



PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE BNAI MITZVAH TRIP TO ISRAEL

LED BY RABBIS NEIL ZUCKERMAN AND BRADLEY SOLMSEN
CO-CHAIRS: LAUREN ERBST AND GLEN KOPP

Dec 21, 2024 - Dec 31, 2024



DESTINATION
ISRAEL



WHO'S GOING
FAMILIES



TRIP TYPE
BNAI MITZVAH



DURATION
11 DAYS



GROUP SIZE
60+



PRICE
FROM \$6,700

PASSIONATE **JEWISH JOURNEYS**

EDUCATIONAL & EXPERIENTIAL JOURNEYS CREATED WITH YOU IN MIND.

NYC | TLV | PRG | JHB | J2ADVENTURES.COM



PROPOSAL DATE
JANUARY 22, 2024

 Program is subject to change.

YOUR JOURNEY

J² crafts journeys of inspiration, education, and Jewish connections to Israel and worldwide. We are guided by a simple but powerful concept: No two trips are the same; each experience should be personal, meaningful, and backed by superb service. Travel is not just about the places you visit, but the connections you make along the way.

-  Archaeology
-  Cooking Workshop
-  Food Tasting Tour
-  Family Friendly
-  Active
-  Local Specialists
-  Street Food
-  Art & Culture
-  Nature Walks



PROGRAM ITINERARY

DAY 1

ON OUR WAY

Sat. Dec 21, 2024

- Depart the US.

🌙 Overnight: Flight

DAY 2

WELCOME TO ISRAEL

Sun. Dec 22, 2024

- Arrive at Ben-Gurion International Airport.
- Meet your J² Expert Educators who will accompany you on this journey of education and inspiration.
- Check into the hotel.
- Opening dinner with staff and clergy.

🌙 Overnight: Tel Aviv 🍴 Meals: Dinner

DAY 3

THE FIRST HEBREW CITY

Mon. Dec 23, 2024

- Drive to the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv and to our journey in Israel.
- Explore the latest street art and find out what it reveals about life, ideas, and ideology in Israel's cultural capital.
- Visit the Ayalon Institute near Rehovot and its secret ammunition factory.
- Israel on a Plate: If you want to learn how to cook like an Israeli, this cooking workshop at The Cooking Experience is the real deal. In a unique Ottoman-era manor house graced with Italian marble pillars and painted floors, learn the secrets of the Israeli kitchen. Guided by an expert chef, work together to create a variety of culinary selections, and then savor the results for dinner.

🌙 Overnight: Tel Aviv 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4

LIVING ON THE EDGE

Tue. Dec 24, 2024

- The Aftermath of October 7: Morning briefing with your tour educators.
- Visit Moshav Netiv Ha'asarah, located on Israel's border with the Gaza Strip and meet a resident.
- Embark on a sensory-filled culinary tour in Sderot – a delightful journey through the heart of the city. Led by a captivating local guide, this unique experience combines immersive tastings with insights into the personal and communal resilience of Sderot's residents.

- Visit the Salad Trail, a unique touch-and-taste farm in the northern Negev. The tour gives a hands-on display of agricultural high-tech, and a crash course in environmental techniques.
- Return to Tel Aviv.

🌙 Overnight: Tel Aviv 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5

LEND A HAND

Wed. Dec 25, 2024

- Check out of the hotel.
- Israeli agriculture is a strategic need and a powerful symbol of the Zionist story. Volunteer with Leket, an NGO focusing on providing food to Israel's weakest populations.
- Visit an IDF army base, including dialogue with soldiers and officers.
- Drive to Jerusalem.
- A First Look at the Holy City: Over the centuries, many have been moved and awed by their first sight of Jerusalem. We'll celebrate our arrival with a special ceremony and the traditional "Shehechyanu" blessing of thanksgiving with a stunning view of the Old City walls.
- Check into the hotel and light Hanukkah candles.
- Join Professor Reuven Hazan of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University for an introduction into Israel's turbulent political scene (a separate activity for younger kids will be arranged at the same time).

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6

KOL YISRAEL AREVIM ZEH BAZEH

Thu. Dec 26, 2024

- Enter the Old City of Jerusalem.
- Enjoy a Bnai Mitzvah ceremony at the stairs of the Huldah Gates, which once led into the Temple Mount.
- Tour the Jerusalem Archaeological Park, including the Davidson Center and Robinson's Arch.
- Tour Jerusalem's Old City and the Jewish Quarter.
- Free time for lunch and shopping at Hurva Square, the hub of the modern-day Jewish Quarter.
- A Thread of Love: Help disabled children celebrate their Bnai Mitzvah through a Tikkun Olam activity with the Masorti (Conservative) Movement in Israel. We'll learn how to tie tzitzit (tassles) which will be thread into the talitot (prayer shawls) worn by young Jews with disabilities as they are called to the Torah. We'll also hear about the Masorti movement's inspiring education and Jewish enrichment programs for the disabled and participate in an interactive workshop about living with limitations.
- We're dancing in the streets! Celebrate a new age for the Jewish people. Join Guru Zuzu – on a magical mystery tour of Jerusalem's Mamila Boulevard – a combination of story, music, and dance. Get into a party mood.
- Special Bnai Mitzvah celebration dinner and party and Hannukah candle lighting.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7

DIGGING FOR ROOTS

Fri. Dec 27, 2024

- Icebreakers with teens from NOAM, the Masorti youth movement, who will join you for the dig at Beit Guvrin.
- Take part in an interactive archeological dig geared to all ages at the Beit Guvrin Caves.
- Return to the hotel to prepare for Shabbat.
- Light Shabbat and Hanukkah candles.
- The City of Shabbat: Join Jerusalem in welcoming the Sabbath, the high point of the Jewish week, with Kabbalat Shabbat services.
- Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

Sat. Dec 28, 2024

- Optional: Shabbat morning services at a local Jerusalem synagogue.
- Lunch at the hotel.
- Optional: Afternoon walking tours:
 - The Old City Ramparts: Stroll along the ancient outer walls for a bird's-eye view of the remarkably diverse yet closely bound communities of Jerusalem's Old City.
 - A Mountain Holy to Many: Experience the complexity of inter-religious relations on Mount Zion. We'll first visit the Upper Room. It is venerated by Christians as the location of Jesus' Last Supper but was, for a period, converted into a mosque. In a room directly below, Jews pray at the place believed to be King David's Tomb.
- Mark the end of Shabbat with a communal Havdalah ceremony overlooking the Old City followed by Hanukkah candle lighting.
- Take an evening tour through the Jerusalem neighborhoods to experience the Festival of Lights.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 9

THE DEAD SEA BASIN

Sun. Dec 29, 2024

- Climb via the Snake Path OR take the cable car to the top of Masada.
- Float on the Dead Sea and enjoy a buffet lunch at the hotel.
- Return to the hotel for Hanukkah candle lighting.



- Dialogue with journalist Haviv Rettig Gur, political correspondent and analyst for The Times of Israel (a separate activity for younger kids will be arranged at the same time).

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 10

LEAVING A MARK

Mon. Dec 30, 2024

- Adults and children over 10: Visit Yad Vashem. Your guided tour will include:
 - The Children's Memorial.
 - The Historical Museum.
 - The Avenue of the Righteous.
- Children's program: The Bloomfield Science Museum.
- Mount Herzl is Israel's central military cemetery and hosts the graves of the leaders of the nation. Visit Mount Herzl and contend with the human price paid by Israeli families and the country in the Israel-Hamas War.
- Experience the sights, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the Mahane Yehuda open-air market.
- Visit Pantry Packers, where you will pack food for Israel's poorest families.
- Late check out.
- Farewell dinner.
- Transfer to Ben-Gurion International Airport for your flight back to the US.

🌙 Overnight: Flight 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 11

HOME

Tue. Dec 31, 2024

- Arrive in the US.



RATES & LODGING

| PARTICIPANTS | COST P/P IN DOUBLE ROOM | COST P/P IN SINGLE ROOM | CHILD AS 3RD (REDUCTION) |
|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 60+ | \$6,700 | \$9,255 | -\$1,675 |

TEL AVIV: DAN TEL AVIV HOTEL

🕒 Nights: 3

🛏 Room Category: Executive

JERUSALEM: THE INBAL

🕒 Nights: 5 +LCO

🛏 Room Category: Deluxe



WHAT TO EXPECT

🌟 Included

- 8 nights' accommodations. Late check out on the day of departure is included.
- 9 days of touring with 2 J² Expert Educators (guides), 9 days of touring in 2 luxury, air-conditioned buses.
- Group arrival transfers & assistance at the airport.
- Group departure transfer & assistance at the airport.
- Daily breakfast, 3 lunches & 5 dinners.
- 2 security guards throughout the trip.
- Gratuities: J² Expert Educators, drivers, security guards.
- The J² adventures App available on the App Store & on Google Play (active 7 days before your departure and throughout your trip).
- Water on the bus.
- Porterage at the hotels.
- All site entrance fees & program fees as per your final program.

⚙️ Excluded

- Credit card fees.
- Flights to & from Israel.
- COVID related expenses, including tests.
- Evening transportation when dinner is not included.
- Amendments to the program: In the event that any sites, programs or meals etc. are added to the program, an additional fee may be required.
- Personal extras: Items of personal nature such as laundry, wines, mineral water, beverages, coffee, tea, food other than the table d'hotel menu, passport and visa fees, insurance, and foreign port taxes, unless otherwise specified.
- US and foreign airport taxes, Q fuel surcharge and border taxes when applicable.
- Value Added Tax is currently not applicable to tourists visiting Israel. Should the law change, you will be notified accordingly, and VAT will be added to your final invoice.
- Peace of Mind Travel Protection Program (POM).

📖 The small print

- Please review our terms & conditions (T&C's) or request that we send you our full T&C's. Until you do that, here is the small print, and other stuff you may want to know:
- Validity | All prices quoted are based on exchange rates as of the proposal date and are subject to change without notice. Rates are per person and are based on shared twin room occupancy.
- How to Make a Reservation | The quickest way to make a reservation is to register online or contact us by email. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and American Express credit cards. A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required in order to complete the registration process.
- For any assistance with this registration process or other trip-related queries, please email Customer Care: customer-care@j2adventures.com.
- Payments | The balance of your payment is due 90 days before your trip begins, or as specified in your invoice. You will receive an email reminder 2 weeks before this date. Various payment options are available as follows:
- Credit card | We accept Visa, Mastercard and American Express. Please check with your credit card provider regarding international processing fees. We are unable to process payments of over \$1,000 over the phone. Please submit payment online via a credit card or by wiring funds via your bank.

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