



# IF YOU WILL IT, IT IS NO DREAM

## The Story of Modern Israel

12-day Journey in Israel

**TRAVEX**  
— ISRAEL TRAVEL EXPERTS —





From the vision of Theodor Herzl to the Start-up Nation, the birth of the modern State of Israel has been an exciting and challenging venture. We invite you to trace the history of the State and experience the energy of Israel today. 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

### TEL AVIV: HISTORY AND INNOVATION

Breakfast at hotel.

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.

Visit the **Palmach Museum**, an interactive display that tells the story of the pre-State Jewish fighting forces.

Learn about modern Israel as the Startup Nation with an encounter at the **Peres Center for Innovation**.

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.

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

Overnight Tel Aviv

## Day 3

### MAKING THE DESERT BLOOM

Breakfast at hotel

Following the vision of David Ben Gurion, explore the wonders of southern Israel.

On route, stop for a geo-political encounter with an overview of Gaza from the Black Arrow overlook.

Discover the phenomena of desert agriculture at a unique touch and taste farm in the heart of the Negev.

On route back to Tel Aviv, stop in Rehovot for a visit to the Ayalon Institute, a secret armaments factory from the War of Independence and a symbol of the Israeli spirit that helped create the State of Israel.

Overnight Tel Aviv





## Day 4

### A TASTE OF TEL AVIV

Breakfast at hotel.

At **The Squadron**, don a flight suit and hear stories from Israel Air Force pilots while you experience the flight of an F-16 in the only simulator of its kind.

**Private culinary tour** in one of Tel Aviv's colorful markets with our local culinary expert. Experience one of Tel Aviv's open-air markets. Sample a variety of local specialties, meet the vendors and hear their stories, and learn about the cultural food mosaic that is Israeli cuisine.

Learn about Israel as a leader in medical research and care with a visit to **Save a Child's Heart**, a humanitarian organization with a mission to improve the quality of pediatric cardiac treatment for children who suffer from heart disease.

Overnight Tel Aviv

## Day 5

### TREASURES AND PRIDE

Breakfast and check out from hotel

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. In the mystical city of **Safed**, birthplace of Kabbala, meander through the narrow alleys leading to ancient synagogues and artists' quarters and learn the secrets of Kabbala with an interactive activity.

**Meet with IDF soldiers** patrolling the northern border, a rare informal encounter with the young men and women, the pride of Israel, who are serving in the Israel Defense Forces.

Overnight Galilee



## Day 6

### THE GALILEE AND GOLAN HEIGHTS

Breakfast at hotel

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.

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

Survey the **Agmon Huleh nature reserve** to encounter the fauna and flora of the region. Once a natural swamp, the Agmon Huleh nature reserve is a restored man-made lake designed to reinstate the natural wildlife and vegetation to the region. This is one of the stops on the migration path for many species of birds in the region.

**Home hospitality dinner** with a family in Galilee. Enjoy a sumptuous dinner prepared by a local family, a unique opportunity to meet with Israelis in their home.

Overnight Galilee





## Day 7

### FROM GALILEE TO JERUSALEM

Breakfast and check out from hotel

Participate in a **hands-on cooking workshop and lunch in Galilee with Arab hosts**. Our Arab cooking workshops invite you to participate in a hands-on, true to life cultural immersion. We have Druze, Moslem and Christian hosts who warmly welcome guests into their homes. This is a unique opportunity to learn to make local fare and experience a slice of Galilean village life.

Discover Israel's pioneering pursuits in renewable energy with a visit to the **Maaleh Gilboa Energy Wind Farm**.

Travel south along the **Jordan Valley**, focusing on the challenges of water in the region and Israel's relationship with the neighboring country of Jordan. Arrival to **Jerusalem**, the capital city of Israel.

Overnight Jerusalem

## Day 8

### LAYERS OF HISTORY

Breakfast at hotel

Begin at the beginning. The over 3,000 year old **City of David** is one of the largest ongoing excavations in Israel. The Royal Secrets Tour invites you to explore the site with a local specialist and see areas that are not yet open to the public.

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. View the Temple Mount, site of the Al Aksa Mosque and Dome of the Rock. 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.

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus along the final Stations of the Cross along the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, traditional site of the crucifixion.

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

### THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM

Breakfast at hotel.

**Private current events briefing.** Opportunity to meet with a geo-political specialist for an up-to-date briefing, addressing challenges facing Israel and the region.

At the **Yvel Jewelry Design center**, enjoy an inspiring guided tour and witness their unique combination of quality Israeli creation, Zionism and social-contribution. Visit the **Megemeria School of Jewelry & Art** established by Orna and Isaac Levy in 2010 as a philanthropic effort to better the lives of Ethiopian immigrants to Israel.

Explore the insular **neighborhoods of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities** in Jerusalem to learn about their customs and traditions, dating back hundreds of years.

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.

Feast on modern Israeli and Mediterranean cuisine as a local chef opens his or her kitchen for a private gourmet meal. Delight in your time together as they reveal their story through food, featuring the freshest of ingredients, regional flavors and spices and paired with award-winning Israeli wines.

Overnight Jerusalem





## Day 10

### THE WONDERS OF THE DEAD SEA

Breakfast at hotel.

Journey through the Judean Desert to the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth. Drive via 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.

Stop for lunch at a local resort hotel on the shores of the **Dead Sea**. Relax and enjoy the facilities.

Set off for a **private expedition on the Dead Sea**, a truly unique adventure. Traveling by zodiac, discover the secrets of the ancient lake as well as their modern applications and take an unsinkable swim in the salty waters.

Return to Jerusalem.

Overnight Jerusalem

## Day 11

### MEMORY AND VISION

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. The visit is enriched with a pause at the moving Children's Memorial and a walk along the inspirational Avenue of the Righteous.

Travel back in time at the interactive **Herzl Museum**, reliving the story of the Zionist visionary.

Examine Israel as a democracy, the only one in the region, and learn about local government with a visit to the **Knesset**, Israel's parliament, or the **Supreme Court**, with its inspirational architecture combining old and new design.

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.