



Day 1 - Sunday

Arrive in Israel! Welcome!

VIP assistance at the sleeve of the plane

Transfer to Tel Aviv

Check in to the Hotel

Overnight: Tel Aviv

Day 2 - Monday,

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Bike Tour of Tel Aviv (on the bike lanes)!! Enjoy the great weather, the beach, and the lifestyle of one of the world's top sea-side cities. The city of Tel Aviv-Jaffa is crisscrossed with bike paths. Amongst the stops on this tour are the ports of Tel Aviv and Jaffa, the old Jaffa Train Station, the "White City", Rothschild Boulevard, Neve Tzedek, Habima National Theater, the Rabin Memorial, David Ben Gurion's home, and HaYarkon Park.

Levinsky Market Tasting Tour (private tour) - Israel has a long-standing history as a key player in the ancient spice route, and Tel Aviv's modern trends are reliving this importance. The Levinsky market dates back to the 1920s, founded by Balkan immigrants who brought their local flavors with them to Tel Aviv. Today, gourmet restaurant chefs frequent Levinsky Street for fresh spices, dried fruits and store-roasted coffees, as well as olive oils and deli goods. On this tour we will graze the market from top to bottom, all the while meeting the grandfathers and sons working side by side to tell a story of Israel's ethnic and culinary history.

The **Old Port City of Jaffa (Yafo)**, just south of Tel Aviv offers 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 - Tuesday,

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Visit one of **David Ben Gurion's homes**. Visit this special place and get an insight into Ben Gurion's life and achievements. You'll also see part of his famous library.

Stop at **Rabin Square** is where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated and now has a memorial to him.

Walk in his final footsteps and discuss the impact of this event on the State of Israel.

At the **Palmach Museum**, walk through a modern multi-media presentation which makes you feel like you are participating in 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.

Afternoon on Own

Overnight: Tel Aviv

Day 4 - Wednesday

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Half Day Tour - Tel Aviv Style Tour. Israel is globally recognized as a dynamic and thriving fashion center with the city of Tel Aviv leading the way. Brimming with passion and creative energy, Israeli designers are creating bold new statements in shared spaces and 'apartments-turned- studios' off the beaten-path of Tel Aviv's bustling streets. Led by fashion maven and curator **Galit Reismann, TLVstyle** offers you diverse and exciting ways to connect to the pulse of the emerging Israeli fashion design scene. With tailor-made tours, special projects and events, each service we provide is uniquely designed to crack the code of the Israeli fashion and design industries. It takes a true insider and an expert to navigate this exciting fashion hub.

Afternoon on Own

Overnight: Tel Aviv

Day 5 - Thursday

Breakfast at the Hotel and Check Out

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Drive North along the coastal road

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.

Would you like a taste of Galilean village life? Participate in a short (one dish – grape leaves or similar) cooking lesson with hosts in **Dalyat El Carmel**. Then, enjoy lunch with your hosts and learn about the **Druze community** and their contributions to Israel.

Drive via **Haifa** and view the **Bahai Gardens** (from the outside)

Visit the **ancient crusader port city of Acco** and the fascinating UNESCO town with new excavations, from 1000 years old. Visit the Crusader Halls and see the underground tunnels and pathways. We'll also visit the Acco Prison which was the main prison and execution site used by the British during the Mandate Period.

Continue to the Hotel and Check In

Dinner in the main dining room

Overnight: North

Day 6 - Friday

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Mount Bental with Avi Melamed ... Avi is a Strategic Intelligence Analyst and an expert on the Current Affairs in the Arab and Muslim World Arab and their impact on Israel and the Middle East. The view from Israel into Lebanon is breathtaking. However, external forces and inner struggles have wrenched this county for generations. Standing on the border we will delve deeper into the history of the country and the area, explore the major forces that play a role in this struggling country, see and understand the impact of the primary players including Hezbollah, Iran, and Syria on Southern Lebanon and Israel and understand why the complex fiber of Lebanon and Lebanese society makes it fertile ground for continuing violence and chaos. It is against this backdrop that we will discuss the current atmosphere in the country, the future of Lebanon and the ramifications on the region.

End the day in **Safed**, which is also the birthplace of Kabbalah and one of the Four Holy Cities according to tradition. Stroll through the narrow, winding alleys, visit some of the beautiful synagogues and browse through the artists' workshops and galleries found in the flourishing artists' quarter. **Hear from the artist Avraham**

Lowenthal, and learn how Kabbalah can be embedded in art.

Avraham was born in the United States in Michigan. He studied psychology at the University of Michigan and later studied painting at the School of The Art Institute of Chicago. Avraham then made Aliya and came to live in Israel. Avraham's extremely inspirational artwork expresses universal spiritual concepts of the Kabbalah.

Dinner in the main dining room

Overnight: North

Day 7 - Saturday

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

After breakfast we will start the day with a short walk in the **Tel Dan national reserve**, a beautiful paradise that lies in the ancient city ruins of Dan. We will walk down the gorgeous trails leading through dense forest, streams and the Chatzbani River and see the fascinating archway built centuries before the Roman archways.

At the **Hula Valley Nature Reserve**, tens of thousands of birds and more than 200 species of water fowl make their homes, which is also a haven for rare water plants. This location is also famous as it's a major stopover for birds migrating along the Syrian-African Rift Valley between Africa, Europe, and Asia. Enjoy a **guided tour** of the area and see what birds you can spot!

Enjoy a **jeep ride tour of the Golan Heights**, enjoying its physical beauty with its scenic hills, and learn the strategic importance and history of the land.

Dinner in the main dining room

Overnight: North

Day 8 - Sunday

Breakfast at the Hotel and Check Out

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Drive South via the Jordan Valley

Visit Kibbutz Gesher. The River Jordan officially serves as the border between Israel and Jordan in this area, so at the time of the establishment of the state of Israel the kibbutz constituted a "gateway" into the country from Jordan. The Kibbutz was held under siege in the 1948 War of Independence and was almost completely destroyed by the onslaught from the Jordanian Arab Legion. Kibbutz Gesher survived however and is the only place on the 200 kilometer length, from the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea, with access across the border onto the banks of the Jordan River. In addition, a short walk down to the river will lead you to three impressive bridges. At the water's edge is an observation point with a view of Jordan's distant hills and a chance to absorb the serenity of the place.

Spend the afternoon with Colonel Danny Tirza, architect of the security barrier. *He will explain how Israel still works to assist Arab farmers who need to reach their fields. Since it was first erected, the security barrier has been under global scrutiny. Learn about the many factors were taken into account when building the barrier to ensure the safety of the Israelis and to preserve the dignity of the Arabs.*

Continue to Jerusalem and Check In

Dinner on own

Overnight: Jerusalem

Day 9 - Monday

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Spend the day touring in the Old City:

- Walk through the **Armenian and Jewish quarters** to the recently excavated and restored **Cardo**, the Roman road.
- **Western Wall Tunnels** – Descend through the many layers of Jerusalem's past at the time of the Temple through the Western Wall Tunnels.
- The **Southern Wall Excavations**. Here we will also visit the Davidson Center, one of the most significant archeological sites in the country. **OR**
- **The City of David** houses the newest and most 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.

Overnight: Jerusalem

Day 10 - Tuesday

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Yad Vashem 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, commemorating the death of over 1.5 million Jewish children in the Holocaust. Also the Valley of the Communities - a man-made valley in the form of the European Map built in remembrance of where over 5000 names of communities are engraved on the stone walls, each one remembering a Jewish community that was damaged or destroyed during the Holocaust. **(docent tour)**

Culinary tour in Machane Yehuda Market! Participate in this wonderful experience to get a feel for the hippest market in Israel! This bustling Jerusalem marketplace and neighborhood, incorporates food, drink, shopping, bars, and restaurants. The market is an exciting venue to experience the colors, aromas and flavors of Israeli food and more!

Late afternoon on own

(no guide) At night, enter into the **Tower of David** to see the world famous **Sound and Light Show** which displays the history of the city of Jerusalem along the ancient stones of the museum.

Overnight: Jerusalem

Day 11 - Wednesday

Breakfast at the Hotel

Meet the guide in the hotel lobby

Drive to the area of the Dead Sea

Hike/Walk Ein Gedi – Hike to the waterfalls at this oasis in the desert. Enjoy the waterfalls, and the combination of Ein Gedi's abundance of water and tropical climate which provides some wonderful exotic plant and animal life.

Relax, Lunch and Swim Ascend the legendary mountaintop plateau of **Masada** by cable car to the ancient synagogue of Masada and explore the ancient fortress. Here, was the last stronghold of the Jewish Zealots in their struggle against the Romans. The Zealots held out for three years against the legions of Flavius Silva and chose to die as free men at their own hands rather than submit to Roman slavery.

(Float!) at the Herods Dead Sea Spa Hotel – Float in the Dead Sea! Cover yourselves with mud (found on the shores of the Dead Sea / for purchase) and enjoy the unsinkable therapeutic waters of this mineral-rich Sea.

Make the lowest place on Earth a "high"light of your trip!

Return to Jerusalem

Overnight: Jerusalem

Day 12 - Thursday

Breakfast at the Hotel

No Guide / Day On Own

Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for International Departure