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 [The Naked Archaeologist Israel Tour 2016](http://samsontours.com/group-tours/1134-the-naked-archaeologist-israel-tour-2016)

**December 4-15, 2016**

Led by: **Simcha Jacobovici**

 

 **Guaranteed Departure!**

10 Days/9 Nights on Land in Solid 4-Star Accommodations

[**Register Online**](http://samsontours.com/group-tours/1134-the-naked-archaeologist-israel-tour-2016) **with a $500 deposit**

***Samson Tours, Inc. is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST39934. We are bonded, licensed and insured and provide a 100%*** [***Force Majeure Policy***](http://samsontours.com/security)***.***

**Pricing**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Land Rates **Per person**  | **Land Only** |
| P.P in a Double/Twin Room | $3950.00 |
| Third Person in a Shared Room | $3850.00 |
| Child (ages 2-12) sharing room with parents | $3550.00 |
| Single Supplement | $985.00 |

[**Refer friends**](http://samsontours.com/points-program) **and save $100.00 off your final balance for every person you refer to this tour!**

**Add-Ons , Supplements & Discounts**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Add-Ons** | Cost |
| **Group Airfare** from Newark, NJ or Toronto (Airfare will be announced 10 months prior to departure) | *Estimated* $1000.00 |
| Pre-Arrival or Post-Departure Hotel on **BB** in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv (**Per Person, Per Night in a Shared Double Room**), INCLUDING Special Transfer to or from the airport | $160.00 Per Person |
| Pre-Arrival or Post-Departure Hotel on **BB** in Tel Aviv ( Per Nightin a **SINGLE** Room), INCLUDING Special Transfer to or from the airport | $250.00 |
| Airfare Booking Assistance | $50.00 |
| **Discount** for Referring a Friend with your Coupon Code | **-$100.00** |

**What’s included?**

* Transfers from and to Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion International Airport
* VIP Luggage & Airport services upon arrival/departure
* 10 days of new air-conditioned tour bus & driver
* 9 nights in Solid 4-Star accommodations
* Full Buffet Breakfast & Dinner each day (soft drinks & alcohol not included), including an exceptional, full-course Farewell Dinner in Jaffa on the final day.
* 1 Lunch-to-go on day of arrival
* 1 Full-Course, Bedouin Hafla lunch on Dec. 11
* At least 6 full touring days with [Simcha Jacobovici](http://samsontours.com/members?id=1608)
* One-on-One Private Meeting and Photo Session with Simcha
* Supporting Licensed Ministry of Tourism Guide ([Eitan Chamberlin](http://samsontours.com/members?id=645), M.A. in Biblical Archaeology)
* Free **WIFI** on the bus
* All park fees & scheduled activities and entertainment
* Internal Headset Whisper System for groups of 20 or more
* Gratuities for hotel staff and bell boys.
* Traveler’s Kit (hat, map, 2 starter water bottles)
* Bus Banners and Name Tags
* All Credit Card Fees

What’s *not* included?

* Round-trip Airfare
* Fuel surcharges and taxes for flights, *if any*
* Lunches
* Personal expenses such as telephone calls from room, mini bar, room service, WiFi etc.
* Gratuities for guide & driver (recommended minimum per person: $130.00)
* [Optional Traveler’s Insurance](http://samsontours.com/insurance) through this link
* $50.00 Add-On Booking Fee for Domestic Connections or Diversions to/from Group Flight (See Add-Ons section in My Account)
* Any other Add-Ons for Pre-Arrival or Post-Departure (See Add-Ons section in My Account)

**Tour Timeline**

Please add the following dates and deadlines to your calendar.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Deadlines | Due Date | Action Required |
| **Final Balance Payments are Due** |  **September 5, 2016** |  |
| **Late Registration Fee of $500 goes into effect** |  **October 1st 2016** |  |
| All Passenger Info is Due (Passports, Roommates, etc.) |  **October 1st 2016** | Update Online Account Info with Full Passport Info, etc. |
|  |  |  |

**How to Register**

1. [**Click here to register online**](http://samsontours.com/group-tours/1134-the-naked-archaeologist-israel-tour-2016) **or paste** the following web link into your browser: <http://samsontours.com/group-tours/1134-the-naked-archaeologist-israel-tour-2016>
2. **Fax** your Registration Details to 352-835-0885 (see forms below)
3. **Phone us** with your registration details at 352-414-5991

Final Itinerary

This itinerary is subject to changes.

**Sunday, December 4th - Departure Day**

* Welcome Service & Escort to our coach is provided. You will be greeted by our airport representative immediately **after Passport Control**
* Private transfer to your hotel
* Check-in to Pre-Arrival Hotel: [Sheraton Tel Aviv](http://www.sheratontelaviv.com/)

**Monday, December 5th - Arrival Day – (B/L/D)**

* 10:00 – Pickup at the Sheraton for all Pre-Arrival members. **Note:** Please be sure that your luggage has already been brought down to the lobby area where we will meet.
* 10:20 – Departure from Tel Aviv
* Visit **Caesarea Maritima** and meet the figures of Herod the Great, Pontius Pilate, the apostle Paul, Eusebius and many other legendary figures while standing in the Roman Theatre, the Hippodrome and the Aqueduct.
* Lunch (included)
* Visit the ancient Phoencian city of **Tel Dor** to learn about the process of making ancient blue dye (*tkhellet*)
* Enjoy the evening, resting by the Mediterranean Sea
* 19:00 – Dinner by the Sea
* 20:00 -21:00 – Kick Start the tour with an overview by our host: **Simcha Jacobovici**
* Overnight & Dinner: [Dor Nahsholim](http://www.nahsholim.co.il/en/) (Boutique Wing)

**Tuesday, December 6th – (B/D)**

* Experience **Mt. Carmel** at the place where Elijah fought the prophets of Baal
* Visit the infamous **Tel Megiddo** and the Valley of Armageddon
* See **Beit Shearim**, the Necropolis of the Rabbis
* Have a brief stop at **Bethlehem of the Galilee** to discuss the possibilities of this being the real place where Jesus was born.
* End the day with a visit to Moshav Zippori where we’ll meet with [Mitch Pilcer](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NCUWKcvtRDQ), owner of Ziporri Village, and the discoverer of the tomb of Rabbi Yehoshua Bar Levi.
* Drive via Cana of Galilee
* Overnight & Dinner: [Kibbutz Nof Ginosar (Grand Deluxe)](http://english.ginosar.co.il/nof_Ginosar_Hotel)

**Wednesday, December 7th (B/D)**

* 08:15 **-** Walk in the **Arbel Pass (**Jesus’ passageway to the Galilee**)**
* 09:00 - Explore the newly recovered remains of **Magdala**
* 10:30 - Experience **a wooden boat ride** on the **Sea of Galilee**
* Visit the **1st century ‘Galilee boat** at Ginosar’s Yigal Allon Museum.
* Enjoy lunch on your own at a Fish Restaurant by the Sea of Galilee
* See the **Tomb of the Centurion**, a rarely known site at Capernaum
* Visit **Tel Bethsaida** (home to 5 of the 12 disciples and where Simcha excavates)
* End the day visiting the archaeological remains at **Capernaum,** Jesus’ ‘home’ in the Galilee
* Time permitting, we’ll try to visit the Byzantine site of **Kursi** (in the land of the Gerasenes)
* Overnight & Dinner: [Kibbutz Nof Ginosar (Grand Deluxe)](http://english.ginosar.co.il/nof_Ginosar_Hotel)

**Thursday, December 8th – (B/D)**

* We’ll start the day at the Tomb of **Honi the Circle Maker**
* Next, we’ll see **Tel Hazor** (see the 12th century destruction of the Canaanite palace)
* We’ll have thorough visit to **Tel Dan** (The Israelite Gate, Jeroboam’s Temple & The Arch of Abraham)
* After a Lebanese-style falafel lunch, we’ll stop by **Caesarea Phillipi** (the Temple of Pan)
* Next, we’ll look-out over the ‘Road to Damascus’ from the **Golan Heights**
* We’ll end the day bathing in the **ancient hot springs and sulfur pools of Hamat Gader**
* Overnight & Dinner: [Kibbutz Nof Ginosar (Grand Deluxe)](http://english.ginosar.co.il/nof_Ginosar_Hotel)

**Friday, December 9th – (B/D)**

* Drive southward through the **Jordan Valley**.
* Stop by **Qasr el-Yahud (Bethany Beyond the Jordan)**, a more probable place for John’s baptisms
* Explore **Qumran,** where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered, and see some of the less-known parts of the site.
* Visit the **Ein Gedi Synagogue** and see where David hid from Saul in what today is called the David Ravine
* Before Sabbath, **check in to our Dead Sea Hotel**
* Enjoy the rest of your evening **relaxing in the Dead Sea** or your **hotel’s private spa**.
* Overnight & Dinner: Dead Sea, [David Dead Sea Resort & Spa](https://www.david-deadsea.com/)

**Sabbath, December 10th – (B/D)**

* Morning Relaxation at your beautiful Dead Sea hotel with a private beach and spa
* In the afternoon, choose to have an **optional** visit to **Mt. Sodom**. Here you’ll have the option (additional cost) to enjoy a private jeep ride.
* Overnight & Dinner: Dead Sea, [David Dead Sea Resort & Spa](https://www.david-deadsea.com/)

**Reminder**: Simcha will not be touring during the day due to Sabbath observance.

**Sunday, December 11th – (B/L/D)**

* **Have the option to either hike up or take the 1-way cable car up Masada**
* Tour of **Masada**
* Walk down the **Roman Rampart**
* 11:00 Have a **Bedouin style welcome, lunch (*hafla)* and camel ride** in the Judean Desert
* Drive via the outskirts of **Beer Sheva**
* 14:30 - End the day participating in an **actual archaeological dig and tunnel crawl** at the magnificent **Beit Guvrin**. For those who don’t want to get too dirty, you will have the option instead to simply tour the site with your guide.
* As we enter Jerusalem we’ll have night view lookout over the Old City
* Overnight & Dinner: Jerusalem, [Dan Jerusalem](http://www.danhotels.com/JerusalemHotels/DanJerusalemHotel/) (Deluxe)

**Monday, December 12th - (B)**

* 07:15 – Early departure to ascend the **Temple Mount**
* Meet special guest: [Gabi Barkay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gabriel_Barkay)
* Visit the **Southern Wall Excavations (Davidson Center)** and see the *in situ* ruins of the Second Temple
* Behold the 1st century remains of the **Herodian Quarter** in the heart of the modern-day Jewish Quarter
* Lunch in the Jewish Quarter at the Old Quarter Café (*kosher*)
* 13:00 - With a **VIP** visit the **Western Wall Tunnels**
* 15:00 - Journey through the **City of David** (David’s Fortress to Hezekiah’s Tunnel & the Pool of Siloam)
* Enjoy **an evening for dinner out on your own to experience Jerusalem by night or order conveniently from your hotel’s bar or room service**
* Overnight: Jerusalem, [Dan Jerusalem](http://www.danhotels.com/JerusalemHotels/DanJerusalemHotel/) (Deluxe)

**Tuesday, December 13th – (B/D)**

* Lookout from the **Mt. of Olives**
* Walk down the Mt. of Olives to **Dominus Flevit** and the **Garden of Gethsamene**.
* Enter the Old City of Jerusalem through **Lion’s Gate**
* 10:00 - Visit the **Church of the Flagellation** at Station #1 of the Via Dolorosa and visit the **Franciscan “Antonia” Museum** at that site**.**
* Walk along much of the **Via Dolorosa** to **the** **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**
* Enjoy lunch on your own and some free shopping time in the Christian or Jewish Quarters
* Exit the Old City via **Jaffa Gate**
* **14:30-16:30** – Emeq Zurim Sifting Project
* Overnight & Dinner: Jerusalem, [Dan Jerusalem](http://www.danhotels.com/JerusalemHotels/DanJerusalemHotel/) (Deluxe)

**Wednesday, December 14th – (B/D)**

* 09:00 - Visit the ‘**Abba**’ **tomb** in Jerusalem at the home of Raphael Delarosa
* Visit the approximate location of the **Jesus Family Tomb in Talpiot** (The Lost Tomb of Jesus)
* Peruse the **Israel Museum** (the Shrine of the Book and the Biblical Archaeology Museum)
* Walk in the **Elah Valley** and see the story of David vs. Goliath come to life.
* **See Khirbet Qeiyafa (**biblical Sha’arayim?**),** one of the most recent Biblical Archaeology excavations that centers on early Israelite presence at the site
* Stand on **Tel Beth Shemesh** where the Ark of the Covenant was returned by the Philistines
* 18:00 End our journey with a fabulous, full-course dinner together at Regina Restaurant (Old Train Station, Tel Aviv)
* 19:30 – Transfer to airport
* Return Home on any of the evening flights (most flights depart between 11pm and 1 am.
* **NOTE**: You may choose to stay an extra night or two in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. Please see the add-ons in your My Account or contact us for more information.

**Thursday, December 15th – (B/D)**

* Arrive home

Policies

* **Final Itinerary & Hotels:** The itinerary may be updated from time to time at the discretion of Samson Tours, its guide and its tour leader. Final Hotel Arrangements will be posted no later than 100 days before departure. In the event of a hotel change, Samson Tours will guarantee a replacement at the same quality or provide an upgrade to a higher class of accommodations at no extra charge.
* **Group Minimum/Maximum:**There is no longer a group minimum.A **maximum of 35** will be allowed to participate.
* **Group Airfare:** Samson Tours works alongside the tour leader to find the best airfare and best price for the group. In order to request a group airfare price, there must be at least 10 passengers on the group flight. The airfare will be paid to the airline in full upon their request and subject to their cancellation/refund policies.
* **Booking your own Airfare:** If you are not joining your tour’s group airfare, please do not book your airfare until 120 days before the tour departure date or until the Notice of Group Minimum has been sent to you.
* **Flight Diversions**: If you elect to be on the group flight and wish to depart from a different city of origin, you can a.) Book your own domestic airfare connection or b.) Select the Add-On in your My Account for a $50.00 Domestic Flight Booking Fee. Any costs or savings for the additional flight will be added or deducted from your tour balance. Please [contact us](http://samsontours.com/contact)with your specific departure city request.
* **Deposit & Payments for Land:** To ensure your spot on the tour, we request **a $500.00 deposit** be paid upon signup**.** The deposit (less a $100.00 non-refundable fee per person) and any other payments made are refundable up to 90 days before departure. After that, the remaining deposit amount is non-refundable, but can be used as a future credit with Samson Tours or converted into a Gift Certificate which you can transfer to a third party. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, money order, bank transfer, debit or credit card. If the tour is canceled by Samson Tours, then you will be entitled to a full refund without any cancellation fee. This refund of cancellation fee does not apply to tour leader cancellations or postponements due to group minimums not being reached. For cases of political instability or cancellations or postponements due to *force majeure*, please see the Force Majeure section below.
* **Final Payments:** The final payment will be made 90 days before departure. Payments made by check or cash will be made in US$ to Samson Tours, Inc. Payments made by debit or credit card to Samson Tours, Inc. will be charged the full balance. If there are any unpaid fuel surcharges for the group flight, they will be billed to you at cost per the group airline contract either before or after the tour. There is a Late Payment Fee of $200.00 if the balance is paid after the final payment date.
* **Late Registrations & Payments:** Theoretically, you can join a tour anytime up to the time of the departure date (Land Only and subject to Hotel Availability). There will be a Late Payment Fee of $500.00 and an additional $50.00 fee if you require airfare assistance. If a hotel or other service listed in the itinerary is unavailable, we will find an alternative hotel for you, however you will be responsible for any transportation costs to/from joining the main group.
* **Land Diversions**: If you arrive either before or after the recommended group departure/arrival time, or if your flight is delayed beyond a reasonable waiting period, or if you elect to divert or add-on additional days to the trip, then it is understood that you will arrive at the hotel or to the airport at your own expense. We will more than happy to assist you with these arrangements
* **Refunds (Land):** The following refunds for the **land portion** of the price will apply **for non-insured travelers only**: Your balance less a non-refundable fee of $100.00 per person, which is transferable or can be applied to future tours if cancelled 90+ calendar days before departure. 75% refund of balance less a non-refundable fee of $100.00 per person if cancelled 89-60 days before departure. 50% of balance less a non-refundable fee of $100.00 per person refund if cancelled 59-30 days before departure. 0% refund if cancelled 29 or less days before departure.
* **Refunds (Group Air):** Per group contract with airline. Typically, there is a $100 non-refundable fee up to 3 months before departure and 100% non-refundable 30 or less days before departure. Most airlines will, however, allow you to postpone your travel dates for a re-ticketing or name transfer fee.
* **Force Majeure:** If Samson Tours decides to postpone the tour do to political unrest or for any reason beyond our company’s control that could compromise your security, then your balance will carry over to the new tour dates. Depending on the new dates, there may be an increase in costs for tours that are rescheduled within 1 year. If you are unable to join the new tour dates, then you will be entitled to a refund, less the cancellation fee (see Deposits) and any other non-refundable deposits that may be imposed on us by suppliers such as airlines and hotels. The deposit and/or balances amount can also be applied to any future tour or may be transferable to a third party. Read more at <http://samsontours.com/security>.
* **Travel Insurance** – Samson Tours does not require travel insurance. It is, however, strongly advised that **all travelers** equip themselves with a comprehensive travel insurance plan. You can obtain an individual travel insurance quote, by visiting our [Insurance page](http://samsontours.com/insurance) and clicking on any of the ‘Get a Quote’ links that refer you to the Travel Guard website. Travel Insurance coverage begins ONLY from the time you have purchased travel insurance. It is advisable to purchase travel insurance immediately after making the final balance payment.
* **Add-ons** once you have registered for a tour you can select from a variety of add-ons in your My Account area you may select or deselect any of these add-ons (extension tour, hotels, late fees, etc.) until 30 days before your tour.
* **Your Health:** All participants should be in good health and walking condition. This program is active and involves a lot of walking over uneven surfaces and climbing stairs. All locations may not be accessible for the disabled. Having a disability does not disqualify you from joining any tour. However, be advised that you may have to forgo portions of the said itinerary by waiting on the bus or in a safe location until the main group has returned. If you require special accommodation, please report this at the time of your reservation so that we can better serve you.
* **Single Supplement:** For single travelers, a single supplement fee for the hotels is required. This usually amounts to around 85%-90% of the Double Room cost. If a person has ordered a double room and his or her roommate cancels his or her tour, then the individual holding a double room must find a new roommate or pay the single supplement.
* **Exchange Rate:** Samson Tours, Inc. reserves the right to charge a supplement to the price if the dollar falls below the 3.5 threshold. To date, we have never yet had to charge an exchange rate surcharge.
* **Government Imposed VAT or taxes:** Currently there are no VAT taxes for foreign on tour land packages to Israel. Should such a tax be imposed before the start of the tour, even after ‘final payment’ has been made, Samson Tours will notify all of its participants in writing. In order to participate in the tour, you will be required to pay all such taxes before the start of the tour. If you are an Israeli Citizen you will be asked to pay VAT at the time of you final payment.
* **Responsibility** - Samson Tours, Inc., its agents, suppliers, guides, leaders and representatives shall be, in no way, liable or responsible for any personal or property loss, damage or injury howsoever caused. The company shall also not be responsible for penalties for privately-booked flight tickets if purchased before the minimum is reached.
* **Update** – These policies may be updated from time to time. Upon update, you will be notified by Samson Tours, Inc. or its group leader.

**How to Register**

1. [**Click here to register online**](http://samsontours.com/group-tours/1134-the-naked-archaeologist-israel-tour-2016) **or paste** the following web link into your browser: <http://samsontours.com/group-tours/1134-the-naked-archaeologist-israel-tour-2016>
2. **Fax** your Registration Details to 352-835-0885 (see forms below)
3. **Phone us** with your registration details at 352-414-5991



*Confidential Information for Samson Tours, Inc. or tour leader’s use only!*



**About you**

Name(1) Birthdate (1)

Name(2) Birthdate (2)

Name(3) Birthdate (3)

Email(1)

Home Phone Cell Phone

Best time of day to phone: Morning [ ]  Afternoon [ ]  Evening [ ]  or Specific

Home Address

Emergency Contact Name: Relationship:

Emergency Contact Phone:

**Degree° of Interest**

* I’m definite! Attached is my **$500.00** (per person) **check or cash deposit** [ ]
* For sure! I’ll pay by **debit/credit card** [ ]  (see the Credit Card form)
* I will submit payment via another means. Please specify:

* I’m sitting on the fence (will decide later) [ ]



**Travel Information**

Travel information is required 3 months before departure. If you do not know this information now, leave blank and we will contact you at a later time.

* What kind of room are you requesting? SINGLE [ ]  DOUBLE [ ]  TRIPLE [ ]
* If you are in a DOUBLE room, would you like a TWIN/SPLIT [ ]  QUEEN-size [ ]  bed?
* I’d like to share a DOUBLE room with
* I’d like to share a TRIPLE room with

&

* Do you have any medical conditions or limitations? YES [ ]  NO [ ]
* Medical Notes or Special Requests:

** Passport Information**

This information (along with a copy of your passport) is required 3 months before departure. Please print your name EXACTLY as it appears on your passport.

Passport Name (1) Country Passport #

Passport Name (2) Country Passport #

Passport Name (3) Country Passport #

* **Your Signature**



(By signing, you have read and agree to the **Policies** for this tour.)

**Please submit this form to the tour leader or fax us directly, along with your credit card form, to 352-835-0885.**



**CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FORM**

(Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Amex)

**Credit Card Details**

\*Type of Card: Visa [ ]  - MasterCard [ ]  - Discover [ ]  - Amex [ ]

\*Name(s) on card

\*Card number



\*Expiration

\*Security Code (see image to right)

\*Email

\*Home Phone

Cell Phone

\*Billing Address for credit card



**Payment Schedule**

* Please process my **deposit** payment now **and** my **final payment** later with this card. Note: we will process your final payment 4 months before departure. [ ]
* Please process my **deposit payment only** with this card. I will pay the balance later via another means. [ ]
* Please process my deposit payment and set up a **payment plan** for the balance. I will pay the deposit now and you can automatically bill my credit card the remaining balance over 3 [ ]  4 [ ]  5 [ ]  6 [ ]  payments.



**Your Signature**

(By signing, you agree to let Samson Tours, Inc. and/or its agents to process your payments with the details provided above.)