

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF WESTPORT FAMILY ISRAEL TRIP



April 2027

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Itinerary

Please note that the itinerary is not final and is subject to change based on time, weather, security and other considerations.

DAY 1 - WELCOME TO ISRAEL!!! TRAVEL TO JERUSALEM (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Thursday, April 08 2027

- **Welcome to Israel!!** Arrive at Ben Gurion where you will be met by our guide, transportation and Israel Maven representative. **Please notes:**
 - 1) Each family will make their own flight arrangements
 - 2) Trip will begin at Ben Gurion Airport. Therefore, if arriving earlier- you should make arrangement to meet us at the airport.
 - 3) Israel Maven can assist with pre-arrival arrangements (hotels, transfers)
- Transfer to Jerusalem
- **Welcome to Jerusalem!** Enjoy a spectacular lookout over Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade**- welcoming ceremony and "Lechayim"
- Check into Hotel- settle in and relax
- Opening dinner at hotel (included)

Overnight: Inbal Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 2 - CITY OF DAVID- JERUSALEM (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Friday, April 09 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at the hotel
- Walk in the footsteps of Prophets & Kings in the **City of David** & feel the Bible come to life. Wade through **Hezekiah's Water Tunnel** dug some 2700 years ago (prepare to get wet; maximum height of water is around 30 inches; bring flashlight & water-shoes)
- Explore the fascinating **Western Wall Tunnels** that unlock the secrets of Jerusalem's glorious past
- Experience the vibe at the **Machane Yehudah Outdoor Market** - Lunch on own
- Stroll through the picturesque **Neighborhoods of Nachlaot** and learn about the different Jewish cultures
- Join thousands of Jews from around the globe in joyous celebration of Shabbat at the **Western Wall** OR Kabbalat Shabbat as a community at the hotel
- Shabbat dinner at hotel (included)

Overnight: Inbal Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 3 - SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Saturday, April 10 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- **Morning at leisure on own in Jerusalem. Options include:**
- Join morning services at **one of Jerusalem many synagogues**
- Morning at leisure to relax by the hotel pool
- Explore the impressive **Israel Museum** including the Shrine of the Book, Model of Jerusalem, Archeology Wing, Sculpture Garden & Wing of Jewish Life.
- Lunch on own (Shabbat lunch can be provided at the hotel)- not included
- **Shabbat walking tour!!** To the Old City
- Introduction to the Old City of Jerusalem at the impressive **Jaffa Gate**
- Walk along the **Ramparts of the Old City Walls** from Jaffa Gate to Zion Gate
- Experience the sites & sounds of the historic **Jewish Quarter** including the Cardo, Broad Wall, Batei Machase & more
- **Musical Havdalla** at the hotel
- Experience the vibe on **Ben Yehuda Street**- dinner on own

Overnight: Inbal Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 4 - NEW JERUSALEM (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Sunday, April 11 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Tour and volunteer opportunity at the **Yad Sarah Visitor's Center** a leading volunteer-staffed organization that provides a vital array of health and home care services
- Pay tribute to the Memory of Six Million at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum** & Children's Memorial. For children under the age of 10- visit to the Biblical Zoo or the Gottesman Family **Israel Aquarium**
- Lunch on own
- Pay tribute to the IDF heroes who are interred at the **Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery**
- Experience the vibe at the **Machane Yehudah Outdoor Market**
- Dinner on own

Overnight: Inbal Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 5 - BNEI MITZVAH- ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Monday, April 12 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- **Bnei Mitzvah ceremony** at Robinson's Arch!!! Mazal tov!!! Performed by Rabbi Friedman
- **Special brunch in honor of the Bnei Mitzvah** at the **Botanical Gardens** in Jerusalem (included)
- Re-enact the most famous battle in history when David killed the giant Goliath in the **Valley of Elah**
- Participate in a real-life archaeological excavation as you **Dig for a Day** in Bet Guvrin. This is followed by a spelunking adventure as you explore the underground caves & subterranean passageways. **kids**
- **Returnees and adults** - Explore the fascinating site of **Bet Guvrin** with its multitude of caves and structures from the Second Temple Period
OR
Israel Museum
- Return to Jerusalem for dinner on own

Overnight: Inbal Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 6 - JUDEAN DESERT- TRAVEL NORTH (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Tuesday, April 13 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Don't forget towels, bathing suit, water, hats and sun screen
- Try your expertise **riding a camel** as you descend down the the Judean Desert
- Ascend the formidable **desert fortress of Masada** where the Zealots contested the might of the Roman Empire
- **Lunch & swim** at the Herods Hotel in Ein Bokek, a chance to swim in the **Dead Sea**- spa treatments are available (included)
- Option - Nature walk in the beautiful Oasis of **Ein Bokek** - Make sure to bring shoes that can get wet!
- Continue North via the **Jordan Valley**
- Dinner at hotel (included)

Overnight: Isrotel Ayala Hotel

DAY 7 - UPPER GALILEE (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Wednesday, April 14 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Discover the Mystical City of **Tzfat**, including the beautiful synagogues, artists' colony, candle factory & more
- **Adults**- Meet with **Kabbalistic artist Avraham Loewenthal** to discuss the concepts of Kabbalah that inspire his art
- **Kids** - **Tallit weaving workshop** OR **Shofar workshop** OR Puzzle Tzfat **escape room**
- Lunch on own
- Explore the gorgeous **Tel Dan** Nature Reserve where nature, history & hydro-politics come together
- Raft down the gentle waters of the **Jordan River** from Kfar Blum
- **OR**
- Explore the Golan Heights by **jeep** in an off-road adventure and stop at old Syrian bunkers
- Delicious Israeli **cooking workshop** for the whole family (included)

Overnight: Isrotel Ayala Hotel

DAY 8 - LOWER GALILEE- DRUZE- TO TEL AVIV (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Thursday, April 15 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Hike along the **Arbel Cliffs** with stunning views of the Sea of Galilee
- Experience authentic **Druze hospitality** and lunch at the village of Dalyat-el-Carmel- Usafia
- Discover the magnificent port city of **Caesarea** including the Roman Theater, Hippodrome, Palace of King Herod & more...
- **OR**
Volunteer at **Leket** distribution Center sorting through the fruits and vegetables
- Travel to **Tel Aviv**
- Check into hotel and dinner on own

Overnight: Sheraton Hotel - Tel Aviv

DAY 9 - TEL AVIV GAZA ENVELOPE (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Friday, April 16 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- **OPTION #1**- Depart from hotel to the **Gaza Envelope**
- Introduction to the events of October 7th as we overlook Gaza from **Mitzpe Kobi** in the **City of Sderot**
- Stop at the **Sderot Police Station** where the battle between with Police and the Hamas terrorist. Visit the **memorial** for the victims that were killed on that day
- Lunch on own
- Visit the site of the **Nova Music Festival** in the Re'im Forest and pay respect to the memory of those who were killed by the Hamas terrorists
- View the burnt-out, bullet-ridden vehicles at the **Tkuma Car Graveyard** that bear silent witness to the horrors of October 7th
- **Options #2**
- Visit the **Underground Bullet Factory** at Machon Ayalon where the Haganah secretly manufactured ammunition under the noses of the British prior to Independence.
- Experience the vibe at the historic **Sarona Market** with its trendy restaurants & eye-catching displays of fresh produce. Lunch on own
- Enjoy a fun **candy-making** workshop at **Tomo Candy** in Ramat Gan
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** on the beach with Rabbi Friedman
- Shabbat dinner at hotel (included)

Overnight: Sheraton Hotel - Tel Aviv

DAY 10 - SHABBAT IN TEL AVIV - DEPARTURE (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Saturday, April 17 2027

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- **Morning at leisure**- Tel Aviv Beach, Hotel pool, SUP and many more
- Lunch on own
- Summary of the trip at the ultra-modern, interactive **ANU Museum**
- Participate in a **Street Art Graffiti Tour** in downtown Tel Aviv commemorating the heroes of **October 7th** followed by a graffiti workshop where you get to leave your own mark on the urban landscape
- Late check out of the hotel (pending approval)
- **Final dinner** at a local restaurant (included)
- Travel to Ben Gurion Aripport for return flight to the US
- **NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM!!**

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