

TOVA GILEAD - TOURS TO ISRAEL

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ISRAEL ADULT TOUR - Limited to 18 people

- Wednesday* **DEPARTURE**
Depart the United States to Tel Aviv.
- Thursday* **WELCOME TO ISRAEL**
Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport, where you are met and transferred to Jerusalem. Arrive at the historic King David Hotel. In the evening, on your own, visit the Mamilla Mall where Jerusalemites shop and dine.
Overnight at the King David Hotel
- Friday* **TOUR OF JERUSALEM**
Drive to Mount Scopus for a spectacular view of the city, the traditional *shehechyanu* blessing, and a *l'chaim*. Continue to Mt. Zion to visit King David's Tomb and the Room of the Last Supper. Enter the Old City at Zion Gate and walk through the reconstructed Jewish Quarter with its four restored Sephardic synagogues. Browse the boutique-lined Cardo, once an ancient Byzantine bazaar. Tour the Jerusalem Archaeological Park and see the Second Temple excavations. Walk through the Western Wall Tunnels. In the evening, visit the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, to welcome the Shabbat.
Friday night dinner and overnight at the King David Hotel
- Saturday* **SHABBAT SHALOM! A WALKING TOUR OF THE OLD CITY**
Stroll through the 19th century neighborhood of Yemin Moshe to see Sir Moses Montefiore's carriage. Enter the Old City at Jaffa Gate and visit the Tower of David Citadel and Museum, which traces the history of Jerusalem. Explore the narrow alleyways of the Old City and the colorful *shuk* (Arab Market). Continue along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Afternoon at leisure. At night, return to the Tower of David Museum to see The Night Spectacular Light Show.
Overnight at the King David Hotel
- Sunday* **TOUR OF JERUSALEM**
Drive to Yad Vashem, memorial to victims of the Holocaust, and visit the Museum and Children's Memorial. Drive to Hadassah Medical Center to see the Chagall Windows. Continue to Mt. Herzl, burial place of Israel's leaders and founding fathers and site of the military cemetery. Walk through the colorful Machne Yehudah open air Market, abounding with fruit, vegetables, and tasty delights. Enjoy a Middle Eastern lunch. Visit the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed. View the exhibits and stroll through the outdoor Billy Rose Sculpture Garden. See the scale model of Jerusalem as it looked in Herod's time. Stop at the Knesset, Israel's House of Parliament, to see the bronze Menorah sculpture, symbol of the State of Israel. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.
Overnight at the King David Hotel
- Monday* **TOUR OF THE DEAD SEA AND MASADA**
Drive through the Judean Desert to the lowest spot on earth, the Dead Sea. Continue along the sea passing the Qumran Caves, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Arrive at Masada, the mountain fortress where the Jewish Zealots fought against mighty Rome, and ascend by cable car to the plateau. Tour Herod's palace, the Zealots' synagogue, and the Roman bathhouses. Hike through the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve to the waterfall, and observe the wildlife and lush foliage in this oasis. Enjoy lunch at Ein Gedi Nature Reserve. Stop at the Dead Sea for an unforgettable "float". Return to Jerusalem.
Overnight at the King David Hotel

- Tuesday* **TOUR OF THE GALILEE**
Depart Jerusalem and drive north to the Valley of Jezreel. Visit Beit Shearim catacombs, burial place of Rabbi Yehuda Hanasi, compiler of the Mishna. Continue to Nazareth to visit the Church of Annunciation and Mary's Well. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Drive to Rosh Hanikra on the Lebanese border and descend via cable car to the sea grottoes. Continue to the picturesque Bay of Akko with its medieval port, and visit the Citadel and the underground Crusader City. Continue along Haifa Bay and ascend Mt. Carmel with breathtaking views of Haifa Harbor. Dinner at a local restaurant.
Overnight at the Dan Carmel Hotel
- Wednesday* **TOUR OF THE GALILEE AND THE GOLAN**
Drive through the mountains of the Upper Galilee to Safed, 16th century birthplace of the mystical Kabbala movement. Stroll the cobbled streets to explore ancient synagogues and the galleries of this quaint Artists' Colony. Drive to the Golan Heights and take an exciting jeep ride through the rugged hills of the Golan. Stop at a former Syrian fortification to view the Hula Valley below. On to Tiberias, one of the four Holy Cities, with a seaside promenade and hot springs. Enjoy a refreshing boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Return to Haifa. Dinner at a local restaurant.
Overnight at the Dan Carmel Hotel
- Thursday* **TOUR OF MOUNT CARMEL AND CAESAREA**
Visit the golden-domed Bahai Shrine and see the beautiful Persian Gardens. Drive past Haifa University to the unique Druze villages atop Mount Carmel where busy markets abound with Druze folk craft. If time permits, visit the Tishbi Winery in Binyamina. Drive along the Mediterranean seashore to Caesarea, once the Roman capital of the country. See King Herod's ancient port, the Roman theatre, the aqueduct and the fortifications of the Crusaders. Drive past the seaside resorts of Netanya and Herzliya to Tel Aviv, Israel's center of culture and commerce, with outdoor cafes and beautiful Mediterranean beaches. The "White City" was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Overnight at the Dan Hotel
- Friday* **TOUR OF MACHON AYALON AND TEL AVIV**
Visit Independence Hall, where David Ben Gurion declared Israel's independence. Drive to Rehovot to visit Machon Ayalon, an underground ammunition factory that operated during the British Mandate. Return to Tel Aviv. Visit the biblical seaport of Old Jaffa and meander through the galleries in the reconstructed Artists' Quarter. Continue to Neveh Zedek, the neighborhood where Tel Aviv began. Walk through Nachalat Binyamin and stop at the colorful Carmel fruit and vegetable market for a "taste" of Israel.
Overnight at the Dan Hotel
- Saturday* **SHABBAT SHALOM! TEL AVIV**
Day of leisure. Enjoy the beach, swim in the Mediterranean, and stroll along the seaside promenade to the Tel Aviv Port. Evening transfer to Ben Gurion Airport.
- Sunday* **DEPARTURE**
Flight back home.

