

Conservative Synagogue Sample Itinerary

Sample Israel Trip Itinerary

Winter

Sunday, December 1



Enroute to Israel

Today, we depart Har Zion at 7:45 am.

Leave Newark on board our overnight flight for Israel.

Overnight, Enroute.

Monday, December 2



Caesarea



Haifa



Bahai Temple, Haifa



6th Night of Chanukah

Arrival –Bruchim Habaim



- Israel Map

Upon our morning arrival to Ben Gurion Airport at 6:50 am on El Al Flight 028, we will be met and assisted to our guide and bus.

Visit **Caesarea**, capital of Judea under the Romans. See the excavations of the Crusader city and the Roman port, aqueduct and the amphitheatre that has been restored to its former glory as a concert venue.

Next we'll begin learning about innovation in Israel with a visit to **Source** in Tiryat HaCarmel. Like many successful Israeli startups, **Source** traces its beginnings to the Israel Defense Forces. While serving as a combat soldier in an elite IDF unit, Yoki Gill, founder and CEO of Source learned how to sew to modify his personal equipment. His enhancements were so successful that he was soon enhancing others' gear. Today Source is a leading producer of hydration

reservoirs chosen by elite extreme sports athletes, everyday mountain bikers and the military forces of a number of nations including the United States Marine Corps. Source's hydration bladders have also been chosen by both North Face and Deuter packs for their hydration packs.

Lunch in Shoresh - Tirat Hakarmel.

Before reaching our hotel situated on top of the Carmel Mountain, you will drive past the impressive **Bahai Temple** and its impressive gardens.

Check into our hotel and enjoy a bit of relaxation after a long flight and day of touring.

This evening, we will light the candles for Chanukah for the **6th night of Chanukah**, followed by orientation and **welcome dinner** at our hotel.

Overnight, Dan Carmel, Haifa (B, L, D)

Tuesday, December 3



Safed Synagogue



Oz 77

Upper Galilee - Safed/ Golan Heights

Enjoy a fantastic Israeli Buffet Breakfast.

Depart our hotel at 8:30 am.

Proceed north to the Orthodox community of **Safed**, the center of Jewish mysticism (kabala), where you will visit the **Joseph Caro and Ha' Ari synagogues**, the most important synagogues in the city and stroll down the famous **Artists quarter**.

Travel to the **Golan Heights**, one of Israel's most beautiful and controversial regions. Discover first-hand the strategic importance of the area as you climb the Heights and "capture" a former Syrian bunker, affording you a bird's-eye view of Israel's expansive Hula Valley below. Continue to **Oz 77**, a battle heritage site in Kibbutz Elrom near the Valley of the Tears.

This afternoon, there will be **2 options**:

1. Visit to **Olive Oil Factory** (3:30 pm) for a tour.
2. Visit the **Golan Heights Winery** for a special VIP tasting 3:30 pm.

On our way back from the Golan, we will drive in Haifa and see all of the Christmas lights illuminating the beautiful city.

Tonight, we will light the Chanukah candles together at our hotel.

This evening will be on our own – As Haifa has a large Christian community, you may wish to experience the festivities of the Christmas Holiday in Haifa.

Overnight, Dan Carmel, Haifa (B)

Wednesday, December 4



Yardenit



Haifa to Jerusalem

Buses depart the hotel at 8:30 am.

8:30-9:30 Begin the day with a walking tour of the **Wadi Nisnas** neighborhood, a picturesque Christian-Arab neighborhood that hosts an annual public art show.

Continue to the **Amal School** in Safed. This school is a network of 128 schools in Israel, including high schools, junior high schools and colleges, with a total enrollment of over 40,000 students. Amal provides an educational-academic framework with an emphasis on technology, the sciences and the arts for all strata of the population.

We will have lunch at the Amal School.

2:30 pm - Visit **Yardenit** for a Jordan baptism along the **Jordan River** for our guests from the Paper Clip Project.

Continue to Jerusalem via the Jordan River Valley. Stop at Mt Scopus for **Shehechyanu**.

Celebrate the end of Chanukah together with candle lighting at the hotel. Dinner on own this evening.

** As this evening is Christmas Eve, you may wish to explore the Old City of Jerusalem on your own to experience the Christmas Eve festivities in Jerusalem such as Caroling/Mass at the Notre Dame Center.

Overnight, Mamilla/Dan Panorama, Jerusalem (B, L)

Thursday, December 5



City of David

Jerusalem – Old City – Our Biblical History

Buses depart the hotel at 8:15 am.

Proceed to the ancient **Ir David (9:10 +9:20 am)** to explore the recently excavated fortresses and passageways and relive King David's conquest of the Jebusite city.

Continue to the **Kotel** and **Davidson Center** to celebrate **B'nai Mitzvah (12 pm)** with a ceremony at Robinson's Arch with Rabbi Rosenberg officiating. - - - Parsha - Vayigash.

Free time for shopping or to explore the Old City.

Enjoy dinner and celebration for the B'nai Mitzvah today together at **Olive and Fish** at 7 pm.

Overnight, Mamilla/Dan Panorama, Jerusalem (B, D)

Friday, December 6



Yad Vashem



Machane Yehuda

Jerusalem – New City – Our Present Realities

Buses depart hotel at 8:30 am.

This morning, visit the **Yad Vashem** holocaust memorial and museum (9 am) where we can walk through the **Children's Pavilion**, visit the museum, and walk down the Avenue of the Righteous. We will have a Yizkor service there. If there are children under 10 they will have the opportunity to watch a movie about Paper Clips. Afterwards, we will have a ceremony (11 am) at Yad Vashem in honor of the Paper Clips Project.

Continue on to **Mount Herzl**, a military cemetery honoring Theodore Herzl. It is the burial site of many great Israeli leaders including Yitzhak Rabin and Golda Meir. Here, we will see the gravesite of Michael Levin.

Enjoy lunch on your own at **Machaneh Yehuda**, Israel's largest outdoor market, and watch as everyone prepares for Shabbat.

Kabbalat Shabbat at the *Kotel* at 4:30 pm.

Shabbat dinner at our hotel in a private room at Mamilla at 7:30 pm.

Overnight, Mamilla/ Dan Panorama, Jerusalem (B ,D)

Saturday, December 7



Jerusalem

Jerusalem – Shabbat Shalom

Explore Shabbat together as a congregation.

Optional walking tours of Jerusalem.

Walk through the Old City, down the **Via Dolorosa** leading to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.

OR

Stroll through the Yemen Moshe neighborhood and Montefiore Windmill.

Havdala on the Mamilla Hotel roof top 5:30-6 pm.

At leisure to explore Jerusalem Night Life – Suggestion: Stroll and shop at Ben Yehuda Street.

Overnight, Mamilla/Dan Panorama, Jerusalem (B)

Sunday, December 8



Massada

Massada/Dead Sea or Beit Guvrin/Winery

Buses depart hotels this morning at 8:30 am.

Option 1 –

This morning, visit **Massada**, sight of the Zealots last stand against the Romans in 73 C.E. You'll take a cable car ride to the top where you can explore the ancient Herodian palaces and synagogue.

Continue to the **Dead Sea** where we can float in the buoyant water and enjoy **lunch** at a Dead Sea hotel.

This afternoon, enjoy an optional hike at **Ein Gedi**.

Option 2 -

Group will visit **Beit Guvrin National Park**. Afterwards, enjoy lunch at a **local winery**. Continue to the **Schechter Institute** in Jerusalem, where Har Zion Temple built the Institute's first building.

Return to our hotel in Jerusalem. Dinner on own this evening.

Overnight, Mamilla/Dan Panorama, Jerusalem (B, L)

Monday, December 9



Tel Aviv

Jerusalem to Tel Aviv

Depart the hotel at 9:30 am.

Visit the **Hazor Air Force Base**, where we will have a special visit.

Lunch en route on own.

This afternoon, stop at **Sderot**, seeing Gaza from Black Arrow Memorial, which is a few minutes away from Gaza. Tour of Sderot and the Police Station's makeshift museum.

Continue our trip to bustling **Tel Aviv – The White City** that never sleeps.

Overnight, Royal Beach/Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv (B)

Tuesday, December 10



Jaffa



Carmel Market

Tel Aviv – The city that never sleeps!!

Weather permitting, morning tefillot on the beach.
Buses depart hotel at 8:30 am.

This morning starts your visit of modern Tel Aviv with a tour of **Independence Hall** (9 am), where David Ben Gurion proclaimed the foundation of the **State of Israel** on May 14, 1948.

Continue to the **Palmach Museum** (11:00 + 11:30 +12:00). The aim of the museum is to give a sense of the period, which led to the founding of the State of Israel. Appropriately, the main exhibit takes place underground in a series of chambers.

Enjoy shopping on **Shenkin Street**, one of the most popular and lively streets in Tel Aviv, and at the **Carmel Market**. Shenkin is full of great shops and cafés.

Continue to **Nachalat Binyamin**, the pedestrian street of the city with musicians, handmade jewelry, and artifacts.

Time permitting, tour the **Old Port of Jaffa**, a colorful hub of artists' quarters, studios and art galleries. Shops catering for Judaica, archaeology, jewelry and art line its narrow alleys, all named after the signs of the Zodiac.

Enjoy the evening on your own.

Overnight, Royal Beach/Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv (B)

Wednesday, December 11



Ayalon Institute



Tel Aviv – New Year's Eve

Depart the hotel at 8:30 am this morning.

This morning, visit **Rabin Square**.

Continue to Rechovot for a visit to **Ayalon Institute (10:30 and 10:45)**, an underground ammunitions factory from the time when the British occupied the land.

Continue to the **Israel Dog Center for the Blind** (1:30 pm) to end about 3:00 pm. The mission of the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind is to improve the quality of life of blind people by providing them with safe mobility, independence and self-confidence through the faithful assistance of guide dogs.

Dinner this evening at **Punch Line restaurant** (9 pm).

Overnight, Royal Beach/Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv (B, D)

Thursday, December 12

Tel Aviv

Enjoy a relaxing last Israeli Breakfast thinking about your last 10 days' of incredible memories.

There will be 2 options for this day:

1. Enjoy a bike tour or segway tour (additional cost applies) in Tel Aviv.
2. Enjoy a day at leisure to relax and enjoy some last minute shopping.

Return to your hotel for last minute packing and checking out.

7:00 pm Dinner at Maganda.

Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our flight back to the U.S on El Al Flight 027 at 12:30 am (January 2). **(B, D)**

Friday, December 13

Arrive to the U.S.A.

Early Morning arrival to Newark at 6 am.

***Note: Itinerary is subject to change
Meals included as indicated: B- Breakfast; L-Lunch; D-Dinner*