



Ayelet Tours, Ltd.

®

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

We depart the United States on our overnight flight to Israel.

DAY 2, FRIDAY – ARRIVAL

Shalom and Welcome to Israel! Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport. Private transfer to our hotel. Overnight Tel-Aviv.

DAY 3, SATURDAY – TEL AVIV

Following breakfast, enjoy a day at leisure to explore Tel Aviv on your own. Overnight Tel Aviv

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

Breakfast. 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. Continue to **Haifa**, Israel's largest port; view the city and the breathtaking Bahai Temple and Persian Gardens from atop Mount Carmel. Visit the "**Af Al Pi Hen**" at the Clandestine Immigration and Naval Museum, and hear of the attempts to break the British Mandate's limitations of Jewish immigration. Then visit **Akko**, before walking through its colorful bazaar to the port. Drive north along the coast to **Rosh Hanikra**, to see the amazing grottos carved by the sea. Arrive at kibbutz for dinner and overnight.

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

Breakfast followed by a tour of the mystical city of **Safed** – center of Kabbalistic practice. Explore the narrow alleyways lined with ancient synagogues and artists' galleries. Hop in a Jeep for an exciting tour of the **Golan Heights**, passing former Syrian bunkers on our way to Mt. Bental, to enjoy the panoramic views stretching deep into Syria. Proceed to **Tel Facher**, a former Syrian army camp and hear about Eli Cohen – Israel's "super spy". Continue to the **Banias Springs** and Tel Dan, the sources of the Jordan River. Visit **Tel Hai** and the Hashomer Museum, to hear about the early settlers who reclaimed the land at the end of the 19th century. Overnight: A kibbutz in the Galilee

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DAY 6. TUESDAY – KINNERET, BEIT SHE'AN, GILBOA, JERUSALEM

Breakfast. Travel to Tiberias to visit **Rambam's grave**; continue along the shores of the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) and then south to **Beit She'an** to tour the extensively excavated Roman city, once covered by a mudslide. Stop at **Beit Alpha** to see the beautiful mosaic floor of an ancient synagogue. Proceed to **Gan Hashlosha, (Sachne)** where you may enjoy a dip (weather permitting) in the sparkling warm waters flowing from springs at the foot of the Gilboa Mountain. Continue via the Jordan Valley to Jerusalem. Ascend to Jerusalem, pausing at **Mt. Scopus** to say Shehehianu as you enter the city. Overnight: Jerusalem.

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

Following breakfast, we begin tour of the Old City of Jerusalem with visit to **tomb of King David on Mt. Zion**. Explore the **Cardo**, an ancient marketplace where you can still shop today. Then visit four Sephardic synagogues in Jewish quarter restored after the 1967 War. Enjoy a spiritual visit to the Western Wall followed by a fascinating tour of the **Western Wall Tunnels** stretching under the Old City. 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 – MODERN JERUSALEM, YAD VASHEM

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. Pause at the **Knesset**, Israel's Parliament and see the Menorah. Discover the treasures of the **Israel Museum** including the Shrine of the Book, housing the Dead Sea Scrolls and the new **Holy Land model**, a miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the second temple period. Drive to **Mt. Herzl**, to visit the gravesites of Zionist luminaries including Herzl, Rabin and Golda Meir. Afterwards, 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. Visit **Ammunition Hill**, a former Jordanian army stronghold, conquered by the Israeli army in the Six-Day War. Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 9. FRIDAY – MASADA, DEAD SEA

Depart Jerusalem early this morning as we travel south and descend to the lowest place on earth – the Dead Sea. Stop at **Qumeran**, site where Dead Sea scrolls were found. At **Massada**, ascend via cable car to the legendary mountain fortress, once a luxurious palace built by Herod the Great and later the last stronghold of the Jewish rebellion against the Romans. Explore the unique remains including the bathhouse, water cisterns, storerooms, hanging palaces and the Synagogue. Later, enjoy lunch and a chance to swim (float) in the mineral rich **Dead Sea**. The high mineral content in the water and the mud is well known for its curative effects. Return to Jerusalem. Overnight Jerusalem



DAY 10, SATURDAY – JERUSALEM

Following breakfast, enjoy the chance to explore Jerusalem on your own. Overnight Jerusalem

DAY 11, SUNDAY – L’HITRAOT!

Breakfast, followed by our transfer to Ben Gurion Airport. L’hitraot!

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

**Itinerary subject to change*

** Visit subject to availability*

The above program can be extended and tailor-made for groups.

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