

*WELCOME*  
**ברוכים הבאים**

**11 DAY | WOMEN'S TOUR TO ISRAEL**

11 DAYS | 9 NIGHTS

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**DAY ONE: Sunday**

*DEPARTURE*

- Depart the U.S.A.

**Overnight: Flight**

**DAY TWO: Monday**

*ARRIVAL*

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by our representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Drive through **Tel Aviv**, known as the “city that never sleeps” and pass by centers of culture and recreation such as the Habima Theater, sprawling beaches, Dizengoff Street and Rabin Square.
- Check into the hotel.
- **Welcome Dinner** in the elegant atmosphere at **Liliot** with their attractive menu mixing Mediterranean and Californian cuisine. *Liliot works together with the Elem association, giving work to youth with difficulties and donating part of their profits to the association.*

**Overnight: Tel Aviv**

**DAY THREE: Tuesday**

***TEL AVIV: THE FIRST HEBREW CITY***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Israel in the Mid-East Arena*: Dialogue with **Col. (Ret.) Miri Eisin**, former advisor on the foreign media to the Prime Minister.
- Visit to **Independence Hall**, site of David Ben Gurion's monumental proclamation of the State of Israel in May 1948.
- Introduction to Israeli Galleries in Tel Aviv with journalist and scholar, **Vardit Gross**, followed by a visit to prominent **Art Galleries** and meetings with some Israeli artists.
- Visit the **Nachalat Binyamin** pedestrian mall, with its restored buildings and sidewalk artists, and continue onto the colorful Carmel Market and then to Shenkin, one of Israel's most avant-garde streets and enjoy lunch on your own.
- Return to the hotel.
- Visit the **Old City of Jaffa** and stroll through the renovated artists' colony and the ancient port.
- Guided walk through the newly renovated and world-renowned **Jaffa Flea Market - Shuk Hapishpishim**.
- Return to the hotel.
- Enjoy dinner on your own in **Tel Aviv**, at a choice of a wide array of restaurants from the Tel Aviv Port to Jaffa, and downtown Tel Aviv.

**Overnight: Tel Aviv**

**DAY FOUR: Wednesday**

***ALONG THE COAST***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel and drive north via the coastal plain to **Caesarea**, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities during the Roman Period; visit the Herodian Theater and new excavations along the Mediterranean shore concluding with a visit to the 900-year-old crusader city built on the same site.
- Visit a **Druse** village in the Carmel Mountains for a window into the unique world of the Israeli Druse community; meet with **Druse Women** for an insight to their lives with a special cooking workshop and **Home Hospitality Lunch**.
- Continue to the Upper Galilee and explore **Safed**, a center of Jewish mysticism for hundreds of years, and a contemporary artists' colony, including:
  - Guided visits to the **Ari, Caro** or **Abuhav Synagogues** with their great stories and mystical messages.
  - Visit the **Cana'an Gallery** in Safed for a glimpse at the world of mystical art and a weaving workshop and meet owner and artist **Orna First**.
  - A stroll through the quaint **Art Galleries** and shop in the artists' colony.
- Drive to your spa resort in Rosh Pina and check in.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.

**Overnight: Mizpe Hayamim, Rosh Pina**

**DAY FIVE: Thursday**

***NATURE AND SECURITY***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- **Jeep** tour climbing to the **Golan Heights** in the footsteps of IDF soldiers and their battles in the Six Day War, to enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.
- Walk through the **Tel Dan Nature Reserve** located on the largest tributary of the Jordan River and the Biblical settlement of Dan.
- Lunch on own, en route.
- Visit the **Hula Nature Reserve** and the Ophoria Interactive Experience, connecting birds, water and the Zionist endeavor.
- Free time to enjoy hotel facilities.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.

**Overnight: Mizpe Hayamim, Rosh Pina**

**DAY SIX: Friday**

***DRIVING THE RIFT***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel
- *From Rachel to Naomi Shemer*: Stop at the **Kinneret Cemetery** and hear about the dreams of the early Zionist pioneers and the poets that put it into words.
- Drive southwards along the **Jordan Rift Valley**.
- Ascend to Jerusalem.
- **Welcome to Jerusalem – ברוכים הבאים**: Enter the vibrant and colourful 3,000-year-old city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- Stop at **Mount Scopus** to say the traditional *shehechyanu* blessing.
- Check into the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** services at a local synagogue or at the Kotel.
- **Festive Shabbat Dinner** at the hotel.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**DAY SEVEN: Saturday**

***SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Optional* Shabbat morning services.
- Lunch on your own.
- Visit the newly renovated **Israel Museum**, one of the most creative and innovative museums in the world now with many new displays and showrooms holding a wide collection, concluding with a visit to the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Shrine of the Book and the newly restored Second Temple Period Model of Jerusalem.
- *Ben Kodesh Lechol*: **Havdallah** overlooking the Old City.
- Free time in the **Mamilla** Pedestrian Arcade, a new and contemporary shopping area, located outside the Jaffa Gate of the Old City, with dinner on own.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**DAY EIGHT: Sunday**

***THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Challenges and Triumphs of Religious Pluralism and Social Justice in Israel*: Dialogue with **Anat Hoffman**, the Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC).
- Walking tour through the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City of Jerusalem, for guided visits to some of the sites excavated over the past 30 years, including:
  - The **Cardo**, a Byzantine street that is now the world's oldest shopping arcade.
  - The **Hurva Square**, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.
- Lunch on own in the Jewish Quarter.
  - Guided visit to the **Davidson Archaeological Park** with a special visit to the Davidson Center, to view the new presentation of *Life During the Time of the Temple*, followed by a guided visit to the Southern Wall Excavations.
  - The **Kotel** (Western Wall).

***First-Timers***

- Visit the **Western Wall Tunnel**, the underground continuation of the Western Wall along the Temple Mount.

***Returnees***

- Guided visit to the four **Sephardi Synagogues**, which reflect the richness and diversity of Jewish Diaspora traditions.

***All***

- Return to the hotel for some leisure time.
- *Being a Journalist in Israel*: Dinner and dialogue with **Linda Gradstein** from **NPR**.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**DAY NINE: Monday**

***THE DEAD SEA BASIN***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Descend to the **Dead Sea Basin** and ascend the cable car to **Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defence and its current significance in modern Israel.
- Bathe in the relaxing and healthy sulphur springs at a **Dead Sea Resort Hotel** and float in the Dead Sea, including **lunch** at the hotel.

***Option 1***

- **Ein Bokek** - Just behind the hotels of Ein Bokek on the Southern Dead Sea, in the heart of the Desert Mountains is a small Garden of Eden with a flowing spring surrounded by pools and trees.

***Option 2***

- Enjoy spa treatments at the hotel (*on own account*).

***Both Options***

- Return to Jerusalem.
- *Living as a Jewish woman in a modern world:* Dialogue with **Prof. Tova Hartman** of Hebrew University.
- Enjoy dinner on your own in **Jerusalem**, at a choice of a wide array of restaurants.
- *Optional: **The Night Spectacular*** at the **Tower of David Museum**: The walls of the Citadel serve as a stage for a nighttime show which is a celebration of sight and sound, depicting the story of Jerusalem.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**DAY TEN: Tuesday**

***MEMORY AND RENEWAL***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *The Memory of the Holocaust in Contemporary Israeli Society*: Dialogue with Holocaust scholar, **Dr. Rachel Korazim**.
- Guided visit through the newly renovated **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:
  - The **Avenue of the Righteous**
  - The new **Historical Museum**
  - The **Children's Memorial**
  - The **Art Museum**
  - A concluding **Memorial Service**
- Experience the sites, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the **Machaneh Yehuda** Market with **Chef Tali Freedman**, followed by a **Group Cooking Workshop**.
- Return to the hotel and time to pack and freshen up.
- Late check-out and proceed to your **Festive Farewell Dinner**.
- Transfer to the airport for your departure flight to the U.S.A.

**Overnight: Flight**

**DAY ELEVEN: Wednesday**

***RETURN***

- Arrive in the U.S.A.