

Broad Israel & Petra Tour

15 Days | 14 Nights | 10 + 1 Guided Touring Days

Wednesday *Arrival*

Pick up from Ben Gurion Airport. Our BGN Airport representative will meet you at the arrival hall (as per your landing details) & will lead you to the car for transfer to Tel Aviv. **Overnight in Tel Aviv.**

Thursday *Modern Israel Heritage day*

The day begins with a guided visit at the **Independence Hall** in Tel Aviv, located on the picturesque **Rothschild Boulevard**. It is the site where Israel's declaration of independence took place. Next, drive to Latrun, on the way to Jerusalem; visit Yad-Lashirion known as the **Armored Corps Memorial Site and Museum**. The memorial, set in a Mandate era fortress; it is one of the most diverse tank museums in the world and was the initiative of the Israeli Armored Forces Veterans. Proceed, by a very short ride, to tour the **Mini Israel Park**, exhibiting miniature models of the most important sites and buildings in the country. Travel back west to Rehovot and visit the **Ayalon Institute**, once a top secret underground bullets factory for the Hagana, one of the Jewish underground movements that fought for an independent Israel. Hear the amazing story of a dedicated group of young men & women indicating the resourcefulness in the creation of the State of Israel. **Overnight Tel-Aviv.**

Friday *In & around Tel Aviv*

Visit the **Diaspora Museum** & drive by the main streets of Tel Aviv, the business and entertainment center of Israel. Stop at **Rabin's Square**, place of assassination of Prime Minister Itzhak Rabin. Continue to **Old Jaffa**, an 8000 year old port city. Tour the ancient ruins and walk along the restored artist's quarter. Walk the streets of **Neve Tzedek**, the first neighborhood of Tel Aviv, built in 1909. Proceed to Nahalat Benyamin, the pedestrian street with its musicians, handmade jewelry and artifacts. Next, stop at Sheinkin, the lively and colorful street especially known for its unique shops, café life and youthful ambiance. **Overnight in Tel-Aviv.**

Saturday *At leisure*

Day at leisure in Tel Aviv. **Overnight Tel-Aviv**

Sunday *Traveling north along the Mediterranean Coast*

Travel from Tel Aviv north, via the coastal highway, to tour **Caesarea National Park**. Walk the archaeological park for an in-depth guided tour of some of the best preserved Roman and Crusader ruins, including the vast Roman hippodrome, the renovated amphitheater and more. Proceed along the coast to **Haifa** and enjoy a panoramic view of Haifa Bay atop **Mount Carmel**. visit "Af Al Pi Chen", the Naval Museum of the illegal immigration to Israel at the British mandate time. Drive to **Acre** to walk along the Old Harbor and local Arab Bazaar. Travel to Israel's northernmost point at **Rosh Hanikra**. Descend by cable car to tour the limestone sea grottoes. **Overnight in the Galilee** - Kibbutz Hotel.

Monday *In the Galilee & Golan heights*

Drive to **Safed**, Known in Hebrew as Tzefat - one the four Jewish Holy Cities & a world know Kabbalah Center. Visit the Ari Hakadosh Synagogue, where the "Shulchan Aruch" was compiled by Joseph Karo, stroll through the local **Artists' Quarter** and tour the Visitors Center. Proceed with a fun & exciting Jeep tour to the foot of the **Golan Heights**. Ascend the Golan, by car, and stop at an observation point over the Syrian city of Kuneitra. On for a short walk at Tel Facher, a former Syrian army camp. Proceed for another short walk at the **Banias Springs**. Visit Tel-Hai and see the "Roaring Lion" monument telling the heroic battle story of Josef Trumpeldor and his comrades in 1920. Meet with a Kibbutz member and learn about their unique lifestyle. **Overnight in the Galilee** - Kibbutz Hotel.

Tuesday *From the Galilee to Jerusalem*

Short ride to **Tiberias**, an ancient & very present Israeli city located on the western shores of the Sea of Galilee. Visit Rambam's Tomb; Proceed to **Beit Shean**, also known as "scythopolis", the biggest archeological park in Israel with beautiful Roman and Byzantine era excavations. Proceed to **Beit Alpha** to explore the magnificent mosaic floor of a synagogue dating to the Byzantine era. On to **Gan Hashlosha**, (the Sachne) located at the foot of the Gilboa Mountains, with an opportunity to enjoy its fresh & cool water springs. Late afternoon, travel via the Jordan Valley to Jerusalem. Atop Mount Scopus, stop for a blessing as you enter the city. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

Wednesday *Jerusalem the Old City*

Day begins with a tour of **Mount Zion** & a visit to King David Tomb. Walk into the Old City, along the Cardo, an ancient Roman Market Road. Proceed into the **Jewish Quarter** & visit the four Sephardic Synagogues restored after 1967 war. Special feature of the day: Guided tour of the **Kottel Tunnels**. Proceed to tour the Davidson Center and walk to the local **Arab Bazaar**. At Jaffa gate visit the **David Tower Museum** and explore Jerusalem's ancient remains beginning with the first temple period. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

Thursday *Jerusalem the New City*

Start the day with a visit at the Kottel complex to see & enjoy the Bar-Mitzvah ceremonies as they take place every Monday & Thursday. Continue to **Mea Shearim** and learn about the unique lifestyle of the ultra-orthodox Jewish communities. Drive to **Mount Hertzal**, the Israeli Military Cemetery and visit **Yad Vashem**, Holocaust Memorial. Proceed to tour **Ammunition Hill**, a former Jordanian army stronghold, conquered by the Israeli army in the Six Day War, and converted into a national memorial site and museum. Drive by the Knesset, Israel's Parliament and see the Menorah with its Biblical emblems. Visit the **Israel Museum**, the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea scrolls are housed, and tour the new Holyland Model – a miniature second temple replica of Jerusalem. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

Friday *Qumran, Massada & Dead Sea*

Drive via Edomim Road into the **Judean Desert**. Stop to visit **Qumran**, the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Continue to **Massada**, Tour the new visitors' center and ascend Massada by cable car for a tour of the archaeological site known as the fortress of King Herod and last stronghold of the Zealots. Descend by cable car & travel for the last part of the day for some fun & relaxation at one of the **Dead Sea** Hotels for lunch and Spa facilities. **Overnight in Jerusalem.**

Saturday *At leisure*

Day at leisure in Jerusalem. **Overnight Jerusalem.**

Sunday *Traveling to Eilat by the Red Sea*

Travel south via the Negev Desert. Explore **Timna Park**, visit the ancient copper mines, King **Solomon Pillars** and marvel at the massive multi-colored rock formations. Continue to Eilat, the southernmost Israeli city located on the shores of the Red Sea. In Eilat visit the **Marine Park** one of the largest Sea Aquariums in the world and its underwater observatory set in a coral reef. **Overnight Eilat.**

Monday *Optional Petra Tour*

Stay at leisure in Eilat by the Red Sea, or join a **day trip to Petra** (Jordan)

See details >link> [Petra Day tour from Eilat](#). **Overnight in Eilat.**

Tuesday *Negev Desert*

Travel from Eilat via **Mitzpe Ramon**. Atop the crater's northern rim enjoy a splendid view of **Makhtesh Ramon**, a unique geological formation found only in Israel. Proceed to **Kibbutz Sde Boker** to see Ben Gurion grave overlooking the vast Zin Valley. On for a short **camel ride** and a visit an authentic **Bedouin tent** to enjoy local hospitality and a light lunch. Continue to **Kibbutz Hatzerim** and visit Israel's **Air Force Museum** to view planes & equipment and to hear the story of this world known & brave fighting force. Drive back to Tel-Aviv. **Overnight in Tel Aviv.**

Wednesday *Departure*

Transportation to Ben Gurion Airport. End of service.