

# **BAR/BAT MITZVAH FAMILY TOUR**

**Your Family Celebration in Israel** 

11-day Private Tour





A Bar or Bat Mitzvah in Israel is a gift for the entire family, merging traditions with exciting activities. Passing down customs from grandparents to parents to children will lay the foundation for a life-long bond to Israel, lasting for generations to come. The exciting itinerary begins in the historical capital city of Jerusalem, including a meaningful Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony and celebration, continuing with adventures in northern Israel and ending in Tel Aviv, the city that never sleeps.

Our Bar & Bat Mitzvah Family Tours can be adjusted to accommodate families of all sizes, children of all ages, and – ideally – multigenerational experiences. Whether you're visiting for the first time or returning as an experienced Israel traveler to rediscover the country, this program can be customized to fit your own personal interests and style.

### Day 1

#### WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

#### Arrival on your designated flight.

VIP assistance through airport procedures at Ben Gurion Airport.
Our VIP representative will meet you at the end of the jetway and escort you through the terminal, to passport control. Fast track service through passport control. Baggage claim procedures and escorting through customs to connect with your private transfer.

Private transfer from Ben Gurion Airport to Jerusalem.

Overnight Jerusalem





### LAYERS OF HISTORY

Breakfast at hotel.

Enjoy a welcoming overview of Jerusalem. Celebrate your arrival to the city with a traditional "shehecheyanu" ceremony.

It is said that of the ten measures of beauty given to the world, nine were bestowed upon Jerusalem.

Enter the Old City through Jaffa Gate. Walk along the 2,000 year old stones of the Cardo, the ancient Roman marketplace in the heart of the Old City. Look down upon the crowded plaza from the balcony of the Aish Hatorah Yeshiva and visit their Hall of Notes. Meet a scribe for a private workshop with a "Sofer Stam".

Walking through the Old City, we are drawn to the **Western Wall**, the holiest site in the Jewish tradition. The ancient Kotel now gathers people from around the world in prayer and celebration.

Spelunk through the underground **Western Wall Tunnels**, excavated under the homes and markets of the Old City.

Overnight Jerusalem

### Day 3

#### WONDERS OF THE DESERT

Breakfast at hotel.

Journey through the Judean Desert to the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth. Visit **Qumran**, site of the secluded caves where the Dead Sea scrolls were first discovered.

Ride the cable car to discover King Herod's mountain-top fortress at **Masada**, the last stronghold and stand of the Zealots against Rome, on the edge of the barren Judean Desert.

Enjoy the therapeutic qualities of the **Dead Sea**, believed to have wondrous healing powers. Float on the salty waters, relax and enjoy the facilities and lunch on site. We have confirmed day-use rooms for you at a local resort hotel. Return to Jerusalem.

Overnight Jerusalem





### **CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION**

Breakfast at hotel.

Share in the joy as your **Bar or Bat Mitzvah is called to the Torah** for the first time, followed by a festive meal with family and friends.

Continue your exploration of Jerusalem with a visit to the 3,000 year old ruins and tunnels at the **City of David** including Warren's Shaft and the tunnel of Shiloh.

Private culinary tour in Jerusalem's Machaneh Yehuda Market with our local culinary expert. Experience Jerusalem's colorful open-air market. Sample a variety of local specialties, meet the vendors and hear their stories, and learn about the cultural food mosaic that is Israeli cuisine. Overnight in Jerusalem

# Day 5

#### THE JEWISH SPIRIT

Breakfast at hotel.

Share in a meaningful private escorted visit to Yad Vashem, Israel's official Holocaust museum, dedicated to the memory of the victims and honoring the survivors. Participate in a family tour including the unique "twinning" program. Your Bar/t Mitzvah child will be twinned with a child who did not have a chance to mark his or her own Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Travel to the area of Gush Etzion to Caliber 3 for a private hands-on antiterrorism training program.

As the sun sets over the city, welcome the Sabbath at the Western Wall and join in a traditional Shabbat dinner at the home of a local Jerusalem family, featuring ethnic dishes, prayer and song.

Overnight Jerusalem





### JERUSALEM OLD AND NEW

Breakfast at hotel.

Climb along the **ramparts and rooftops** of the Old City for a birds-eye view of life within and outside the walls. Drive through the New City of Jerusalem, past the Knesset (Israel parliament). View the giant Menorah depicting Israel's history through the ages.

The Israel Museum is the country's national gallery. Explore the compound, including the Model of Jerusalem from Second Temple Period and the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibited in the Shrine of the Book. Wander through the Billy Rose Sculpture Garden.

This evening we invite you to be our guests at the **Night Spectacular** sound & light show at the Tower of David Museum at Jaffa Gate.

Overnight Jerusalem

# Day 7

#### CAMELS AND MYSTICISM

Breakfast and check out from hotel.

On your journey through the Judean desert, enjoy biblical-style desert hospitality and a chance to ride a camel at **Genesis Land**.

Meet the members of a **Kibbutz**, settled in northern Israel. The socialist model of Kibbutz played an essential role in the pre-State era and early years of the State of Israel.

In the mystical city of **Safed**, birthplace of Kabbala, meander through the narrow alleys leading to ancient synagogues and artists' quarters. Learn the secrets of Kabbala, Jewish mysticism with an activity for the whole family.

Overnight Galilee





### EXPLORING THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

Breakfast at hotel.

Ascend to the **Golan Heights** for an overview of the region from the top of Mount Bental. Board your **jeep** for an off-road adventure along Israel's northern Border. Our local specialist will share perspectives about life in the Golan Heights and discuss the significance of the region.

Enjoy a tasty hands-on **chocolate workshop** at a local chocolatier. Wine has been part of the local tradition since Biblical times. Visit a boutique **winery** to hear their stories and enjoy a variety of local wines **Meet with IDF soldiers** patrolling the northern border, a rare informal encounter with the young men and women, the pride of Israel, who are

Continue with a **water hike** in the Snir River — the third major source of the Jordan River with fresh cold water originated in Lebanon.

Overnight Galilee

### Day 9

#### ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST

Breakfast and check out from hotel.

serving in the Israel Defense Forces.

The waves of the Mediterranean Sea crash against the walls of the old city of **Akko**. The walls, fortresses and strongholds that have survived for centuries bear the marks of many nations that conquered the city. Explore the subterranean city and bazaars. Panoramic overview of **Haifa** from the top of Mount Carmel. See the splendid Bahai Gardens and the imposing Haifa Bay.

Private traditional lunch in the home of a Druze family. The Druze are a unique religious and ethnic minority among Arab citizens of Israel. The Druze are very secretive about their traditions and we invite you meet them in person and hear their story, while enjoying some of their traditional foods.

Reminiscent of Leon Uris' Exodus, visit **Atlit**, just south of Haifa, which served as a detention center for illegal Jewish immigrants seeking refuge in Palestine during the British Mandate. Continue south to Tel Aviv. Overnight Tel Aviv





### THE MAGIC OF TEL AVIV

Breakfast at hotel.

Travel to Rehovot for a visit to the **Ayalon Institute**, a secret ammunitions factory from the War of Independence.

Acquaint yourself with the **neighborhoods of Tel Aviv**, such as Neveh Tzedek, the historic train station complex, the open-air Carmel Market, Rabin Plaza, the revived Sarona compound and the Bauhaus area - a World Heritage Site.

Meander through the alleys of **Old Jaffa**, with its art galleries and lively Flea Market.

The walls of southern Tel Aviv have become the canvases to local Graffiti artists. Walk these streets with a private **Graffiti** specialist to discover the culture and social issues expressed in the local urban art.

Overnight Tel Aviv

# Day 11

#### **FAREWELL**

Breakfast at hotel.

Private transfer from your hotel to Ben Gurion Airport.

Please complete your check out procedures and await your driver in the hotel lobby.

VIP assistance through departure procedures at Ben Gurion Airport. Our VIP representative will meet you at the car. Fast track service through security check, flight check-in, hand baggage security and passport control. Escort to your gate.

Depart Israel

Program sites and sequence are subject to change based on dates of travel.

