

# TRAVEX

— ISRAEL TRAVEL EXPERTS —

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](mailto:travex@travex.co.il)

PRIVATE TOUR OF

# ISRAEL

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SUGGESTED ITINERARY

**12 days / 11 nights**

Our Israel tour package is a comprehensive program traversing the country from the Galilee in the north to the Negev desert in the south. Explore ancient ruins and encounter the modern country. This program invites the visitor to *experience* Israel – up close and personal.

*Program is for Independent Travelers*

### Day 1 / Sunday

#### *Welcome to Israel!*

**Arrival** at Israel's Ben Gurion International Airport, VIP assistance through airport formalities and transfer to **Tel Aviv**, Israel's cultural and commercial capital.

Check in to hotel.

Overnight in **Tel Aviv**

### Day 2 / Monday

Breakfast at hotel.

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

Visit **Independence Hall**, where the State of Israel was declared in 1948.

Drive through various neighborhoods in Tel Aviv, such as **Neveh Tzedek**, the historic **train station** complex, the open-air **Carmel Market**, **Rabin Plaza**, and 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 3 / Tuesday

Breakfast at hotel.

Depart Tel Aviv and drive north along the Mediterranean coast. Start with a visit to **Caesarea** to view excavations from Roman, Byzantine and Crusader periods, and view the multimedia show. Continue to Haifa for a panoramic view of the city from atop Mt. Carmel, including the bay, and the **Bahai Shrine and Persian Gardens** (a World Heritage Site). Visit the city of **Akko**. Explore the Crusader ruins and re-live the story of the famous prison break, recounted in Leon Uris' *Exodus*. Akko is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travel through the Galilee to your hotel.

Dinner and overnight in **Galilee**

### Day 4 / Wednesday

Breakfast at hotel.

Visit the mystical city of **Safed**—famous for Jewish "Kabbala". Meander through the narrow alleys and visit the ancient synagogues and variety of artists' quarters.

**Northern border tour**. 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 for the soldiers, such as baseball caps, T-shirts, etc.).

Dinner and Overnight in **Galilee**

### Day 5/ Thursday

Breakfast at hotel.

Enjoy an off road jeep tour up to the **Golan Heights**, including **Mount Bental**, for a view of the surrounding area. Visit **Kibbutz Ortal**.

Visit the sites around the **Sea of Galilee** including the ancient synagogue at **Capernaum**. Time permitting, stop at the ancient synagogue of **Beit Alpha**.

Continue up to Jerusalem. Share in a brief "shehecheyanu" ceremony celebrating your arrival to Jerusalem.

Overnight in **Jerusalem**

### Day 6/ Friday

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.

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

Visit to the **Israel Museum**, including the Model of Jerusalem from Second Temple Period and the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibited in the Shrine of the Book.

Proceed to **Mount Herzl**, where Israel's founders and leaders are buried.

Enjoy the sites, sounds and smells of the **Machaneh Yehudah** open-air market as the people of Jerusalem prepare for Shabbat.

Overnight in **Jerusalem**

### Day 7 / Saturday

Breakfast at hotel.

Enjoy a day at leisure in Jerusalem (no guide).

Overnight in **Jerusalem**

### Day 8 / Sunday

Breakfast at hotel.

Enjoy a panoramic overview of Jerusalem from the **Mount of Olives**.

Walk through **Jaffa Gate** and along the final Stations of the Cross to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.

Continue your exploration of Jerusalem with a visit to the ruins and tunnels at the **City of David** including the multi-media presentation. Time permitting walk through the dry tunnel.

Continue up to the **Davidson Archaeological Center**, to explore the Southern Wall excavations and Robinson's Arch.

View of the Temple Mount with the Dome of the Rock and El Aqsa Mosques. Continue to the **Western Wall** -- Judaism's holiest site.

Overnight in **Jerusalem**

### Day 9 / Monday

Breakfast at hotel.

Depart Jerusalem and drive down to the **Dead Sea** -- lowest point on earth, and south along its shores, via the caves at **Qumran**, where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered.

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

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

Drive to your hotel in Mitzpe Ramon.

Dinner and Overnight in **Mitzpe Ramon**

### **Day 10 / Tuesday**

Breakfast at hotel.

Explore **Makhtesh Ramon** on a morning jeep tour with a desert naturalist, learning about the unique geological phenomenon and the flora and fauna that exist within it.

Enjoy an afternoon at leisure at Beresheet. Spa treatments should be booked in advance.

Dinner and overnight in **Mitzpe Ramon**

### **Day 11 / Wednesday**

Breakfast at hotel.

Morning at leisure at Beresheet.

Private transfer from Mizpe Ramon to Tel Aviv.

Overnight in **Tel Aviv**

### **Day 12 / Thursday**

Breakfast at hotel.

Mid-day check out from hotel.

Evening private transfer from Tel Aviv to Ben Gurion Airport with VIP assistance through airport procedures.