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SHORE EXCURSION IN

ISRAEL

SUGGESTED ITINERARY FOR:

**2 day shore excursion from Haifa or Ashdod
Jerusalem & Masada**

Day 1

Morning Pick-up from Haifa or Ashdod port and drive down to the Dead Sea -- lowest place on earth. Continue south along its shores, past the oasis of the Ein Gedi, to **Masada** - a World Heritage Site - ascend & descend by cable car to view excavations of the 2000-year-old fortress and palace built by King Herod.

Visit the new museum where the story of Massada comes to life, "see and feel" the story behind the archaeological finds.

Lunch & swim at a resort hotel on the shores of the **Dead Sea**.

On your way to Jerusalem, time permitting, visit the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered.

Continue through the Judean Wilderness up to Jerusalem.

Time permitting: Stop on Mount Scopus for first view of Jerusalem and a blessing.

Overnight in **Jerusalem**

Day 2

Breakfast at hotel.

Begin with a panoramic view of Jerusalem from atop the **Mount of Olives**.

Enter the Old City through **Jaffa Gate**. Continue through colorful bazaars to the Christian Quarter, along part of the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of Holy Sepulchre**.

Then, visit the **Western Wall**, Judaism's holiest site, and view the Temple Mount area with Dome of the Rock and El Aqsa Mosques.

Depart Jerusalem and drive to **Tel Aviv**, Israel's commercial and entertainment center on shores of the Mediterranean.

Short city tour of Tel Aviv & Jaffa. Drive past Rabin Plaza, site of numerous political rallies, and other public events. Continue along Rothschild Boulevard, located in the center of Tel Aviv, known for its large collection of historic buildings of the Bauhaus era (a UNESCO-designated World Heritage Site).

Drive along Tel Aviv's seaside promenade to ancient biblical port city of **Jaffa**. Visit Old Jaffa Visitors Center.

Continue along the Mediterranean coast to **Caesarea** – view excavations from Roman, Byzantine & Crusader periods.

Evening Return to Haifa or Ashdod Port for re-embarkation

Sequence of visits may change according to conditions on the ground.