

Jewish Heritage Tour of **ISRAEL**

9 Nights * 11 Days * 6 Touring Days
Thursday Departure/ Friday Arrival
2 nights Tel Aviv * 2 nights Galilee * 5 nights Jerusalem

DAY 1, THURSDAY - DEPARTURE

- Depart the United States on our overnight flight to Israel. (Contact Ayelet Tours for assistance booking flights)

DAY 2, FRIDAY - ARRIVAL ISRAEL

- Shalom and welcome to Israel.
- Greeting and assistance by an Ayelet representative.
- Transfer to our hotel; remainder of the day is on own at leisure.

Overnight Tel Aviv

DAY 3, SATURDAY - TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy a day at leisure to explore Tel Aviv on own.

Overnight Tel Aviv

DAY 4, SUNDAY - CAESAREA-HAIFA-AKKO-ROSH HANIKRA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Drive along the Mediterranean Sea road to **Caesarea**, the ancient Roman capital of the area, to view the Roman theater, the aqueduct, and ancient port as well as the excavations of the Crusaders' city.
- We stop atop Mt. Carmel in Haifa, where we take in the view of the sea, and the amazing terraced Bahai Gardens.



- Visit **Akko**, before walking through its colorful bazaar to the port. Drive north along the coast to **Rosh Hanikra**, and descend by cable car to experience close up, amazing limestone grottos carved by the sea.
- Arrive at kibbutz for dinner.

Overnight Kibbutz in the Galilee

DAY 5, MONDAY - SAFED-GOLAN- JORDAN RIVER-TEL HAI

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- We tour the mystical city of **Safed** – center of Kabbalistic practice. Explore the narrow alleyways lined with ancient synagogues and artists' galleries.
- Enjoy a **jeep ride** up to the **Golan Heights**, where we pass former Syrian bunkers and stop atop Har Bental for panoramic views stretching far into neighboring Syria.
- Take in the view at the **Mitzpe Gadot** overlook, the memorial site for the fallen people of the Golan.
- Continue to the **Banias Springs** and **Tel Dan**, sources of the Jordan River.
- Visit **Tel Hai** to see the ‘roaring lion’ monument and learn about the heroic battle of Josef Trumpedor and his comrades.
- Dinner at our kibbutz.
- Meet with a kibbutz member and learn about their unique lifestyle, and the challenges and changes to their communal arrangements over the decades.

Overnight Kibbutz In The Galilee

DAY 6, TUESDAY - KINNERET- BEIT SHE'AN-GILBOA-JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- Travel to **Tiberias** on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, where we visit **Rambam’s grave**.
- Visit the extensive Roman ruins of **Beit Shean**, destroyed over 1,300 years ago by earthquake, and recently excavated and reconstructed on a massive and impressive scale.
- Visit the intricate mosaics in the synagogue at **Beit Alpha**.
- We continue to **Gan Hashlosha, (Sachne)** where, weather permitting, we enjoy a dip in the sparkling warm waters. These natural hot springs are often referred to as the original **Garden of Eden**.
- Continue via the Jordan Valley to Jerusalem.
- Ascend to Jerusalem, pausing at **Mt. Scopus** for a special ceremony to say "Sh'hekiyanu!" as we look out over The City of Gold for the first time.

Overnight Jerusalem



DAY 7, WEDNESDAY – OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM-WESTERN WALL

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our tour of the Old City of Jerusalem with visit to the **tomb of King David on Mt. Zion**.
- Explore the **Cardo**, the ancient Roman marketplace now featuring outstanding shopping opportunities. We then visit four Sephardic synagogues in the Jewish quarter restored after the 1967 War.
- Continue to the **Western Wall Tunnels**, where we discover the archeological wonders that remained untouched for centuries.
- Visit the **Davidson Center**, built into the ancient stones adjacent to the **Temple Mount**. Walk through the ancient **Cardo** to the local Arab bazaar.
- Stroll through the colorful marketplace to the Jaffa Gate and visit the **Citadel Museum at David's Tower**, to learn more about Jerusalem's 3000 years of history.

Overnight Jerusalem

DAY 8, THURSDAY –YAD VASHEM, MODERN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, share the joy as you join the many **Bar Mitzvah ceremonies at the Kotel**.
- Continue on to **Mea Shearim** and learn about the unique lifestyle of the Ultra-Orthodox neighborhood.
- Visit **Mt Herzl**, Jerusalem's military cemetery, where we visit the gravesites of Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir and Yitzhak Rabin, and learn from our guide some of the heroic stories of those buried here.
- Drive to **Yad Vashem**, the memorial to the 6 Million Jews murdered in the Holocaust – here we view the many moving exhibitions including the Hall of Names and the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations.
- Explore the bunkers at **Ammunition Hill**, the official museum symbolizing the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem. Its new multi-media film helps visitors better understand the events and battles of 1967.
- Drive by the **Knesset**, Israel's Parliament and see the Menorah.
- Browse the extensive galleries of the **Israel Museum**, which recently completed a \$100 million renovation and is world class in every way. The galleries range from pop and modern art, through renaissance and classical, with a strong emphasis on Jewish and Israeli archeological history and evidence going back thousands of years. Walk through the iconic Shrine of the Book which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls, and see the impressive scale replica, in miniature, of Jerusalem as it was during the second temple period.

Overnight Jerusalem



DAY 9, FRIDAY – MASADA, DEAD SEA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Early this morning we depart for the Dead Sea Basin.
- Stop at **Qumeran**, site where Dead Sea scrolls were found.
- Ascend to King Herod's fortresses and castle atop **Masada**, ascending by cable car. Visit the remains of the walls, palaces, synagogue, and the bathhouses, learning about the Jewish Zealots last stand against the Roman forces.
- Enjoy lunch and an unsinkable swim in the healing salty waters of the **Dead Sea**.
- Return to Jerusalem.

Overnight Jerusalem

DAY 10, SATURDAY – JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Free morning with the opportunity to attend Shabbat services (on own).
- Free day to enjoy the calm of Shabbat.

Overnight Jerusalem

DAY 11, SUNDAY – L'HITRAOT!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Depart for Ben Gurion Airport for our flight back to the United States. L'hitraot!

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

**Itinerary subject to change*

** Visit subject to availability*

The above program can be extended and customized for groups or private family tours.
See our 12 night program to add Eliat and Petra, Jordan to your visit.

