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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Friendly Planet Travel Slashes Prices on Classic Israel Tour**

10-day tour exploring the best of Israel starts at just \$2,599—a \$500 price reduction

JENKINTOWN, Pa.—February 18, 2013—[Friendly Planet Travel](#) has introduced travelers to Israel for more than 30 years, and now it's offering travelers an opportunity to experience the dynamic nation at a more affordable price. The comprehensive 10-day [Classic Israel](#) tour starts at \$2,599—a \$500 price reduction—and explores Israel's most extraordinary cities and sites, including Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, the Dead Sea, and more.

"Tourism to Israel is steadily on the rise thanks to its rich history, religious significance, and modern achievements," says [Peggy Goldman](#), President of Friendly Planet Travel. "Israel is an exciting and affordable—and safe—destination that blends old and new across vibrant, modern cities, ancient monuments, archaeological treasure troves, and spiritual locales. While Israel is a religious destination that draws thousands of pilgrims each year, it is also much, much more, and our itinerary has been developed to reveal the many facets of Israel. In addition, our comprehensive tour offers tremendous value for a first-class experience that includes five-star hotels, many meals, and a complete introduction to Israel from top to bottom. Despite the attractive pricing, groups are intentionally kept small (between 15 and 24 travelers per group) to maximize the comfort and experience of participants."

The package includes round-trip airfare from [New York \(JFK\)](#) to Tel Aviv via Turkish Airlines, including fuel surcharges and taxes and fees; eight nights in deluxe, five-star hotels; eight buffet breakfasts, one lunch, and four dinners; all group transfers and group transportation; comprehensive touring, including entrance fees; and an English-speaking tour manager.

The [Classic Israel](#) tour begins as travelers check in to the [Leonardo Plaza Jerusalem](#) and enjoy a welcome dinner and orientation. Travelers then explore Old Jerusalem, including the restored Jewish Quarter and Cardo, the ancient shopping street and biblical version of Rodeo Drive. Other sites include Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial; the Kotel, also known as

the Western (Wailing) Wall and the holiest site in all of Judaism; the Church of the Holy Sepulcher; and the Israel Museum.

The journey continues through the Judean Desert, where travelers have an opportunity to ride a camel before continuing to the historic fortress of Masada, reached via cable car.

Accommodations are at the luxurious, five-star [Daniel Hotel Dead Sea](#).

Additional stops on the tour include the Jordan Valley, Tiberias, the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Safed, the Golan Heights, Haifa, Caesarea, and Megiddo and Tel Aviv, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Travelers also stay at the [Leonardo Plaza Tiberias](#) and the [Daniel Herzliya Hotel](#).

Starting at \$599, an optional four-day, post-tour extension is also available to the Red Sea resort town of Eilat, where travelers can enjoy the warm, calm water of Israel's most popular vacation hot spot that has one of the world's best coral reefs. An optional excursion to the lost city of Petra, a mystical ancient city in Jordan, is also available starting at \$235 per person.

Friendly Planet's 10-day [Classic Israel](#) tour is available on the departure dates of Nov. 23 for \$2,599; May 18, June 29, and Oct. 5 for \$2,999; and Aug. 10 for \$3,399, if booked by April 23.

For more information and a complete trip itinerary for Friendly Planet Travel's [Classic Israel](#) tour, please visit the company's website at www.FriendlyPlanet.com or its blog at blog.FriendlyPlanet.com.

ABOUT FRIENDLY PLANET TRAVEL

Friendly Planet Travel makes high-quality exotic travel affordable for everyone. Since 1981, Friendly Planet Travel has been arranging all-inclusive escorted discount vacation packages and cruises to the most exciting destinations in the world at the lowest possible prices.

Each year, Friendly Planet Travel offers more than 30 different group travel packages to Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and South America—at discounts of hundreds of dollars off similar vacations. With no hidden charges, add-ons, or surprises, Friendly Planet Travel vacations include convenient flights and airfare; carefully selected, first-class and superior hotels; knowledgeable, English-speaking guides; many meals; planned itineraries; as well as friendships and memories that last a lifetime.

Friendly Planet Travel offers its extensive, economical travel services to private groups, including universities, religious institutions, alumni associations, and families. Groups who wish to travel together can count on Friendly Planet Travel's three decades of experience to operate their group travel program expertly and always at the very best possible prices. Visit us at

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