



Hadassah Winter Family Tour to Israel Led by Carol Rosenthal

December 21 -31, 2023

(As of 22/6/2023)

Our Hadassah Family Tour experience is designed to provide a fun, interactive, hands-on Israel adventure for participants of every age. Generations bond together as they experience the magic of Israel with access only Hadassah can provide! Our handpicked guides will bring heritage & history to life as together as we encounter and celebrate in this amazing land.



Day 1: Thursday, December 21, 2023: DEPARTURE

- We depart the United States on our overnight flights to Israel.

Day 2: Friday, December 22 2023: WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

- **Shalom and Bruchim Habaim**—welcome to Israel! Our time in this incredible land has officially begun and our excitement mounts as we set off on the adventure ahead. Just beyond passport control, an Ayelet representative will meet us in the baggage claim area and assist us through customs.
- We begin our journey at **Neot Kedumim** to **plant trees**, connecting us physically and spiritually to the land of Israel.
- We ascend to **Jerusalem**, stopping atop **Mt. Scopus** to say the “Shehecheyanu” as we look out over the City of Gold for the first time together.
- Later this afternoon, we check into our hotel and have a chance to freshen up.
- As the sun sets, we join together to welcome **Shabbat** at the **Kotel** with the people of Jerusalem, followed by **Shabbat Dinner** at our hotel in a private space.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 3: Saturday, December 23, 2023: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Free morning to attend Shabbat services on own or just relax.
- This afternoon, we set out on a **scavenger hunt** in the **Yemin Moshe** neighborhood; a great way to get to know the area.
- We enter the Ottoman walls of the **Old City** via the **Jaffa Gate** and stroll past colorful and exotic vendors in the **Arab Shuk**. We continue into the **Christian quarter** and follow the **Stations of the Cross** along the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.
- As day turns to night, we join for **Havdalah** at our hotel, marking the end of Shabbat and the beginning of a new week.
- Following dinner on our own, we delight in the **Tower of David Night Spectacular**, a sound and light show that transforms the walls of David’s Citadel into the living story of Jerusalem.



Overnight in Jerusalem



Day 4: Sunday, December 24, 2023: ISRAEL THEN AND NOW

- Breakfast at our hotel joined by a journalist who will speak about the current state of Israel.
- Today, we visit **Yad Vashem**, the national memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Here, we explore some of the newly found materials relating to places, people and events connected to the Holocaust, including:
 - Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations
 - Children's memorial
 - The Holocaust Museum
- Our time at Yad Vashem culminates in a group **memorial service** at the **Valley of the Lost Communities**. (Small children and parents will visit the Biblical Zoo instead).
- After time for lunch on our own, we visit **Ammunition Hill**, the official museum symbolizing the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem. Its new multi-media film will help us better understand the events and battles of 1967.
- Evening at leisure and dinner on our own.



Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 5: Monday, December 25, 2023: JERUSALEM AND THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- **Optional:** We host a **B'nai Mitzvah ceremony** at **Hadassah Ein Kerem's Abbell Synagogue**, home of the beautiful **Chagall windows**. Mazel tov!
- While on campus, we tour the **Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower** and the iconic **Round building**, featuring the most modern hospital facilities in the region. We meet with staff and patients and take an in-depth look at this cutting-edge medical facility and how it has adapted to ever-changing needs.
- Lunch on our own.
- This afternoon, we visit **Emek Tzurim** and sift through the Temple Mount rubble, where new and important finds are made every day.
- Next, we return to the **Old City** for a walking tour of the **Jewish Quarter**, including time to shop in the **Cardo Market**.
- From the streets to above the rooftops, we **walk the ramparts**, providing us with a birds-eye view of the different quarters.
- We complete our day at **Ir David, the City of David**, where we wander through the archaeological excavations dating back to the time of King David, including **Hezekiah's tunnel**.
- This evening, we enjoy a delicious **group celebration dinner** at **Piccolino** in honor of our B'nai Mitzvah.

Overnight in Jerusalem



Day 6: Tuesday, December 26, 2023: THE DEAD SEA BASIN

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart early this morning and begin traveling south. Along the way, we stop to visit a nearby **Bedouin community** for an authentic desert experience, including a **camel ride**.
- Next, we ascend **Masada** by cable car to view the remains of King Herod's fortress, including the synagogue 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 drive north through the Jordan Valley to the **Galilee** to check into our kibbutz and refresh before **dinner** together this evening.

Overnight in the Galilee

Day 7: Wednesday, December 27, 2023: NORTHERN ADVENTURES

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- Today, we set out on an exciting **jeep tour** through the **Golan Heights** at **Mitzpe Gadot** to take in the amazing views and see the memorial to those soldiers who lost their lives capturing this crucial spot from Syrian forces in 1967.
- We continue in our jeeps to the top of **Har Bental** for views stretching far into Syria.
- Next, we enjoy a **chocolate workshop**, learning from the experts in a fun and delicious way at the **DeKarina Chocolate Factory**.
- Lunch on our own nearby.
- This afternoon, we travel to the mystical city of **Safed**, where we stroll through the cobblestone streets to view the ancient synagogues and shop in the artist's quarter.
- Our final adventure today is at **Dubrovin Farms**, where we participate in a lively **hummus making competition**.
- We return to our kibbutz for **dinner** together this evening.



Overnight in the Galilee



Day 8: Thursday, December 28, 2023: THE ROAD TO TEL AVIV

- Breakfast and check out of our kibbutz.
- This morning, we visit the **Hula Valley Nature Reserve** and enjoy a **surrey ride** through the bucolic scenery.
- We travel west to **Haifa** and drive to the top of **Mt. Carmel** for panoramic views overlooking the beautiful **Bahai Gardens**.
- Lunch on our own en route.
- Later this afternoon, we visit **Hadassah's Meir Shfeya Youth Village**, where we interact with the students and staff and see their working farm and winery.
- We continue south to **Tel Aviv** to check into our hotel and refresh before setting out for an evening at leisure to explore and enjoy dinner on our own.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

Day 9: Friday, December 29, 2023: TOURING TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we visit the **Ayalon Institute**, where we discover the underground ammunition factory that played a pivotal role in Israel's fight for independence.
- Next, we travel to **Beit Guvrin**, for a hands-on archaeological dig, allowing us the opportunity to unearth remnants from Israel's ancient past. Those who wish can participate in **cave crawling** through the underground tunnel.
- Our afternoon is at leisure for lunch and exploring Tel Aviv on own.
- This evening, we join together and enjoy **Shabbat Dinner** in the main dining room at our hotel.



Overnight in Tel Aviv



Day 10: Saturday, December 30, 2023: SHABBAT SHALOM AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
 - Free morning to attend Shabbat services or relax.
 - This afternoon, we follow **Independence Trail** on a walking tour through the **Ahuzat Bayit** neighborhood, from which the city originally developed.
 - This afternoon, we continue to **Old Jaffa**, strolling through the winding streets to view the art galleries and take in the views of the sea while learning about this historically important port.
 - This evening, we check out of our hotel and enjoy a festive **farewell dinner**, recalling all that we have experienced together on this journey.
 - We transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our overnight flights back to the United States.
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Day 11: Sunday, December 31, 2023: BACK TO THE US

- We arrive back in the United States this morning. Happy New Year!

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!!

*Itinerary subject to change

