



CONNECTING TO YOUR ROOTS

A Journey in Jewish Heritage

12-day Journey in Israel



Israel is the center of Jewish life. People arrive from around the world to explore their roots and traditions. This program is a unique opportunity to connect with your Jewish heritage through history, religion, culture and even food! Meet the people of Israel from different walks of life and celebrate the contributions that this small country has made to the world.

Whether you're visiting for the first time or returning as an experienced Israel traveler to rediscover the country, this program can be adapted to fit your timetable and customized to suit 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 Tel Aviv.

Overnight Tel Aviv



Day 2

THE MAGIC OF TEL AVIV

Breakfast at hotel.

Acquaint yourself with the neighborhoods of **Tel Aviv**, such as Neveh Tzedek, the historic train station complex, Rabin Plaza, the revived Saron 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 Museum of the Jewish People at Beit Hatfutsot tells the ongoing and extraordinary story of the Jewish people. Unique exhibits and fascinating resource center strive to make you part of the story.

Stroll through the alleyways of the colorful open-air **Carmel Market** and bombard your senses with a multitude of sites, smells and tastes as the people of Tel Aviv prepare for Shabbat. One street over, experience the **Nahalat Binyaim craft fair**, where many Israeli artists and jewelers got their start (open only on Tuesday and Friday).

As the sun begins to set over the Mediterranean, welcome the Sabbath with a musical **Kabbalat Shabbat** happening at the Tel Aviv Port.

Overnight Tel Aviv

Day 3

ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST

Breakfast and check out from hotel.

Depart Tel Aviv and travel north along the Mediterranean coast to **Caesarea**. Explore the excavations at the ancient city, including the architectural wonders of the Roman theater and aqueduct built by King Herod 2000 years ago, and enjoy the reconstructed port, now a cultural and culinary hot-spot.

Drive on to **Haifa** for a panoramic view from atop Mt. Carmel, including the bay, and the Bahai Shrine and Persian Gardens.

Continue north to 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.

Overnight Galilee



Day 6

RELIVING HISTORICAL GALILEE

Breakfast at hotel.

Travel along the shores to the city of **Tiberias**, one of the ancient walled cities of Israel, for a visit to the **grave of the Rambam**, Maimonides, a medieval Sephardic Jewish philosopher and one of the most prolific and influential Torah scholars of the Middle Ages.

Visit the ancient synagogue of **Capernaum**.

On your drive through the Galilee, stop at **Kfar Kedem** to experience daily life as it was in Galilee during biblical times. Ride the rolling hills as Abraham rode them. Take in the scents that Jacob smelled tending Laban's flocks. Hear the words of the prophets as you thresh grain, make cheese, spin wool, press oil from fresh olives and wine from fresh grapes. Enjoy a **biblical-style lunch** at the site.

Visit the antiquities at **Beit Shearim**, once the seat of the Sanhedrin. In 2015, the Necropolis was named a UNESCO Heritage Site.

Proceed "up" to **Jerusalem**, the capital of Israel. Celebrate your arrival to the city with a traditional "**shehecheyanu**" ceremony.

Overnight Jerusalem



Day 7

LAYERS OF HISTORY

Breakfast at hotel.

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

Enter the Old City via **Jaffa Gate**. Walk along the 2,000 year old stones of the **Cardo**, the ancient Roman marketplace in the heart of the Old City, through the restored **Jewish Quarter**.

Stop in at the complex of the **Four Sephardic Synagogues**, constructed over the ages to accommodate the community and its traditions.

Continue your exploration of Jerusalem with a visit to the 3,000 year old ruins and tunnels at the **City of David**, the original capital conquered by King David.

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.

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".

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

Overnight Jerusalem



Day 8

DISCOVERING JERUSALEM THEN AND NOW

Breakfast at hotel.

Touch the past as you sift through the artifact-rich rubble excavated from underneath the Temple Mount, rescuing artifacts and connecting to Jerusalem's Temple Mount heritage.

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. Roll up your sleeves as you knead and braid, learning the traditions of **Hallah baking** at the home of a local Jerusalem family.

Explore the insular **neighborhoods of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities** in Jerusalem to learn about their customs and traditions, dating back hundreds of years. Maneuver through the bunkers and Six-day War battle trenches at **Ammunition Hill**, the official memorial symbolizing the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem.

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 9

MEMORY AND VISION

Breakfast at hotel.

Travel back in time at the interactive **Herzl Museum**, reliving the story of the Zionist visionary. 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. The visit is enriched with a pause at the moving Children's Memorial and a walk along the inspirational Avenue of the Righteous. Drive through the diverse neighborhoods of Jerusalem, old and new, as the people of Jerusalem prepare for Shabbat. **Welcome the Sabbath** at the Western Wall or attend services at a local synagogue. As the sun sets over the city, join in a **traditional Shabbat dinner** at the home of a local Jerusalem family, featuring ethnic dishes, prayer and song.

Overnight Jerusalem



Day 10

THE ISRAELI SPIRIT

Breakfast at hotel.

This morning, you have the option to attend Shabbat services at one of the myriad of synagogues throughout the city.

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

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.

Overnight Jerusalem

Day 11

THE WONDERS OF THE JUDEAN 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



Day 12

FAREWELL

Private transfer from your hotel to Ben Gurion Airport.

VIP assistance through airport 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

Departure on your designated flight.

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