



B'NEI MITZVAH TOUR

Day 1 | Monday

Individual arrivals at Ben Gurion Airport and meeting by one of our company tour representative, who will assist us with our luggage, escort us through customs and to our transfer vehicle. We will continue to our hotel in beautiful Tel Aviv, where we will check-in. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure. We'll meet in the hotel for an introductory session to meet the other families and our tour guide. Following this we will have a **Welcome Dinner** at the Yemenite Restaurant **Maganda**
Overnight Tel Aviv

Day 2 | Tuesday

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit the 'underground' at the **Ayalon Institute**, which tells one of the fascinating and mysterious stories in the history of the struggle for the establishment of the State of Israel. Here, beneath the ground, and right under the nose of the British, a factory was created for the production of 9mm bullets for the Sten submachine gun, which was the personal weapon of Palmach fighters. Tour of the "**Palmach Museum**" where we can view the history of the Palmach from 1941 to the War of Independence and the establishment of the State of Israel. Follow the lives and experiences of the young men and women who founded Israel's Defense Forces. Stroll through the funky shops and cafes along **Sheinken Street**, the "Greenwich Village of Tel Aviv." Shop for unique craft items in **Nachalat Binyamin's** colorful, open-air market and see modern Tel Aviv in action. We'll visit **Independence Hall** where we will listen to an audio presentation including David Ben Gurion's moving Declaration of Independence establishing the State of Israel. We will end our day with a visit to the **Old Port City of Jaffa (Yafo)**, just south of Tel Aviv for a beautiful panoramic view of Tel Aviv and a sense of the first Jewish city of the modern era, established in 1909.

Overnight Tel Aviv

Day 3 | Wednesday

After breakfast, we will leave Tel Aviv and travel north to visit the ancient city of **Caesarea**, built by Herod the Great and once the seat of Roman rule. View the excavated Roman Theater, with its acoustic and theatrical sound, which was used for many performances throughout the centuries. Continue to the ancient crusader port city of **Acre**, called **Akko** in Arabic / Hebrew, one of the world's most ancient port cities, center of trade and a target for conquest, since the days of the Egyptians and Phoenicians. Visit the **Crusader Halls** and the underground tunnels and pathways. Drive to **Rosh Hanikrah** - with the stunning chalk-white cliffs at Israel's northernmost coastal border. Take the cable car down beneath the cliffs to the grottos below and tour the system of underground caves eroded by pounding waves over thousands of years.

Overnight and Dinner at Kibbutz hotel



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Jaffa Port



Nachlat Binyamin



Caesarea



Rosh Hanikrah

Day 4 | Thursday

After breakfast, we will enjoy a day of adventure with an exciting **jeep ride** tour of the Golan Heights. We will enjoy the scenic hills, the strategic importance and history of this land and its physical beauty.

Next we'll have a sweet visit to **De Karina chocolate factory**. Learn about chocolate in this small boutique hand made chocolate factory.

Afterwards we will visit **OZ 77** and will see a dramatic film about the 1973 Yom Kippur War. This is the site of the main Syrian attack and where only a few Israeli tanks held off the massive armored assault against the IDF.

We will conclude our day with a 'wet and wild' exciting adventure **kayaking** down the Jordan River.

Overnight and Dinner at Kibbutz hotel

Day 5 | Friday

After breakfast, our first visit will be to the Mystical City of **Safed**, the center of the Kaballa movement. Visit the Joseph Caro and the Ha'Ari synagogues, stroll through the narrow, winding alley's and browse through the artists' workshops and galleries found in the flourishing artists' quarter.

We will leave the north and drive south towards Jerusalem. We will stop along the way at **Beit Alpha** to see a magnificent mosaic floor from an ancient synagogue showing the 12 signs of the zodiac.

We will stop for lunch (on your own accord) along the way.

We'll ascend up the Judean Mountains and upon arriving in **Jerusalem**, we will go to a point overlooking the Old City, where we commemorate our arrival to the heart of Judaism with a special **Shehechyanu** ceremony, a blessing introduced for Jews to offer thanks for new and unusual experiences. After checking into our hotel, we will enter the Old City and walk to the **Western Wall (Kotel)**, Judaism's Holiest site, for a Shabbat evening service unlike anything you have ever experienced.

We will return to the hotel for a festive Shabbat dinner with **Lone Soldiers** as our special guests. Get to know these brave youths who have left their families in their native counties to live in Israel and serve in the IDF.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 6 | Saturday

After breakfast at the Hotel we'll have the day at leisure to rest or walk around the quiet city of Jerusalem during Shabbat. Enjoy Shabbat services at one of Jerusalem's fabulous synagogues!

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 7 | Sunday

After an early breakfast, we will depart to the **Dead Sea** area. Traveling south through the Judean Wilderness, we will arrive at the lowest point on earth at 1388 feet (423m) below sea level.

Visit the beautiful **Ein Gedi** reserve.

We will continue south to the legendary mountaintop plateau of **Masada**. We will ascend by cable car to the ancient synagogue of Masada and explore the ancient fortress.

After lunch at a **Dead Sea Hotel** we will enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure to put mud on us and to float in the waters of the Dead Sea at the Beach. Return to Jerusalem

Meeting with the Rabbi to prepare for the ceremony

Overnight in Jerusalem



Golan Heights



Kayaking



Safed



Jerusalem



Jerusalem



Masada



Dead Sea

Day 8- Monday

After breakfast at hotel, we will enter the Old City and proceed to the **Southern Wall excavations**. Here we will meet our Rabbi, and celebrate the **Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies**.

After the ceremony, head to holy **Western Wall - the "Kotel"**. We begin at the passageways descending through the many layers of Jerusalem's past at the time of the Temple through the **Western Wall Tunnels**.

We then proceed to the **Jewish Quarter**, which was reconstructed after the city was unified after the Six-Day War in 1967. A special point of interest in the restored Jewish Quarter is the "**Cardo**", meaning the "heart" of this ancient Byzantine City. At the end the day we will visit at the **City of David** and see the newest and exciting excavations of Jerusalem during the time of the first Temple period. Here we'll also walk through **Hezekiah's Tunnel** which still flows with water.

Dinner will be in the hills of Judea at the "**Land of Genesis**". Here, after a desert camel ride, "Abraham" and his family will host us for a biblical-style dinner in their tent.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 9 | Tuesday

After breakfast we will have an exciting archaeological dig at **Beit Guvrin**. This site served as a major crossroad for commerce in ancient Israel and to this day, new discoveries are being made that shed more light on our past.

Next we will visit **Latrun**, the armored corps museum which presents visitors with the magnificent spirit of the armored corps since Israel's Declaration of Independence...the technological accomplishments of the corps, exhibitions of the Armored Corps legacy and a sense of the Zionist spirit that infuses our national sites.

Return to your hotel and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure.

Free evening on your own to explore Jerusalem and Ben-Yehuda Street and experience the night life of a modern and young Jerusalem

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 10 | Wednesday

After breakfast we will drive to the Jerusalem forest for a **Tree Planting Ceremony**. Feel your connection with the land of Israel by planting a tree with your own hands.

Continue to the **Herzl Vision Museum**, where we will visit Herzl's Dream, an interactive tour through the life and times of Zionism's founder. We will also visit Har Herzl, Israel's national cemetery, where we can visit the gravesites of Israel's greatest leaders and heroes, including Theodore Herzl, Ze'ev Jabotinski, and Yitzchak Rabin. Then visit **Yad Vashem**. It is considered the first and most famous memorial to mankind's darkest period. We will visit the very moving exhibit at the Children's Pavilion.

End the day with a great opportunity to 'give something back' to Israel by volunteering at **Pantry Packers**, packing healthy food bags with your own label to go out country-wide to needy families identified by the Israeli Government.

We return to our hotel to prepare for our **farewell dinner** at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 11 | Thursday

After a wonderful Israeli buffet breakfast, those leaving we will be transferred to Ben Gurion Airport for your flight back home. Leave Israel with everlasting memories....

שלום

Shalom!

מזל טוב!



BM ceremony at the wall



Land of Genesis



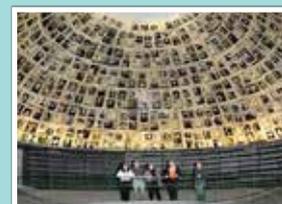
Beit Guvrin



Latrun



Tree Planting



Yad Vashem



Pantry Packers