

Ayelet TOURS

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

Ayelet's B'nai Mitzvah & Family Adventure in **ISRAEL**

December 19-30, 2024



Ayelet's B'nai Mitzvah & Family Adventure in Israel



Ayelet's B'nai Mitzvah & Family Adventure in Israel is an interactive, hands-on Israel tour for participants of every age. Each day is designed to engage and enlighten through a variety of sites, activities, and adventures. Our handpicked guides bring heritage & history to life as we explore and celebrate in this amazing land!

DAY 1 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024 DEPARTURE

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

DAY 2 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024 WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

- Shalom and welcome to Israel! Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport you will be greeted and assisted by an Ayelet Tours representative. (
- Transfer on your own to our hotel in **Jerusalem** to check in and refresh after our long journey. (Private transfers can be arranged).
- This afternoon, we meet our tour guide and other group members in our hotel lobby to begin our adventure.
- Together, we go to the **Haas Promenade** overlooking Jerusalem, the City of Gold, for a special Shehecheyanu ceremony, We enjoy a sweet taste of challah and wine (or grape juice) as we enter this holy city.
- We continue to the **Western Wall** to greet **Shabbat** along with the people of Jerusalem. There is nothing quite like the energy of the Western Wall as Shabbat enters. A cacophony of prayer, song, personal reflection and sometimes even dancing; this will be a moment to remember!
- We return to our hotel, where we enjoy a special **Shabbat welcome dinner** together.

Overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 3 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024 SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Join us for optional Shabbat services this morning.
- This afternoon, we enjoy a guided walking tour beginning at the **Tower of David Museum** and continuing through history in the **Old City**, exploring the **Jewish and Christian quarters** and exiting through the **Jaffa Gate**.
- Enjoy dinner on own as Jerusalem returns to life after the calm of Shabbat. We suggest a visit to the Mamilla pedestrian mall with its varied assortment of cafes and restaurants.
- Later this evening, we walk together to the **Tower of David**, where we enjoy the **Sound and Light show spectacular!**

Overnight in Jerusalem



DAY 4

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024
THE DEAD SEA BASIN

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Early this morning, we depart Jerusalem and drive toward the **Dead Sea basin**.
- Those who wish may climb the snake path to the top of **Masada**. The rest of us ascend the desert plateau by cable car. We view the remains of King Herod's palace and fortifications and hear the story of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the approaching Roman armies.
- We descend the mountain and head to the beach for **lunch** at a Dead Sea resort, followed by an unsinkable swim in the healing, salty waters of the **Dead Sea**.
- Our day ends with a **camel ride** and **desert tent hospitality** at a **Bedouin encampment**.
- This evening, we return to Jerusalem and meet with our Israeli rabbi to review tomorrow's B'nai Mitzvah ceremony. *(Note: B'nai Mitzvah participants are assigned Torah readings of generally 3-5 lines well in advance with audio links provided for study. We can also provide resources for tutoring if requested).*
- Dinner on own tonight.

Overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 5

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2024
CELEBRATING OUR B'NAI MITZVAH

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we **celebrate our B'nai Mitzvah** in the Old City at the egalitarian section of the Western Wall, known sometimes as **Kotel HaMishpacha** (the family wall) near **Robinson's Arch**. Mazel tov!
- We enjoy a light **kiddush** as we mark this special occasion.
- We continue to **Ir David, the City of David**, where we wander through the carefully preserved archaeological excavations dating back to the time of King David, including **Hezekiah's tunnels** (water tunnels in summer & dry tunnels in winter).
- Tonight, we enjoy a **gala dinner** in celebration of our B'nai Mitzvah, a festive end to this unforgettable day!

Overnight in Jerusalem



DAY 6

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024
THE PATH TO ISRAEL'S FOUNDATION

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we pass by the Israeli **Supreme Court**, noting the outstanding architecture filled with symbolism, then continue to the **Knesset**, Israel's parliament building. Here, we have a unique photo opportunity by the iconic outdoor bronze menorah sculpture, a gift from the British parliament dating back to the 1950s.
- Next, we visit **Yad Vashem**, Israel's moving memorial and museum to the victims of the Holocaust. Here, we view many exhibitions, including the **Hall of Names** and the **Children's memorial**. Younger children will have the option to visit the nearby Biblical Zoo at this time.
- This afternoon, we stroll through the bustling **Machane Yehuda**, taking in the sights, smells and sounds of the market as we discover its secrets. Time for lunch on own here.
- Later today, we visit the beautifully renovated **Israel Museum** to view its extensive collections. We walk through the iconic **Shrine of the Book**, which houses the **Dead Sea Scrolls**, then see the **Holy Land model**, a miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the Second Temple period.
- Dinner on own this evening.

Overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 7

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024
TRAVELING NORTH

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart Jerusalem and travel north along **Route 6**. Our first stop is at **BioBee**, a leading international agricultural company on **Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu**, to see how creative kibbutznik members are using the limited resources of the area to help the environment and bring benefit to the kibbutz.
- We continue with a tour of the ruins of the once thriving city of **Tzippori**, where Jews and gentiles lived side by side for centuries and where the Mishnah was codified almost 2,000 years ago.
- We continue to the **Galilee** to check into our kibbutz and enjoy **dinner** together this evening.
- Tonight, we light the **first candle of Hanukkah** together and then join in the fun with dreidels, latkes and sufganiot!

Overnight in the Galilee





DAY 8

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2024 NORTHERN ADVENTURES

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- Today, we visit the mystical city of **Safed**, where we stop to view the ancient synagogues and have time to stroll among the shops in the artist's quarter. The shops here are famous for featuring Kabbalistic artwork and micro-calligraphy.
- Next, we enjoy an adventurous **jeep tour** up to the **Golan Heights**. Atop the Golan at **Har Bental**, we take in the amazing panoramic views reaching far into Syria as our guide updates us on the latest geopolitical happenings in the region.
- We try our hand at **chocolate making** and learn from the experts in a delicious and fun experience at the **DeKarina Chocolate Factory**. Adults may choose instead to enjoy a wine tasting at the adjacent Bahat Winery.
- We return to our kibbutz for **dinner and Hanukkah candle lighting** together this evening.

Overnight in the Galilee

DAY 9

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2024 THE BEAUTY OF THE COAST

- Breakfast and check out of our kibbutz.
- We depart the Galilee for our trip down Israel's west coast shoreline.
- We stop atop the port city of **Haifa** for a panoramic view from **Mt. Carmel**, including the stunning **Bahai Temple** and the cascading **Persian Gardens**.
- In **Caesarea**, we explore the seaside relics from ancient times, including the Roman theater and ancient aqueduct, set aside a sparkling turquoise sea.

- We arrive in **Tel Aviv** and pass by **Rabin Square**, site of the assassination of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.
- We enjoy a stroll along **Nachalat Binyamin**, where the artists and entertainers bring the streets of Tel Aviv to life.
- Later this afternoon, we check into our hotel and refresh before **Shabbat dinner** and **Hanukkah candle lighting** together this evening.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

DAY 10

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2024 SHABBAT IN TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy the day at leisure. On own options abound from visiting the ANU Museum and strolling through the history of the Jewish people, to visiting Old Jaffa. It's a wonderful chance to experience all that this metropolitan Mediterranean city has to offer!
- We join together at our hotel to light the **Hanukkah candles**, followed by dinner on own this evening.

Overnight in Tel Aviv



DAY 11

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024
DIGGING INTO HISTORY

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin today with a visit to **Independence Hall**, where the establishment of the state of Israel was declared in 1948.
- We journey to the **Beit Guvrin** region through the Haella Valley where the battle between David and Goliath took place. We take part in a unique hands-on experience at an **archaeological dig** in the caves of **Tel Maresha**. For the more adventurous, an underground **cave crawl** is included! (**Please wear closed toed shoes; no sandals or open shoes of any kind**).
- Our last stop today is at the **Ayalon Institute**, the secret underground facility that helped save the state of Israel during the War of Independence.
- We return to Tel Aviv with time to relax.
- Later this evening, we gather to light our **Hanukkah candles** together, to enjoy our **farewell dinner** and to recall all that we have experienced on this amazing adventure.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

DAY 12

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2024
FAREWELL

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We bid our new friends farewell (we'll see you soon on social media)!
- We depart for the airport for our flights back to the United States.

* Itinerary subject to change

* Airport transfers are not included. Please contact Ayelet Tours for assistance.

* Custom/private Eilat & Petra extensions are available. Please contact Ayelet Tours for pricing.

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