

## ISRAEL FAMILY JOURNEY | DECEMBER 2022 ITINERARY

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### DAY 1 > THURSDAY: Baruch HaBah – Welcome to Israel!

*NOTE: To best acclimate for the journey ahead, travelers are encouraged to arrive at least a day early. Group rates are available at the Jerusalem hotel.*

- Arrive at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport on your self-booked flight
- A complimentary "pre-tour" is available for travelers already in Israel from the night before or travelers arriving to Ben Gurion Airport by 9:30am today  
*Notify us at least a month in advance if you plan to participate*
  - Pick-up at 12:00pm from our Jerusalem hotel and travel to the bustling open-air **Mahane Yehuda Marketplace** for lunch on own
  - Discover the foundations of Jerusalem at the **City of David** excavations
- Evening: Get oriented over a welcome dinner at **Joy Restaurant** in the Mamilla Complex followed by the **Tower of David Night Spectacular** in the Old City

**Meals Included: Dinner**

**OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM**

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### DAY 2 > FRIDAY: The Old City of Jerusalem

- Experience a panoramic introduction to Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade**
- Enter the Old City via **Zion Gate** – Explore the rooftops, alleys, and squares of the **Jewish Quarter**
- Free time for shopping and lunch in the **Cardo** area of the Jewish Quarter
- Reflections at the Kotel – **The Western Wall** — and go deep under the Old City in the **Kotel Tunnels**
- Return to our accommodations – Freshen up, relax, and experience the quiet that descends on Jerusalem before the start of Shabbat
- Option to attend a Kabbalat Shabbat experience at a local synagogue or at the Western Wall

- Evening: Enjoy a festive **Shabbat dinner** as a group at our hotel

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

**OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM**

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### **DAY 3 > SATURDAY: Shabbat in Jerusalem**

- Morning Option: Return to the Old City for a tour of the **Christian Quarter** and **Arab Shuk** (bazaar)
- Shabbat lunch is included at our hotel
- Afternoon Option: Jerusalem Beyond the Walls – **Montefiore's Windmill**, Yemin Moshe, Mishkenot Sheananim, and the **First Jerusalem Train Station Market**
- Evening: Discover Jerusalem nightlife at **Ben Yehuda Pedestrian Mall**, the German Colony, the Russian Compound, and beyond (on own)

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch**

**OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM**

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### **DAY 4 > SUNDAY: Loss & Renewal in Israel**

- Docent-led tour of the **Yad Vashem** World Holocaust Remembrance Center  
*Children's alternative: Tour of the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo*
- Visit the grounds of the **Knesset** – Israel's Parliament Building — and stop for a photo-op at the famous National Menorah
- Learn about the leaders who shaped the story of modern Israel at **Mt. Herzl** National Cemetery
- Travel deep into the Judean Desert for a **camel riding** adventure and a memorable **desert tent dinner feast** at Eretz Breisheit encampment
- Descend to the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth, and check-in to our resort accommodations at Ein Bokek Beach

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

**OVERNIGHT: DEAD SEA**

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## DAY 5 > MONDAY: Adventures in the Judean Desert

- Rise early and summit Masada — Hike the Snake Path or take the cable cars
- Explore and recount the story of **Masada - Herod's desert mountaintop fortress** and the bastion of an ancient Jewish rebellion  
*Participants celebrating a B'nai Mitzvah have the opportunity to take part in a brief ceremony on the summit of Masada*
- Descend Masada via the cable cars and return to our accommodations
- Experience the wonder of effortless **floating on the Dead Sea** while enjoying our deluxe resort hotel facilities (spa access is available for ages 16+)
- Take a short nature walk to the **desert oasis at Ein Gedi National Park** and view wild ibex in their natural habitat (time permitting)
- Travel northwards to the Galilee via the **Jordan River Valley**, part of the vast Syrian-African Rift
- Check-in and dinner at our kibbutz-based hotel accommodations located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

**OVERNIGHT: GALILEE**

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## DAY 6 > TUESDAY: Mystics in the Galilee

- Explore the **Hula Valley migratory bird reserve** on a safari wagon tour
- View across Israel's lush Upper Galilee and Golan regions from the **Mitzpe Liran** lookout point
- Walking tour of **ancient Tsfat** – The historic center of Jewish mysticism in the Galilee highlands
- Lunch on own and personal exploration time in the **Tsfat artists' colony**
- **Sunset cruise on the Sea of Galilee** with Israeli dancing followed by a gourmet **dinner at Decks Restaurant** in Tiberias on the waterfront

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

**OVERNIGHT: GALILEE**

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## DAY 7 > WEDNESDAY: Perspectives from the Golan Heights

- Ascend the Golan and explore the region on a **historical off-road jeep trek**
- View Israel's neighbors and navigate former IDF bunkers at the summit of **Mount Ben-Tal**, a dormant volcano in the northeast corner of the Golan
- Travel to Ein Kinya village to learn about **Druze culture** over a traditional lunch
- Continue west to **Haifa**, and check-in to our hotel on the slope of Mount Carmel
- Evening: Dinner on own in the historic **German Colony** neighborhood of Haifa

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch**

**OVERNIGHT: HAIFA**

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## DAY 8 > THURSDAY: Along the Mediterranean Coast

- Explore the port city of **Haifa** and tour the **Bahai Temple and Gardens** on the slopes of Mount Carmel
- Explore **Caesarea** – Herod's Roman-era amphitheater and grand palace ruins along the rugged Mediterranean Coast
- Tasting, tour, and lunch at **Binyamina Winery** with a separate activity for kids at the solar garden
- Arrive to Tel Aviv in the early evening, Israel's cultural and commercial capital
  - 10-day tour travelers will check-in to our resort hotel on the coast and enjoy a free evening with dinner on own
  - 8-day tour travelers will have limited free time prior to a scheduled transfer to Ben Gurion Airport leaving from our Tel Aviv hotel at 7:30pm  
*Accommodations in Tel Aviv are not included tonight for 8-day travelers unless otherwise requested (group rates available)*

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch**

**OVERNIGHT: TEL AVIV**

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## DAY 9 > FRIDAY: Building Modern Israel

- Visit the **Ayalon Institute** – Learn about the story of the Haganah and the quest to create a modern Jewish State at this secret ammunition factory
- Tour the **ancient port city of Jaffa** and browse the **Jaffa Flea Market**
- Continue on to explore Tel Aviv's trendy **Rothschild Boulevard**, and view **Independence Hall** where the modern State of Israel was founded  
*Independence Hall is currently closed for renovations and will re-open in 2022*
- Spend the rest of the afternoon celebrating the Tel Aviv spirit at the **Nahalat Binyamin street festival** and **Carmel Market** in the historic **Neve Tzedek** neighborhood
- Program wrap-up and farewells on the beach
- Option to attend a Kabbalat Shabbat in Tel Aviv
- Evening: Enjoy a festive Shabbat dinner experience as a group at our hotel

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

**OVERNIGHT: TEL AVIV**

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## DAY 10 > SATURDAY: Shabbat on the Beach

*An optional day tour of Acco & Rosh Hanikrah is also offered this day*

- Relaxed morning to explore Tel Aviv on your own or enjoy the city's **Mediterranean beach culture**
- Shabbat lunch is included at our hotel along with late check-out till 2:00pm  
*Accommodations are not included tonight unless otherwise requested (group rates available)*
- Walking Tour — **Rabin Square Memorial**, HaBimah Theater Grounds, and the classic Bauhaus architecture of Tel Aviv
- Included evening airport transfers:
  - Pick-up at 7:30pm for a transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for those traveling home on an overnight return flight

- Pick-up for a transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for those including the Eilat Package (Days #11-12)  
*Flight schedules vary and typically depart from Tel Aviv between 5:30pm-7:30pm*

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch**

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### **Acco (Acre) & Rosh Hanikrah Day Tour (Optional)**

A day tour of the Western Galilee is offered as an alternate to the final Saturday in Tel Aviv (Day #10). This optional tour covers the Rosh Hanikrah ocean caves and the ancient seaport of Acco – including the Templar Tunnels and Crusader-era castle. The tour starts in the morning at our Tel Aviv hotel and returns to Tel Aviv that evening in time for connecting flights back to North America or on to Eilat. The cost of the Acco & Rosh Hanikrah Day Tour is \$100 per person, and it covers all transportation and touring costs. Lunch is not included.

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### **Eilat & Petra Extension (Optional)**

Conclude your stay at the Red Sea resort city of Eilat (Day #11-12) – with the option to visit Petra, Jordan's wonder of the world. The package includes two nights at a resort hotel with breakfast daily, round-trip domestic flights, and all airport transfers. The Eilat extension is designed as a vacation package and is not guided. The guided day tour of Petra in Jordan costs an additional \$375 per person. It includes round-trip transfers, entrance fees, border/visa fees (subject to change), tips, and lunch (not kosher).

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### **DAY 10 > SATURDAY: Depart for Eilat**

- Evening: Travel on a domestic flight to Eilat
- Arrive at Eilat Airport and transfer to our resort accommodations on the Red Sea

**Meals Included: Breakfast & Lunch**

**OVERNIGHT: Herods Palace, Eilat | Classic & Premium**

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## DAY 11 > SUNDAY: Optional Petra Tour

- Option #1: Relaxed day to enjoy Eilat and the Red Sea
- Option #2: Guided day tour of Petra including lunch (not kosher)

**Meals Included: Breakfast**

**OVERNIGHT: Herods Palace, Eilat | Classic & Premium**

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## DAY 12 > MONDAY: Red Sea Relaxation

- Relaxed day to enjoy Eilat and the Red Sea  
*Check-out is at 11:00am, however, guests will retain access to hotel facilities all day*
- Transfer from the hotel to the Eilat Airport for a domestic flight to Ben Gurion Airport\*  
*Accommodations are not included tonight unless otherwise requested (group rates available)*

**Meals Included: Breakfast**