

Jim Gold International Folk Tours

Israel !

Folk Dancing, Folk Music, History, Culture, Adventure !

March 7-19, 2010

Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee

Jordan extension: Petra, Amman, Wadi Rum, Jerash: March 19-23

Led by Jim Gold with Dr. Joe Freedman

- ★ See the new-old, multi-faceted culture of Israel, meet its people, learn songs and dances, visit its historic sites!
- ★ Folk dancing with Israeli choreographers, Balkan dance with Dunav, Klezmer music workshop, an evening talk on Ethnic Folk Dance with Ayala Goren!
- ★ Meet Yemenite, Bedouin, and Kurdish cultural groups. Attend Arab and Druze Debka dance workshops.
- ★ Price includes transfers, city tours, private deluxe motor coach, folk dance workshops, entrance fees, professional tour guide, breakfasts, most dinners.

OUR ITINERARY:

- Day 1: Sunday, March 7 :** Depart on Turkish Airlines from JFK airport in New York City.
- Day 2: Monday, March 8:** Arrive in Israel. Transfer to Tel Aviv's Dan Panorama Hotel. Overview of **Old Jaffa**. Orientation. Dinner in Mediterranean-style restaurant in Yemenite Quarter.
- Day 3: Tuesday, March 9: TEL AVIV: Independence Hall** with focus on growth of Tel Aviv. Performance and workshop with Inbal Dance Theater. **Museum of the Diaspora** with emphasis on history of Jewish ethnic groups. Free for dinner. Evening workshop with an **Israeli folk dance choreographer**. Hotel Basel, Tel Aviv.
- Day 4: Wednesday, March 10:** Travel south. Introduction to the desert at the **Jo Alon Center - Bedouin Culture Museum**. At a **Bedouin Tent: camel ride, Bedouin hospitality** with coffee, tea, and an introduction to Bedouin life and Bedouin music. **Bedouin-style Lunch**. Afternoon transfer to **Dead Sea Hotel**. Use of **spa facilities** and float on the **Dead Sea** while reading a newspaper! **Dinner** included at the hotel. Overnight: Isrotel Hotel, Ein Bokek, Dead Sea
- Day 5: Thursday, March 11:** Tour the amazing finds on **Masada** and take a walk through the breathtaking nature reserve of **Ein Gedi**, ascend to Jerusalem. Free time for dinner on your own. Evening: **Balkan dancing** with the **Dunav Club**. Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem.
- Day 6: Friday, March 12: Old City of Jerusalem:** Visit **Christian Quarter** and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher), **Jewish Quarter, Kotel (Western Wall)**. Optional visit to Friday night Sabbath services at the Kotel. Overnight and dinner at Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem.
- Day 7: Saturday, March 13:** Day of leisure. Optional walking tour of **Tower of David**. **Afternoon walking tour of first neighborhoods outside the City Walls**. On your own for dinner. Evening talk on **Ethnic Folk Dancing** in Israel with the renowned **Ayalah Goren-Kadman** followed by optional Israeli dancing with **Boaz Cohen**. Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel.
- Day 8: Sunday, March 14:** From Tel Azeka recall story of **David and Goliath**. Participate in **archaeological dig** at Bet Gurvrin/Tel Maresha. At the **Ayalon Institute** hear the amazing story of clandestine operation during the British mandate. Free time for dinner in the city of **Rehovot**. Special evening program of **Yemenite culture** in the neighboring town of **Kiryat Ekron!**

Return to Jerusalem's. Dan Panorama Hotel. On your own for dinner.

- Day 9: Monday, March 15: New City of Jerusalem: Yad Lekashish:** Lifeline for the Elderly, sheltered workshops. Drive through Jerusalem's Cultural Mile, **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum**. Tour the various ethnic neighborhoods in the **Nahla'ot area** as well as the colorful **Machaneh Yehuda Open-Air Market**. Evening program with immigrants from **Kurdistan:** authentic songs, dances and dinner! Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem.
- Day 10: Tuesday, March 16:** Drive north. **Druze hospitality** at village of Daliat el Carmel. Panoramic view of the city of **Haifa and the Bahai Gardens**. Arab and Druze **Debka dance workshop** with the amazing Yihye Abu Juma. Overnight: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Guest House on the Sea of Galilee.
- Day 11: Wednesday, March 17:** The mystical city of **Zfat (Safed)**. Talk with a **Kabbalistic artist**. **Klezmer music** workshop. Visit **Christian sites** on the northern shore of the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee). Tour and wine tasting at **Golan Heights Winery**. Dinner at fabulous **Decks Restaurant** on the Kinneret. Overnight: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Guest House.
- Day 12: Thursday, March 18: Kinneret Courtyard and Cemetery:** We start in Tiberias, traverse the Galilee to Zippori located near Nazareth. Songs and dances of poetess **Rachel**. **Mt. Carmel** – story of Elijah and the Prophets of Baal. Panoramic view of the **Jezebel Valley**. Drive down the coast. **Farewell Dinner at Decks Restaurant overlooking the Sea of Galilee!** Depart for airport for midnight flight home. *Travelers taking Jordan extension will stay overnight in Nof Ginosar.*

Jordan extension: Petra, Amman, Wadi Rum, Jerash! March 19-23.

Day 13-17: Friday, March 19 to Tuesday, March 23: Tour Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan! We'll visit **Petra, Amman, Wadi Rum, Jerash, Petra, Madaba, Shobak, Mt Nebo!** (See our Jordan flier.)

About Jim Gold: Jim brings a love of music, people, languages, history, humor, and new discoveries to his tours, and dance classes, making them a joy for all ages. He has led Folk Tours to countries such as Bulgaria, Greece, Norway, Poland, Hungary, Turkey, Israel, Croatia, Egypt, and Spain in order to experience their history and culture from the perspective of the folk dancer. Jim is a classical and folk guitarist, a folk dance teacher who makes dancing easy. He is the author of nine books, his latest being "50 Folk Dances choreographed by Jim Gold." As a professional guitarist and singer, his concert program has appeared at schools, universities, on TV and national radio. This is his 25th year leading **Jim Gold International Tours**.

About Joe Freedman: Joe's interest in international folk dancing and folk guitar began at 12 years old in St. Louis. He holds undergraduate degrees from Columbia University and The Jewish Theological Seminary, and a doctorate in education from Columbia Teachers College. He has also studied Israeli dance in New York with the legendary Fred Berk. In 1980 he and his wife moved to Israel where he organizes educational tours, and is currently Director of the Ramah Programs in Israel. A licensed Israeli tour guide and certified Israeli folk dance instructor, Joe loves connecting Israeli music and dance to sites in Israel and sharing his enthusiasm about the country with his tourists.

Land Only: \$3395 Land and Air: \$3895
5-day Jordan extension: \$995

REGISTRATION: I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person. Israel single supplement: \$895. Jordan single supplement: \$195. Additional charges: \$85 for hotel taxes and service charges. Gratuities not included. Air tax: \$395. Cancellation 30–45 days prior to departure: Refund 50% of total price. Less than 30 days: No refund. **Total balance due Dec 8, 2009**

Jordan extension: Yes _____ No _____

Name/s _____

Address _____

No. of people _____ Phone(_____) _____ Email _____

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