

# Rick Bonfim Ministries

## Israel Trip Information

**Question: What exactly is included in the trip cost?**

**Answer:** The price of the trip includes:

- Roundtrip airfare from U.S. city of departure
- Comfortable lodging (double occupancy) You can request a single room but there is a significant single supplement fee charged by the hotel which you will need to pay.
- Buffet breakfast and dinner daily
- All transportation on the tour
- All entrance fees to biblical sites

Not included in the price of the trip:

- Connecting travel to U.S. city of departure
- Lunches
- Beverages at meals
- Excess baggage charges
- Passports
- Individual misc. expenses and purchases
- Tips and gratuities for porters, and bus drivers **(PLAN TO TIP THE BUS DRIVER IN ISRAEL a minimum of \$50 - \$60 PER PERSON)**
- You are not required to tip at meals; you may do so if you wish

**Question: What exactly is the purpose of this RBM biblical study tour?**

**Answer:** We will study God's Word, worship and pray in the Land where Jesus Himself walked, prayed, and ministered. The Rick Bonfim Ministries tour is designed to stand apart from other tours. Our purpose is to take the time to commune with the Lord and His Land. While we will see many awesome biblical sites, our primary focus is to minister to those whom God calls to be a part of this life-changing spiritual journey.

**Question: How much money should I bring with me on this trip?**

**Answer:** A very ample breakfast and dinner will be provided every morning and evening at the hotel; however, **you will be on your own to pay for your lunch.** An average lunch with beverage is \$15. Some days we will simply buy a snack for lunch. Other days we will have lunch in a restaurant. You will not go hungry! **You will also need to purchase water and beverages at meals, even in restaurants.** This can add up to \$5-\$10 per day. You will need shopping money for any gifts you want to purchase as well as money for any incidental expenses you incur, such as using an Internet service, hotel services, and tips for the bus driver. **We suggest \$500 for these necessary expenses.** If you want to shop more, please bring more cash. Dollars are accepted widely in Israel. When you first spend some US Dollars you will get NIS (New Israeli Shekels back in change).

**As for the TIP for the bus driver....this is important. He is our greatest friend on this trip. He helps us with many things daily to make this trip go smoothly. He will be a Palestinian, likely not a believer in Jesus. Please plan to bless him!**

**Question: How should I bring my money?**

**Answer:** Bring your extra money in the form of cash. **Bring new, crisp, unmarked \$20 bills.** ATM's will be available as well. Credit cards can be used for shopping but not for most places where we will stop for lunch.

**Question: Do I need a passport and visa to enter these countries?**

**Answer:** You will need a passport. Make sure that the expiration date is MORE than 6 months beyond the date of our trip. Israel requires passport only, no visa.

**Question: What about security of my passport?**

**Answer:** A lost passport can ruin the trip for you and seriously inconvenience the group. Therefore, you MUST take these precautions:

- 1) Make 2 photocopies of your passport. Place one in your checked bag and one in your carry-on bag apart from where you are carrying your passport.
- 2) Follow the directions of the group leader as to how to handle your passport while we are traveling. It is critical to the success of the trip that it be handled securely at all times. The group leader may at times collect everyone's passport in order to expedite check-in or some other procedure.
- 3) Bring the following numbers and web sites with you and also give them to a family member:

**Lost Passport number: 877-487-2778**

**Overseas Citizen Services – US number: 888-407-4747**

**Overseas Citizen Services – Outside the US: 202-501-4444**

**[www.travel.state.gov/passport](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport) [www.travel.state.gov/travel](http://www.travel.state.gov/travel)**

**Question: Will laundry services be available at the hotel?**

**Answer:** Yes you can pay a small fee for laundry to be done. Also at the Galilee in Israel there will be clotheslines so that you may do some hand-washing and hang items of clothing out to dry. Bring some laundry soap for hand-washing.

**Question: What are the showers and toilets like?**

**Answer:** The same as in America. They work well.

**Question: Will I need a power converter to plug in my hairdryer, razor, etc.?**

**Answer:** Yes! You can purchase one at Radio Shack. Make sure you get a quality converter. **The 220 electricity is strong and can blow out a converter, so try to get one which is substantial.** Along with the converter, you need the adapter which fits the shape of the outlet in Israel. It will come along with the converter kit.

**Question: Will there be hair dryers in the hotel room?**

**Answer:** In the Galilee hotel, yes. In the Jerusalem hotel, likely not.

**Question: Should I bring any medicine or other medical supplies?**

**Answer:** YES. If you are taking prescription drugs, bring them. If you anticipate needing medicine for things such as headaches, diarrhea, colds, insect bites, etc., PLEASE bring it with you. In Israel, it is often difficult to get even the most common American over-the-counter drug.

Remember that all liquids or gels you **carry on** must be less than 3 oz. each and all fit within one quart-sized zip-lock bag.

Also, please read thoroughly the “*permitted/prohibited items*” section of this Delta Airlines weblink, which will explain in detail how to pack medications, liquids, and aerosol products in your carry-on bag:

<http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/prohibited/permitted-prohibited-items.shtm#content>

**Question: How can I purchase emergency travel medical insurance in the case that I become sick or hospitalized while on this trip?**

**Answer:** If you wish to purchase travel medical insurance for this trip, we recommend that you contact a company called **MedEx**. You may contact them at [www.medexassist.com](http://www.medexassist.com) or call at 1-800-732-5309. You can purchase a premium which will cover your medical needs for \$25-\$100, depending upon age, options, and deductible.

**Question: Will I be able to call home while we’re on the trip?**

**Answer:** You may bring a pad, laptop or iPhone with Skype capability on it. The connection depends upon the internet availability at the hotel. If you want to use your cell phone in Israel, simply purchase a SIM card for your cell phone which will work in Israel and other countries.

**Contact your phone company for information about using your phone in Israel.**

**Question: Will I have Internet access while we’re on the trip?**

**Answer:** Yes, there is internet access at the hotels. You may bring your laptop computer if you wish, but **RBM is not responsible for the security of your computer.**

**Question: What items should I pack for the trip?**

**Answer:** Bring comfortable **clothes** that you can layer: jeans or pants, capris, shorts, t-shirts, long-sleeved shirts, a sweater or light jacket, a scarf or hat. **It will be warm in the day and cool at night, especially in Jerusalem.** Expect to encounter a wide range of temperatures – from 50 degrees F. to 80 degrees F. Check the weather forecast on the internet just before we go to get a more accurate idea of what the weather will be. It may rain so have some kind of waterproof light jacket. You will not need any “dressy” attire. Of high importance are comfortable, reliable walking shoes with good traction. Two pairs are recommended. We will do a lot of walking and you must protect your feet. The stone streets in Jerusalem can be very slippery, especially if it is rainy. Bring socks so your feet stay warm and dry. Slippers are recommended, as the stone floors in the hotels are cold in the mornings. If we swim in the Dead Sea, the high mineral content water is very hard on swimsuits so we advise you not bring an expensive one. **Shorts and sleeveless tops are not allowed at some religious sites.** We will advise you as to these. Please don’t bring expensive jewelry. The hotel provides towels and linens. **You will need to bring your own washcloth.**

### **PACKING LIST (besides clothing):**

Bible	Notebook/pens	Flashlight
Umbrella	Camera	Batteries
Hat or scarf	Sun block	Sunglasses
Spending money		Power converter -220 to 110
Toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, soap, etc)		Soap for hand washing clothes
All medical supplies you might need		Alarm Clock
All personal items you might need		Washcloth
A small fleece blanket for the international flight – the plane may be cold		

You might want to go to Barnes & Noble or some similar store and purchase a **MAP of ISRAEL**. You will enjoy seeing where we are as we visit sites throughout the country.

There will be a couple of days when we will be eating lunch “on the run” between the airport and hotel. We will give you a chance to purchase lunch snacks. However, you might want to plan ahead and bring along with you some snacks for those days such as nuts, granola bars, protein bars, dried fruit or trail mix.

### **BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS:**

Each passenger may check 1 bag weighing up to 50 pounds and one carry-on bag as well as a personal item such as a purse or jacket.

### **DAILY SCHEDULE**

**8:00 - breakfast**

**9:00 – depart on bus for sites - on location Bible study and prayer at 1 or 2 sites**

**12:30 - lunch out somewhere - group pays for their own lunches and beverages**

**1:30 - visit 1 or 2 sites - on location Bible study and prayer**

**4:30 - return to hotel - REST**

**6:30 - dinner**

**7:30 – praise and worship, Bible Study, prayer**

### **IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER WHILE WE ARE IN ISRAEL AS A GROUP:**

**1) At each site, stay together as a GROUP until you are released to take photos or walk around. You will be given instructions at each site, a teaching time, and then there will be time to explore, take photos, find the bathroom, etc.**

**2) BE on TIME. Some of our site reservations have been made months ago. If we arrive late, we will lose our spot.**

**3) Keep your passport SAFE.**

**4) Bring your Study Guide and other materials every day. Bring a jacket and anything else you need for the day. Your belongings will be safe on the bus.**

**5) Betty’s instructions are IMPORTANT. Please be compliant and obedient so that everyone is safe and the trip runs smoothly.**