparable Petra by Night by walking the Siq to the Treasury, lit by over 1500 candles.


Amman

Aqaba

Aswan



Royal Jordan

Select & Mix Private Holiday – choose three experiences 



Tourist Class
from NZ\$2702 pp tw'n
Superior Tourist Class
from NZ\$2799 pp tw'n
First Class
from NZ\$3253 pp tw'n
Deluxe Class
from NZ\$3795 pp tw'n
Super Deluxe Class
from NZ\$4307 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival & departure transfers
- Private air-conditioned car with English-speaking driver
- Accommodation in your choice of Tourist, First, Deluxe or Super Deluxe Class hotels
- Daily breakfast
- Local guide & horse ride in Petra
- 4WD ride in Wadi Rum Desert
- Sightseeing & entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Select & Mix: your choice of 3 experiences (included in the price)



Highlights

- Discover the cultural diversity and evolution of Jordan through Nabatean and Crusader heritage to the modern day
- Personalise your Jordanian holiday with any 3 of 14 Select & Mix local experiences
- Pass through the Siq and marvel as the Rose Red City of Petra emerges in front of your eyes

8 Days ex Amman

Day 1: Amman

Welcome to Jordan. On arrival in Amman, you will be met by our friendly local operator prior to immigration and transferred to your hotel to relax or choose from an evening Select & Mix experience.

- * Dinner at the famous Hashem Restaurant (evening, day 1 or day 2)
- * Dinner with local family (evening, day 1 or day 2)
- * Take a cooking class followed by dinner at Beit Sitti Restaurant (evening, day 1 or day 2)

Day 2: Amman (B)

Day at leisure to explore at your own pace or choose from our Select & Mix experiences.

- * Your choice of private day tour to Jerash & Ajloun; Bethany & the Dead Sea or Amman
- * Experience a short but fun Treasure hunt through Amman's bustling souks (great for families)
- * Visit 3 Art Galleries in Amman - Daret Fonoun, Dar Anda & The National Art Gallery
- * A beautiful hike in the Al Ayoun Valley (includes lunch with a local family)
- * Visit King Hussein Royal Automobile Museum

Day 3: Amman - King's Highway - Petra (B)

Drive along the 'King's Highway,' a scenic and ancient road connecting Amman with the Red Sea coast. This is one of the world's oldest trading routes and passes through the biblical lands of the Ammonites, Moabites and Edomites. Visit Mount Nebo's 'Promised Land' church, the spectacular Holy Land mosaic at Madaba, and Kerak's Crusader Castle. Continue to Petra.

Day 4: Petra (B)

Enter into one of the world's architectural wonders – the Rose Red City of Petra, hewn out of solid rock by

ancient Nabateans. Walk through the Siq, a narrow and winding fissure between the cliffs, to reach the stunning Treasury (El Khazneh) and marvel at the many temples & tombs spread across this immense site, hidden for centuries from the outside world.

Day 5: Petra (B)

Day at leisure to further explore at your own pace or choose one of our Select & Mix experiences.

- * Explore Little Petra (day 5)
- * Take a second visit of Petra (day 5)
- * Admire the beauty of Petra by night (Mon, Wed & Thu only) (evening, day 4 or day 5)
- * Savour local cuisine - join an evening cooking class at Petra Kitchen (evening, day 4 or day 5)

Day 6: Petra - Wadi Rum - Aqaba (B)

Explore the dramatic desert landscape of Wadi Rum by 4WD and drive to Jordan's Red Sea Resort, Aqaba.

Day 7: Aqaba - Dead Sea (B)

Morning at leisure to explore at your own pace or choose from our Select & Mix experiences.

- * Swim or snorkel around coral reefs
- * Visit Bethany "The Baptism Site" on the Jordan River

Later drive to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth and experience the unique sensation of floating on the salt-rich water. Overnight at the Dead Sea.

Day 8: Dead Sea - Amman (B)

After breakfast, departure transfer to Amman Airport (approx. 1 hr driving time) or optional transfer to Jerusalem.





Treasures of Jordan

Small Group Tour



First Class
from NZ\$2954 pp twn

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs selected Fridays

Tour inclusions:

- Tour Driver/guide with 3 -5 clients with professional local guides. 6-12 clients: Driver and guide ex Amman
- Return airport transfers in private A/C transportation
- 5 nights First Class accommodation
- 1 night at a Bedouin Camp in Wadi Rum
- Return airport transfers
- Daily buffet breakfast
- Dinner at the Dead Sea 1 dinner Petra Dinner at Wadi Rum Camp
- All entrance fees as specified
- Hotels: Dead Sea: Holiday Inn Hotel/Wadi Rum: Sun City Camp or Rum Base Luxury Camp/Petra: Hyatt Zaman Hotel/Amman: The House Boutique hotel

3 Guaranteed

Highlights

- Visit the ancient Red Rose city of Petra, lost to antiquity for millenia
- Explore the traditional village at Dana Reserve and take time for a walk through nature

7 Days ex Amman

Day 1: Friday: Dead Sea (D)

Welcome to Jordan. You will be met inside immigration at Amman Airport. Transfer to the Dead Sea, over 400m below sea-level for an overnight stay. Take time for a float in these buoyant waters or make use of the hotel spa facilities and the natural therapeutic Dead Sea mineral treatments. Dinner included this evening.

Day 2: Saturday: Wadi Rum (BD)

This morning you will meet your driver/guide and travel south. En route visit the Dead Sea Museum, for a brief visit and history of the area. Drive south to the desert area of Wadi Rum, meaning landscape of the moon, which features dramatic sandstone mountains, arches and pre historic carvings. It was here that Lawrence of Arabia rode on his way to Aqaba. Arrive in time to watch the special desert sunset at a local camp. Dinner and overnight in Wadi Rum.

Day 3: Sunday: Petra (BD)

This morning explore Wadi Rum, in a 4WD drive Jeep with a local Bedouin driver for 2 hours. See more of this spectacular desert landscape. Upon return drive north to the red rose city of Petra. This afternoon visit Little Petra before transferring to your hotel where you are reserved for two nights. Dinner and overnight in Petra.

Day 4: Monday: Petra (B)

This morning enter the ancient lost city, via a narrow rocky winding ravine. Today explore this unique site. This evening dinner is your choice.

Option: Petra by Night Tour

Option: Attend a cooking class

Day 5: Tuesday: Amman (B)

Depart Petra to visit Dana Village, situated on the edge of Wadi Dana. This 500 year old village preserves many aspects of 19th Century Jordanian life. Time to meet local women and learn more about local arts and crafts. Later walk through the Dana Nature Reserve. Continue to Amman via the 5,000 year old Kings Highway stopping

Madaba, once a town in the Roman Empire. See St Georges Church to view the 6th century mosaic map of ancient Jerusalem. Continue to Kerak Crusader Castle and Mt Nebo said, to be the burial site of Moses. Arrive into Amman where you are based for two nights at the centrally located The House Boutique Hotel, walking distance from Rainbow Street and the old town. This evening dinner is your choice.

Day 6: Wednesday: Amman (BD)

Morning transfer to visit the Greco Roman city of Jerash (Gerasa of antiquity), the best preserved city of Roman times, to visit its theatres, temples, churches and colonnaded streets. Later this morning visit the King Hussein Royal Automobile Museum with a rare collection of vehicles from 1916 to the rover on the movie The Martian, filmed in Jordan. Later explore Amman, with highlights including the Citadel and Roman theatre. Walk downtown, passing by the vegetable market and gold market. Return to your hotel, or further explore the souks of Amman.

Day 7: Thursday: Departure

Departure transfer to airport, or extend your trip to the Holyland.




Jordan Extensions



Petra Bucket List

Ex Arava: Superior Tourist Class from \$1234
Ex Dead Sea: Superior Tourist Class from \$1178
 Prices per person twin share
 See website for alternative classes

Private Holiday 

3 Days ex Arava or ex Dead Sea | Departs Daily

The Rose Red City of Petra, once lost in the mysteries of time, is a bucket list destination for many people. Used as a location in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, this incredible site was carved out of solid rock and at its peak in the first century AD had a population of 20,000. This compact itinerary is a very accessible way for anyone with a Middle Eastern stopover to experience this amazing site.


Highlights:

- Experience the thrill of a jeep ride through the desert of Wadi Rum, the stand in for Mars in the film The Martian
- Explore the mystical Rose Red City of Petra, carved out of solid rock and lost to antiquity for a millennia
- Float in the waters of the Dead Sea – a marvel for the senses



Petra Extension

Tourist Class from \$1191
Superior Tourist Class from \$1449
 Prices per person twin share
 See website for alternative classes

Coach Tour 

2 Days ex Eilat | Departs Daily


For those on a tight timeframe, this overnight trip beginning from the Red Sea resort town of Eilat is the perfect way to experience the grandeur and mystery of Jordan's two iconic sites: The Rose Red City of Petra, and the moonscape of Wadi Rum.

Highlights:

- Ride a horse down into the depths of the Siq valley – the passageway to Petra
- Step out from the Siq to gain your first glimpse of the majestic Rose Red City of Petra, with the iconic Treasury appearing before you
- Visit Moses Spring, where the prophet is said to have drawn water by striking a rock

Crusaders Tour

Tourist Class from \$1059
Superior Tourist Class from \$1300
 Prices per person twin share

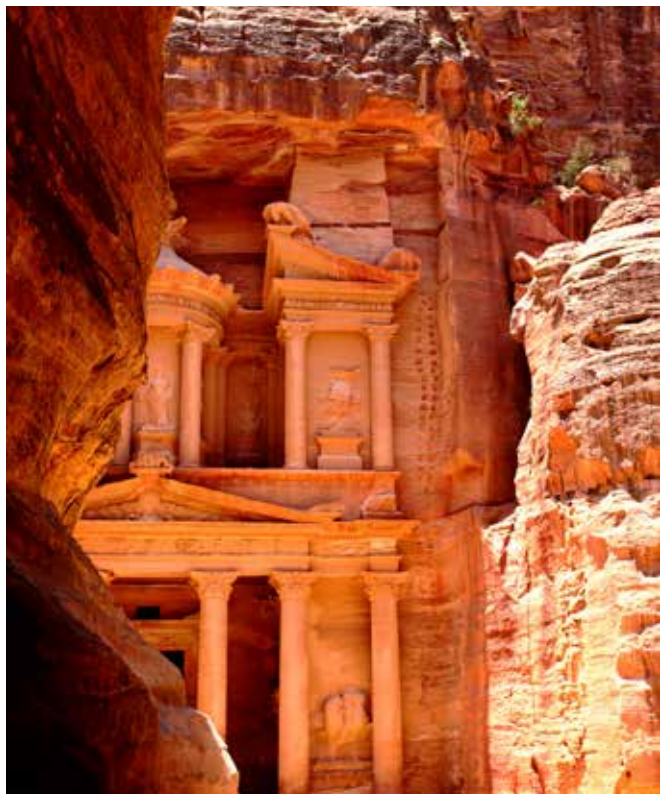
Small Group Tour | Max 20 Passengers 

3 Days ex Amman | Departs Thursdays

This short extension takes you along the coastal plain north of Tel Aviv to first visit Caesarea, capital of Judea under Roman rule, then via Megiddo into the Galilee region where you will experience Druze hospitality over lunch at a local restaurant. Over the next two days, visit Safed, Golan Heights, a winery, before your final day takes you to Tiberias and Capernaum – the centre of Jesus' ministry and home to the ruins of the synagogue where he preached.

Highlights:

- Drive one of the most historic and scenic roads in the world: the ancient Kings' Highway
- Explore the Crusader Castle at Kerak, positioned to control trade routes between Damascus, Egypt, and Mecca
- Take a guided tour of the mysterious Rose Red City of Petra, lost to history until rediscovered by a Swiss explorer posing as a Muslim pilgrim





Jordan Discovery

Boutique Small Group Tour



Tourist Class
from NZ\$2015 pp tw'n

First Class
from NZ\$3059 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Every Sunday, year round

Tour inclusions:

- Air-conditioned transfers and transportation
- Accommodation in your choice of Tourist or Superior First Class hotels
- Daily breakfast & 1 dinner
- Small group sightseeing with professional English speaking guide
- Activities & entrance fees as per the itinerary

2 Guaranteed

18 Maximum

Highlights

- Devote a whole day to discovering the incomparable Rose Red City of Petra
- Journey back to antiquity with a visit to the incredibly preserved Roman city of Jerash
- Take a four wheel drive adventure through lands so out of this world they were used as the backdrop for the Matt Damon movie The Martian

8 Days ex Amman

Day 1: Amman

Welcome to Jordan. On arrival in Amman, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel.

Day 2: Amman (BD)

This morning explore beautiful Amman. Here modernity meets the historic Downtown, bustling with life and ancient sites. Visit the Roman Theatre, Citadel, Archaeology and Folklore Museums, and one of the many art galleries in this capital city. This afternoon is at leisure to soak in the atmosphere of this captivating city. Tonight, visit Tawaheen al-Hawa for dinner, a folklore show, and the opportunity to discover many handicraft centres.

Day 3: Amman - Dead Sea - Amman (B)

Today travel to the lowest point on earth and experience floating on the healing waters of the Dead Sea. Continue northwards to Pella in the Jordan Valley and visit Gadara mentioned in the Bible. At Um Qais, where on a clear day there is a spectacular view of the Sea of Galilee, the Yarmouk River and the Golan Heights. Return to Amman late afternoon.

Day 4: Amman - Jerash - Ajloun - Amman (B)

Today embark on a journey to antiquity. Visit Jerash, one of the best preserved Roman cities in the region. Admire its theatres, temples, churches and colonnaded streets. Continue to Ajloun and visit the photogenic 12th century Saracen Castle built by one of Saladin's lieutenants in the campaign against the Crusaders. Return to Amman.

Day 5: Amman - Petra (via Kings Highway) (B)

Travel south to Petra, along the Kings Highway, a scenic and ancient road connecting Amman with the

Red Sea coast. This is one of the world's oldest trading routes and passes through the biblical lands of the Ammonites, Moabites and Edomites.

See the oldest map of the Holy Land at Madaba and visit its Mosaic School. Continue to Mt. Nebo, the alleged burial site of Moses overlooking the Dead Sea. Travel through the Jordan Valley and the magnificent scenery of Wadi Mujib to Kerak to visit the ruins of the Crusader Castle. Arrive in Petra for overnight.

Day 6: Petra (B)

Today you will be transported to another time as you discover Petra. This city was carved into the rose-red Sharah Mountains by the Nabateans and lost to civilisation until re-discovered in 1812 by the Swiss explorer Johann Burckhardt. Walk through the Siq, a narrow and winding fissure between the cliffs, to reach the stunning Treasury (El Khazneh) and continue to the intricately carved Royal Tombs, the Roman Theatre, the Courts, Qasr Bint, Temple of the Winged Lion, and other monuments that await to be discovered. After an optional lunch, the afternoon is at leisure to continue exploring Petra independently.

Day 7: Petra - Wadi Rum - Amman (B)

This morning take a short 4WD drive to admire the awesome moon-like landscape of Wadi Rum Desert, where the films Lawrence of Arabia and The Martian were filmed. Wadi Rum was described by T.E Lawrence as 'vast, echoing, and God-like'. If time permits, briefly visit Aqaba, Jordan's only sea port city. Return to Amman via the Desert Highway.

Day 8: Amman (B)

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Greece

The ancient Greeks gifted the world democracy, the alphabet, the Olympics, architecture, science & mathematics, and today honour this tradition with a traditional warm welcome. With historic sites throughout this land, and the sparkling Mediterranean dotted with idyllic island paradises, a visit to Greece is for many the trip of a lifetime. From coach tours to private holidays, cruises and self-drive options, Greece is as accessible as it is incredible.

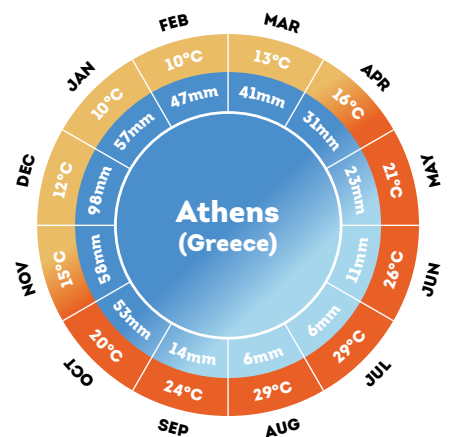


Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Departure and arrival transfers to and from each airport and ferry port
- ✓ 24/7 local and New Zealand-based phone support to help deal with disrupted Greek ferries
- ✓ Personally inspected and vetted hotels
- ✓ Local offices in Athens, Santorini, Mykonos, Paros, Rhodes, Crete, Naxos, Corfu, Milos, Kos, Syros
- ✓ Direct access to Greek ferry ticketing services
- ✓ Seamless connections to itineraries in Turkey, Egypt, and other destinations in the region

Climate and best time to travel

Greece and the Greek Islands experience mild winters from November through February, and wonderfully warm summers with lots of sunny days between May and October. Greece, and in particular the Greek Islands, have great fluctuations in prices between peak and low seasons, with many travellers taking advantage of the shoulder seasons April - May and for the month of October. August is the peak tourist month and as such experiences the highest prices.



Select & Mix Experiences

Take one of our itineraries and make it your own by selecting one or more of the below Select & Mix options.



Discover the best authentic Greek recipes and enjoy a delicious dinner with a cooking class.



Evening food tour and wine tasting



Explore tucked-away eateries with a walk through lively Athens at dusk on a Greek Gastronomy tour.



Discover remarkable artworks splattered all over the city while your expert guide will explain the stories behind Athens' street art.



Let your hair down with a crash course of Greek culture and dance lessons as you eat and drink the night away.



Take an unforgettable sunset cruise along the Athenian Riviera, including a selection of local wines and beers, as well as Mediterranean Mezes.



Set sail and explore the beauty of Mykonos on a full day yacht trip including an on-board buffet of Greek flavours and wines.



Explore the coastal waters of Mykonos on an Adults only sunset cruise including an aperitivo and local snacks.



Choose one of three options for an unforgettable jet ski safari in the beautiful waters surrounding Santorini.



Learn about the Minoan culture whom some say is the lost civilisation of Atlantis with a guided tour of Knossos Palace and Archaeological Museum.



Discover the secrets of Crete, including the Venetian fortifications on a Heraklion walking tour.

Athens

Mykonos

Others



Grand Tour of Greece

Coach Tour    

Highlights

- Walk the grounds of the school where the famed Socrates taught Alexander the Great
- View what many describe as the greatest Greek archaeological find of the 20th century – the Tomb of Alexander's father King Philip II
- Explore the prehistoric beginnings of man at Meteora, home to many Neanderthal sites

7 Days ex Athens

Day 1: Athens – Olympia (D)

This morning you will be collected from your hotel for a seven day tour to some of Greece's wonderful classical sites.

Morning departure to the Corinth Canal and then to the Theatre of Epidaurus. Then proceed to the towns of Nauplion and Mycenae to visit the tombs of Agamemnon. Later travel to Olympia through Tripolis and Megapolis. Overnight in Olympia.

Day 2: Olympia – Delphi (BD)

This morning visit the archaeological site, which includes the sanctuary of Zeus, the ancient stadium where the Olympic Games began and were held for 1200 years, and the museum. Travel through the plains of Iliad and Achaia before crossing the Corinthian Bay into Delphi via Nafpactos and Itea.

Day 3: Delphi – Meteora (BD)

After visiting the archaeological site and museum of Delphi continue to Kalambaka, a small town situated at the foot of the astonishing complex of Meteora. This stunning and unique geological formation was created over millennia by weathering and contains archaeological sites which date from the time of the Neanderthal. Some of these caves show evidence of being continuously inhabited from 50,000 to 5000 years ago.

Day 4: Meteora – Thessaloniki (BD)

Visit Meteora where ageless monasteries sit atop gigantic rock columns. Later drive through the plains of Thessaly to Mt Olympus, home of the Greek Gods. In ancient times the highest peak in any region settled by Greeks was called "Olympus" and in antiquity there were at least 8 other peaks with this name. It was in the 5th century BC that Herodotus named this

particular, one the highest peak in all of Greece, as the Pan-Hellenic Olympus.

In more recent times Mount Olympus was named the first Greek National Park. It is famed for its biodiversity and as such attracts thousands of visitors each year who admire the flora and fauna. Overnight in Thessaloniki - Greece's second largest city.

Day 5: Thessaloniki (BD)

Spend the morning sightseeing in the city that was second only to Constantinople in the Byzantine era. Thessaloniki was an early centre of Christianity, visited by Paul the Apostle who later wrote two letters to the new church at Thessaloniki, preserved in the Biblical canon as First and Second Thessalonians. Visit unique monuments and characteristic churches of the Christian world. Afternoon is at leisure.

Day 6: Thessaloniki (BD)

Depart in the morning for a unique approach to historical Macedonia. First stop at picturesque Edessa, where you will see the town's famous landmark - the Waterfalls. Then proceed to Naoussa to a site of exceptional beauty and importance: Aristotle's School, the picturesque site where the great philosopher taught 'the doctrines of morals and politics' to Alexander the Great.

Then drive to Vergina (ancient Aigai) to experience a visit to the unique Museum created in the Great Tumulus, covering the royal tombs of Macedonia. See the astonishing findings from the tomb of King Philip II, Alexander's father. This is perhaps the greatest Greek archaeological discovery of the 20th century. Only a few miles away is Veria (Biblical Beroea). Here visit Saint Paul's Bema then stroll through the old Jewish neighbourhood and the colourful market area. Return to Thessaloniki for dinner & overnight.

Note:

- Tour pick-up time from hotel should be confirmed with our local operator, usually the day before.



www.innovativetravel.co.nz/akpage48



Superior Tourist Class
from NZ\$2145 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

23 April; 14, 28 May; 11, 25 June, 16 July; 06 August; 10, 17, 24 September

Tour inclusions:

- Transportation by air-conditioned vehicles
- Superior Tourist Class accommodation with daily breakfast
- 6 dinners
- Sightseeing as specified in itinerary
- Professional guides
- Greece Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel
- Entrance fees


Day 7: Thessaloniki – Athens (B)

Drive to Pella, the capital of Alexander the Great. See the exquisite floor mosaics of the 4th century B.C. villas in situ as well as in the new Museum. Then proceed and visit the Archaeological Park of Dion, sacred city of the Macedonians, at the foot of mountain Olympos. After the visit start driving south and through Thessaly; Lamia; Thermopylae, to see the Leonidas' Monument; and Thebes. Arrive in Athens late in the afternoon.





Greek Classics

Coach Tour 

Delphi and Meteora

3 Days ex Athens  

Day 1: Athens – Delphi (D)

This morning you will be collected from your hotel for a three day tour to some of Greece's wonderful classical sights.

Leave Athens for Delphi. Travel via Boeotia, Thebes, and Levadia en route to Arachova. Arrive in Delphi nestled in the mountains of Parnassus with unforgettable views across acres of olive trees as far as the Gulf of Corinth. Delphi was the site of the famous Oracle whose advice was sought by states and individuals. Visit the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios, including the Treasury of the Athenians, Temple of Apollo, and the Museum. This afternoon is at leisure. You may like to further explore this area on your own.

Day 2: Delphi – Kalambaka (BD)

This morning is at leisure to experience more of Delphi's breathtaking mountain views. This afternoon leave Delphi for an interesting trip through the Central Greek

towns of Amfissa, Lamia, and Trikala. Continue to Kalambaka, a small town situated at the foot of the astonishing complex of the gigantic stone pillars of Meteora.

Day 3: Kalambaka – Athens (B)

After breakfast visit Meteora. Perched atop massive columns of rock stand ageless monasteries which house exquisite specimens of Byzantine art. On the drive back to Athens visit Thermopylae where Leonidas was killed and pass through Kamena Vourla. Arrive in Athens approx 7.00pm. Overnight tonight is not included.



Budget Class

from NZ\$624 pp twn

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$734 pp twn

What you need to know:

Departures:

Tue, Wed, Sun & selected Fri

Tour inclusions:

- Transportation by air-conditioned coach
- Budget or Superior Tourist Class hotels with private facilities
- 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Professional guides
- Greece Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel)
- Entrance fees

Classical Tour with Meteora

4 Days ex Athens

Day 1: Athens – Nauplion – Olympia (D)

This morning you will be collected from your hotel for a four day tour of some of Greece's wonderful classical sights.

Drive on the coast road along the Saronic Gulf to the Corinth Canal. Cross over to the Peloponnese and visit the archaeological attractions of Epidaurus, including the famous 4th Century BC theatre with its incredible acoustics. Proceed to the town of Nauplion for a short stop. Drive on to Mycenae and visit the archaeological site and the tomb of Agamemnon. Continue to Olympia via the central Peloponnese towns of Tripolis and Megalopolis.

Day 2: Olympia – Delphi (BD)

Explore Olympia, cradle of the Olympic Games, visiting the sanctuary of Olympian Zeus and the Museum. Later drive through the plains of Eliad and Achaia to the magnificent bridge which crosses the Corinthian Bay

Note:

- Tour pick-up time from hotel should be confirmed with our local operator usually the day before.

from Rion to Antirion. Pass by the picturesque towns of Nafpaktos (Lepanto) and Itea en route to Delphi for dinner and overnight.

Day 3: Delphi – Kalambaka (BD)

This morning explore Delphi's ancient sanctuary. Visit the Athenian Treasury, Temple of Apollo, and the Museum (where one can see many archaeological treasures, including a unique bronze charioteer). Later proceed to Kalambaka, a small town situated at the foot of the astonishing complex of the gigantic stone pillars of Meteora.

Day 4: Kalambaka – Athens (B)

After breakfast visit Meteora. Perched atop massive columns of rock stand ageless monasteries which house exquisite specimens of Byzantine art. Then drive back to Athens and arrive approx 7.00pm. Overnight this night is not included.

Budget Class

from NZ\$922 pp twn

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$1041 pp twn

What you need to know:

Departures:

Mon, Tue, Sat & select Thu


Tour inclusions:

- Transportation by air-conditioned coach
- Budget or Superior Tourist Class hotels with private facilities
- 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners
- Sightseeing as specified in itinerary
- Professional bilingual guides
- Greece Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel
- Entrance fees





Aegean Splendours

Private Holiday and Island Hopping 

Highlights

- Experience the delight of a Mediterranean sunset from the stunning island of Santorini
- View what many call the highpoint of Greek art – the sculptural decorations of the Pantheon
- Soak up the colourful nightlife of charming Mykonos

8 Days ex Athens

Day 1: Athens

On arrival into Athens, you will be met after customs and immigration by a local operator and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to unwind.

Day 2: Athens (B)

This morning you will be collected from your hotel by coach and transferred to meet with other travellers for your Athens and new Acropolis Museum sightseeing tour.

Athens, named for its patron Goddess Athena, has been continuously inhabited for over 7000 years, and much of the history of this destination, both ancient and more modern, will be brought to life for you today. Our expert guides will take you to see the Panathenaic Stadium where the first Olympic Games of modern times were held in 1896 (short stop).

Continue and pass by sites such as Hadrian's Arch on your way towards the most iconic of Athenian sites, The Acropolis. Once there, you will visit the architectural masterpieces of the Golden Age of Athens: The Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion and finally the incredible Parthenon.

Continue and visit the new Acropolis Museum before an afternoon at leisure.

Day 3: Athens – Mykonos (B)

Today you will be transferred from your hotel to the port for your ferry travelling to Mykonos. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Mykonos is renowned as one of the prettiest and most cosmopolitan of the Greek islands. Here you will find superb beaches, traditional windmills, white-washed buildings and cobblestoned streets. The town comes alive in the evening with entertainment centred around the harbour.

Day 4: Mykonos (B)

Day at leisure. Mykonos plays a key role in Greek mythology, reputedly being the location where the

battle between the Gods and the Titans took place. Hercules, having lured the giants from the protection of Mount Olympus, defeated them at Mykonos.

Day 5: Mykonos (B)

Another day to continue your exploration of Mykonos, a perfect opportunity to load a hamper up with local food and find somewhere for a picnic. Towards the end of the day, make your way toward Little Venice, a delightful area composed of rows of fishing houses with balconies hung over the sea. Many of these houses, some of which were built in the 18th century, have been converted into bars, cafes, and galleries. This is a perfect place to watch the sunset.

Day 6: Mykonos – Santorini (B)

Today you will be transferred from your hotel to the port for your ferry to Santorini. Relax on board soaking up the atmosphere on your 2-3 hour cruise before disembarking at Fira. After disembarking you will be met by a local operator and transferred to your hotel for a day at leisure.

Day 7: Santorini (B)

Day at leisure. The beautiful island of Santorini was created by the eruption of a super volcano called Thera in ancient antiquity. This eruption has been estimated to have ejected 100 cubic kilometres of material, making it one of the four most powerful eruptions of historic times. The concentric shaped islands that remain have created one of the most perfect natural harbours in the world, so it is no surprise that water activities are so popular here. Whether partaking a sailing charter, relaxing on a beach, or taking advantage of the many spectacular viewpoints, Santorini is a delightful location to enjoy the Mediterranean. Famed for the beautiful sunsets, be sure to find a good vantage point as the day winds down.

Day 8: Santorini (B)

After breakfast at your hotel, the tour concludes with your own arrangements.



Tourist Class

from NZ\$1660 pp tw'n

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$1835 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$2042 pp tw'n

Deluxe Class

from NZ\$3373 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs selected Sundays


Tour inclusions:

- Accommodation with daily breakfast
- Arrival transfers
- Arrival/departure transfers by air-conditioned vehicle
- Sightseeing as indicated on the itinerary
- Fast ferries Athens-Mykonos-Santorini
- Professional English speaking guide in Athens
- Entrance fees
- Greece Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel





Highlights of the Cyclades

Private Holiday and Island Hopping 

Highlights

- Visit the "most beautiful building in the world" – the Parthenon – and see the amazing sculpture work that decorates it
- Find your own secluded spot on Santorini to watch the sun set over the glittering Mediterranean
- Unwind at the end of the day in one of the bars in the charming Little Venice area of Mykonos
- Pack a hamper of delicious local foods on Naxos then head into the countryside for a picnic

14 Days ex Athens

Day 1: Athens

On arrival into Athens, you will be met after customs and immigration by a local operator and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is set aside to unwind.

Day 2: Athens (B)

This morning you will be picked up by a bus from your hotel and transferred to meet with other travellers for your Athens and new Acropolis Museum sightseeing tour. Visit the Panathenaic Stadium, where the first Olympic Games of modern times were held. Continue and pass by sites such as Hadrian's Arch on your way towards the most iconic of Athenian sites, The Acropolis. Later, visit the new Acropolis Museum. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 3: Athens – Mykonos (B)

Today you will be transferred from your hotel to the port for your ferry to Mykonos. Here you will find superb beaches, traditional windmills, white-washed buildings, and cobblestoned streets. The town comes alive in the evening with entertainment centred around the harbour.

Day 4: Mykonos (B)

Mykonos plays a key role in Greek mythology, reputedly being the location where the battle between the Gods and the Titans took place. Hercules, having lured the giants from the protection of Mount Olympus, defeated them at Mykonos.

Day 5: Mykonos (B)

Another day to continue your exploration of Mykonos. A perfect opportunity to load a hamper up with local food and find somewhere for a picnic. Towards the end of the day, make your way toward Little Venice, a delightful area composed of rows of fishing houses with balconies hung over the sea. This is a perfect place to watch the sunset.

Day 6: Mykonos – Paros (B)

Today you will be transferred to the port to embark on your ferry to Paros. This rural island is surrounded

by sandy beaches and colourful fishing villages. After disembarking in Paros you will be met by a local operator and transferred to your hotel.

Day 7: Paros (B)

The quaint and charming way of life on Paros belies the dramatic history of this destination. Having been ruled at various times by Ptolemies and Hellenistic dynasties, the Romans, Byzantines, a Venetian Duke (granted Paros by the Crusaders), and the Ottoman Turks, it was not until 1832 that Paros became part of the Kingdom of Greece. These days Paros is a wonderfully relaxed destination to soak up the Mediterranean sun.

Day 8: Paros – Naxos (B)

Today you will be transferred to the port to embark on your ferry to Naxos. Naxos is the largest and most fertile of the Cycladic Islands with attractive villages and good swimming beaches. There are many interesting monuments including some fine Byzantine Churches; the Kastro, with its tower and loopholes; and the remains of a Mycenaean settlement at Grota.

Day 9: Naxos (B)

Naxos, with its comparatively reliable rainfall and fertile soil, is the most self-sufficient of all the Cycladic islands. With many varieties of fruit grown locally, the ubiquitous olives, and famed throughout Greece for its cheese, Naxos is a great place to pack a hamper and find a quiet place for a picnic.

Day 10: Naxos (B)

Day at leisure. Some believe that Naxos is home to the cave in which the young Zeus was raised. The purported cave can be found on Mt Zeus and makes a great day hike. At 1004m, this mountain is the highest in the Cyclades and the effort of the hike up the well-marked and safe path is rewarded with stunning views.

Day 11: Naxos – Santorini (B)

Today you will be transferred to the port to embark on your ferry to Santorini. Remainder of your time in Santorini to explore the island. No other place in the



Tourist Class

from NZ\$2385 pp tw'n

Superior Tourist Class

from NZ\$2798 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$2971 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily

Tour inclusions:

- Accommodation with daily breakfast
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Transportation by air-conditioned vehicle
- Athens sightseeing as indicated on the itinerary
- Professional English speaking guides
- Fast ferries Athens-Mykonos-Paros-Naxos-Santorini
- Entrance fees
- Greece Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel

world resembles this unique Cycladic island believed by some to be the legendary lost continent of Atlantis which was swallowed by the sea when the volcano erupted. Santorini is known worldwide for its unique views and colourful sunsets.

Day 12: Santorini (B)

The beautiful island of Santorini was created by the eruption of a super volcano called Thira in ancient antiquity. The concentric shaped islands that remain have created one of the most perfect natural harbours in the world so it is no surprise that water activities are so popular here.

Day 13: Santorini (B)

Many people believe Santorini to be the location of Atlantis from Platonic myth and the ancient ruins of Thera, although dated to after the eruption, lend credence to that theory. Today the caldera provides many stunning vantage points.


Day 14: Santorini (B)

After breakfast at your hotel, the tour concludes with your own arrangements.





Milos, Folegandros and Santorini

Private Holiday and Island Hopping 



Tourist Class

from NZ\$2022 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$2629 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily

Tour inclusions:

- Transfer Athens hotel to Piraeus
- Fast ferries tickets Piraeus-Milos-Folegandros-Santorini (3)
- Accommodation in selected hotel category on a share twin basis
- Daily breakfast
- Arrival and departure transfers on each island

Highlights

- Discover the dramatic charm of Folegandros, one of the more secluded Mediterranean Islands
- Find your own private beach amongst the 70 on offer in Milos
- Watch an unforgettable sunset from one of the many vantage points on the simply stunning island of Santorini

9 Days ex Athens

Day 1: Athens (Piraeus) - Milos

This morning you will be picked up and transferred to Piraeus to catch your ferry to Milos and begin your Greek Island holiday.

Friendly, likeable Milos has a surreal and dramatic coastal landscape with amazing, colourful rock formations that reflect the island's volcanic origins. Milos also has hot springs, the most beaches of any Cycladic island, and some compelling ancient sites. On arrival in Milos Harbour, look for a sign of the hotel to meet your driver. You will then be transferred to your hotel.

Day 2: Milos (B)

Day at leisure to explore. Milos is most famed for the statue of Aphrodite, The Venus de Milo, which now resides in The Louvre. Stone of a different kind marked the early history of Milos, with obsidian deposits from the island being mined and exported from as far back as 15,000 years ago! The interesting geology of the island, which also includes alum, sulphur, and various other deposits, can be explored on an afternoon walk. For those looking for a more relaxing way to spend their time here, Milos has 70 beaches and there are many boat tours that can be taken.

Day 3: Milos (B)

Day at leisure to explore.

Day 4: Milos - Folegandros (B)

After breakfast, you will be met and transferred to the harbour to embark on the fast ferry to Folegandros. Folegandros, is a small (only 12km long), quiet and authentic island. Chora (or Folegandros), the island capital, is perched on a cliff-top. This is one of the most appealing villages in the Cyclades with its white washed houses and paved streets. This is one of the oldest traditional medieval towns in the Cyclades;

the town is closed to car and motorcycle traffic, has a unique centre of three squares in a row, with trees under which to enjoy a drink or a bite to eat in a quiet, romantic atmosphere.

On arrival in Folegandros Harbour, look for a sign of the hotel to meet your driver. You will then be transferred to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 5: Folegandros (B)

Day at leisure to explore Folegandros, with its delightful Chora, which is closed to motor traffic and a permanent population of fewer than 800 residents, is an idyllic and peaceful counterpoint to some of the other islands in the Mediterranean. With many beaches that can only be accessed by foot or boat, Folegandros is a wonderful place to forget about work and relax in charming serenity.

Day 6: Folegandros - Santorini (B)

After breakfast, you will be met and transferred to the harbour to embark on the fast ferry to Santorini. No other place in the world resembles this unique Cycladic island, believed by some to be the legendary lost continent of Atlantis which was swallowed by the sea when the volcano erupted. Santorini is known worldwide for its unique views and colourful sunsets. On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel.

Day 7: Santorini (B)

Day at leisure to explore. The beautiful island of Santorini was created by the eruption of a super volcano, called Thera, in ancient antiquity. This eruption has been estimated to have ejected 100 cubic kilometres of material, making it one of the four most powerful eruptions of historic times. The concentric shaped islands that remain have created one of the most perfect natural harbours in the world, so it is no surprise that water activities are so popular



here. Whether partaking a sailing charter, relaxing on a beach, or taking advantage of the many spectacular viewpoints, Santorini is a delightful location to experience the Mediterranean. Famed for the beautiful sunsets, be sure to find a good vantage point as the day winds down.

Day 8: Santorini (B)

Day at leisure to explore.

Day 9: Santorini (B)

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Greek Island Hopping

With many options available for those who want to explore the Greek Islands in an independent way, Innovative Travel can create a bespoke island hopping itinerary to make your dream Greek Island getaway the trip of a lifetime. Below are some of the more popular islands we can connect you with, including ferries, transfers, and accommodation in your choice of class to suit - all wrapped up with 24/7 local support for when issues arise, something many people take advantage of due to 30% of Greek ferries suffering from disruptions to service times!



Highlights

- Find your own secluded spot on Santorini to watch the sun set over the glittering Aegean
- Pack a hamper of delicious local foods on Naxos, then head into the countryside for a picnic
- Unwind at the end of the day in one of the bars in the charming Little Venice area of Mykonos
- Experience the rural feel of Paros from a horseback tour (optional extra)

Ferry Journeys (or v.v)

From	To	Fast Ferry	Regular Ferry
Piraeus (Athens)	Mykonos, Paros, Naxos	3 hrs	6 hrs
Piraeus (Athens)	Santorini	4.5 hrs	10 hrs
Piraeus (Athens)	Serifos, Milos	2.5 hrs	N/A
Piraeus (Athens)	Heraklion	8 hrs	11 hrs
Piraeus (Athens)	Rhodes	N/A	11 hrs
Piraeus (Athens)	Samos	N/A	13 hrs
Mykonos	Santorini	2 hrs	N/A
Mykonos	Paros, Naxos	1 hr	2 hrs
Santorini	Paros, Naxos	2 hrs	3.5 hrs
Santorini	Heraklion	2.5 hrs	N/A
Santorini	Rhodes	N/A	5.5 hrs
Rhodes	Marmaris (Turkey)	1 hr	2 hrs
Samos	Kusadasi (Turkey)	N/A	1 hr
Agios Konstantinos	Skiathos	2 hrs	N/A
Skiathos	Skopelos	1 hr	N/A
Skopelos	Alonissos	1.5 hrs	N/A
Alonissos	Agios Konstantinos	3.5 hrs	N/A
Kefalonia	Zakynthos	1 hr	N/A

Ancient Kingdoms Holidays Island Hopping packages use modern, fast ferries or catamarans (but if you want a more economical itinerary, we can include regular ferries which take longer between islands; these are used in Budget class when available).

Mykonos

Mykonos is a perfect place to load a hamper up with local food and find somewhere for a picnic. For those wanting to delve into the history of Mykonos, the Archaeological Museum houses many interesting artefacts including a famed vase painted with scenes from the fall of Troy. Towards the end of the day, make your way toward Little Venice, a delightful area composed of rows of fishing houses with balconies hung over the sea. Many of these houses, some of which were built in the 18th century, have been converted into bars, cafes, and galleries. This is a perfect place to watch the sunset. Mykonos comes alive at night, belying the island's population of just over 10,000.

Naxos

Naxos, with its comparatively reliable rainfall and fertile soil, is the most self-sufficient of all the Cycladic islands. With many varieties of fruit grown locally, the ubiquitous olives, and famed throughout Greece for its cheese, Naxos is a great place to pack a hamper and find a quiet place for a picnic. The main centre is a delightful port town filled with white-washed houses and Venetian mansions, and is a great place to wander about exploring galleries and cafes.

Santorini

The beautiful island of Santorini was created by the eruption of a super volcano called Thera in ancient antiquity. The concentric shaped islands that remain have created one of the most perfect natural harbours in the world, so it is no surprise that water activities are so popular here. Whether partaking a sailing charter, relaxing on a beach, or taking advantage of the many spectacular viewpoints, Santorini is a delightful location to experience the Mediterranean. Famed for the beautiful sunsets, be sure to find a good vantage point as the day winds down.

Paros

Paros is a wonderfully relaxed destination to soak up the Mediterranean sun on one of the many idyllic beaches, or sample some of the local wares at a winery. For the slightly more adventurous travellers, horseback riding tours are a great way to explore the countryside.



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CRETE EXPERIENCE

For convenience your car will be delivered directly to your hotel on day 2 of your stay. Should you prefer to pick up your car directly at the harbour or airport on your arrival day in Heraklion or Chania, we will arrange that for you. All itineraries are suggestions only. They can be tailored to your requirements and can be operated in reverse direction. Cretan main roads are well-maintained and those off-the-beaten-track resemble NZ smaller country roads making Crete the ideal self drive destination.

Please note that accommodation in regional areas (Matala, Lera Petra...) is often simple and local in style. From May to September, overnight ferries operate between Athens to Chania and Heraklion. If leaving Crete onward to Santorini by ferry, it is better to spend your last night in Heraklion as the ferries from Heraklion to Santorini usually depart mid-morning. Private touring of Crete crafted upon request.

Crete Self Drives

Private Holidays 

Complete Crete

8 Days ex Heraklion

Day 1: Heraklion

Upon arrival you will be met by our local operator and transferred to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 2: Heraklion - Aghios Nikolaos (B)

This morning your car will be delivered to your hotel. Perhaps visit the Archaeological Museum, the Battle of Crete Museum or the Palace of Knossos. View the quaint fishing village of Elounda, the island of Spinalonga and arrive at the lively Aghios Nikolaos for overnight.

Day 3: Aghios Nikolaos - Sitia (B)

Today, short drive to Sitia. You may continue to the east coast to relax on the palm beach of Vai or visit the Monastery of Toplou. Overnight Sitia.

Day 4: Sitia - Ierapetra (B)

Drive along the beautiful eastern coast of Crete. Perhaps stop en-route to visit the Minoan Palace of Zakros. Overnight in Ierapetra, the southernmost city in Europe.

Day 5: Ierapetra - Matala (B)

Continue west to Matala. En-route, you may visit the small fishing harbour of Myrtos, a charming village along the southern coast that has preserved its strong Greek character. Overnight in the delightful seaside village of Matala.

Day 6: Matala - Chania (B)

Drive to Preveli Monastery via the narrow gorge of Kourtaliotiko. Continue through the small villages to Rethymnon before making your way to the charming town of Chania.

Day 7: Chania (B)

Spend the day exploring the Old Centre of Chania or visit some of Crete's most famous beaches in Elafonissi or Falasama.

Day 8: Chania (B)

Visit Souda Bay WWII Cemetery en-route to Chania Airport or port to return your rental car.

Tourist Class

from NZ\$1562 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$1782 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily (all itineraries tailored to suit)

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival transfer from port or airport with assistance
- Accommodation in selected hotel category
- Daily breakfast
- Car rental Group B including unlimited km, CDW Insurance and free drop off to hotel on arrival (Fiat Panda or Hyundai i10, upgrades available)





Eastern Crete

6 Days ex Heraklion

Day 1: Heraklion

Upon arrival you will be met by your local operator and transferred to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.

 **Option:** Add an extra night in Heraklion

Day 2: Heraklion - Matala (B)

This morning your car will be delivered to your hotel. Start your drive south towards Matala. En-route visit the archaeological sites of Phaestos and Gortys, capital of Crete in Roman times. Overnight in Matala.

Day 3: Matala - Sitia (B)

Today, drive to Sitia via the South Road, stopping on the way in small villages such as Animi Vinos, or relaxing at the long sandy beach of Lerapetra, facing Chrissi Island also known as "Donkey Island". Overnight in Sitia.

Day 4: Sitia - Aghios Nikolaos (B)

Drive to the unique palm beach of Vai. Later you may visit the Monastery of Toplou before continuing to the fishing village of Elounda. Overnight in Aghios Nikolaos.

Day 5: Aghios Nikolaos - Heraklion (B)

Return to Heraklion. You may visit the Archaeological Museum, the Cathedral of St Minas and the site of Knossos.

Day 6: Heraklion (B)

Drop off your car at Heraklion Port or airport.

Tourist Class

from NZ\$1375 pp twn

First Class

from NZ\$1606 pp twn



Battle of Crete

6 Days ex Heraklion

Day 1: Heraklion

Welcome to Crete. On arrival in Heraklion, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel.

Day 2: Heraklion - Chania (B)

This morning your car will be delivered to your hotel. The small Battle of Crete Museum is definitely worth a visit. Later, we suggest a visit of the ancient city of Knossos (20-30 mins drive). Cradle of the Minoan Civilisation, the ruins of Knossos date back to 1650 BC. Continue to Chania for overnight (4 hrs drive.)

Day 3: Chania (B)

Drive to the area of Maleme Airfield (not open to the public) to view the point of the German paratrooper invasion. Today should also include a stop at Hill 107 and Platánias.

Day 4: Chania (B)

We recommend a visit to the small village of Galatas,

scene of very fierce fighting for the NZ Battalions, and Souda Bay War Cemetery, where 438 New Zealanders remain buried.

Day 5: Chania (B)

Take a day trip to the site of the main evacuation at Sphakia (also spelt Hora Sfakion). En-route, seize the opportunity to visit a family-owned private museum hosting artefacts from WWII and previous Cretan wars in a typical local home.

Day 6: Chania (B)

Perhaps visit one of the beautiful villages to the west of Crete, a local winery or take a walk in one of the local gorges. Return your car rental at Chania Port or airport.

Tourist Class

from NZ\$1551 pp twn

First Class

from NZ\$1782 pp twn





Discover Cyprus

Private Holiday 



Prices based on 4 people travelling
First Class
 from NZ\$4238 pp tw'n
Deluxe Class
 from NZ\$4296 pp tw'n

Highlights

- Stand in the stunningly restored amphitheatre of Kourion, first built in the second century BCE.
- Explore the Archaeological Museum which includes artefacts predating the Bronze Age.
- Mingle with locals and hunt for a bargain at the Omodos markets

8 Days ex Limassol

Day 1: Limassol (D)

Upon arrival at Larnaca airport you will be welcomed and transferred to your hotel in Limassol (45 minutes). After a welcome drink and check-in, the afternoon is at leisure before going to a local restaurant in Limassol for dinner.

Day 2: Limassol, Kourion & Kolossi (BLD)

Today you visit the Castle of Kolossi, originally constructed in the 13th century during the crusades. Next, visit the ancient Kingdom of Kourion, one of the most spectacular sites in the island, with extensive archaeological ruins. Upon your return to Limassol, visit the Limassol Marina, the harbour, and the old town of Limassol, including the medieval Castle of Limassol, where, according to tradition, King Richard the Lionheart of England married Princess Berengaria of Navarre.

Day 3: Paphos (BLD)

Your first visit today will be to the Tombs of the Kings, an early Hellenistic monument dating from the 4th century BC, before continuing to The Church of Panayia Chrysopolitissa, built in the 13th century over the ruins of the largest Early Byzantine basilica on the island.

Next, visit the Mosaics of the Roman period, dating from around the 3rd century AD which include many attention grabbing geometrical decorations and draw inspiration from Greek mythological scenes. Take your lunch at the Limanaki of Paphos with stunning views of the fishing harbour and the medieval castle of Paphos.

Day 4: Limassol (BD)

Following breakfast at your hotel, take a full day at Leisure to relax and enjoy the hotel's facilities, or explore the city in your own pace and style.

Day 5: Nicosia: The Medieval Capital (BLD)

Following breakfast, you will be met by your English speaking guide for a full day excursion to Nicosia. Visit the famous Archaeological Museum with a fascinating

collection of Cypriot antiquities and treasures from the Neolithic age to the Early Byzantine period.

From there, walk to the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist with its 18th century wall paintings depicting scenes from the Bible and the discovery of the tomb of St Barnabas in Salamis.

After a drive past the Venetian walls of the old city and Famagusta Gate, you will arrive at "Laiki Geitonía", where lunch will be served in one of the traditional taverns. After lunch, there will be some free time to stroll at leisure down the stone paved streets of Laiki Geitonía. Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Limassol.

Day 6: Troodos Mountains, Kykkos Monastery and Omodos Village (BLD)

After breakfast depart by vehicle to Kykkos Monastery. Take a short stroll to Throni to visit the tomb of the late Archbishop Makarios III amidst the dense forest, before having lunch at a local tavern.

Next, visit Omodos, a traditional Cypriot wine producing village which is also renowned for its Monastery of the Holly Cross. A traditional wine press known as Linos is preserved, where you will stop and sample a selection of white and red wines, the famous Commandaria desert wine and of course Zivania. Stroll around the village's winding streets and mingle with the locals before returning back to Limassol for dinner and overnight at your hotel.

Day 7: At Leisure (BD)

Following breakfast, a full day is set aside at leisure for you to relax and make use of the hotel's facilities, or explore the city in your own pace and style.

Day 8: Departure (B)

After breakfast and check out, your guide will meet in the lobby of your hotel to coordinate departure transfer to Larnaca airport where you will be led to the check in counter and offered any necessary assistance for a smooth and quick check in.

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily


Tour inclusions:

- Seven nights' accommodation at the chosen hotel in Limassol on half board basis
- All transfers by first class a/c Mercedes E-Class or Vito as per the program
- English speaking guide's assistance, as per the program
- All entrance fees to the museums, churches and sites as per the program
- Four (4) lunches during the tours at local restaurants, including one glass of wine or one small beer or one soft drink per person
- Six (6) dinners at the chosen hotel, excluding drinks
- One (1) dinner out at a traditional restaurant, including one glass of wine or one local beer or one soft drink per person
- Welcome pack for each guest with maps, guide book and general information on Cyprus





Malta Escape

Private Holiday and Group Tours 

Fall under the charm of this small archipelago of the Mediterranean with its kaleidoscope of cultural influences. In Malta, the succeeding Latin, Oriental & British Civilisations have come together, leaving a rich cultural heritage amid beautiful sandy beaches, white rocky tops & greenery. The perfect spot to relax & explore.

7 days ex Valletta / St Julians / Silemia

Day 1: Friday Malta

Welcome to Malta. On arrival, you will be met by our friendly local representative and transferred to your preferred hotel in Valletta, St Julians or Silemia. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 2: Saturday Malta (B)

Day at leisure to orientate yourself explore on your own.

Day 3: Sunday Marsaxlokk Market & Blue Grotto Tour (B)

Today browse the colourful stalls at the local market of the idyllic fishing village of Marsaxlokk. Continue to the Blue Grotto. Explore the caves & the islet of Filfla. Later, visit a typical village with its maze of narrow winding streets.

Day 4: Monday Valletta (B)

Explore the vibrant streets of Valletta. Discover the beauty & the charm of this fortified city built by the Knights in 1566. Take in the breath-taking views of the Grand Harbour from the Upper Barracca Gardens. Visit the richly decorated St. John's Co-Cathedral. Continue via Republic St to the Grand Masters' Palace and the recently restored St. George's Square. End your visit with the Malta Experience audio-visual show.

Note: Valletta guided half-day tour is in the morning Jul-Sep and in the afternoon Oct-Jun

Day 5: Tuesday Mdina

Today discover the different architectural styles of the Siculo-Norman palaces, and other baroque buildings on your way to the medieval city of Mdina. Former capital of Malta, Mdina is also known as "Silent City" for its peaceful atmosphere. Meander the narrow streets, dating back to the Arab period. Leave Mdina through Greek's Gate and continue to the cliffs at Dingli. Admire the beautiful Presidential Palace from the outside and end your tour with a visit of the San Anton Botanical Gardens. Afternoon at leisure

Day 6: Wednesday (B)

Day at leisure to immerse yourself in the local environment.

Day 7: Thursday Malta (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.

Note:

- The order of the sightseeing may vary as tours do not operate on a daily basis.
- Option to extend your stay in Malta to take advantage of the beautiful sandy beaches of the island.



Superior Tourist Class
from NZ\$1750 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs Fridays

Tour inclusions:

- Airport Greeting on Arrival
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- Daily Breakfast
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout
- Group Sightseeing with English Speaking Guides
- Travel Notes – by Innovative Travel



Turkey

Turkey, the country where East meets West, has long been a melting pot of cultures. With history that includes habitation by Greeks, Assyrians, Thracians, and Armenians, and replete with names such as Alexander the Great, Constantine the Great, and Suleimen the Magnificent, a visit to Turkey is a fascinating journey through time. For New Zealanders, this is no truer than with a pilgrimage to Gallipoli, where many historians say Kiwis found their national identity. With diverse landscapes including stunning Pumakkale, the seaside resort of Bodrum, and the continent-straddling capital Istanbul, Turkey is full of unforgettable experiences.



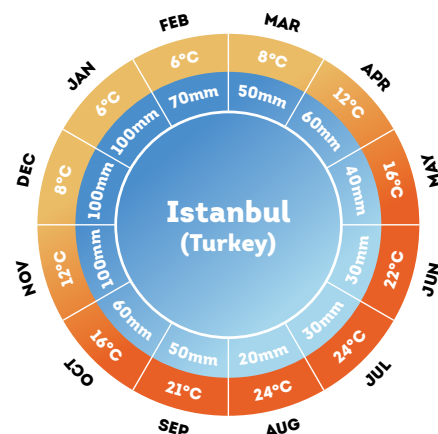
Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Airport arrival and departure transfers included in all itineraries
- ✓ 24/7 local and New Zealand-based phone support
- ✓ 30 years history specialising in Gallipoli and other Turkish experiences
- ✓ Seamless connections with itineraries in Greece, Egypt, and other destinations in the region
- ✓ Female guides available
- ✓ Personally inspected and vetted hotels
- ✓ Managing Director, Robyn Galloway, chair of the New Zealand Turkey Business Council

Climate and best time to travel

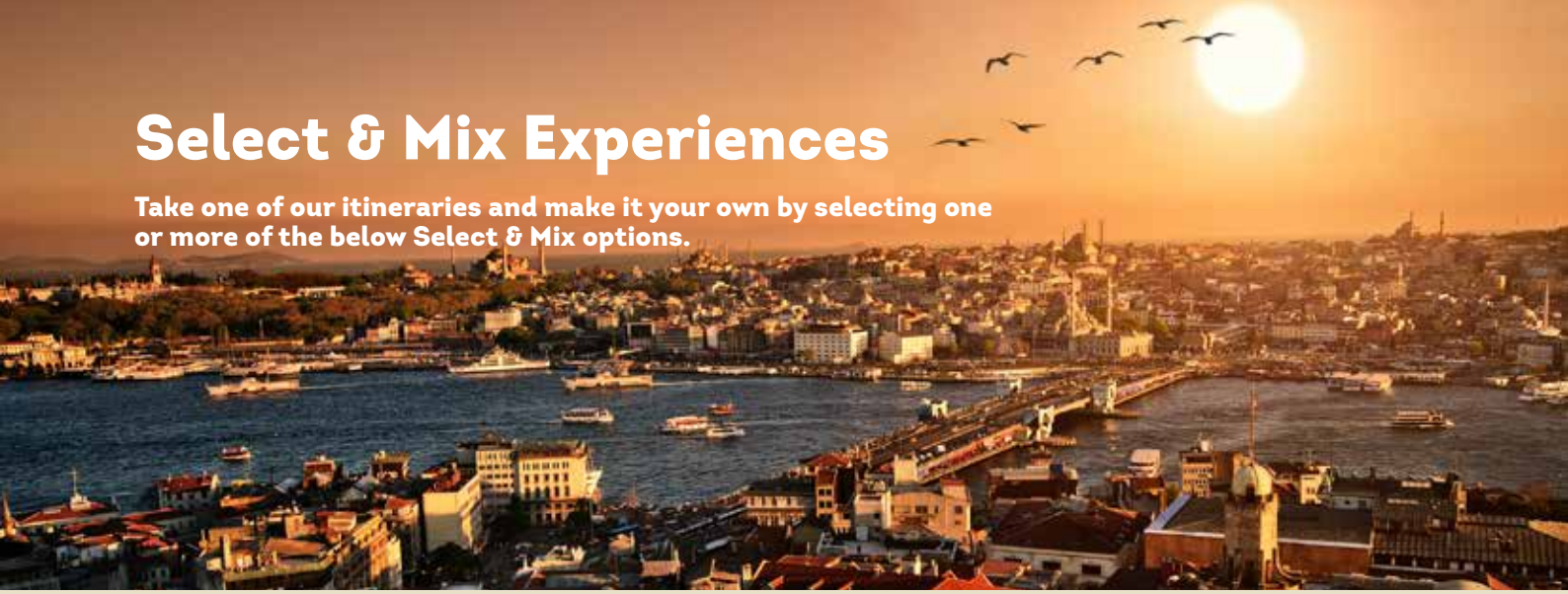
The Aegean and Mediterranean coastlines of Turkey experience mild winters (November through March) and balmy summers (July through August), while Istanbul and the inland regions experience more variation in both temperature and rainfall, with winter snow being common. Many visitors favour spring and autumn for these regions as the skies are clear and the temperatures pleasant.

The agreeable spring weather coincides with ANZAC Day (April 25th), although the open-air overnight stay can become chilly in the hours prior to the Dawn Service.



Select & Mix Experiences

Take one of our itineraries and make it your own by selecting one or more of the below Select & Mix options.



Experience the history of one of antiquity's most important cities, with a walking tour of the old town, including the last stop of the Orient Express.



Learn the secrets of Turkish cuisine with a four hour cooking class including lunch.



Cross the Bosphorus Bridge to take in the incredible view from Camlica Hill before a visit to the stunning Beylerbeyi Palace.



Beginning with a guided tour of the Spice Market, taste your way through Istanbul on a Street Food tour.



Experience the beauty of Istanbul by night on the water with Bosphorus cruise including dinner.



Explore a lesser traversed side of Istanbul with a backstreets walking tour, taking in many stunning sites including the Church of the Holy Saviour.



Learn about the famous Mevlevi Order at an unforgettable Whirling Dervishes Show.



Experience a part of Turkish culture famed around the world with visit to a traditional Turkish Bath.



Explore Ephesus on a full day tour, including the spectacular theatre, and stone cottage where the Virgin Mary is said to have lived.



Take a full day tour to Pamukkale, the ancient hot water thermal resort and home to stunning lime cascades.



Visit the Acropolis of Pergamum, resplendent with monuments such as the Temple of Trajan, & Asclepion with its fascinating medical centre.



A highlight for many, view the stunning Cappadocia landscape from upon high with a morning hot air balloon.



Explore the fascinating underground cities and Churches of Cappadocia, shelter for persecuted locals for centuries.



Get off the beaten track with 1/2 Day 4wd Jeep tour through incredible landscapes of Cappadocia



Explore New Zealand's deep connection with Turkey on a Gallipoli Landing Beaches cruise.



See some of the remnants of the doomed Gallipoli campaign by snorkelling at Anzac Cove.



Visit the site of the British landing at Gallipoli with an afternoon excursion to the British trenches at Helles.



Explore the back country of Antalya on an 8 hour Jeep Safari including lunch at a local village.



Discover the fascinating and ancient city of the dead at Myra before a boat ride to see the underwater ruins at Kekova Island.



Take a guided tour exploring Bodrum Castle, including the incredible underwater archaeological museum.

Istanbul

Izmir/
Kusadasi

Cappadocia

Other



A Taste of Istanbul

Article by Ashleigh Stewart published in Stuff.co.nz



Just as you think your waistband might actually be straining slightly, it's time for dessert. Of course, you can't stay in the same eatery for two courses in a row, so head out into the street and seek out a place that sells an indeterminate little bowl of things that wouldn't otherwise be in the same recipe. This is asure (around \$2) and though we might joke at the contents of such a hodgepodge of a dessert, it's actually quite a big deal; supposedly, when Noah survived the big flood, he made this exact dish with the ingredients that were available. And so the Turks have emulated him ever since.

It might look bizarre to say the least, but this little bowl of dried figs and apricots, haricot beans, chickpeas and nuts, is a light and not-too-sweet way to cap off a meal. But just when you think you can relax, we're not done here. Keep that stomach at the ready, soldier.

Back off across the Bosphorus we go, on the new European side this time, where you will amble up the hill and past the imposing Galata Tower to get to Pera/Beyoglu (depending on whether you go by its name in the Middle Ages which still seems to be used, or its modern name). This famous, wide pedestrian avenue (known as Istiklal Caddesi, visited by up to three million people per day) may be more a sea of bobbing heads than anything else, but you'll be thankful for the extra girth of the walkway that allows for easier avoidance of slow walkers.

The street's architecture is stunningly preserved and makes for a pleasant stroll even if you're not here for the food. But alas, we are, and that means more questionable things served in bread - like kokorec (lamb intestines, around \$3) and fried mussels in garlic sauce (\$3). The former is actually surprisingly delicious, tender meat mixed with peppers and the latter is especially indulgent, with the slathering of garlic sauce really giving your stomach something to moan about.

Just as you're ruining the day you over took to gluten and your pants seem to reach breaking point, it's time for dessert No. 2. If you're a chocolate fiend, Pera has a famed chocolate shop Beyoglu Chocolate, which does a mean block of milk chocolate and pistachios (which Turkey is well-known for).

But of course, you couldn't finish a meal (or a week's worth of meals, if you will) with anything but the most patriotic of desserts: whether it be via Turkish ice cream or Turkish Delight. Choose the ice cream (\$2.50) for the entertainment value (the servers seem just as highly-trained in performing tricks as they are in serving the pliant frozen dessert) and the fact that it's unlike any other ice cream you've probably tried before. The elasticated and supple ice cream gets its texture from the goat milk it's made of and any Turkish person will tell you that that reason alone makes it superior to Western ice cream. But, if you're like me, and had only previously known Turkish Delight as the gelatinous chocolate no-one wants at the bottom of the Favourites box (Cadbury, you have lied to us for many years) or as the candy Edmund Pevensie sold his family for in Narnia (a point which has been contentious to me for years considering aforementioned unsavouriness of the Cadbury version), it's time you got acquainted.

No wonder Edmund was willing to give up his family for a square of chewy goodness, because this is actually one of the best things I've ever put in my mouth. You'll be hard-pressed to wander 500 metres anywhere in the city and not find any Turkish delight and there's no real marker of quality here it seems: they're all delicious. And, given the fact that its more luxurious iterations come in dreamy forms like pistachio and honey, hazelnut and vanilla, and pomegranate, pistachio and cranberry - we're quite ready to sell our families for more, too. We're also left with a grievance with Cadbury and a possible defamation case against the humble dessert.

And then, if you must fulfil your one wish of having a proper kebab in Turkey - then we implore you to go to Sehzade Cag Kebab for the most succulent lamb you're ever tasted (\$5.50). The place is tiny, the lines are present at all times, and there's only one thing on the menu (lamb kebab), but it will be the best kebab you've ever had. No drunken doner in the taxi home will ever taste the same again.

Now, armed with your new knowledge of Turkish cuisine, perhaps you could ask for the Iskender (a normal kebab with a tomato sauce, let's not get too crazy) instead of your normal doner on your next 1am stop at the local after a big night. Even better, come home stocked up with four kilos of Turkish Delight and try and right the wrongs of chocolate boxes of years gone by, by educating everyone in your family - and near vicinity.

Your mother probably won't thank you for it, but Turkey will.

Read the full article at
www.innovativetravel.co.nz/taste





Glories of Turkey

Coach Tour 

Highlights

- Float through volcanic valleys on an unforgettable hot air balloon trip (optional)
- Remember those who came before at battlefield sites including ANZAC Cove and Chunuk Bair
- Explore the Fairy Chimneys & Rock Churches at Cappadocia
- Have a taste of Turkish hospitality as you share a meal with local villagers

15 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. On arrival in Istanbul, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel. This evening join a Welcome briefing and meet your fellow travel companions.

Day 2: Istanbul (B)

Today discover the wonders of Istanbul. Visit Topkapi Palace, the Hippodrome, the awe-inspiring Blue Mosque, and St. Sophia Church. This afternoon experience the atmosphere of the Grand Bazaar, the world's largest and oldest covered market.

+ **Option:** Join a belly dancing dinner show tonight.

Day 3: Istanbul - Gallipoli - Canakkale (BD)

Embark on a morning drive to the historic Gallipoli Peninsula. Visit Anzac Cove, Lone Pine Cemetery and Chunuk Bair. Bid farewell to the WWI battlegrounds and continue across the Dardanelles to Canakkale.

Day 4: Sunday: Canakkale - Troy - Pergamum - Izmir (BL)

This morning visit the ancient city of Troy, the setting of the legendary Trojan War. Continue to a traditional village and share a meal with locals. This afternoon, continue to Pergamum and visit the ancient Asclepion Medical Centre.

Day 5: Ephesus - St Mary's House - Izmir (BD)

Today explore ancient Ephesus and its 2,000 year-old marble streets. Capture the historic significance of the Library of Celsus and Hadrian's Temple. Continue to St. Mary's stone cottage, where it is believed Virgin Mary spent her last years. End your day with a visit to a regional rug production centre before returning to Izmir.

Day 6: Izmir - Bodrum (BD)

After breakfast drive to Bodrum to visit the castle of St. Peter and the renowned Underwater Museum.

Day 7: Bodrum - Marmaris (BD)

Morning transfer Southwards to the coastal city of Marmaris. Afternoon at leisure to explore the beach and markets of this mysterious city.

Day 8: Marmaris - Pamukkale (BD)

This morning drive through lush valleys to Pamukkale, the Cotton Fortress, with its white lime cascades formed by hot mineral springs. Visit the ruins of the Roman health spa of Hierapolis and time for a swim in your hotel's thermal pool.

Day 9: Pamukkale - Antalya (BD)

Visit the ancient city of Termesso and continue to Antalya.

Day 10: Perge - Aspendos - Antalya (BD)

This morning visit Perge and the ancient city of Aspendos, renowned for having the best-preserved theatre of antiquity. Afternoon at leisure to explore the many jewels of local architecture.

Day 11: Antalya - Konya - Cappadocia (BD)

Early morning departure via the Taurus Mountains to Konya. Visit the Mausoleum of the Sufi philosopher Mevlana, former dervish lodge of the Mevlevi order - better known as the Whirling Dervishes. Later, continue to Cappadocia, the land of the fairy chimneys. En-route, visit a 13th century caravanserai and the fascinating underground city of Saratli.

Day 12: Cappadocia (BD)

Today explore the marvellous landscapes of Cappadocia. Visit Goreme, located among rock formations, first settled in the Roman period. Many rock churches & monasteries from the period are marvellously preserved. Continue to the town of Avanos, renowned for its high quality earthenware. Other highlights include Pasabagi, Red Valley, and a brief regional pottery workshop in a cave.

+ **Option:** Early morning balloon ride

+ **Option:** Join a Whirling Dervishes performance



Superior Tourist Class
from NZ\$3409 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departure dates:

Mar 26; Apr 02, 09, 16, 23, 30; May 07, 14, 21, 28; Jun 04, 11, 25; Jul 09, 23; Aug 06, 20; Sep 03, 10, 17, 24; Oct 01, 09, 15, 22, 29

Tour inclusions:

- Transfers and transportation in modern deluxe coach (34 seats)
- Accommodation in carefully selected Superior First Class hotels
- Daily breakfast, 10 dinners, 1 lunch
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Activities & entrance fees as per itinerary
- Portage at hotels

 4 Guaranteed

 32 Maximum

Day 13: Cappadocia - Ankara (BD)

Morning drive through the salt lake area to Turkey's capital, Ankara - known for its wide avenues, parks, lakes, and remains from the Byzantine era scattered though the city. Visit Ataturk Mausoleum and the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, which holds artefacts up to 7500 year-old, including the most extensive collection of Hittite treasures in the world.

Day 14: Ankara - Istanbul (BD)

This morning depart on a scenic drive to Istanbul. Afternoon at leisure for your last minute shopping. Farewell dinner tonight.

+ **Option:** Join an afternoon cruise on the Bosphorus, plus visit the Spice Market.

Day 15: Istanbul (B)

Transfer to Istanbul Airport for your onward flight.





Magical Turkey

First Class Coach Tour



First Class

from NZ\$3280 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departure dates:

Saturdays Apr 04, 25, 02 May – 24 Oct

Tour inclusions:

- Airport greeting on arrival
- Shared airport transfers
- Welcome briefing
- Accommodation in First and Boutique Class Hotels with private facilities
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout by coach
- Group sightseeing with English speaking guides
- Porterage at hotels
- Travel Notes – issued by Innovative Travel

2 Guaranteed

28 Maximum

Day 13: Safranbolu - Istanbul (B)

Walk along Safranbolu's streets sheltering over 2000 traditional Turkish-Ottoman houses, grasp the opportunity of exploring the elegance of Ottoman housing architecture and become familiar with the traditional lifestyle of its hospitable locals. Aside from Saffron you can taste the fine samples of Turkish Delight, before continuing the drive to Istanbul where an afternoon visit to the Grand Bazaar is planned.

Day 14: Istanbul (B)

After breakfast transfer to Istanbul Airport for your flight.



Highlights

- A more adventurous tour encompassing the essence of Turkey its southern coast natural wonderlands
- Opportunity to taste the culinary delicacies of Turkey with the locals
- Discover Ottoman heritage and architecture and history with a visit to Safranbolu
- Spend the night in a cave style hotel hewn from the local rock

14 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. On arrival you will be met by a representative of our local agent and then transferred to your tour hotel.

Day 2: Istanbul (B)

Depart on a day of discovering Istanbul. Visit Topkapi Palace Museum, residence of the Ottoman Sultans, Blue Mosque, famous for its blue ceramic tiles and the famous Spice Market.

Day 3: Istanbul - Gallipoli - Canakkale (BD)

This morning drive to Gallipoli and visit Anzac Cove WWI memorials, Nek, Chunuk Bair, Lone Pine and the 57th regiment memorial. Cross the Dardanelles.

Day 4: Canakkale - Troy - Pergamum - Kusadasi (BD)

Drive to legendary Troy: the site of the Trojan War. Then cross the Ida Mountains to arrive at Pergamum.

Day 5: Kusadasi - Ephesus - Sirince - Kusadasi (BLD)

Explore the ruins of Ephesus and stroll through some 2000 year old marbled streets. Capture the significance of the Library of Celsius and Hadrian's Temple. Taste the local delicacy Turkish Gozleme with lunch in a nomadic tent in Selcuk. Continue to the village of Sirince, one of the most beautiful villages in Turkey.

Day 6: Kusadasi - Hierapolis - Pamukkale (BD)

Travel through the plains and cotton farms to arrive at the lime cascades of Pamukkale formed by mineral springs and visit ancient Hierapolis.

Day 7: Pamukkale - Koycegiz - Fethiye (BD)

Today head to the coast and the Seaside town of Koycegiz where you will take a boat cruise to Turtle Beach. Time for a swim or take the opportunity to cover yourself in mud at the local mud bath.

Day 8: Fethiye - Kayakoy - Oludeniz - Fethiye (B)

Admire the views along the scenic coastline enroute to the "ghost village" of Kayakoy and continue to Oludeniz and its stunning beach where you will have time for a swim.

Day 9: Fethiye - Saklikent Gorge - Antalya (BD)

Visit the stunningly beautiful Saklikent Gorge, Turkey's longest and deepest canyon. After tracking along the canyon continue to Antalya crossing the Tauros Mountains. Upon arrival discover the Duden Waterfalls.

Day 10: Antalya - Aspendos - Konya - Cappadocia (BD)

Head inland in search of the silk route. Travel to Konya, stopping en-route at the Aspendos ancient theatre. In Konya, tour the monastery of the Mervlana Whirling Dervishes spiritual home. Continue to Cappadocia via Seljuk, a fine example of an ancient Silk Road Caravansera.

Day 11: Cappadocia (BL)

Spend the day exploring the incredible lunar landscape, churches and fairy chimneys of Cappadocia. Visit the Kaymakli Underground City, Open Air Museum in Goreme, and natural fortress in Ushisar. Lunch in a cave restaurant to taste the famous pottery Kebab. Optional Turkish folklore evening.

Day 12: Cappadocia - Ankara - Safranbolu (BD)

Drive to Ankara to visit the Mausoleum of Ataturk, burial place of the National Hero who founded the modern Republic of Turkey. Continue to Safranbolu, a Unesco World Heritage site whose name derives from "saffron", and Safranbolu is where the best quality saffron in the world is produced.

Option: Early morning balloon ride





Charming Turkey

Small Group Tour 

Highlights

- Experience the moving sites of the Gallipoli Peninsula, including ANZAC Cove, Chunuk Bair, and Lone Pine
- View the incredible limestone terraces of Pamukkale, so similar to New Zealand's Pink and White Terraces
- Explore the backstreets of Istanbul with your guide sharing local food along the way

11 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Friday: Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. On arrival you will be met and then transferred to your hotel. Tonight meet your travel companions.

Day 2: Saturday: Istanbul (B)

After breakfast learn more of the fascinating history and culture of Turkey with a guided tour of Istanbul, visiting St. Sophia, the Blue Mosque, Hippodrome and Grand Bazaar.


Day 3: Sunday: Istanbul - Cappadocia (BD)

Fly to Cappadocia. Tour the Turasan winery and try the ancient wines of Cappadocia. Then take a jeep safari from Goreme to Cavusin through Love Valley. Walk up to the old city carved in to the rocks and see the Church of St. John the Baptist, one of the oldest cave churches in Cappadocia. Continue to Ortahisar via the Rose Valley to see the pigeon houses carved into the rocks.

Day 4: Monday: Cappadocia (BL)

Today travel to the Kaymaki Underground City. Open Air Museum in Goreme and natural fortress in Uchisar. Lunch in a cave restaurant to taste the famous pottery Kebap.

 **Option:** Early morning balloon ride

 **Option:** Turkish folklore evening is available tonight

Day 5: Tuesday: Cappadocia - Konya - Pamukkale (BD)

Early departure for Pamukkale. On the way, visit the 13th century Seljukian masterpiece Sultanhan Caravanserai and arrival Mausoleum of Mevlana in Konya.

Day 6: Wednesday: Pamukkale - Izmir (BD)

Visit the ancient Hierapolis with the magnificent Necropolis, graveyard and the lime cascades. Drive to Selcuk to visit Temple of Artemis, one of the last

remaining Wonders of the Ancient World, then continue to Izmir.

Day 7: Thursday: Izmir - Ephesus - Sirince - Izmir (BLD)

Explore Ephesus, its marbled streets, amphitheatre and the Temple of Hadrian. Take the opportunity to discover the rich history behind local handicrafts like handmade carpets and tiles. Lunch in a nomadic tent in Selcuk to taste Turkish Gozleme followed by a visit to the village of Sirince one of the most beautiful villages in Turkey.

Day 8: Friday: Izmir - Pergamum - Canakkale (BD)

Early departure for Bergama to visit the Asklepon with its well preserved remains before continuing to Troy; the site where the legendary Trojan War took place.

Day 9: Saturday: Gallipoli Peninsula - Istanbul (B)

After breakfast travel to Gallipoli and visit Anzac Cove, Nek, Chunuk Bair, Lone Pine, the 57th regiment memorial. Cross the Dardanelles continuing to Istanbul arriving later in the evening.

Day 10: Sunday: Istanbul (B)

Explore the backstreets of Istanbul. Start the tour from Spice Market area learning about spices which dominated Ottoman cuisine. Experience the smells and the colours of Istanbul as you walk through the Galata area stopping to taste ethnic dishes from all regions of Anatolia before heading to Beyoglu and its little labyrinth like streets filled with hidden gems from Blacksea style Turkish pizza to fried mussels. Finish with desert, either mastic rice pudding, elastic ice cream, Beyoglu chocolate or tasting all of them if you have a sweet tooth.

Day 11: Monday: Istanbul (B)

After breakfast shuttle transfer to Istanbul Airport.



First Class
from NZ\$2910 pp tw'n

What you need to know:


Departure dates:

Departs Fridays

Apr 24; May 08, 15; Jun 12, 26; Jul 17;
Aug 21; Sep 11, 18; Oct 09.

Tour inclusions:

- Airport Greeting on Arrival
- Shared airport transfers
- Welcome briefing
- Accommodation in First and Boutique Class Hotels with private facilities
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- A/C transportation throughout by coach
- Small group sightseeing with English Speaking guides
- Porterage at hotels
- Travel Notes - issued by Innovative Travel

 2 Guaranteed

 28 Maximum





Classical Turkey

Coach Tour    

Highlights

- Embrace the solemnity of Gallipoli & Chunuk Bair
- Admire epic ancient monuments at Ephesus, Pergamum & Troy
- Marvel at the awesome rocky landscape of Cappadocia

10 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Friday: Istanbul (B)

Welcome to Turkey. On arrival in Istanbul, you will be met by our friendly local representative and transferred to your hotel.

Day 2: Saturday: Istanbul (B)

Spend the day exploring Istanbul, the only city in the world to span two continents. Visit the emblematic Topkapi Palace, formerly the imperial residence of the Ottoman sultans; St. Sophia Church, built as a church by Emperor Justinian in the sixth century; Blue Mosque with its exquisite blue tiles, and experience the lively atmosphere of the Grand Bazaar.

Day 3: Sunday: Istanbul – Ankara – Cappadocia (BD)

Today travel to the capital city Ankara and immerse yourself in local history with a visit to the Mausoleum of Atatürk, the burial place of the national hero who founded the modern Republic of Turkey. Continue to Cappadocia through the picturesque Salt Lakes region.

Day 4: Monday: Cappadocia (BL)

Today let yourself be captivated by the incredible natural rock-formations and the Christian influence of this special region of Turkey. Visit the Kaymakli Underground City, Open Air Museum in Goreme, and natural fortress in Uchisar. For lunch, taste the famous Pottery Kebab in a cave restaurant. This afternoon browse through some local handicrafts – hand-made carpets, Turkish tiles, onyx and potteries.

- ➕ **Option:** Early morning balloon ride
- ➕ **Option:** Dinner & Turkish show tonight

Day 5: Tuesday: Cappadocia – Konya – Pamukkale (BD)

This morning visit the 13th century Sultanhan Caravanserai, a Seljuk masterpiece. Continue to Konya and visit the Mausoleum of Mevlana, a sacred

Note:

- Option to start tour on Saturdays. The itinerary will differ with Istanbul sightseeing taking place on Day 9.
- Option to upgrade to a cave style hotel in Cappadocia (supplement of \$180 pp share twin).

place of the mystical Whirling Dervishes. Overnight in Pamukkale.

Day 6: Wednesday: Pamukkale – Izmir (BD)

Today explore the unreal lime cascade landscape of the Cotton Fortress Pamukkale and the ancient monuments of Hierapolis, the magnificent Necropolis and the mythical Temple of Artemis – one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Overnight in Izmir.

Day 7: Thursday: Ephesus – Sirince – Izmir (BLD)

This morning capture the echoes of past empires at the ancient city of Ephesus which once was the capital of Roman Asia Minor. See its magnificent library, theatre and temples. For lunch, taste the typical Turkish Gozleme (savoury Turkish flatbread) served in a nomadic tent in Selcuk. Continue to the marvellous Greek-era hilltop village of Sirince and fall under the charm of its quaint streets, little shops and orchards.

Day 8: Friday: Izmir – Pergamum – Canakkale (BD)

Spend the day exploring the ruins of mythical sites; visit the ancient Medical Centre at Asclepion and the legendary city of Troy, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Overnight in Canakkale.

Day 9: Saturday: Canakkale – Gallipoli – Istanbul (B)

This morning embark on a drive across the Dardanelles to the historic Gallipoli Peninsula, scene of the aborted Allied invasion of 1915. Visit Anzac Cove, the Nek, Chunuk Bair, Lone Pine and the 57th Regiment Memorial. Later, continue to Istanbul.

Day 10: Sunday: Istanbul (B)

Transfer to Istanbul Airport for your onward flight.



First Class

from NZ\$1994 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departure dates:

Fridays & Saturdays*

Jan 17; Feb 14; Mar 13, 27; Apr 10, 24;
May 8, 15, 22; Jun 5, 12, 19, 26, Jul 3,
10, 17, 24; Aug 7, 14, 21; Sep 4, 11, 18, 25;
Oct 2, 9, 16; Nov 6; Dec 25

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival and departure shuttle transfers
- Air-conditioned transfers and transportation
- Daily breakfast, 5 dinners & 2 lunches
- Professional English-speaking guides
- Museum entrance fees
- Porterage at hotels

 2 Guaranteed

 28 Maximum

SPECIAL 2020 ANZAC DAY TOUR

Departing Istanbul on 16 April 2020, this already unforgettable journey will be made even more special with attendance at the 2020 ANZAC Day Dawn Service and Commemorations at Gallipoli. A pilgrimage for many New Zealanders, this very special occasion is incorporated into the Classical Turkey Tour with a small modification to the touring programme.



Full details on the website. Supplement and strictly limited availability applies.





Authentic Turkey

Boutique Small Group Tour



First Class
from NZ\$3687 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departure dates:

May 07, 14, 28; Jun 04, 25; Jul 09, 23;
Aug 06, 20; Sep 03, 17

Tour inclusions:

- Accommodation in carefully selected historical, boutique, and cave hotels
- Domestic flights
- Air conditioned transfers and transportation
- Daily breakfast, 5 dinners, 1 lunch
- Professional English-speaking guides
- Activities & entrance fees as per itinerary
- Portering at hotels

4 Guaranteed

22 Maximum

Highlights

- Experience local character and charm with boutique accommodation and meals
- Embrace the vibrant atmosphere of Istanbul, where East meets West
- Retrace history at Gallipoli
- Uncover ancient ruins at Pergamum, Izmir, Ephesus and Troy

11 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Thursday: Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. On arrival in Istanbul, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel. This evening join a Welcome briefing and meet your fellow travel companions.

Day 2: Friday: Istanbul (B)

Today discover the wonders of Istanbul. Visit Topkapi Palace Museum, the Hippodrome, the awe-inspiring Blue Mosque, and St. Sophia Church. This afternoon experience the atmosphere, aromas & sounds of the Grand Bazaar, the world's largest and oldest covered market.

Option: Join a belly dancing dinner show tonight.

Day 3: Saturday: Istanbul – Gallipoli – Canakkale (BD)

Embark on a morning drive to the historic Gallipoli Peninsula. Visit Anzac Cove, Lone Pine Cemetery and Chunuk Bair. Bid farewell to the WWI battlegrounds and continue across the Dardanelles to Canakkale.

Day 4: Sunday: Canakkale – Troy – Pergamum – Izmir (BLD)

This morning visit the ancient city of Troy, steeped in Greek mythology from the Trojan Wars. Continue to a traditional village and share a meal with locals – the best way to experience the hospitality of Turkish people. This afternoon, continue to Pergamum and visit the ancient Asclepion Medical Centre.

Day 5: Monday: Ephesus – St Mary's House – Izmir (B)

Today explore the ruins of Ephesus and stroll through the 2,000 year-old marble streets. Capture the historic significance of the Library of Celsius and Hadrian's



Temple. Continue to St. Mary's stone cottage, where it is believed Virgin Mary spent her last years accompanied by St. John. End your day with a variety of colours and textures with a visit to a regional rug production centre before returning to Izmir.

Day 6: Tuesday: Izmir – Bodrum (BD)

After breakfast drive to Bodrum to visit the castle of St. Peter and the renowned Underwater Museum.

Day 7: Bodrum – Marmaris (BD)

Morning transfer Southwards to the coastal city of Marmaris. Afternoon at leisure to explore the beach and markets of this mysterious city.

Day 8: Thursday: Bodrum – Cappadocia (BD)

Leisurely morning and flight to Cappadocia.

Option: Take a Gulet blue cruise detour.

Day 9: Friday: Cappadocia (BD)

Spend the day exploring the incredible lunar landscape of Cappadocia. Uncover towns, churches and fairy chimneys built within rock formations. Visit Avanos, Pasabagi & Devrent Valley, towns renowned for high quality earthenware, and try your hand at pottery-making. Tonight dine at a special local restaurant.

Option: Early morning balloon ride

Option: Join a Whirling Dervishes performance

Day 10: Saturday: Cappadocia – Istanbul (B)

Morning flight to Istanbul and afternoon at leisure to explore the incredible richness of this vibrant city at your own pace.

Option: Join a half-day Bosphorus cruise.

Day 11: Istanbul (B)

Transfer to Istanbul Airport for your onward flight.

Note:

- A 16 day tour including a 5 day Gulet Cruise around the Mediterranean is available on select departures. Supplements apply.





Gallipoli

No trip to Turkey is complete without a visit to Gallipoli, the battleground where so many ANZACs gave their lives during WWI, and the place where many say three countries found their national identity. Take the opportunity to honour the ANZAC Day pledge "We will remember them" by selecting one of the many touring options we have on offer. All Innovative Travel tours visit Anzac Cove, Chunuk Bair, and Lone Pine war cemeteries. Please check www.innovativetravel.co.nz for specific inclusions, exclusions, and other information.

Troy and Gallipoli

4 Days ex Istanbul

Coach or Private Tour  

Day 1: Istanbul

Arrival transfer to Istanbul hotel. Option to extend your time in Istanbul with extra nights and a full range of sightseeing options.

Day 2: Istanbul - Dardanelles - Canakkale (BL)

Early morning departure from Istanbul to the Gallipoli Peninsula. After lunch visit Anzac Cove, Brighton Beach and the Anzac Commemorative sites including, Lone

Pine Cemetery, Chunuk Bair, Johnson's Jolly and The Nek. Then visit the Turkish Cemetery before crossing the Dardanelles to Canakkale for overnight.

Day 3: Troy - Istanbul (B)

Morning visit of Troy with its famous wooden horse, then return to Canakkale where the afternoon is at leisure.

+ **Option:** Snorkel or take a cruise around the landing beaches). Late afternoon return to Istanbul on the tourist bus arriving at your Istanbul hotel late evening.

Day 4 Istanbul (B)

Today transfer from your hotel to Istanbul Airport.

Departures:

Departs daily, year round

Coach Tour

from NZ\$650 pp tw'n

Coach & Private Gallipoli Guide

from NZ\$1065 pp tw'n

Gallipoli and Helles

2 Days ex Istanbul

Coach or Private Tour  

Day 1: Istanbul - Gallipoli Peninsula (L)

Early morning departure for Gallipoli. After lunch, private guided tour of Helles visiting Kilitbahir Castle, Corporal Seyit Memorial, Turkish Martyr's Memorial, French Memorial, V-Beach Cemetery, Helles Memorial and

Lancashire Landing Cemetery. Overnight in Eceabat or Canakkale.

Day 2: Gallipoli Peninsula - Istanbul (BL)

Depart for your private Gallipoli tour visiting ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine, Johnston's Jolly, 57th Regiment Turkish Memorial, The Nek, and Chunuk Bair. Lunch in Eceabat before driving back to Istanbul arriving in the early evening.

Departures:

Departs daily, year round

Tourist Class & Private Gallipoli Guide



from NZ\$913 pp tw'n

Private Tour

from NZ\$1275 pp tw'n

Gallipoli, Troy, and Landing Beaches Cruise

2 Days ex Istanbul

Coach or Private Tour  

Day 1: Istanbul - Gallipoli Peninsula (L)

Early morning departure for Gallipoli. After lunch, visit Anzac Cove, Lone Pine Cemetery, Johnston's Jolly, the Nek and Chunuk Bair New Zealand Memorial. Overnight in Eceabat or Canakkale.

Day 2: Troy - Landing Beaches - Istanbul (BL)

Morning tour to the legendary Troy. Return to Eceabat

for lunch. This afternoon, cruise along the coastline for a sea perspective of the Gallipoli landings. See Brighton Beach, Beach Cemetery, Anzac Cove, Ari Burna Cemetery and the ANZAC Commemorative site at North Beach. Later, return to Istanbul, arriving in the evening.

+ **Option:** Snorkel above a steamer wreck

Departures:

Departs daily, year round

Coach Tour and Cruise

from NZ\$472 pp tw'n

Coach Tour, Cruise & Private Gallipoli Guide

from NZ\$775 pp tw'n


Cruise & Private Gallipoli Guide

from NZ\$1275 pp tw'n





Independent Turkey

Private Holiday with Small Group Tours 



Tourist Class Bus and Group Sightseeing

from NZ\$3100 pp tw'n

Tourist Class Private

from NZ\$5500 pp tw'n

More than a tour, this program is a combination of flexible modules designed for the independent traveller. Mix and match, upgrade your accommodation, add extra nights, choose only 2 out of the 3 modules if you are short on time, upgrade to private sightseeing and transfers ...The options are endless, meaning you can design your perfect independent holiday to experience Turkey the way you want to.

13 Days ex Istanbul

Day 1: Istanbul

Arrival transfer from Istanbul Airport to your hotel located in the Old City.

Day 2: Istanbul (BL)

Today join a small group tour of Istanbul. Start your day by visiting the stunning Topkapi Palace that served as a palace of the Ottoman Sultans. Continue to the magnificent St Sophia, the Hippodrome and the Sultanahmet Mosque, better known as the Blue Mosque, whose cascading domes and six slender minarets dominate the skyline of Istanbul. Finish your day at the Grand Bazaar, one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world, with 61 covered streets and over 3,000 shops.

- * **Option:** Spice Market and Bosphorus cruise
- * **Option:** Turkish Bath experience
- * **Option:** Whirling Dervishes Show

Day 3: Istanbul (B)

Day at leisure or optional Istanbul experiences

- * **Option:** Spice Market and Bosphorus cruise
- * **Option:** Turkish Bath Experience

Day 4: Istanbul - Canakkale (BL)

This morning, transfer by tourist bus to Eceabat. After lunch, depart for a guided tour of Gallipoli visiting ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine, Johnston's Jolly, the Nek Cemetery and Chunuk Bair. Overnight in Canakkale.

Day 5: Canakkale (B)

Day at leisure or enhance your Gallipoli experience with one of the following options:

- * **Option:** Snorkelling at Anzac Cove over a shipwreck at 3 - 4 metres
- * **Option:** Afternoon excursion to the British trenches at Helles
- * **Option:** Boat trip visiting the Landing Beaches from the sea

Day 6: Canakkale - Kusadasi (BL)

Morning departure by tourist bus for a visit of Troy. After lunch, visit the Ancient Acropolis of Pergamum. Continue to Kusadasi for overnight.

Day 7: Kusadasi (B)

Today, visit Ephesus, one of the great ancient sites of Asia Minor. After lunch, continue to the Virgin Mary's cottage (supplement applies).

Day 8: Kusadasi (B)

A day at leisure to relax by the beach or explore the surrounds.

- * **Option:** Explore Pammukale, an extraordinary natural wonder similar to New Zealand's lost Pink and White Terraces
- * **Option:** Visit the charming Greek Village of Sirince for a wine tasting experience
- * **Option:** Detour to Bodrum and Gulet Cruise available

Day 9: Kusadasi - Cappadocia (B)

Private transfer to Izmir Airport for your flight to Cappadocia. On arrival, transfer to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 10: Cappadocia (BL)

- * **Option:** Early morning balloon ride

This morning hike through the famous rock-cut churches of the Rose Valley and rest in Cavusin, an old Greek village known for its Christian houses and churches. After lunch, visit the Ortahisar Castle and its storage caves. Then continue to the Kaymakli Underground City where pigeons contributed to the lives of locals, fertilising vineyards with their guano. Evening is at leisure in Cappadocia.

Day 11: Cappadocia (BL)

This morning depart for a walking visit of the Deverent

What you need to know:

Departure dates:

Departs daily

Tour inclusions:

- Accommodation of your choice (option of Cave Hotels in Cappadocia)
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Air conditioned transportation from Istanbul & Eceabat, & to Kusadasi
- Domestic flights Izmir to Kayseri and Kayseri to Istanbul
- Sightseeing tours with professional English speaking guides (private or group)
- Entrance fees
- Daily breakfast, 5 lunches

Valley where various types of Fairy Chimneys are found in abundance. Continue to Pasabagi (the Monk's Valley), an area remarkable for its multiple stems and caps. Then drive to Avanos, known for its pottery art - a craft dating back to the Hittite period. The red clay worked by local craftsmen comes from the residue in the Kizilirmak River, the longest river of Turkey. After lunch, proceed to the Goreme Open Air Museum to visit the churches, chapels and monasteries carved into Fairy Chimneys, with frescos painted on the walls dating back to the 10th and/or 13th C. Return to your hotel for overnight.

Day 12: Cappadocia - Istanbul (B)

This morning transfer to Kayseri Airport for your flight to Istanbul. Transfer to your Karkakoy hotel looking across to the Old City. Afternoon to explore, shop, or take an optional tour to round off your trip to Turkey

- * **Option:** Attend a local cooking class
- * **Option:** Walking "eat and chat" tour

Day 13: Istanbul (B)

Transfer to Istanbul Airport.



Turkey Extensions




Essential Istanbul

Tourist Class from \$552

Superior Tourist Class from \$653

Prices per person twin share. See website for full details & alternative classes where applicable.

Private Holiday 

4 Days ex Istanbul | Departs Daily

Istanbul, the city where east meets west, is central to many of the historic tales of the world. Settled by Thracian tribes in the 13th century BC and colonised by the Greeks in the 7th century BC, the city has been the capital of the Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman Empires. Previously named Constantinople, after Constantine the Great, Istanbul was at one stage the most populous city in the world. This rich history and the many diverse cultural influences make Istanbul an unforgettable destination.

Highlights:


- Visit Hagia Sophia, the world's largest building when constructed in AD 537, featuring a giant domed ceiling that is said to have changed architecture forever
- Haggle for a bargain at the famous Grand Bazaar, the world's oldest and largest covered market, featuring over 60 streets
- Take an optional half day cruise on the Bosphorus, the waterway which divides Europe and Asia



Cappadocia Mini Tour

First Class from \$593

Prices per person twin share

Small Group Tour 

4 Days ex Kayseri | Departs Daily

Once the seat of power for the Hittite Empire, the region today known as Cappadocia is full of incredible sites. The unique geology of this area has for centuries provided those living here with protection from surrounding empires who were often at war with each other, with rock-carved houses and subterranean cities amongst the highlights for many visitors. Known as "Fairy Chimneys," Cappadocia's spectacular rock pillars are best viewed via an optional hot air balloon ride early on day 2.


Highlights:

- Hike through Rose Valley to view the incredible "forgotten churches" cut from solid rock
- Explore the subterranean Kaymakli Underground City, used as protection by Christian during the Byzantine era
- Marvel at the stunning frescoes in the Gerome Open Air Museum, many of which retain vibrant original colours



Ancient Wonders

First Class from \$1752 pp twin share

Coach Tour 

6 Days ex Istanbul | Departs Thursdays & selected Sundays

Step through the pages of history and into the realm of legends with this compact tour through some of Turkey's most famous sites. Beginning in Istanbul with a full day exploring the city where east meets west, this itinerary then takes in the moving location of the doomed Gallipoli campaign before reaching even further into history and myth with visits to Troy, Pergamum, Ephesus, and the stone cottage where the Virgin Mary was said to have lived out her days with St John.

Highlights:

- Experience the moving sites of Gallipoli, including ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine, and Chunuk Bair
- Walk the ancient streets of Ephesus, home to one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World
- Visit the famed city of Troy, thought to be a myth until it was dramatically discovered in 1870 by German adventurer Heinrich Schliemann



Morocco

Many centuries of cultural input have led to Morocco being a truly unique destination. Berber, French, Spanish, Roman, and West African influence have all left their mark on the cuisine, languages, and way of life in Morocco. Gifted with stunning landscapes which include snow-capped mountains, the Sahara Desert, glittering coastline, and ancient cities, Morocco has long been a favourite destination for travellers and, more recently, movie makers. Famous and secret locations alike are waiting to be discovered in this unforgettable destination.

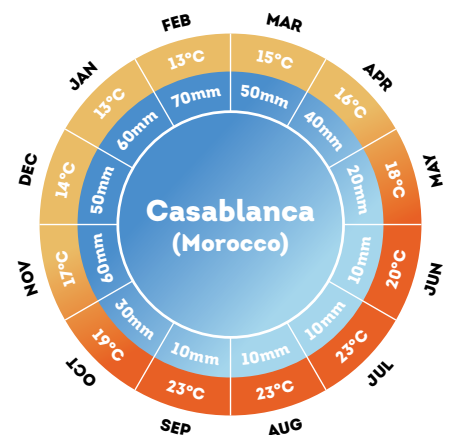


Experience the Innovative Difference

- ✓ Warm Welcome Visa Assistance available (NZ, AU, USA passports)
- ✓ Personally inspected and vetted boutique hotels, desert camps, and Riads
- ✓ Private transfers to and from each airport
- ✓ Coach Tours, Small Group Tours, and Private Holidays available
- ✓ 24/7 local back up and telephone support
- ✓ Female guides available

Climate and best time to travel

The Moroccan summer (June to August) provides pleasantly hot conditions on the Atlantic Coast cities of Rabat, Casablanca, and Essaouira, while the southern regions remain mild during the day even during winter (November to February). Many prefer the spring months (March to May) as the landscapes are green and lush, while Autumn (September to October) has generally pleasant conditions everywhere.



Select & Mix Experiences

Take one of our itineraries and make it your own by selecting one or more of the below Select & Mix options.



Experience a cooking class and meal at the famous La Maison Arabe restaurant.



Experience a private Beldi Hammam (steam room) including Moroccan black soap exfoliation and one hour relaxing massage.



Get up close and personal with the Marrakech food scene on a local foodies experience.



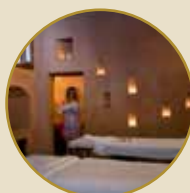
Explore tiny villages and ancient ruins as on a cycling tour through the mega-oasis known as "The Palmary".



View a show of belly dancers, acrobats, riders, and more during dinner under Caïdal tents at the famous "Chez Ali" restaurant.



Discover the secrets of Maghreb cuisine by learning to make the perfect Pastilla on a cooking class.



Experience a traditional Hammam in an authentic Moroccan steam room, followed by a massage.



Step back through time on a guided foodies tour of the myriad alleyways in the famed market of Fes.



Explore one of Casablanca's most famous sites with a guided tour of Hassan II mosque & guided visit of Jewish Museum.



Step into cinematic history with dinner at Rick's Café, faithfully modelled on the scene from the Humphrey Bogart movie Casablanca.



Experience the deep relaxation of a one hour Berber Massage or Argan oil tonic treatment.



Explore the seafood markets with lunch followed by a guided tour of Essaouira's old Medina.



Visit a family-owned Argan Oil cooperative and vineyard to learn about the strenuous production of this prized extract.



Join a local for a guided tour of Kasbah Taourirt, one Morocco's most impressive monuments, followed by tea with local family.



Experience an unforgettable night of hospitality with an overnight stay in a luxury Berber Tent at Merzouga Dunes.



Explore the great Sahara Desert with a 4wd excursion to Merzouga sand dunes, including sunset and dinner.

Marrakech

Fes


Casablanca

Essaouira

Other



Morocco in Splendour

Small Group Tour or Private Holiday 

Highlights

- Stay in Luxury accommodation & travel with your own private driver
- Travel through the lush landscape of the Middle Atlas Mountains & catch a glimpse of the pristine Sahara Desert
- Soak up the history of a land rich with Moorish, Portuguese, Roman and Berber influence
- Explore vibrant & colourful markets of the four Imperial Cities
- Dinner at Rick's Café of "Casablanca" fame

8 Days ex Casablanca

Day 1: Casablanca

Welcome to Morocco. Upon arrival in Casablanca, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your luxury hotel.

Day 2: Casablanca - Rabat (B)

Spend the morning exploring Casablanca, Morocco's largest city and financial capital. Visit the Central Market, Habous district, Royal Palace, Mohammed V Square and the exterior of the Mosque Hassan II. Later, travel to Rabat - the 'White Imperial City' - and visit the Royal Palace, Ouadaya Garden & Kasbah, Mohammed V Mausoleum, and Hassan Tower Mosque. Overnight in Rabat.

Day 3: Rabat - Meknes - Fez (B)

Travel to Meknes, the Ismailian capital known as the 'Moroccan Versailles.' Visit the famous Bab Mansour Gate, the Royal Stables, and the Jewish quarter. In the afternoon, discover the holy city of Moulay Idriss, off limits to tourists until recently, and the stunningly well preserved ruins of Volubilis, the furthest into Africa the Roman Empire ever reached. Overnight in Fez.

Day 4: Fez (B)

Today fall under the historic charm of Fez. Highlights include Attarine or Bou Anania Medersa, Nejjarine Fountain, Moulay Idriss Mausoleum, Karaouine Mosque (outside). This afternoon wander through the maze of streets in the old Medina and encounter locals, food stalls, & diverse craftsmen still operating in the old oriental tradition.

Day 5: Fez - Beni Mellal - Marrakech (B)

Embark on a drive through the Middle Atlas Mountains via the Berber villages of Immuizer and Ifrane, set in the heart of a magnificent cedar forest. Free time to choose lunch in a local restaurant in Beni Mellal, one of

the main agricultural centres of Morocco. Continue to Marrakech. As you approach the city, admire as the red ground stands out against the clear blue sky and the eternal green palms. Late arrival and check-in.

Day 6: Marrakech (B)

Discover Marrakech, "the Pearl of the South". Today's highlights include Menara Garden, Saadien Tombs, Bahia Palace, Koutoubia and Dar Si Said Museum. This afternoon explore souks and handicraft quarters, stroll the winding little streets and continue the lively Djemaa El Fna Square, with its diverse and non-stop entertainment: storytellers, fire-eaters and more.

+ **Option:** Extend your stay by one more day to include a cooking class at La Maison Arabe.

Day 7: Marrakech - Casablanca (BD)

Morning at leisure for a final plunge into the atmosphere of Marrakech or relax by the pool of the hotel. Later, departure to Casablanca for overnight. Tonight dinner is at the famous Rick's Café.

Day 8: Casablanca (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.



Deluxe Class
from NZ\$3731 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Saturdays, year round

Tour inclusions:

- Deluxe accommodation in selected hotels and riads
- Private modern deluxe transportation with English-speaking driver at disposal during the entire tour
- Daily breakfast
- Dinner at Rick's Café in Casablanca
- Sightseeing with private local English-speaking professional guides
- Entrance fees


 2 Guaranteed

 12 Maximum





Complete Morocco

Select & Mix Private Holiday 



First Class
from NZ\$6500 pp tw'n

Highlights

- Experience our ultimate Moroccan holiday, featuring Casablanca, Fez, Marrakech, and more
- Personalise your journey with 3 Select & Mix local experiences included at no extra cost
- Savour delicious local cuisine, inspired by centuries of visitors to this land

14 Days ex Casablanca

Day 1: Casablanca

Welcome to Morocco. On arrival in Casablanca, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel for time at leisure or a Select & Mix option:

- * Guided tour of Hassan II Mosque & Jewish Museum (day 1 or 14, flight times permitting).

Day 2: Casablanca - Chefchaouen (B)

Depart for the 'Blue Town' of Chefchaouen where doors, alleyways, and archways are varying shades of blue. Afternoon is at leisure to explore, or to simply relax.

Day 3: Chefchaouen - Fez (B)

Depart Chefchaouen and drive south to Volubilis, the most extensive remains of a Roman city in Morocco. Continue to Fez, the spiritual and cultural heart of Morocco. Stay for two nights in an elegant, riad-style accommodation on the edge of this well-preserved medieval old city.

Day 4: Fez (B)

Today explore the old city, known locally as Fes el Bali, arguably the world's most fascinating old city. Walk through the twisting streets and alleyways, passing donkeys piled high with goods and explore the specialty sections that divide the souk. Spend the day exploring the old city, visiting Medresse el Attarine, the tanneries and the splendid Funduk Nejjarine, a beautifully restored 18th century inn.

Day 5: Fez (B)

Day at leisure to relax and further explore Fez, or choose one of the Select & Mix experiences.

- * Experience a Pastilla cooking class
- * Treat yourself to a hammam & massage at Riad Laaroussa
- * Private foodie and tasting trail tour

Day 6: Fez - Erfoud - Merzouga (BD)

Drive south through the foothills of the middle Atlas Mountains. Arrive at Erfoud, one of the largest oases in all of Morocco and famous for its almost one million

date palm trees. From Erfoud travel into the desert by 4x4 to the dunes of Merzouga, one of the truly great sights of Morocco, to your private encampment in the desert. This evening take a camel ride into the desert in time to admire the sunset.

Day 7: Merzouga - Ouarzazate (BD)

Wake up early to see the sun rise over the dunes. A spectacular sight! Later, depart to Ouarzazate via Todra Gorges and Dades Valley. Rest of the afternoon at leisure in Ouarzazate. Optional Select & Mix experience:

- * Guided tour of Kasbah Taourirt & tea with a local family

Day 8: Ouarzazate - Marrakech (B)

Drive to Ait Ben Haddou, a Berber village made famous as a backdrop for movies such as Lawrence of Arabia and Gladiator. Time to explore before continuing to Marrakech crossing the High Atlas Mountains via the spectacular Tizi n' Tichka Pass.

Day 9: Marrakech (B)

Meet your local guide and depart on a morning discovery of the old medina. Explore the many salons and chambers that make up Bahia Palace. Continue to the Marrakech Museum, itself a former palace, which houses a fine collection of Moroccan art and sculpture. Stop by the Koutoubia Mosque; then walk back through the streets of the old medina to the Jemaa el Fna Square.

Day 10: Marrakech (B)

Today is at leisure to relax or choose one of the Select & Mix experiences.

- * Cooking class at La Maison Arabe
- * Hammam & Massage at a luxury Spa
- * "Taste of Marrakech" private culinary tour
- * Cycling tour of the famous Marrakech Palmery

Day 11: Marrakech - Essaouira (B)

Drive to the 16th century fortress town of Essaouira, popular for its magnificent beaches, charming souq and seafood restaurants. Check-in at your charming

What you need to know:

Departures:

Departs daily

Tour Inclusions:

- Arrival & departure transfers
- 3 nights in Sup Tourist class hotels in Casablanca and Ouarzazate (option to upgrade to Deluxe)
- 9 nights in special category historical Riads in Chefchaouen, Fez, Marrakech & Essaouira
- 1 night accommodation in a Berber desert camp with private facilities
- Private A/C modern transportation with English-speaking driver
- Daily breakfast and two dinners
- Sightseeing with private local English-speaking guides
- Select & Mix: your choice of 3 experiences (included in the price)

riad, your home for the next two nights. Time available for a Select & Mix experience:

- * Argan oil cooperative visit & wine tasting at a local vineyard

Day 12: Essaouira (B)

Drive to the 16th century fortress town of Essaouira, popular for its magnificent beaches, charming souq and seafood restaurants. Check-in at your charming riad, your home for the next 2 nights. Time available for a Select & Mix experience:

- * Treat yourself to a Berber massage
- * Seafood Market lunch & guided tour of the old Medina

Day 13: Essaouira - Casablanca (B)

Travel back to Casablanca for your last night in Morocco and one last optional Select & Mix experience:

- * Dinner at Rick's Café

Day 14: Casablanca (B)

Departure transfer to the airport, or if time permits, the museum day Select & Mix experience mentioned in Day 1 of this itinerary.





Imperial Cities and Deserts

Private Holiday 

Highlights

- Experience authentic Moroccan hospitality with stays in traditional Riad accommodation
- Feel the grandeur of the Sahara & spend the night under the stars in a Berber desert camp
- Absorb all the aromas and sights of the old medinas of Fez and Marrakech – two of the old imperial cities of Morocco

9 Days ex Casablanca

Day 1: Casablanca

Upon arrival at the airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel to refresh and begin your exploration of Casablanca's highlights. Visit the exterior of the great Hassan II Mosque, Mohamed V Square, United Nations Place, central market, and the lively Habbous district, filled with souks, food stalls and antique shops. Later, explore the WWII heritage of Anfa and stroll along Ain Diab Coast, dotted with restaurants.

+ **Option:** Dinner at the famed Rick's Café.

Day 2: Casablanca - Meknes - Volubilis - Fez (B)

This morning visit the Imperial City of Meknes, built by Moulay Ismail to reflect the grandeur of his reign. Continue to the spiritual hill-perched village of Moulay Idriss, built around the tomb of same-named Saint. Later, explore the World Heritage Site of Volubilis, the largest and best preserved Roman site in Morocco, particularly famous for its superb mosaic floors. Arrive in Fez in the evening.

Day 3: Fez (B)

Discover the spiritual capital of Morocco. Visit the medieval medina, the Attarine or Bou Inania Medersa, the Nejjarine Fountain, Moulay Idriss Mausoleum and the Karaouine Mosque (exterior view). This afternoon, experience the vibrant atmosphere of the souks, some of Morocco's best with their exotic sounds and aromas.

Day 4: Fez - Midelt - Erfoud - Merzouga (BD)

This morning visit Midelt and the fortified Berber village of Arzou. Continue to Erfoud. Upon arrival, transfer in a 4WD vehicle to the magical Mergouza Dunes, an impressive undulating chain of sand dunes with ever-changing colours. Tonight, climb on top of a camel for a short ride to admire the sunset before experiencing dinner & overnight under Bedouin tents.

Day 5: Merzouga - Erfoud - Todra Gorge & Dades Valley - Ouarzazate (B)

Rise early to witness the spectacular sunrise over the dunes. Embark on a morning drive to the stunning Todra Gorge with its many impressive canyons & escarpments. Travel through Tinghir & Rissani and visit the ruins of Ksar Abbar. Continue via the Dades Valley to Ouarzazate, literally "no noise" in Berber.

Day 6: Ouarzazate - Ait Ben Haddou - Marrakech (B)

This morning visit Ouarzazate and the famous fortified Ait Ben Haddou Kasbah. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it has been the backdrop for many films. Journey to Marrakech through breathtaking countryside via Tizi N'Tichka Pass (2260m), the highest pass in North Africa.

Day 7: Marrakech (B)

Spend the day exploring Marrakech, the second oldest imperial city known as the "Pearl of the South". Visit the Saadian Tombs, the Koutoubia, Bahia Palace and the Menara Gardens. This afternoon capture the essence of the souks and Djemaâ El Fna Square, with its diverse and non-stop entertainment: storytellers, snake charmers, fire-eaters and more.

Day 8: Marrakech (B)

A day at leisure to further explore fabled Marrakech at your own pace. Or join an optional cooking class at La Maison Arabe.

Day 9: Marrakech (B)

Departure transfer to the airport for your onward flight. Optional transfer to Casablanca Airport (supplement applies).



First Class
from NZ\$4144 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

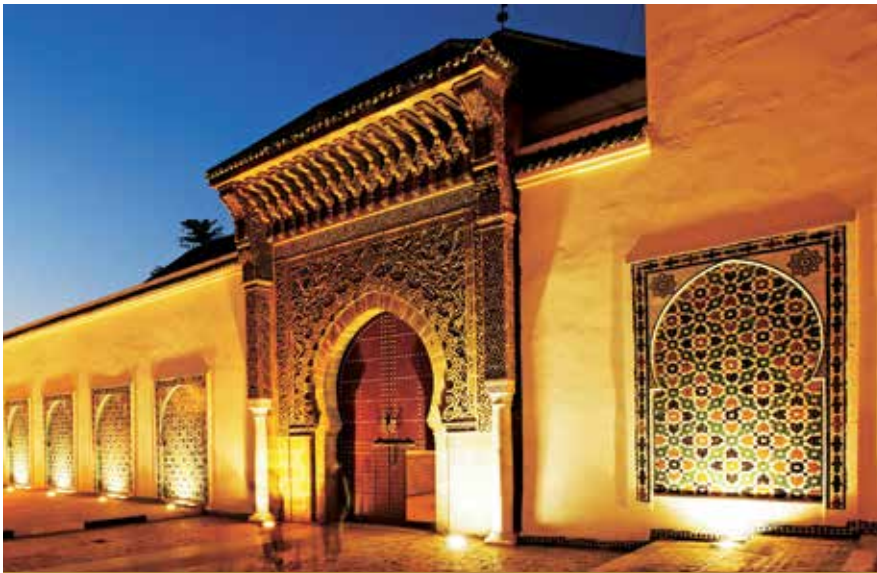
Departures:

Daily

Tour inclusions:

- 1 night in Sup Tourist class hotel in Casablanca (option to upgrade)
- 6 nights in special category historical Riads in Fez, Ouarzazate & Marrakech
- 1 night accommodation in a Berber desert camp with shared facilities (option to upgrade to luxury camp and private facilities)
- Private arrival & departure transfers
- Private A/C deluxe transportation with English-speaking driver at disposal during the entire tour
- Daily breakfast and one dinner
- Sightseeing with private local English-speaking guides
- Activities & entrance fees as per itinerary





Royal Cities

Coach Tour    



Tourist Class

from NZ\$1179 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$1434 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

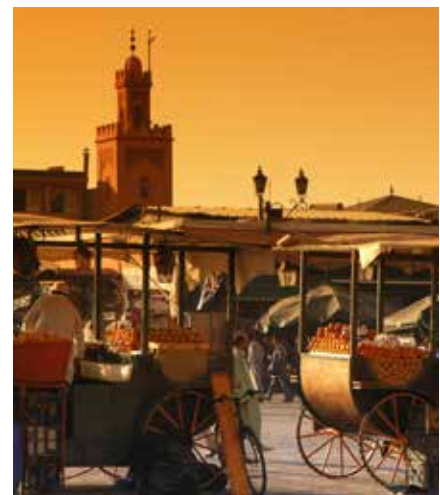
Departures:

Every Saturday

Tour inclusions:

- Airport meet and assist and return airport transfers
- 24/7 local support network
- Your choice of either tourist or first class accommodation with private facilities
- Daily buffet breakfast, 4 dinners, 3 lunches
- Modern air-conditioned touring vehicle
- Multilingual professional tour guide and local guides where required
- Highlights as specified in itinerary and additional hidden gems as identified by local guides
- Entrance fees to all highlights when required
- Portering at all hotels
- Morocco Travel Notes - as issued by Innovative Travel

 2 Guaranteed




Highlights

- Discover the Four Imperial Cities - Rabat, Meknes, Fez & Marrakech
- Explore the wondrous Medina of Fez and its myriad of eateries
- Stand amongst the Roman ruins of Volubilis and marvel at the stunning mosaic floors

8 Days ex Casablanca*

Day 1: Saturday: Casablanca (D)

Upon arrival at Casablanca Mohamed V International Airport you will be warmly welcomed to Morocco by our local operator and escorted to your hotel. Your accommodation is reserved for one night, with dinner and breakfast included. The remainder of the day is at leisure to unwind and absorb the colourful local atmosphere.

 **Option:** Dinner at the famous Rick's Café

Day 2: Sunday: Casablanca - Meknes - Fez (BD)

Following breakfast you will be met by your expert local guide who will uncover Casablanca's hidden gems. This city gained even more fame following the release of the movie Casablanca, starring Humphry Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. View the exterior of the great Hassan II Mosque and visit the Mohamed V and United Nations Squares, Central Market, the Habbous Sector and the original old city quarters of Anfa. Then meander along the Ain Diab Coast, soaking up the aromas of many amazing restaurants.

This afternoon, journey onwards to Meknes. Known as "the Moroccan Versailles," Meknes was founded late in the 17th century and contains some of the world's best examples of Maghreb Architecture. Marvel at the beautifully preserved mosaic gate Bab Mansour, before visiting Hari Souani and the enchanting old medina. Dinner is included at your hotel in Fez.

Day 3: Monday: Fez (BL)

Discover Fez, the cultural and spiritual heart of Morocco. Visit the Medersas, Karaouine Mosque and the famous Nejjarine Fountain. Continue after lunch with a trip back in time to the medieval Medina, where you will see craftsmen breathing new life into their age-old methods. A program of renewal has seen a myriad of eateries take up residence amongst the medieval alleyways.

Day 4: Tuesday: Fez - Rabat - Marrakech (BD)

After breakfast, depart for Marrakech via Rabat. Enroute travel through the sacred town of Moulay Idriss and via the Roman ruins of Volubilis famed for their amazing preservation and stunning mosaic floors. In Rabat embark on an enchanting journey through the white imperial city. A delightful mix of past and present, this city was founded in the 12th century and contains many wondrous sites. Optional fish lunch. Continuation to Marrakesh arriving late afternoon.

Day 5: Wednesday: Marrakech (BL)

Explore the wonders of Marrakech, the second oldest imperial city in Morocco. Known as the "Pearl of the South," you will visit the Saadian Tombs, the Koutoubia, Bahia Palace and the Menara Gardens with its delightful pavilion that sits above a reflective pool. Later visit the souks (markets) and explore the latticework of winding little streets and Djemaâ El Fna Square. This district, famed for its entertainment, features storytellers, snake charmers, fire-eaters and more.

 **Option:** Join a Differ Fantasia Dinner. Dinner will be served under caidal tents at the famous Chez Ali Restaurant. Attend a fantasia performance with camel and horse shows, folkloric and belly dancers.

Day 6: Thursday: Marrakech - free day (BD)

Day at leisure. Perhaps explore the medina at leisure and try local specialities in the Jemaa el Fina Square.

Day 7: Friday: Marrakech - Casablanca (BL)

Morning at leisure for one final plunge into the atmosphere of Marrakech before you depart for Casablanca. Lunch at the hotel.

Day 8: Saturday: Casablanca (B)

Transfer to the airport.

Note:

* Coach touring options also available from Marrakech.




Morocco Extensions



Casablanca & Marrakech

Tourist Class from \$1337
First Class from \$1484
Prices per person twin share
See website for full details

Private Holiday 

5 Days ex Casablanca | Departs Daily

An ideal tour for those seeking a small interlude in Morocco to get a taste of the culture, cuisines and atmosphere that is Marrakech " the Pearl of the South".


Highlights:

- Explore the Imperial City its souks and handicrafts
- Immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere of Djemaa El Fna Square
- Step into cinematic history with dinner at Rick's Cafe, faithfully modeled on the scene from Casablanca



Casablanca & Fez

Tourist Class from \$1337
First Class from \$1498
Prices per person twin share
See website for full details

Private Holiday 

5 Days ex Casablanca | Departs Daily

A short private tour focusing on the iconic Roman influences and the ancient cultural and spiritual capital of Morocco – Fez.


Highlights:

- Explore holy city of Moulay Idriss and the iconic Roman ruins of Volubilis
- Experience the atmosphere inside the old medina and browse through the diverse stalls of traditional foods & crafts



3 Atlas Mountains Tour

Tourist Class from \$1650 pp twin share
See website for full details

4wd Small Group Tour | Guaranteed 4 

8 days ex Marrakech | Departs Saturdays

This is package for those travellers seeking an escape. The majestic Sahara Desert and Atlas Mountains has drawn the curious for millennia, and has never been as accessible as it is today. Retrace the steps of the ancient caravans, experience true Bedouin hospitality, and above all marvel at the clarity of the stars during this life-changing eight day experience.

Highlights:

- Take a 4WD journey to Ouarzazate and the 2260m Tiz-in-Tichka Pass through the Atlas Mountain.
- Explore the ever-changing dunes of Tinfou.
- Experience the Berber life and be enchanted by the souks and food of the region





Classic Oman

Coach Tour      

Highlights

- Watch the serene majesty of giant sea turtles returning to their nesting colony
- Explore the "Grand Canyon" of Oman on a 4WD excursion
- 2 hour boat ride along the coast of Muscat
- Experience an unforgettable night under the desert stars at Wahiba Sands

6 Days ex Muscat

Day 1: Monday: Muscat

Arrival at Muscat International Airport. After proceeding through immigration and collecting your luggage you will be met by your driver in the arrivals hall. Transfer to the hotel and check-in. Overnight at your city hotel.

Day 2: Tuesday: Muscat (BL)

After breakfast, depart at 09:30 hrs for a Muscat city tour, beginning with a visit to the magnificent Grand Mosque, built with sandstone and marble. A beautiful Swarovski chandelier and a huge handmade Persian carpet adorn the main prayer hall. Then continue to the Muttrah Souk, a traditional oriental market. Experience the lively atmosphere and the aromas of frankincense and spices.

After a light lunch at one of the restaurants near the souk, visit Bait Al Zubair Museum. This privately owned museum is known for its fine collection of traditional costumes, antique jewellery and weapons. Later, photo stop at the palace of the Sultan before embarking on a 2 hour boat ride along the coast of Muscat. The sparkling azure sea contrasting with the stark desert coastline makes this a beautiful trip. On the way back to the hotel, stop at the Royal Opera House.

Day 3: Wednesday: Muscat - Jebel Shams - Nizwa (350km) (BL)

After breakfast, leave Muscat and depart towards the interior of Oman. Your first stop is the village of Birkat Al Mauz with its many gardens. Continue to the small town of Al Hamra, where many of the traditional mud houses are still intact. From there go up to the village of Misfat which literally clings to the side of the mountain. Take a walk through the village and see the traditional irrigation channels (Falaj). You will then switch to 4x4 vehicles and go further up to Jebel Shams, the 'mountain of the sun'.

Take in the spectacular view from the 'Grand Canyon of Oman' before proceeding to Nizwa.

Day 4: Thursday: Nizwa - Jabrin - Nizwa - Mudayrib - Wahiba (220km) (BLD)

After breakfast, visit Nizwa, former capital of Oman. Visit the Nizwa Souq located inside the walls of the famous Nizwa Fort. The building embraces both traditional and modern architectural lines. Through its many alleys and divisions, Nizwa Souq has remained for hundreds of years' home to a number of local industries, such as daggers, copper, spinning, livestock sale, fish, vegetables and handicrafts. Then continue the journey towards the desert and Wahiba Sands. 4x4 vehicles will take you to the camp where you will have dinner and stay overnight.

Day 5: Friday: Wahiba - Wadi Bani Khaled - Sur (210km) (BD)

After a desert sunrise and breakfast you will have some free time to soak up the desert atmosphere. Then the 4x4 vehicles will take you back to the bus. Visit Wadi Bani Khaled, which stands in strong contrast to the desert with its natural pools and greenery - the epitome of a desert oasis. After lunch, continue to the coastal town of Sur for dinner, overnight and turtle beach tour.

TURTLE BEACH TOUR

Tonight, visit Ras Al Jinz turtle reserve where you will have chance to see giant sea turtles nesting. The beach is one of the largest turtle reserves in the world. Note: Turtles are in their natural habitat therefore sightings are not always possible.



Tourist Class

from NZ\$2152 pp tw'n

First Class

from NZ\$3191 pp tw'n


What you need to know:

Departures:

Mondays, year round

Tour inclusions:

- Transportation in A/C coach and 4WD (where necessary)
- Accommodation in Tourist or Superior Tourist hotels with private facilities
- Daily breakfast
- 4 lunches & 2 dinners
- Sightseeing and entrance fees
- English speaking tour guide
- Drinking water during excursions
- Oman Travel Notes - issued by Innovative Travel

 2 Guaranteed

Day 6: Saturday: Sur - Wadi Tiwi - Muscat (250km) (BL)

After breakfast depart for a short city tour of Sur and a visit to the dhow (traditional boat) building yards. Then, journey back to Muscat along the sparkling coast, stopping at the beautiful traditional fishing village of Wadi Tiwi and having lunch at the Wadi Shab Resort.

Arrive in Muscat at around 17:00 and transfer to the airport for your onward flight or overnight accommodation as per your arrangements.





Frankincense and Mirages

Coach Tour      

Highlights

- Experience a two hour boat ride along the glittering coast of Muscat
- Explore the desert with an overnight camp in Wahiba Sands
- Discover a bargain at the Sinaw Thursday Market

9 Days ex Muscat

Day 1: Monday: Muscat

Upon arrival at Muscat International Airport you will be met by your driver and transferred to the hotel for check in. The rest of the day is at leisure to unwind and begin soaking in the Omani culture.

Day 2: Tuesday: Muscat (BL)

Morning tour of Muscat city beginning with the magnificent Grand Mosque, where a beautiful Swarovski chandelier and a huge handmade Persian carpet adorn the main prayer hall. Then continue to the Muttrah Souk, a traditional oriental market.

After a light lunch at one of the restaurants near the souk, visit Bait Al Zubair Museum, known for its fine collection of traditional costumes, antique jewellery and weapons. Later, photo stop at Al Alam Palace before a 2 hour boat ride along the sparkling coast of Muscat.

Day 3: Wednesday: Muscat - Jabrin - Al Hamra - Jebel Shams - Nizwa (BL)

After breakfast depart towards the inner lands of Oman. Visit Jabrin Castle, Oman's most beautiful Castle. Continue to the village of 'Al Hamra' before switching to 4x4 vehicles and go further up to Jebel Shams, the 'mountain of the sun.'

Continue to Nizwa to explore the bustling market of Nizwa Souq, inside the walls of the famous Nizwa Fort, home to a number of local industries, such as daggers, copper, spinning, livestock sales, fish, vegetables, and handicrafts.

Day 4: Thursday: Nizwa - Sinaw - Al Masfah - Wahiba (BLD)

This morning browse the 'Sinaw Thursday Market.' Held every Thursday, it is a very busy market due to the Bedouin communities who head there to buy staples and sell their livestock and handicrafts. Continue to a local house and share a home-made lunch with a local family. Later, switch to 4x4 vehicles

and continue to your unforgettable desert camp in Wahiba Sands.

Day 5: Friday: Wahiba - Wadi Bani Khaled - Sur (BD)

Awake in the desert atmosphere to breakfast before continuing your journey to Wadi Bani Khaled with its natural pools and greenery. In the afternoon travel to the coastal town of Sur, a delightful fishing village where you may still see locals living off the ocean. Tonight visit Ras Al Jinz turtle reserve, one of the largest turtle reserves in the world, where you can have a chance to see giant sea turtles nesting.

Day 6: Saturday: Sur - Wadi Tiwi - Muscat - Dubai (BL)

After a short morning tour of Sur, start back to Muscat along the sparkling coast. Stop at the beautiful Wadi Tiwi and have lunch at the Wadi Shab Resort. Admire Bimah sinkhole, a geological formation of the karst topography and a scenic wonder. Continue to Muscat Airport and catch your flight to Dubai Airport where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Day 7: Sunday: Dubai (BD)

Spend the day exploring Dubai. Begin with a visit to Jumeirah-Mosque, followed by Burj Al Arab Hotel. Then explore Dubai's old district of "Bastakya.". Visit the Dubai Museum in the historical Al Fahidi fort. Cross the Dubai creek to Deira on the traditional water taxi (Abra) to visit the Gold and Spice markets.

This afternoon discover Modern Dubai. Visit Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world. Admire the aquarium in Dubai Mall (from outside) and continue to the artificial island 'The Palm.' After a photo stop at the Atlantis Hotel, return to the mainland on-board of the Monorail. Short break at the hotel before transferring to Dubai Marina for a relaxed dinner-dhow cruise.

Day 8: Monday: Dubai (BD)

Morning at leisure or join an optional excursion to Sharjah.



First Class
from NZ\$5336 pp tw'n

What you need to know:

Departures:

Mondays

Tour inclusions:

- Transportation in A/C coach and 4WD (where necessary)
- Flight Muscat-Dubai
- Airport transfers with local driver
- Accommodation in first class hotels with private facilities
- Breakfast daily
- 4 lunches and 4 dinners
- Sightseeing and entrance fees
- English speaking tour guide
- Drinking water during excursions
- Oman and UAE Travel Notes - issued by Innovative Travel

 2 Guaranteed

 32 Maximum

Early afternoon depart for a desert safari to the golden dunes. Drive up to one of sand dunes to admire an unforgettable sunset. Continue to a Bedouin camp for an evening BBQ and oriental entertainment followed by tea. Return to your Dubai hotel for overnight.

Day 9: Dubai (B)

Departure transfer to the airport.





Glorious Iran

Small Group Tour or Private Holiday

Highlights

- Experience Persian hospitality of the Qahquai nomads
- Uncover the history behind the tomb of Cyrus the Great, founder of the Achaemenid Empire and the King who freed the exiles from Babylon
- Marvel at the ceiling artworks of the Forty Column Palace
- Absorb the history of Persepolis, home to Xerxes, Darius and other Persian Kings prior to its destruction by Alexander the Great

12 Days ex Tehran

Day 1: Saturday: Tehran (D)

Welcome to Iran. On arrival in Tehran, you will be met by our friendly local operator and transferred to your hotel. Welcome dinner.

Day 2: Sunday: Tehran – Shiraz (B)

Today's highlights include the Golestan Palace complex, Saad Abad Palace Complex - the former residence of Qajar monarchs, and visits to the Archaeological & Islamic Art Museums. Evening transfer to the airport and fly to Shiraz. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Day 3: Monday: Black Tents (Firouz Abad) – Shiraz (B)

This morning explore the ancient remains of two mountain-side Sassanid Castles - Atash-Kadeh and DezhDokhtar. Later, encounter the colours & traditions of the Qashqai nomads, and experience true Persian hospitality under tents woven out of black goat hair. Overnight in Shiraz.

Day 4: Tuesday: Shiraz (B)

Spend the day exploring Shiraz. Visit the XIII century Eram Garden and the later Naranjestan Gardens featuring outstanding tile & mirror art. Visit the richly decorated Vakil and Nasir-ol-Molk Mosques as well as the Mausoleums of Hafez & Saadi, two famous Persian poets.

Day 5: Wednesday: Shiraz – Persepolis – Pasargadae – Yazd (B)

Today explore the ruins of Persepolis, the once luxurious Achaemenid capital, founded between the VI and V centuries BC by Cyrus The Great. Visit the impressive Necropolis built inside limestone cliffs and preserving the tombs of the four Achaemenian kings. Continue through mountain scenery to Pasargadae, the earliest Achaemenian capital and the resting place of Cyrus the Great. Overnight in Yazd.

Day 6: Thursday: Yazd (B)

Today discover the treasures of Yazd, one of the oldest cities in the world. Visit the Doulataad Gardens, Athletic House (ZourKhaneh), the 14th century

Friday Mosque and a bathhouse converted to a first class restaurant. Continue to the Syed Jafer Mosque and marvel at the tens of thousands of mirror tiles illuminating the whole shrine. Later, visit a silk weaving workshop and witness how exquisite brocades are made on traditional looms.

Day 7: Friday: Yazd - Meibod - Naein - Isfahan (B)

This morning visit a Zoroastrian temple, where a sacred fire has been burning for hundreds of years. Yazd is the epicenter of Zoroastrianism, the Persian religion before the advent of the Arab civilization & Islam. Continue to the outskirts of the city to visit the Towers of Silence, used by the Zoroastrians as a burial place. Later, visit Naein Castle, an old caravanserai in Meibod known for beautiful pottery-making, and a carpet-weaving workshop. Overnight in Isfahan.

Day 8: Saturday: Isfahan (B)

This morning visit Naghshe Johan Square, a huge open square in the centre of Isfahan surrounded by outstanding Safavid buildings including Ali Qapu Palace, Imam Mosque, Sheikh Lotfollah (ladies) Mosque. At the north, the square borders the expansive bazaar with diverse stalls including artisan metal crafts, Persian miniatures, clothing and more. This afternoon, explore the Si-o-Se Pol (thirty-three arches) and Khajoo bridges spanning the Zayanderud River. Later, visit the Music Museum.

Day 9: Sunday: Isfahan (B)

Today's highlights include the Armenian quarter of Jolfa with the richly decorated Vank Cathedral. Later, visit the Friday mosque, Shaking Minarets and Chehel Setoun Palace, featuring huge mural masterpieces from Safavid times.

Day 10: Monday: Isfahan – Abyaneh (B)

Embark on a morning drive to the ancient and fascinating village of Abyaneh. Meet the colourfully dressed locals and discover their charming mud brick houses. Bathing in this peculiar reddish hue, Abyaneh is one of the oldest villages in Iran where time seems to have stopped.



First Class
from NZ\$5615 pp twn

What you need to know:

Departures:

Selected Saturdays

Tour inclusions:

- Arrival & departure private transfers
- Air-conditioned private transportation
- Domestic flight Tehran – Shiraz
- First class accommodation
- Daily breakfast, two dinners
- Professional local English-speaking guide
- Activities & entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Porterage at hotels
- Authorisation number for Iranian visa

4 Guaranteed

Day 11: Tuesday: Abyaneh – Kashan – Tehran (BD)

Today explore Kashan, renowned over the centuries for its ceramic, tile, pottery, textiles, carpet and silk production. Visit Fin Garden, Borujerdiyeh and Tabatabaieha Houses, the unique Agha Bozorg Mosque and Madrasah. Continue to Tehran. Farewell dinner of Persian delights.

Day 12: Wednesday: Tehran (B)

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.





Classic Lebanon

Private Holiday 

Highlights

- Explore Lebanon's natural wonderlands; Jeita Grottoes, and the Cedar Forest
- Wander through ancient civilisation with ruins from, Roman, Phoenician and Crusader times
- Share in the traditions of wine making from monastic times and sample local fares

8 Days ex Beirut

Day 1: Beirut – Byblos

Meet your driver and transfer to the small seaside town of Byblos. Relax for the afternoon overlooking the sea.

Day 2: Byblos (B)

Drive from Beirut to Jeita to explore the magnificent complex of underground caves – a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then sample some of Lebanon's famous wines at Chateau Musar before spending the afternoon explore Byblos' medieval town with its Crusader castle, important archaeological site, churches, and beautifully restored cobbled lanes. Overnight in Byblos.

Day 3: Byblos (B)

This morning travel from the coast to the mountain. Visit the small castle of Mseilha perched on its rocky pinnacle, then continue up to the dramatic Qadisha Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site to see the ancient cedar trees – the emblem of Lebanon – and visit the museum dedicated to the Lebanese born poet and artist Khalil Gibran. Next, take a scenic drive to the 12th century Monastery of St Anthony the Great at Kozhaya and visit the Cave of St Anthony reputed for its miracles.

Day 4: Beirut (B)

Start today's sightseeing in Jounieh where you will take the cable car up to Harissa to admire the spectacular views, then drive through the wooded slopes of the Chouf Mountains to the pretty stone and red roofed village of Deir Al Qamar. Continue to Beiteddine and visit the beautiful 18th century palace of Emir Bashir II with its wide courtyards, exquisite marquetry, and playing fountains. The day's sightseeing will conclude on your arrival in Beirut.

Day 5: Beirut (BL)

A full day to explore the cosmopolitan Lebanese capital – the one-time 'Paris of the East'. Drive along the sea-front Corniche, visit the National Museum

with its well displayed and important collection of artefacts dating back to the Phoenician period, Robert Mouawad Private Museum with its exquisite oriental interiors then have lunch at a restaurant offering regional Lebanese cuisine. This afternoon walk through the old residential neighbourhood of Gemmayze and explore the downtown 'Solidere' area with its attractive Ottoman and French Mandate period buildings, churches, mosques, and archaeological sites.

Day 6: Beirut (Sidon/Tyre) (B)

A morning's drive to along the coast to the south of Beirut past groves of lemon and orange trees to the once mighty Phoenician city of Sidon. Explore its pretty Crusader sea castle and atmospheric medieval souqs. Next, continue to Tyre (Sour) the birthplace of the legendary Queen Dido. In antiquity Tyre was one of the most important emporiums in the Levant and was famed for its Tyrian purple dye. The city is set on a pretty fishing harbour and has extensive Romano-Byzantine ruins that have been recognised by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites, Return to Beirut in the late afternoon.

Day 7: Beirut (Baalbek) (B)

A scenic journey east across Mt. Lebanon will bring you to Baalbek in the Bekaa Valley. Baalbek's ruins are considered to be some of the most important Roman sites in the world. The sheer scale and proportions of this UNESCO World Heritage Site never ceases to impress. Amongst the site's highlights are the Temple of Jupiter (one of the largest temples ever built) and the well preserved and beautifully decorated Temple of Bacchus. Break your return to Beirut at Ksara where you will sample some of Lebanon's famous wines.

Day 8: Beirut (B)

Farwell Lebanon with a transfer to the airport.



Tourist Class

from NZ\$3300 pp twn

First Class

from NZ\$3900 pp twn

What you need to know:

Departures:

Daily

Tour inclusions:

- Airport Greeting on Arrival
- Private airport transfers
- Accommodation in chosen class with private facilities
- Daily breakfast, other meals as specified in itinerary (L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Private English speaking driver/guide in A/C vehicle throughout
- Daily drinking water
- Travel Notes by Innovative Travel



IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION

BOOKING YOUR HOLIDAY

Please ask your travel agent for advice on planning your holiday itinerary. Once you make a booking, The Innovative Travel Company will endeavour to confirm all arrangements as soon as possible and you will be sent a Confirmation Invoice. You will then have 7 days to reconfirm with a deposit of NZ\$500 per person for private tours. For India Small Group Tours, a non-refundable 25% deposit is required. For tours including a river cruise, an airfare, a rail journey or a Palace hotel, special deposit and cancellation conditions apply. These special conditions vary for each tour and will be advised at time of booking. The final balance will generally be due 8 weeks prior to departure, or immediately for bookings within that time. Note: For late bookings made within 7 days of departure, a fee of NZ\$30 per booking will apply. Vouchers and itineraries will normally be issued 10 days prior to departure.

MINIMUM BOOKING FEE

For bookings of total value less than NZ\$500, a fee of \$40 per booking will be levied.

AMENDMENTS

If you need to amend any arrangements after your original booking these must be advised in writing. All charges imposed by our suppliers will be payable by you, plus an amendment fee of \$70 per revision per booking.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

The Innovative Travel Promotion and Import Company Limited (in this brochure called either 'The Innovative Travel Company' or 'the Company') receives bookings subject to the following conditions.

1. A booking is accepted only after the Company receives the deposit.
2. Where this booking would otherwise be subject to the provisions of the Consumer Guarantee Act (C.G.A) 1993, if the supply is a supply for business purposes the client agrees that the services are supplied for business purposes in terms of section 2 and 43 of the C.G.A 1993, and that the provisions of the said Act do not apply to the supply to the client. Such client is not a consumer for the purposes of these booking conditions.
3. The Company's role as tour operator is to arrange through third party suppliers the flights, coach journeys, cruises, travel and hotel accommodation and other facilities which together provide the holiday arrangement detailed in the brochure. You should note:
 - a. That your vacation arrangements are subject to terms and conditions imposed by airlines, coach operators, cruise operators, hoteliers and other suppliers of services. Many of those terms and conditions limit or exclude the liability of the supplier and may often be the subject of international convention between countries. Special conditions apply for motorcycle tours. Please read these carefully before booking your tour.
 - b. The Innovative Travel Company does not own or control the cruise operators, carriers, or hoteliers, or the various suppliers, and The Innovative Travel Company does not actually provide those services itself. The Innovative Travel Company will take all possible care to ensure that its suppliers have a reputation for maintaining a high standard. However the Company is unable to accept responsibility in any way for day to day problems with the services provided or for any loss, damage, delay, inconvenience or injury to persons or property, or any other loss howsoever arising.

In particular the Company is unable to accept responsibility for any aspect of your holiday arrangements affected by matters over which The Innovative Travel Company has no control including, without limitation, war or threat of war, riots and civil strife, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, weather conditions, fire, flood, drought, industrial disputes or governmental or official action or reasonable apprehension of the foregoing, cancellation, curtailment, or rescheduling of flights, or any failure on your part to obtain the correct visas and valid passport for travel.

4. While the Company will use its best endeavours to operate all tours as advertised, reasonable changes in the itinerary may be made without notice where deemed necessary or advisable by the Company or by a local agent or supplier.
5. The Company does not accept responsibility for disruption, inconvenience, cancellation or alteration directly or indirectly caused by or aggravated by the failure of any computer data processing equipment or media microchip integrated circuit or similar equipment, software or processing, storage or retrieval system.
6. Prices quoted in the latest insert are based on costs at the time of publication. **Prices are not guaranteed until paid in full.** The Company cannot be held responsible for any changes that may occur and reserves the right to increase the price of any travel arrangements up to the date of departure. This includes adjustment for devaluation, fuel surcharges, airfare increases as well as international exchange rates. The air content of tours is based on airfares applicable as at date of publication. As airline costs are constantly changing, it may be necessary to impose an air surcharge any time up to departure.
7. While this brochure has been issued and compiled by the Company with reasonable and appropriate care, it cannot accept responsibility for innocent inaccuracies contained herein.
8. It is a condition of the acceptance of your deposit in respect of this tour that all monies paid to The Innovative Travel Company, whether by way of deposit or otherwise in respect of the tour, may be disbursed by The Innovative Travel Company as and when it sees fit or in respect of the services to be provided or fees payable under the tour programme and the payment of a deposit for the tour shall be deemed to be a direction by you to the Innovative Travel Company to disburse such monies as foresaid. All monies received by The Innovative Travel Company are deposited in its name with its bankers, until appropriate disbursement to the suppliers of services or their agents.
9. While this brochure has been issued and compiled by the Company with reasonable and appropriate care, it is not issued on behalf of, and the Company cannot commit, any airline whose flights form part of the tour arrangements.
10. Receipt of a deposit will be taken as an understanding by the Company that the participant has read and agrees to abide by these terms and conditions stated.
11. The booking conditions and the supply of services herein shall be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of New Zealand, and both the client and the Company irrevocably submits themselves to the jurisdiction of New Zealand courts in respect of any proceedings arising out of or relating to these booking conditions or services provided hereunder.

CANCELLATION FEES AND REFUNDS

If you decide to cancel your holiday, please notify us in writing. Monies will be refunded less a cancellation fee per person, as a percentage of the tour costs:

More than 8 weeks before departure – deposit

Less than 8 weeks before departure – 35%

Less than 4 weeks before departure – 50%

Less than 14 days before departure – 100%

Cancellation fees for arrangements using some overseas agents, cruise, train or airlines companies may vary from the above. No refund is available for cancellations after commencement of travel or on any unused services.

INSURANCE

Insurance is not included in holiday prices. It is essential to purchase a full travel insurance policy prior to departure, adequate cover for the full duration of your holiday & for cancellation, loss of luggage/personal property, medical expenses & any accidental damage. By booking, you agree that The Innovative Travel Company will have no liability for any such loss or damage, and you accept that it is your responsibility to insure yourself fully.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

While The Innovative Travel Company strongly recommends that you purchase any additional services you require on holiday directly through the local agent (and not with contracted guides or drivers), the Innovative Travel Company cannot accept responsibility for and will not be responsible for additional services provided through local agents or contracted guides/drivers after start of travel.

YOUR HOLIDAY PRICE

Passport and visa fees, insurance, excess baggage charges, extra meals, laundry, drinks, souvenirs, items of a personal nature including medication, departure taxes, portage and tipping are not included in the price of your holiday. In some countries portage and tipping may be compulsory. Entrance fees to venues detailed in the itinerary will generally be included, unless specified otherwise in the itinerary.

BROCHURE VALIDITY

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this brochure but circumstances may necessitate changes in itineraries and costs, of which you will be informed as soon as possible. The Innovative Travel Company shall not be liable for any resulting changes and reserves the right to increase the price of any arrangements up to the date of departure. This includes adjustment for devaluation, fuel surcharges, airfare increases as well as exchange rate fluctuations. It is your travel agent's responsibility to ensure that the prices quoted comply with our latest price insert. This brochure is valid for the period stated on the enclosed price insert. Prices should be used as an indication only and will be confirmed at the time of booking.

PASSPORT AND VISAS

A valid passport is required for travel and some countries require that it be valid for at least 6 months after the date of departure from those countries. Please check with your travel agent regarding visa requirements. The Innovative Travel Company recommends that you check the travel advice issued by the NZ or Australian Government on their websites: www.mft.govt.nz or www.smarttraveller.gov.au

The above information should be taken as a general guideline and will vary with some holidays such as cruising, villa stays, car hire and for other holidays. Please ask at the time of your enquiry for further clarification.

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Full itineraries, booking conditions and registrations available from your local agent:

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