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Grand Petra Tour

These are very full and enriching days! We explore not only world famous Petra, but many other fascinating, beautiful, and unusual biblical sites and landscapes.

Day 1 Thursday Negev – Ramon Crater - Eilat

Scenic drive through the Hills of Judea to the Elah Valley where David slew Goliath, then south into the Negev desert in the footsteps of Moses and the Exodus where we'll view the Tzin Canyon with its magnificent white chalk cliffs and Avdat, ancient Spice Road caravan city, where we'll learn how the Nabateans farmed the desert 2000 years ago. Stop for lunch in a traditional Bedouin tent and then climb on the back of a camel for a short ride. Continue on to the huge Ramon Crater- the largest of its kind and a geological wonderland, finally reaching the picturesque resort town of Eilat, situated at the Red Sea. End out day with a sunset jeep ride into the surrounding rose granite mountains with beautiful panoramic views. Check into our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 2 Friday Petra

Short drive into Jordan and then north, through the area known in the Bible as Edom, to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Petra. The whole city was carved out of red sandstone by the Nabateans some 2,000 years ago and served as their capital along the ancient Spice Road for the camel caravans that plied that desert from southern Arabia the Mediterranean. Arriving there, we wind our way through a narrow gorge flanked by towering cliffs and visit the famed Treasury- the highlight of Petra – and other sites. Lunch is included today. Return in the evening to Eilat for dinner and overnight.

Day 3 Saturday Red Sea - Sodom – Beersheba

Start the day with a drive south along the shores of the Red Sea to Taba, the present day border with Egypt, with great views of the Sinai wilderness, then on to the Red Sea "Coral World" and underwater observatory to see the rich variety of fish and sea life that inhabit its crystal clear waters. Continue north following the Syrian-African Rift Valley, passing the Timna Valley. Here the pharaohs of ancient Egypt mined and smelted copper, a precious metal in biblical times, and used by the Israelites at the time of the Exodus to make the Tabernacle. On to Mt. Sodom where God destroyed the evil city and where Lot's wife turned into a "pillar of salt", and Beersheba, where we'll learn about the life and times of Abraham, who lived, wandered, and pastured his flock. Dinner on your own tonight before heading to the airport for our return flight to the USA.

Day 4 Sunday Return to the USA

We say our farewells and return home. Shalom and Lehitraot - till we meet again! What an unforgettable experience!