

Temple Beth Ami Israel Tour March 2-13, 2020

Personally led by Rabbi Gary Pokras

Wednesday, March 2: *Depart USA*

United Airlines flight UA 72 from Washington Dulles International Airport to Tel Aviv ETD: 10:30 PM.

Thursday, March 3: *Welcome to Israel!*

4:30 PM Arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport. Meeting and assistance through customs. Transfer to Tel Aviv.

Welcome dinner.

Overnight: Tel Aviv



Friday, March 4: *Tel Aviv*

Breakfast at hotel. Tour of Jaffa old port and artist's colony.

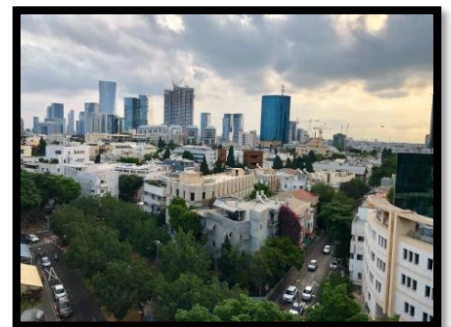
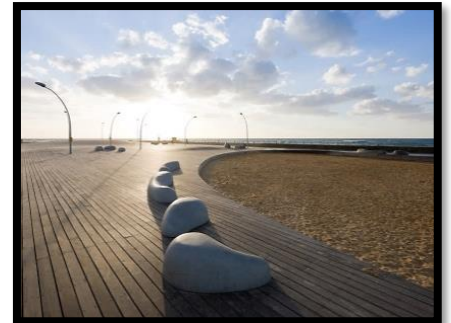
Visit the Palmach Museum, an interactive museum displaying the legacy of the Elite striking force of the Haganah and Israel battle for Independence.

Tour of Tel Aviv, Israel's Metropolis that never stops. In 1909 a handful of Jews living nearby Jaffa, purchased land and converted sand dunes into a city, which became Israel's center of culture and commerce. Stroll through Nachalat Binyamin art and craft market.

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat with Beit Tfila Israeli, joining young Israeli families welcoming the Shabbat.

Shabbat Shalom!

Shabbat Dinner and overnight: Tel Aviv



Saturday, March 5: *Caesarea - Haifa - Rosh Hanikra*

Breakfast at hotel. Depart Tel Aviv, traveling via the coastal highway to Caesarea National Park. Visit the Roman and Crusader city excavations and walk along the Mediterranean coast. Proceed to Haifa to view the Bahai Temple and beautiful gardens, overlooking the bay.

Continue to Rosh Hanikra, descend by cable car to the beautiful white grottos. View Israel Western border.

Dinner and overnight: Ruth hotel, Safed

**Sunday, March 6: *Golan Heights - Mount Bental - Tel Dan - Misgav Am***

Breakfast at hotel. Hike Tel Dan Biblical City and nature reserve. Board our jeeps for an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan Heights. Proceed to Mount Bental for an overview of Israel northern border and Syria.

Drive to Misgav Am for security briefing and meeting with Kibbutz members living on the border line.

Dinner and overnight: Ruth hotel, Safed

**Monday, March 7: *Sefad - Jerusalem***

Breakfast at hotel. Sefad Old City, city of Jewish Kabbalah and mysticism, walk through its cobbled streets, old synagogues and arts galleries.

Drive to Kfar Kedem restored Biblical village; Experience and recreate the day-to-day life of this ancient land. Donkey ride and Biblical activities followed by BBQ lunch.

Drive to Jerusalem. Shehechyanu ceremony on Mount Scopus overlooking the "Golden City".

Overnight: Dan Boutique hotel, Jerusalem



Tuesday, March 8: *Old city of Jerusalem*

Breakfast at hotel. Today we experience the thrill of entering the Old City. Audio-visual visit to Beit Hamikdash at the Davidson Center. Walk to the Western Wall. Guided tour of the Kotel Tunnels, the underground continuation of the Western Wall, along the Temple Mount. Walk along the Via Dolorosa Stations of the Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Walk through the Cardo – the “ancient Mall” of the Old City, see the different quarters.

Afternoon: Tour the City of David from the First Temple time, including Warren Shaft and King Hezekiah water tunnel.

Overnight: Dan Boutique hotel, Jerusalem



Wednesday, March 9: *New City of Jerusalem*

Breakfast at hotel. View the Knesset and the Supreme Court. Guided tour of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial including the Children Pavilion. Special Bnei Mitzvah Twinning project followed by ceremony and certificates presenting.

Visit the new Herzl museum on Mount Herzl, burial place of Israel’s founding fathers and leaders and the site of Jerusalem military cemetery, symbolizing the fulfilment of national aspirations.

Afternoon: Culinary tour of the famous Machne Yehuda Market.

Overnight: Dan Boutique hotel, Jerusalem



Thursday, March 10: *Bnei Mitzvot Service - Archeological dig Mazal Tov Bnai Mitzvot and families!*

Breakfast at hotel. Overlooking Jerusalem Old City, Rabbi Gary Pokras will lead Bnei and Bnot Mitzvah services and ceremonies - A lasting memory you will always treasure.

Drive through Ella Valley where David fought Goliath to Tel Maresha for a most fascinating experience; digging our roots at Beit Guvrin with the guidance of the Archeological Seminars experts. We will learn about past civilizations and visit the Roman Columbarium. Return to Jerusalem.

Overnight: Dan Boutique hotel, Jerusalem



Friday, March 11: *Massada - Ein Gedi - Dead Sea*

Breakfast at hotel. Depart Jerusalem via the Judean Desert and along the Dead Sea shores. View Qumran caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls lay hidden. Ascend by cable car to King Herod's fortress and Jewish Zealots last stronghold. Hike Ein Gedi nature reserve where David hid from Saul; enjoy the unique desert fauna and flora.

Freshen up at Dead Sea, lowest point on earth. Return to Jerusalem.

Kabbalat Shabbat at the Western Wall.

Shabbat dinner and overnight: Dan Boutique hotel, Jerusalem
Shabbat Shalom!

Saturday, March 12: *Shabbat in Jerusalem - Departure*

Breakfast at hotel. Free at leisure in Jerusalem.

Optional on your own: Israel museum and Shrine of the Book, Tower of David museum, Old City Arab Shuk.

Farewell dinner.

Transfer to Ben Gurion airport for your departure home. United Airlines flight 73 to Washington Dulles International Airport ETD: 12:20 AM.

Meeting and assistance.

Sunday, March 13: *Arrival USA*

Shalom Ulehitra'ot

