

Itinerary – Israel Trip

(Gilad Suffrin will be our Private Israeli Guide from May 1 through May 8)

(Private Jordanian Guide to Petra on May 9)

Friday, April 29 - Arrive - On our Own

✚ **Ben Gurion Airport** - Take Taxi to Hotel (Dan Panorama)

Optional Activities on our own:

✚ **Mediterranean Sea** - Spend Time on the beach across the street from hotel or in hotel pool.

✚ **Nachalat Benyamin Market & Carmel Market** – Outdoor Market & Fair- closes at 5pm

✚ **Jaffa (Yaffo, Joppa)** - Walk to the old city and explore the alleys of the ancient town

✚ Overnight in Tel Aviv (Dan Panorama)

Saturday, April 30 - On our Own - R&R Day

Optional Activities on our own:

✚ **Jaffa (Yaffo, Joppa)** - Walk to the old city and tour the alleys of the ancient town built of sandstone, with shops, restaurants, art galleries and walk down to the port.

✚ **Mediterranean Sea** - Spend Time on the beach across the street from hotel

✚ **Neve Tzedek** - Walk through the old charming neighborhood close to hotel.

✚ Overnight in Tel Aviv (Dan Panorama)

Sunday, May 1 - Drive from Tel Aviv to Haifa

✚ **Caesarea Maritima** – Remains and excavations of city built by Herod the Great with one of the biggest ports in the Mediterranean, aqueducts, stadiums, ruins

✚ **Megiddo** – Ruins and excavations of King Solomon's capital of the north and the future Armageddon, with 30 levels of living since 3200 B.C.E. Explore tunnels and water system

✚ **Akko (Acre)**– Remains and excavations of the Crusader-city and now an Arab town. Walk on the ramparts of the city walls and explore the subterranean world of a Crusader Fortress.

✚ **Bahai gardens in Haifa** - View the outstanding hillside gardens and take in the huge panorama of Haifa bay.

✚ Overnight in Haifa (Dan Panorama)

Monday, May 2 - Drive from Haifa to Tiberias

✚ **Tzipori (Sepphoris)** Remains of the ancient rich town with mosaic floors, residence of the Mishna scholars (200 C.E.).

✚ **Nazareth** - the various sites in Jesus' hometown – Church of the Annunciation, Joseph's house, Mary's spring.

✚ **Sea of Galilee (Lake Kinneret) sites:**

✚ **Capernaum** - Peter's House and the ancient synagogue,

✚ **Tabgha** - Multiplication of the Loaves church

✚ **Mount of Beatitudes.** – Primacy church & Sermon on the Mount

✚ Overnight in Tiberias (Rimonim Galei Kennereth)

Tuesday, May 3 - Sea of Galilee Area

- ✚ [Sea of Galilee \(Lake Kinneret\)](#) - Boat Ride on the Sea of Galilee.
- ✚ [Tzfat \(Safed\)](#) - Walk the alleys of the old Kabbalah town, visiting unique synagogues, artist quarter, meeting local residents.
- ✚ [Jordan River Rafting](#) (whitewater OR peaceful rafting)
- ✚ [Kinneret Hiking and Swimming](#) – In local streams going into the Sea of Galilee
- ✚ Overnight in Tiberias (Rimonim Galei Kennereth)

Wednesday, May 4 - Drive from Tiberias to Golan Heights to Jerusalem

- ✚ [Golan Heights](#) - ATV/jeeps ride into volcanoes and hills by the Syrian border.
- ✚ [Golan Heights Bunker](#) -Take the view of Syria from a bunker on top of one of the volcanoes and discuss prospects of peace with Syria.
- ✚ [Golan Heights wineries](#) – Tour and tastings
- ✚ [Bet Shean \(Scythopolis\)](#) - The most well preserved and expansive ancient Roman city in Israel. Understand Roman everyday life through its various facilities.
- ✚ [Jordan Valley](#) - Drive to Jerusalem
- ✚ Overnight in Jerusalem (Harmony)

Thursday, May 5 - Jerusalem Area

- ✚ [Mount of Olives](#) - View Jerusalem from the most beautiful point
- ✚ [City of David](#) - The foundation of an Israelite capital and a holy center - understand King David's mind while viewing the, walking in the underground tunnels of the immense water system and the wet [Hezekiah's Tunnel](#) down to the newly excavated [Siloam pool](#).
- ✚ [Western Wall Tunnels](#).- Descend to the foundations of the second temple
- ✚ [Burnt House](#) and the [Herodian Quarter](#) - Experience the story of the destruction of the Jewish city.
- ✚ [Church of the Holy Sepulcher](#) – [Via Dolorosa](#) – site of Jesus' crucifixion and burial – understand the circumstances of his end.
- ✚ [Temple Mount](#) - View from a high point and learn the making of it into a Moslem holy site.
- ✚ [The Old City](#) - Experience colors, sounds and smells of the [Arab](#) and [Crusader](#) markets and walk into the [Jewish Quarter](#). View the old city from various rooftops.
- ✚ [Yad Vashem](#) - Visit The Holocaust Museum
- ✚ Overnight in Jerusalem (Harmony)

Friday, May 6 - Jerusalem Area

- ✚ [Herodium](#) - The incredible artificial mountain built by King Herod and where his tomb was found recently.
- ✚ [Ein Kerem](#) – The birth place of John the Baptist and an extremely pictorial neighborhood with many interesting stories.
- ✚ [Sataf](#) – a place in the mountains where they restored ancient agriculture - see the springs and crawl into a cave in which one of them flows.
- ✚ [Mahane Yehuda Market](#) Large indoor/outdoor market in its busiest time of the week.
- ✚ Overnight in Jerusalem (Harmony)

Saturday, May 7 - Dead Sea Area

- ✚ **Qumran** One of the earliest communities of hermits, Jews of the 2nd temple time, who retreated into the desert to live a pure and simple life. Location of the Dead Sea Scrolls
- ✚ **Masada** - One mighty rock, a great Jewish king, a group of zealots, a Roman invasion, an amazing story and a lot of question marks.
- ✚ **Ein Gedi** – Oasis - Walk through a mixture of green, brown, blue and some unique animals. Take showers and dips at the waterfalls and pools.
- ✚ **Dead Sea** - Lose all sense of gravity while floating on the heavy water and smearing yourself in black mud.
- ✚ Overnight in Jerusalem (Harmony)

Sunday, May 8 - Drive from Jerusalem through the Negev Desert to Eilat

- ✚ **Judean Hills** - The story of Samson and the tribe of Dan told at the beautiful landscape of the where he killed the lion.
- ✚ **Tel Maresha and Beit Guvrin** - Explore the amazing underground excavations and witness the amazing mixture of ethnic groups that influenced each other 2200 years ago.
- ✚ **Ramon Crater (Makhtesh Ramon)** - Largest volcano in Israel
- ✚ Overnight in Eilat (Dan Panorama)

Monday, May 9 - Day trip to Petra

- ✚ **Petra, Jordan** – Get picked up at hotel by guide and cross Jordan border and then on to Petra
- ✚ **Aqqaba, Jordan** – on return trip stop off at Arab Market
- ✚ Overnight in Eilat (Dan Panorama)

Tuesday, May 10 (Independence Day) – On our Own - R&R in Eilat

Optional Activities on our own:

- ✚ **Eilat Beaches**
- ✚ **Underwater Observatory/Reefs, Boat Tours**
- ✚ **Optional Tours to surrounding desert & mountain areas**
- ✚ **Shopping, etc.**
- ✚ Overnight in Eilat (Dan Panorama)

Wednesday, May 11 – On our Own – Return to Tel Aviv

- ✚ **Eilat Airport** – Return Flight to Tel Aviv (need to arrive 60 minutes before flight)
- ✚ **SDE DOV or Ben Gurion Airport** - Arrive in Tel Aviv
- ✚ **Tel Aviv** – On our Own – Last minute shopping & sightseeing
- ✚ **Ben Gurion Airport** – Flights home (need to arrive 3 hours before flight)