

## Jewish Heritage Tour of

# ISRAEL

**11 nights \* 13 days \* 8 touring days**  
**Tuesday Departure/Wednesday Arrival**  
**4 nights Tel Aviv \* 2 nights Galilee \***  
**5 nights Jerusalem**

(As of 3/1/19)



### DAY 1: TUESDAY – BEGIN OUR JOURNEY

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

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### DAY 2: WEDNESDAY – ARRIVAL

- Shalom and welcome to Israel! Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport you will be greeted and assisted by an Ayelet Tours representative.
- We transfer to our hotel (on own) to check in and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon and evening at leisure.

#### Overnight in Tel Aviv

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### DAY 3: THURSDAY – TEL AVIV PAST TO PRESENT

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we drive through Tel Aviv and learn more about this vibrant city.
- Next, we visit **Latrun**, Israel's outdoor armored corps museum, where we explore and touch the tanks and artillery used by the Israeli Defense Forces and enemy armies throughout the country's history.
- We continue to **Beit Guvrin National Park**, where we explore parts of the archeological remains and unique caves.
- Our final stop today is at the **Ayalon Institute**, an underground ammunition factory that played a pivotal role in Israel's fight for independence at the end of the British Mandate.
- Evening at leisure and dinner on own.

#### Overnight in Tel Aviv

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#### DAY 4: FRIDAY – TOURING TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we visit the **Diaspora Museum**, where we learn about the history of Jewish emigration since the destruction of the Second Temple and see models of some of the world's most well-known and majestic synagogues.
- We drive around the main streets of Tel Aviv, Israel's vibrant center of business and entertainment.
- We stop for a moment of reflection at **Rabin Square**, place of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.
- This afternoon, we visit **Old Jaffa**, one of the oldest ports in the world, where we walk among the many artists, vendors and cafes as we hear the history of the ancient port.
- We continue to **Neve Tzedek**, the first neighborhood of Tel Aviv, built in 1909, now experiencing a renaissance.
- Enjoy the entertainers, artists, shop owners, colorful vendors and craftspeople who bring the streets to life on **Nachalat Binyamin**.
- Next, we stop at **Sheinkin Street**, the lively and colorful street especially known with for its unique shops and cafes.
- Evening at leisure and dinner on own.

#### Overnight in Tel Aviv

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#### DAY 5: SATURDAY – LEISURE SHABBAT IN TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy the day at leisure. It's a wonderful chance to experience all that this modern Mediterranean city has to offer.
- Dinner on own tonight.

#### Overnight in Tel Aviv

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#### DAY 6: SUNDAY – THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- Today, we drive along the Mediterranean coast to **Caesarea**, the former Roman capital of the area. Here, we view the ancient theater, the aqueduct, and ancient port as well as the impressive excavations of the Crusaders' city.
- We continue to **Haifa** to visit the **Clandestine Immigration and Naval Museum** ("Af al Pi Chen") and hear the story of the illegal immigrants who came to Israel at the time of the British mandate.



- Next, we visit **Akko's** Crusader-era fortress before walking through its colorful bazaar to the port.
- Later this afternoon, we travel north along the coast to **Rosh Hanikra**, and descend by cable car to discover the chalk cliff grottoes carved out by the Mediterranean waters.
- We continue to the **Galilee** to check into our kibbutz and enjoy **dinner** together this evening.

### Overnight in the Galilee

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#### DAY 7: MONDAY – SAFED, GOLAN, TEL HAI

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- Today, we tour the mystical city of **Safed**, center of Kabbalistic practice, exploring the narrow alleyways lined with ancient synagogues and artists' galleries.
- We 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.
- We take in the view at the **Mitzpe Gadot** overlook, the memorial site for the fallen people of the Golan.
- We visit **Tel Hai** to see the 'Roaring Lion' monument and learn about the heroic battle of Josef Trumpeldor and his comrades.
- We return to our kibbutz for **dinner** together this evening.
- Following dinner, we meet with a kibbutz member to learn about their unique lifestyle and the challenges and changes to their communal arrangements over the decades.

### Overnight in the Galilee

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#### DAY 8: TUESDAY – KINNERET, BEIT SHEAN, JERUSALEM

- Breakfast and check out of our kibbutz.
- This morning, we travel to **Tiberias** on the shores of the **Sea of Galilee**, where we visit **Rambam's grave**.
- Next, we visit the extensive Roman ruins of **Beit Shean**, destroyed over 1,300 years ago by an earthquake, and recently excavated and reconstructed on a massive and impressive scale.
- We also visit **Beit Alpha** to view the intricate mosaics in the synagogue.
- We continue to **Gan Hashlosha (Sachne)**, where weather permitting, we enjoy a dip in the sparkling warm waters. These natural springs are often referred to as the original Garden of Eden.



- We ascend to **Jerusalem** via the Jordan Valley, stopping atop **Mt. Scopus** for a special opportunity to say the "Shehecheyanu" as we look out over the **City of Gold** for the first time.
- We check into our hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure and dinner on own.

### Overnight in Jerusalem

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#### DAY 9: WEDNESDAY – ANCIENT JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day with a visit to the **Tomb of King David** on **Mt. Zion**.
- We enter the **Old City** and stroll through the **Jewish quarter**, stopping to explore the **Cardo**, the ancient Roman marketplace now featuring outstanding shopping opportunities. Then, we visit four Sephardic synagogues in the Jewish quarter, restored after the 1967 War.
- Enjoy a spiritual visit and time for reflection at the **Western Wall**.
- We continue with a tour of the **Western Wall tunnels**, where we discover the archeological wonders that remained untouched for centuries.
- Our next stop is at the **Davidson Center**, built into the ancient stones adjacent to the **Temple Mount**. Here, we learn about the construction and history of the Temple Mount area through multi-media exhibitions.
- We stroll through the colorful marketplace to the Jaffa Gate and visit the **Tower of David Museum** to learn more about Jerusalem's 3,000 years of history.
- Spend the evening at leisure discovering Jerusalem and enjoying dinner on own.



### Overnight in Jerusalem

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#### DAY 10: THURSDAY – MODERN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we share in the joy of the many **B'nai Mitzvah ceremonies** at the **Kotel**.
- We continue to the **Mea Shearim** neighborhood to learn about the unique lifestyle of the Ultra-Orthodox residents.
- At **Mt. Herzl**, Jerusalem's military cemetery, our guide imparts some of the heroic stories of those buried here, including Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.
- Our next stop is at **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.
- This afternoon, we explore the bunkers at **Ammunition Hill**, the official museum symbolizing the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem.



- We drive by the **Knesset**, Israel's Parliament and see the bronze menorah statue out front.
- We browse the extensive, newly renovated galleries of the **Israel Museum**, which is world class in every way. The galleries range from pop and modern art, back through the Renaissance and Classical periods, with a strong emphasis on Jewish and Israeli archeological history. Walk through the iconic **Shrine of the Book**, which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls, and see the impressive miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the Second Temple period.
- Evening at leisure and dinner on own.

### Overnight in Jerusalem

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#### DAY 11: FRIDAY – MASADA & THE DEAD SEA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Early this morning, we depart for the **Dead Sea basin**.
- Along the way, we stop at **Qumran**, site where Dead Sea scrolls were found by a local shepherd.
- We ascend **Masada** by cable car to view the remains of King Herod's fortress, including the synagogue, walls and bathhouses, as we learn about the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman forces.
- We descend the mountain and head to the beach for **lunch** and an unsinkable swim in the healing, salty waters of the **Dead Sea**.
- Later this afternoon, we return to Jerusalem for a quiet Shabbat on own.



### Overnight in Jerusalem

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#### DAY 12: 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.
- Evening at leisure and dinner on own.

### Overnight in Jerusalem

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### **DAY 13: SUNDAY – L’HITRAOT!**

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart (on own) for Ben Gurion Airport for our flights back to the United States, landing later today. 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 14-night program to add Eilat and Petra, Jordan to your visit.

