

Ayelet Tours, Ltd.®

JEWISH HERITAGE IN DEPTH + EILAT WEDNESDAY ARRIVAL - 14 nights

Day 1, WEDNESDAY: Arrival in Israel... Greeting and assistance by an Ayelet staff representative... Overnight Tel-Aviv.

Day 2, THURSDAY: Breakfast... Start the day with a visit to **Independence Hall** where the establishment of the State of Israel was declared... Next, drive to **Latrun** to visit the new "Mini Israel" park including miniature models of the most important sites and buildings in the country... Continue to visit the **Ayalon Institute**, once an ammunition factory for the Hagana, the underground movement before May 1948... Proceed to **Yad Mordechai**, named after Mordechai Anilevitz, leader of the Warsaw Ghetto... Visit the restored battlefields of the War of Liberation and learn about their heroic story... Overnight Tel-Aviv.

Day 3, FRIDAY: Breakfast... Visit the **Diaspora Museum** ... Drive around the main streets of Tel Aviv, center of business and entertainment in Israel... Stop for a moment of reflection at **Rabin Square**, place of assassination of Prime Minister Itzhak Rabin... Continue to Old Jaffa, an 8000-year-old port city... Visit the ancient ruins and walk along the restored Artist's Quarter... Visit **Neve Tzedek**, the first neighborhood of Tel Aviv built in 1909, and **Nahalat Benyamin**, the city's pedestrian street with its musicians, hand made jewelry and artifacts... Next, stop at **Sheinkin**, the lively and colorful street especially known for its unique shops, café life and youthful ambiance... Overnight Tel Aviv.

Day 4, SATURDAY: Breakfast... Day at leisure... Overnight Tel Aviv.

Day 5, SUNDAY: Breakfast... Drive north to **Caesarea**, once the Roman capital of the region... See the excavations of the crusaders' city, the aqueduct and the amphitheater that has been restored as a concert venue... Proceed to **Haifa** for a panoramic view from **Mt. Carmel** and visit "AF AL PI CHEN", the naval museum of the illegal immigration to Israel at the time of the British Mandate... Drive to **Akko**... Walk along the old harbour and local market... Continue to the northernmost point of Israel at **Rosh Hanikra**... Descend by cable car into the limestone grottoes... Overnight at a kibbutz guesthouse.

Day 6, MONDAY: Breakfast... Drive to the mystical city of **Safed**, center of Kabbalah movement... Visit the Caro and the Ha'ari Synagogues, the most important synagogues in the city... Stroll around the Artist's Quarter... Enjoy a jeep tour to the foot of the Golan... Continue to the **Golan Heights**... Stop at an observation point over the city of Kuneitra and the Syrian territory... Stop at **Tel Facher**, a former Syrian Army camp... Visit the Baniyas springs... Next, a visit to **Tel-Hai**... See the "Roaring Lion" monument and learn about the heroic battle of Josef Trumpeldor and his comrades in 1920... Meet with a kibbutz member and learn about their unique lifestyle... Overnight at a kibbutz guesthouse.

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Day 7, TUESDAY: Breakfast... Begin the day with a **tree planting**... Drive to **Tiberias** to visit Rambam's grave... Proceed to **Beit Shean**, also called "Scythopolis", the biggest archeological park in Israel with beautiful excavations from Roman and Byzantine periods... Stop at **Beit Alpha** to see the beautiful mosaic floor of a synagogue from the Byzantine period... On to **Gan Hashlosha**, (Sachne) where you will have an opportunity to enjoy the water springs located at the foot of the Gilboa Mountain, the famous mountain on which King Saul was killed in the battle against the Philistines... Continue via the Jordan Valley to **Jerusalem**... Stop at **Mount Scopus** for a "SH'HEKHIANU!" blessing as you enter the city... Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 8, WEDNESDAY: Breakfast... Tour the **Old City** of Jerusalem... Start with a visit of the tomb of King David on **Mt. Zion**... Walk along the **Cardo**, the ancient Roman marketplace... Visit the four Sepharadic synagogues in the Jewish Quarter restored after the 1967 War... Tour the **Kotel Tunnels**... Visit the **Davidson Center** and walk through the Roman Cardo to the local Arab bazaar... Walk through Jaffa Gate to **David's Tower Museum** and see the ancient remains of the city beginning with the First Temple period... Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 9, THURSDAY: Breakfast... Celebrate the **Bar-Mitzvah** ceremonies at the Kotel... Drive to **Mt. Herzl**, the military cemetery and **Yad Vashem**, the memorial to the Holocaust... Visit **Ammunition Hill**, a former Jordanian Army stronghold, conquered by the Israeli army in the Six-Day War, and converted into a national memorial site and museum... Next visit the **Israel Museum** and the **Shrine of the Book** where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed, and the new **Holyland Model** – a miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the Second Temple period... Drive by the **Knesset**, Israel's parliament and see the Menorah with the biblical emblems... Continue to **Mea Shearim** and learn about the unique lifestyle of the Ultra Orthodox communities... Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 10, FRIDAY: Breakfast... Drive through the **Judean Desert** to the **Dead Sea**. Stop at **Qumeran**, the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found... Continue to **Masada**, ascend by cable car and tour the ancient fortress... Visit the remains of the walls, palaces, synagogue, and the bathhouse... Descend by cable car... Next stop for **lunch and spa** facilities in one of the leading hotels in the area.... Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 11, SATURDAY: Breakfast... Day at leisure... Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 12, SUNDAY: Breakfast... Travel south to the **Negev Desert**, visit Israel's **Airforce Museum** at Hatzarim to view the planes and equipment and to hear the story of this brave fighting force... Visit **Sde Boker** and see Ben Gurion's hut and grave overlooking the magnificent **Zin Valley**... Stop at **Mitzpeh Ramon** to gaze into the **Ramon Crater**, a geological wonder... Drive to **Timna** to see the copper mines and King Solomon's pillars and marvel at the huge multi-colored rock formations... Arrive in **Eilat** for overnight.

Day 13, MONDAY: Breakfast... Day at leisure... Stroll around the city's streets, the beach promenade and enjoy the water sport activities – on own... Overnight Eilat.

Day 14, TUESDAY: Breakfast... Visit the **underwater observatory**, one of largest aquariums in the world, built into a coral reef... Drive to **Mamshit** for a camel riding experience and a visit to



an authentic Bedouin tent... Enjoy **Bedouin hospitality** and a light lunch... Drive back to Tel Aviv for overnight.

Day 15, WEDNESDAY: Breakfast... Transfer to Ben-Gurion Airport for departure.

THE MEMORIES LIVE FOREVER!

**itinerary subject to change*

