



8 Shamai St., POB.2468, 91023 Jerusalem, I S R A E L Tel +972-2-621-6661 Fax +972-2-623-1986
E-mail: travex@travex.co.il

A PRIVATE TOUR OF:

ISRAEL

SUGGESTED ITINERARY FOR:

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Trip

Summer

We invite you to create a customized tour around the unique interests of the Bar Mitzvah boy or Bat Mitzvah girl, incorporating a memorable ceremony and celebration.

Day 1, Sunday

Welcome to Israel!

Arrival at Israel's Ben Gurion International Airport, VIP assistance through airport formalities and transfer to your hotel in **Jerusalem**.

Pending flight arrival time --Stop at **Mount Scopus** for first view of Jerusalem, and "**Sheheheyanu**" Blessing.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 2, Monday

Breakfast at hotel

Drive to the **Haas Promenade** for a panoramic view of Old and New Jerusalem.

Enter the Old City through **Jaffa Gate**, walk along the **Old City Ramparts**.

Continue for a walking tour of the renovated **Jewish Quarter**, pass by the ancient synagogues and view the newly reconstructed Hurva Synagogue.

Stroll through the **Cardo** - the reconstructed main street of Byzantine Jerusalem.

View of the Temple Mount with the Dome of the Rock and El Aqsa Mosques.

Visit the 3,000 year old ruins of the **City of David**, including a "wet" walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel.

Then to the **Western Wall** -- Judaism's holiest site.

Walk through the **Western Wall Tunnels**.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY – take part in a **family scavenger** hunt in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Evening option: View the "**Night Spectacular**" - the Tower of David comes to life with a spectacular new sound- and-light show

Overnight Jerusalem

Day 3, Tuesday

Breakfast at hotel

Drive through the **New City of Jerusalem**, past the Jerusalem Theater, the President's Residence and the Knesset (Israel parliament). View the **Giant Menorah** depicting Israel's history through the ages. Visit the **Israel Museum** to view the Model of Jerusalem from Second Temple Period, and the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibited in the Shrine of the Book.

Drive to the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum and Memorial** for a visit including the Children's Memorial and the Avenue of the Righteous Gentiles.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY – participate in a special "twinning program" at Yad Vashem for the Bar/Bat mitzvah.

Proceed past **Mount Herzl**, where Israel's founders and leaders are buried. Visit the **inter-active museum** about Theodore Herzl and the creation of the Zionist movement.

Time Permitting: Visit to **Mahane Yehuda** colorful open air market.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 4, Wednesday

Breakfast at hotel

Drive down to the **Dead Sea** -- lowest point on earth, and south along its shores to **Qumran Caves** where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered.

Proceed to the oasis of the **Ein Gedi Nature Reserve** for a short hike in one of the park's routes and view the waterfalls, the desert flora & fauna.

Continue to **Masada** - a World Heritage Site, ascend & descend by cable car to view excavations of this famous fortress. Visit the new museum where the story of Masada comes to life, "see and feel" the story behind the archaeological finds.

Afternoon by the **Dead Sea**, opportunity to experience its therapeutic qualities.

Return drive up to Jerusalem.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 5, Thursday *Bar-Mitzvah Day – Mazel Tov*

Breakfast at hotel

Your own arrangements for the Bar Mitzvah with local Rabbi.

Afternoon at leisure.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 6, Friday

Breakfast at hotel

Depart Jerusalem and drive north along the Mediterranean coast, to **Caesarea** to view excavations from Roman, Byzantine and Crusader periods, and view the multimedia show. Proceed to **Zichron Ya'akov**, located at the southern end of the Carmel mountain range overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. This old Moshava established by the Baron de Rothschild was one of the first Jewish settlements of Halutzim. Continue to **Haifa** and up to **Mt. Carmel** for a panoramic view of the city, the bay, and the **Bahai Shrine and Persian Gardens** (a World Heritage Site).

Overnight in Haifa

Day 7, Saturday

Breakfast at hotel

Drive to ancient port city of **Akko** to visit the Crusader city with ancient walls and underground Knight's chambers. Visit the prison where members of Hagana and Irgun were held captive during Israel's fight against the British for independence. Walk through Akko's colorful oriental market and the marina.

Proceed to **Rosh Hanikra**, a cliff at the Mediterranean Sea, on the northwestern corner of Israel. Descend by a cable car to view the **grottoes** formed by wave lapping on the soft rock. Return drive to Haifa.

Overnight in Galilee

Day 8, Sunday

Breakfast at hotel

Explore the **Golan Heights** for a private **jeep ride**, and up **Mount Bental**, for a view of the surrounding area. Proceed to the **Peace Observatory** for a view of the Jordan Valley and the Sea of Galilee.

Drive to Central Golan to view the film "**Golan Magic**" and visit the city of **Katzrin** with ruins of ancient Jewish village, a museum and internationally-acclaimed Winery.

Visit one of Israel's local **chocolate factories** for a sweet treat!

Overnight in Galilee

Day 9, Monday

Breakfast at hotel

Drive to the **Northern border**. Pass by the UN force outposts, and meet **Tzahal's (IDF) combat soldiers**. (It is customary to bring some souvenirs or small gifts from your hometown to give the soldiers, such as baseball caps, T-shirts, etc.)

Proceed to **Safed** – famous for Jewish "**Kabbalah**", with ancient synagogues and artists' quarters. Continue for **River Kayaking** under riverside foliage down the Hazbani stream, later merging with the Banias stream to create the Jordan River.

Overnight in the Upper Galilee

Day 10, Tuesday

Breakfast at hotel

Depart the Upper Galilee and drive south along the shores of the **Sea of Galilee** to **Tiberias**. Proceed to **Capernaum** to see the ruins of the ancient synagogue.

Continue west through Lower Galilee Mountains to **Zippori** – a Mishnaic period ancient city – the Seat of the Sanhedrine, famous for the mosaic of the "**Mona Lisa of Galilee**"

Proceed to **Kfar Kedem** – a recreated ancient Galilean village that enables you to "touch the past". Experience a wide variety of hands-on, interactive activities, bake your own Pita and enjoy a donkey ride in the Galilee Hills. Drive to your hotel in **Tel Aviv**– Israel's commercial and cultural center, on shores of the Mediterranean.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

Day 11, Wednesday

Breakfast at hotel

City tour of **Tel Aviv** and **Jaffa**.

Visit **Independence Hall** -- where the country's leaders assembled in May 14, 1948, to announce the establishment of the State of Israel.

Drive through various neighborhoods in Tel Aviv, such as the **Neve Tzedek** area, the historic **train station** complex, the open-air **Carmel Market**, and the **Rabin Plaza**, the Bauhaus area -- a World Heritage Site.

Continue along Tel Aviv's seaside promenade to the ancient Biblical port city of **Jaffa**, with cobbled streets and artists' galleries.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

Day 12, Thursday

Breakfast at hotel

Drive to **Rehovot** -- home of the Weizman Institute. Visit the **Ayalon Museum** – a secret ammunitions factory of the Jewish underground during the War of Independence.

Proceed to the **National Park of Beit Guvrin** with unexcavated cave systems.

Take part in a hands-on **Archeological Dig** and tour the limestone caves.

Return drive to Tel Aviv

Overnight in Tel Aviv

Day 13, Friday

Departure transfer from Tel Aviv to Ben Gurion International Airport.

VIP assistance through airport formalities for departure flight.

Shalom U'lehitra'oth

Program sites and sequence subject to change due to scheduling and availability.