

Israel/Palestine Trip—suggestions of things to bring:

One suitcase maximum per person, plus carry-on bag! Pack as light and smart as possible. You do not need a lot of clothes. You must be able to haul your own luggage going to and from your room, up stairs, in church guest houses that do not have elevators.

Bring layers (T-shirt, light clothing, long sleeve shirt, turtleneck, sweater or sports coat, etc.). Bring comfortable, modest clothing, sandals and shoes in which you can walk all day.

Laundry facilities probably will not be available. You might want to bring a little laundry soap, sink stopper, nylon string, plastic clothes pins for washing and drying underwear or other items in the hotel sink.

Bring

A light jacket or sweater

Layers of clothing

Sturdy shoes or light hiking boots for walking around archaeological ruins (sneakers OK)

Nicer sturdy shoes for meetings with leaders, churches (for walking on stony/cement streets in cities; dressier than hiking boots or tennis shoes)

Optional for Pastors: one clergy shirt (for meetings with church leaders)

Men: One jacket or nicer sweater, one shirt with collar; necktie NOT necessary

Women: Pants are OK for everything, but one pair should be “nice” for meeting with officials and agencies. (Or one conservative skirt is OK too).

Head scarf (for mosque visit)

Small backpack for carrying snacks, water bottle and jacket around archaeological sites

Small water bottle (You will be able to buy large bottles of water in many places)

Sunglasses; sunscreen; cap with brim to shield from sun

Swimsuit (Sea of Galilee), wrap

Small notebook, journal

Hand sanitizer

Optional: small binoculars (for looking at mosaics and inscriptions, great views)

Camera, film (For digital cameras: bring extra batteries and extra memory card(s) for digital camera! These are expensive and difficult to obtain during the trip)

Small Bible

Ziploc bags (for snacks; lunches)

\$250 or more spending money (for lunches, souvenirs) in U.S. cash (not travelers checks) mix of small and large bills; Cash card for cash at ATM machines in cities in Israel only (not Bethlehem or West Bank); 1-2 personal checks (from checking account—but don’t bring your whole checkbook) for shopping (yes, shop owners will often take your personal check but not your credit card!) or for donations to organizations.

Money belt, secure passport case (to wear around neck or waist inside your clothes)

Credit card (VISA or Mastercard; be sure to phone in advance to tell your credit card company the countries where you will be traveling; also bring phone numbers in case you lose your card); caution: many shops will not accept credit cards

Earplugs (if your roommate snores, if plane is noisy); headphones

Pocket knife (only if you plan to check luggage)—for lunches/picnics (with cork-screw?)

Small flashlight

Small washcloth (guest rooms do NOT provide washcloth), toiletries

Travel alarm clock—IMPORTANT!

Any medications that you need; first-aid supplies (band-aids, etc)

Recreational reading, games, or card-deck (no TV in rooms in church guest houses)

Snacks! (nuts, gorp, power bars, tuna, M & M's)—for lunches/snacks “on the go” at archaeological sites or on the bus. Your Ziplock bags may prove essential for impromptu picnics!

Guidebooks (suggestions: Lonely Planet, Footprint; others are also excellent)

Optional: Hebrew and/or Arabic phrase book, dictionary

If you bring electrical appliances: Adaptor plug for 220 European-type electric outlets;

Transformer for electrical appliances (if you bring hair dryer, etc)

Optional: Tea bags, Immersion heater to heat water for tea or coffee in your room
(you will need a transformer and 220 electrical adaptor)