

JOI
FAMILY ISRAEL TRIP
Summer 2022

Provided by
Patrick Amar of IsraelETC

MONDAY JUNE 20

9:15 am

Meet up – For those already in Israel, meet up at the Herbert Hotel – 4 Allenby St.

Depart for Ayalon Institute – The Ayalon Institute is an underground ammunition factory, located on Kibbutz Hill in Rehovot, Israel, This ex-bullet factory was disguised as a kibbutz that ran a laundry service. The factory was established in 1945 and manufactured ammunition until 1948; today it is a museum and national historical site. After Ayalon we will depart for the drive north along Israel's coast towards the Galilee passing the cities of Herzliya, Netanya and more.

Visit **Caesarea by the Sea**, a two thousand-year-old port city built by Herod the Great. You will be amazed by its beautiful views of the Mediterranean Sea and impressive archaeology.

We will drive up to Mt. Carmel and stroll in **Zichron Yaakov**, a charming 1st Aliyah town. We will walk on Founders' Street where modern Israel was conceived in 1882, and enjoy free time to walk around and enjoy this enchanting town. Optional wine tasting at the Tishbi Winery.

Then we are heading west to the Mediterranean coast where we will start off in **Haifa** to view the **Bahai Gardens** and the port.

Check in to Nof Ginnosar Hotel. Dinner at hotel

TUESDAY JUNE 21

Our first stop today is **Safed** where you will fall in love with the spiritual feeling while strolling the ancient alleyways. Safed is known for its beautiful historic synagogues, jewelry and art made

by local Israeli designers, homemade cheese and wines, and spectacular mountain top views.

Depart for the Golan Heights - Get ready for a **4 x 4 off road ATV adventure** in the Golan Heights overlooking the Syrian border! A local guide will lead the way to some of the most incredible views of Northern Israel. The ATVs are appropriate for all ages; anyone with a driver's license can drive.

Enjoy **rafting on the Jordan River**. This is good for all ages, and a must-do in the hot summer. Don't worry, this ain't the Colorado river, it's Jewish rafting....

From there, we head up to the Syrian border at **Mount Bental**, one of Israel's favorite mountain peaks to visit, partly due to the great panoramic views of the Golan and even Syria. Mount Bental was the site of a courageous battle fought during Israel's war for the Golan. A short drive up, the mountain-top provides both scenic beauty and a glimpse back at the past - with bunkers open to visitors.

Return to hotel for **Dinner**.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 22

Free morning to chill, enjoy the pool and water sports. If you would like to try banana boating, just let us know and we'll take care of the reservations (extra cost).

Check out of hotel and depart for Jerusalem - Head to Jerusalem via the **Jordan Valley** (2 hour drive) in which we see the border between Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. In this

drive south towards the holy city, we will pass through several landscapes, and enjoy a schwarma **lunch**.

We also stop at **Beit Shean**, where we will see the history of Israel through the archaeological remains from each historic period.

The excavation and reconstruction offer a clear picture of what the city would have looked like. This former Roman metropolis was home to 30,000 to 40,000 citizens and covered approximately 370 acres.

Welcome to Jerusalem! We will take a few moments on our arrival for an amazing view and **blessings** upon first seeing Jerusalem from the **Mount Scopus lookout at the Hebrew University**.

Approach the **Western Wall** and walk through the underground tunnels along hidden parts of the Wall in the famous Western Wall Tunnels.

Check in to Jerusalem apartments at 3 Moonbaz Street and enjoy a **free evening** in Jerusalem. Don't forget to stock up on any essentials you'll need for your apartment like breakfast items, etc.

THURSDAY JUNE 23

9:00 am

Walk to the Old City - Depart for a leisurely walk to the old city through Mamillah where you can grab coffee and pastries.

11:00 am

Aish World Center - Meet at the front gates of Aish where we will be met for a private tour of the World Center by **Rabbi Dov Ber Cohen** including the breathtaking view from the Aish Rooftop Observation Deck.

Prayer Experience in the of Notes with Rabbi Menachem Lehrfield followed by a moving experience at the **Western Wall**.



Explore the Jewish quarter on your own for lunch and shopping. After lunch, we'll take a walking tour through ancient Jerusalem including the surrounding walls, the **Roman Cardo**, some of the **4 Quarters**.

Tour **Shalva**, an organization with an all-encompassing range of services for thousands of people with disabilities from infancy to adulthood and their families followed by a volunteer opportunity.

Enjoy a free evening out on famous **Ben Yehuda Street**, just steps away from our apartments.

FRIDAY JUNE 24

Depart for **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum** for a tour suitable for ages 10+.

Enjoy a tasting tour and free time for lunch and shopping at the **Mahane Yehuda Market**, the world's largest kosher open street market.

Friday afternoons are packed with pre-Shabbat shoppers, musicians and the best food of the week at the lowest prices.

Touring on Fridays ends at around 2pm to allow time to return to the apartments get ready for Shabbat.

Depart to the Western Wall - Meet in the lobby of the apartment building to walk to the **Western Wall for Shabbat Services** with the amazing atmosphere of singing and dancing joining together with visitors from around the world.

Enjoy **Shabbat dinner** right across from the western wall at the Aish World Center.

SATURDAY JUNE 25

Enjoy a much needed day of rest.

Sleep late or visit the **Western Wall, The Great Synagogue, The Italian Synagogue** (all within walking distance).

Shabbat Lunch – Enjoy an authentic Shabbat Lunch with a local English speaking family.

Most of the city is closed on Shabbat so after lunch feel free to stroll around the streets of Jerusalem and/or catch up on some sleep with a long Shabbat nap.

6:45 pm

Optional 3rd Shabbat Meal (AKA To Grandmother's House We Go) – Meet in the lobby of the apartment building to walk to the Rabinowitz Home – Rabbi Lehrfield's grandmother – for Shalosh Seudos (The 3rd Shabbat Meal) a light meal of snacks, salads and dips and food for the soul.

8:35 pm

Havdallah – Say good by to Shabbat with Havdallah at the Rabinowitz home.

After Shabbat the city comes alive. Saturday night is perfect for the 'Night Spectacular' an amazing light and sound show where the history of Jerusalem is displayed on the Tower of David's walls. Enjoy dinner on your own at the **Mamilla Promenade, Ben Yehuda Street** the **Tachana Rishona or the shuk** or one of the other Jerusalem hot spots.

SUNDAY JUNE 26

Check Out - Check out of your apartment and meet downstairs in the lobby.

Visit the **Temple Mount Sifting Project** and have a part in uncovering Israel's incredible history!

Drive down to the **Dead Sea** the lowest place on Earth!

On the way, hike **Ein Gedi** the largest desert oasis in Israel and bathe in the fresh waterfalls

Check into the **Isrotel Dead Sea Hotel**. Enjoy a float in the dead sea as the sun sets on the horizon; free time in the spa (must be over 16) and dinner at the hotel.

MONDAY JUNE 27

Check out of hotel and meet in the lobby. We are up early for a climb up the "snakepath" of **Masada, the Great Desert Fortress** where Jewish rebels who fought the Romans 2000 years ago.

(For those who don't fancy such an energetic event early in the morning, there is a cable car to meet us on the mountain top).

Walk in the footsteps of our ancestors in the ancient city of Hebron.

Depart for Tel Aviv. Check into the Opra Herbert Samuel Hotel.

Enjoy a free evening in Tel Aviv.

TUESDAY JUNE 28

Check Out - Check out of hotel. Depart for the port city of **Old Jaffa** and discover why the name of the city means "beautiful" while walking through its ancient walkways and modern galleries. You will also get amazing views of Tel Aviv, and learn more about this city that grew out of the sand dunes. We will also enjoy a short cruise on the Mediterranean.

Enjoy a tasting tour and free time for lunch and shopping at the **Carmel Market**, Tel Aviv's largest open street market.

From there, we will take a driving tour through Tel Aviv's historic boulevards including **Rothschild and Neve Tzedek**. Learn about Tel Aviv's striking styles of architecture.

See **Independence Hall** where David Ben Gurion read the Declaration of Independence on May 14, 1948 and hear the exciting story of the establishment of the State of Israel. (The building is under renovation for the next few years; we will see it from the outside).

Good Bye Dinner at Lechem Basar

This is not goodbye, but "l'Hitraot", see you again soon.... We hope you've created memories of a lifetime. Bring them back, and come home again soon.

7:00 pm