

# Find your connection to Israel



## ISRAEL TRIP – NOVEMBER 2017

**Monday, November 13th, 2017**

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1:45 PM - Arrival in Israel at **Ben Gurion Airport**.

Drive to **Jerusalem**.

Welcome Ceremony at the **Mount of Olives**.

Visit the **Olive Grove** that is at least a millennium old.

Few places in the world boast such a long history and such a rich multiethnic culture as Jerusalem, a city sacred to Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Visit the **Old City** and see the diversity and history hidden in each of its small alleyways. Visit all four quarters-the Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Armenian quarters each boast distinct cultures, foods, and architectural gems.

Continue on to the **City of David**, pass through the underground tunnels through which the city was conquered and residents fled. Go down to the hidden spring where kings were coronated. Walk in illuminated darkness through the water of **Hezekiah's Tunnel**, where water has flowed since the time of the prophets. Join the mysterious, magical journey between ancient shafts, walls and fortresses in the place where Jerusalem was born.



Go back in time and visit the **Western Wall Tunnels**, access the enclosed 485 meters of the famous retaining wall that served as a support for King Herod's Second Temple expansion. The tunnels run underneath the buildings in Jerusalem's old town, lending insights into the architectural strategies and water collection technologies that enabled the temple's construction.

Check-In to your hotel in Jerusalem and enjoy a well-earned rest after a long day.

## Tuesday, November 14th, 2017

Drive to **Shilo** and see where the spiritual life of the Jewish people was centered before the Temple was built. The city of Shilo held a central place in the history of the Jewish people, housing the Tabernacle for almost 400 years and was the place of pilgrimage for the Children of Israel in Biblical times.

Enjoy the panoramic view and richness of wines at the **Psagot Winery**. The winery will take you through the production stages of the wines and let you sample some of its exquisite flavors.

We will then continue to learn about the area as we visit **Beth-El** and **Sulam Yaakov**.

Ascend **Mount Gerizim**, located on the south side of **Shechem** (also known as Nablus) and see its opposite side on **Mount Ebal**. These hills witnessed the mass ceremony held by Joshua after his entry to **Canaan**, gathering the people between the two facing hills, Gerezim and Ebal, bless the former while cursing the latter.

We will then continue to **Hebron**, located in the **Judean Hills**, site of the oldest Jewish Community in the world. Dating back to Biblical times when Abraham purchased the field as a burial place for his wife Sarah, this continued to be the burial place for Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca and Leah. This was also the place where King David was anointed as King, spending his first seven years as King in Hebron. Today Hebron has a mostly Sunni Muslim population and is the home of about 700 Jews and close to 7,000 Jews in the adjacent community of **Kiryat Arba**.

Return to Jerusalem and enjoy dinner at the hotel.



## Wednesday, November 15th, 2017

Breakfast

Leave Jerusalem and descend to the lowest place in the world. At 428 meters below sea level, the area contains a wealth of eclectic scenery, including rugged canyons, deserts, and many oases of lush green vegetation.

Begin the day at **Ein Gedi** for a short nature hike in the well monitored and preserved nature reserve. See the desert animals, the beautiful waterfalls and the place where David hid from Saul as he was being chased.



Visit the famous mountain of **Masada**, originally built as a fortress by King Herod and now designated as a World Heritage Site. Masada National Park famously provided the setting for a Roman siege of Jewish rebels in 73 CE. The fortress, built atop a plateau in the Judean Desert, includes palaces, granaries, and a synagogue. See the very place where Josephus accounts of the final Jewish struggle against the Romans.

Finally a trip to the Dead Sea wouldn't be complete without an adventure in the water itself. Enjoy a relaxing swim and float in the salty waters of the Dead Sea.

Return to Hotel

Enjoy some free time shopping on **Ben Yehuda Street**.

**Thursday, November 16th, 2017**

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Check out of the Hotel.

Drive to **Yad Vashem** for an unforgettable tour. In the poignant and well curated Museum, Yad Vashem mourns the murder of 6 million Jews and lends visitors insight into the experiences of European Jews before, during, and after World War II. The museum complex includes the main history wing ending in a powerful hall of commemoration, a memorial to children who perished in the Holocaust, and a memorial to the “righteous gentiles,” non-Jews who risked their lives to save their Jewish neighbors.



Following Yad Vashem, head over to **Machane Yehuda**, a.k.a. The Shuk. Enjoy the sites, smell and sounds of the largest market in Jerusalem and one of the most famous in the Middle East. Once a shopping and dining center for the working class, the Shuk has transformed into one of Jerusalem's main cultural centers.

Finally...

## **“HUMANITY DAY” Event with Rabbi Cherki**

Spreading the universal message of the Hebrew nation in the world, involvement of each participant as a leader of his family members and community.

WE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE HAD A MEMORABLE, INSPIRATIONAL AND EXCITING TRIP TO ISRAEL.  
IT HAS BEEN A TRUE PLEASURE TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR ALL OF YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS.  
WHEN YOU RETURN HOME TO ISRAEL AGAIN, THINK OF US. WE WOULD LOVE TO HELP PLAN YOUR TRIP  
AND TAKE CARE OF ALL THE DETAILS SO THAT YOU CAN SIT BACK AND ENJOY.

YOUR STAFF AT ISRAEL CONNECTION,

MICKY KATZBURG & MICHELLE NAFTALI