

LIVING BIBLE *Travel* ITINERARY *Sample*



JEWISH IMMERSIVE ADVENTURE . . . ISRAEL

TRAVELING IS NOT ONLY ABOUT SEEING NEW PLACES; IT'S ABOUT EXPERIENCING THEM.

NO TWO CONGREGATIONS AND NO TWO TRIPS ARE EXACTLY ALIKE. We take the time to understand your congregation's unique travel needs and interests, and creatively translate them into your own customized travel experience. We offer places, sites and cultural interactions not offered by typical tours.

WE WILL TAILOR A JOURNEY THAT ENGAGES YOUR MIND AND INSPIRES YOUR BELIEFS. Experience Israel's exciting and diverse modern culture. See history unravel before your eyes. The venues you know from the Bible come alive. Immerse yourself in the land where your faith began and rediscover your roots.

LIVING BIBLE TRAVEL: JOURNEY WITH US... EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

Contact us today: 847.564.1114 or info@LivingBibleTravel.com

JEWISH IMMERSIVE ADVENTURE ... ISRAEL

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience Kabbalat Shabbat by the Kotel
- Attend a private lecture presented by an expert or scholar on a topic selected by your group
- Tour the desert in a jeep; ride ATVs in the Golan
- Enjoy a Bedouin experience with camel rides
- Participate in an archaeological “Dig for a Day”
- Tour Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial
- Tour the City of David; walk in Hezekiah’s Tunnel
- Volunteer and help the people of Israel
- Celebrate a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony atop Masada (if requested)
- Raft on the Jordan River
- Visit the Qumran Caves where Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered
- Visit a Druze community and enjoy a festive authentic meal in the home of a Druze family
- Experience the beauty of the Ramon Crater in the Negev, with optional rappelling
- Meet wounded Israeli soldiers from Achim L’Chaim
- Visit Independence Hall and the Palmach Museum in Tel Aviv
- Walk in the beautiful gardens of the Baha’i Temple
- Explore Safed, the birthplace of Jewish Kabbalah

DAY 1: DEPARTURE Tuesday

Depart USA to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv

DAY 2: ARRIVE IN ISRAEL ... MITZPE RAMON AND GETTING STARTED

Wednesday

Welcome to Israel! Your tour guide will meet you at Ben Gurion Airport. After passport control your guide will escort you through customs where you will meet the bus driver, who will take you to your first your first stop: The Ramon Crater in the Negev desert.

Our opening gathering takes place at the spectacular Ramon Crater. Afterward: hotel check-in, in Mitzpe Ramon and enjoy a delicious dinner and restful overnight stay.

Overnight: Mitzpe Ramon (D)

DAY 3: RAMON CRATER JEEP TOUR AND BEDOUIN VILLAGE Thursday

First breakfast, then return to the Ramon Crater where we will take an exhilarating jeep tour in the Judean Desert. After lunch there will be an option for the truly adventurous to go rappelling. We will then visit a Bedouin village where we will be able to mix with the locals and enjoy a memorable camel ride. Back to hotel for dinner.

Overnight: Mitzpe Ramon (B, D)

DAY 4: BEIT GUVRIN, ELAH VALLEY AND JERUSALEM Friday

Enjoy breakfast before hotel checkout. We’ll drive north to Beit Guvrin, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to participate in the “Dig for a Day” archaeological program. The current digging shows significant evidence of underground industrial complexes dating from the Hellenistic period. At Beit Guvrin we will crawl through man-made caves dating back 2,100 years. We continue north via the Elah Valley, site of the famous battle between David and Goliath.

As we enter the eternal Jewish capital of Jerusalem, we’ll stop at Haas Promenade to say a *Shehecheyanu* blessing, then onto our hotel to check-in and freshen up for Shabbat in Jerusalem. Before sunset, we’ll make our way to the Western Wall to witness Kabbalat Shabbat, with time to pray. Return to our hotel for a traditional Friday night dinner.

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 5: SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL MUSEUM AND SHRINE OF THE BOOK Saturday

After a late breakfast we will visit the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are on display. Afterwards, enjoy a

walking tour of Jerusalem's neighborhoods or just relax. We return to the hotel for a private presentation by a local scholar on, "The City of David, its history, archaeology and Biblical significance," for the adults. There will be counselor-run activities for children. We'll enjoy a group dinner at our hotel. The evening is free to explore the exotic sights and sounds of Jerusalem at night.

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 6: CITY OF DAVID, AND VOLUNTEER PROJECT Sunday

After breakfast we visit the City of David – the birthplace of Jerusalem, conquered by King David 3,000 years ago – to view remains from the ancient Jebusites up to the Herodian period. We will walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel, a Second Temple period drainage tunnel. Lots to discover: meander through the Jewish Quarter with its narrow streets and colorful shops. Tour the Southern Wall excavations (Davidson Center) and imagine how Jewish pilgrims walked to the Second Temple 2,000 years ago. See the surrounding Ophel Archeology Gardens, one of the most significant archeological sites in the country, revealing 2,500 years of Jerusalem's history in the many layers of ruins. Lunch on our own in the Jewish Quarter. Nearby, we will walk through the Christian Quarter, where we can visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Next, we partake in a volunteering experience. Choose between donating blood at one of the Magen David Adom (MDA) Blood Centers and meeting with an MDA volunteer, or planting a tree for the Jewish National Fund. In the evening we enjoy a special dinner in a Jerusalem restaurant where we share some of our unique and meaningful experiences.

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

DAY 7: MASADA, THE DEAD SEA AND QUMRAN Monday

We depart Jerusalem after breakfast for an early drive through the Judean Desert until we reach Masada. We will ascend the mountain by cable car to tour the impressive fortress built by King Herod, and view the breathtaking vistas from all around. Walk along the ruins. Explore this ancient stronghold where Jewish zealots chose to end their lives rather than live under oppressive Roman rule following the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. For those celebrating a Bar

or Bat Mitzvah, we'll hold private services atop this historic site.

Next stop: the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth and the most buoyant body of water in the world. Let's float on this "sea of salt." Enjoy a catered lunch on the adjacent beach. Afterward, we'll drive to nearby Qumran where we will see the remains of an ascetic religious community and the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Return to Jerusalem for a fabulous dinner at a local café.

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, L, D)

DAY 8: YAD VASHEM, RAFTING ON THE JORDAN RIVER, CAPERNAUM AND KFAR BLUM Tuesday

Our final day in Jerusalem: after breakfast and hotel checkout, we begin with separate itineraries for the adults and children. Adults visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum, and hear an emotional testimony of a holocaust survivor, and participate in a special ceremony in the synagogue on site. There will be separate tours for first-time visitors and for those who have previously visited the Memorial. Young children will delight in a day at the zoo in Jerusalem. Adults will enjoy lunch on their own at the Yad Vashem cafeteria. We will all take a drive after lunch to Kfar Blum with a stop at the Mount of Beatitudes for a panoramic view of the Sea of Galilee. Let's get our feet wet rafting on the Jordan River. We will stop at Capernaum and see a late 4th century CE synagogue. From there, we'll go to Kibbutz Kfar Blum where we can relax, swim in the pool, freshen up and enjoy a kibbutz style dinner.

Overnight: Kfar Blum (B, D)

DAY 9: GOLAN HEIGHTS, SAFED AND DRUZE DINNER FEAST Wednesday

After breakfast, we meet with representatives of Achim L'Chaim, a non-profit organization made up of recovering wounded Israeli soldiers.

We then drive to Mt Bental, which overlooks the site of the critical battle between Israel and Syria in the 1973 Yom Kippur War. We will view the powerful short film, "OZ 77," and hear moving stories of the battle for this strategically important plateau. Visit a robotic barn as well as ride ATVs in the Golan Heights. Enjoy lunch on

your own in a local Druze community. Next stop: the mystical city of Safed (Tzfat), the Jewish Kabbalistic center in the 1600s. Walk around its cobblestone streets and visit the many art shops and galleries as well as medieval synagogues in this picturesque, spiritual city.

Later, we have the option to proceed to Bat Ya'ar Ranch for an activity filled evening and dinner for all family members; or experience a wonderful and authentic Druze Dinner Feast in the home of a Druze family. Return to Kfar Blum.

Overnight: Kfar Blum (B, D)

DAY 10: BAHA'I TEMPLE, CAESAREA OR THE ATLIT DETAINEE CAMP, AND INDEPENDENCE HALL Thursday

Enjoy breakfast before hotel checkout. Drive to Haifa to see the Baha'i Temple and walk and reflect in its beautiful gardens. Lunch on our own. We then have the option to visit and explore Caesarea, the capital of Judea during the Roman period, or visit the Atlit Detainee Camp, established by the British at the end of the 1930s to prevent Jewish refugees from entering Palestine. The camp is now a museum of the history of the Ha'apala. We then drive to Tel Aviv and visit Independence Hall where David Ben-Gurion declared the creation of the modern State of Israel. Check into our hotel situated by the Mediterranean and the popular Promenade. Dinner on our own.

Overnight: Tel Aviv (B)

DAY 11: TEL AVIV AND JAFFA Friday

Begin with a large buffet breakfast and a visit to the Palmach Museum for some modern, pre-statehood Israeli history. We then drive around bustling Tel Aviv and continue to the Ayalon Institute, a pre-state underground munitions factory. Afterward, we'll travel to nearby Jaffa, one of the oldest cities in the world. We'll take a walking tour and visit the artists' quarter with its many galleries and the colorful Jaffa flea market, where haggling over price is a respected tradition. We'll also see the place where biblical Jonah set sail before being swallowed by the whale.

Lunch on our own. We return to our hotel to freshen up, before a sumptuous Shabbat meal at our hotel. Overnight.

Overnight: Tel Aviv (B, D)

DAY 12: SHABBAT IN TEL AVIV, FAREWELL DINNER AND RETURN TO USA Saturday

After breakfast, we drive to the Tachana, the first train station linking Jaffa and Jerusalem. An optional visit to the Tel Aviv Museum of Art will be available to all of our fellow travelers.

In the afternoon, there will be time to swim, lie on the beach or stroll down the Promenade. We'll check out of our hotel and enjoy a special Farewell Dinner at a fabulous restaurant by the Mediterranean Sea, while reflecting on our unforgettable experience in Israel. Leave for the airport and departure to the USA.

(B, D)

DAY 13: ARRIVAL IN THE USA Sunday

Arrive back home in the USA

THIS GROUP PRICE QUOTE INCLUDES:

- Airfare to and from Israel from your group's selected departure city
- Group assistance by a representative of LBT who will meet your group at the airport upon arrival and help at departure from Ben Gurion Airport
- Private AC deluxe motor coach throughout your trip
- Ten (10) nights in the hotels selected by your group (Choice of Hotel plans range from 3* to 5* Deluxe)
- Eleven (11) days of comprehensive sightseeing as per program led by expert government-licensed, English-speaking (or English/Spanish speaking if requested) professional tour guide (s)
- Bountiful Israeli breakfasts, and dinners daily including: Welcome Dinner, Traditional Shabbat Dinners, Farewell Dinner; and lunches only as specified
- All entrance fees to the sites visited during the group's sightseeing as per itinerary
- Tips to driver and guide, and restaurant and hotel staffs for included meals and hotels, and hotel and airport portage fees
- Expert guest speaker if included in your itinerary

PLEASE SEE INSERT PAGE FOR WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN A GROUP'S QUOTED PRICE
