



**JULY 2011**  
**SHALOM ISRAEL GROUP TOUR**  
**Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Day 1 - Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup>  
**WELCOME TO ISRAEL**

**VIP Arrival**

After landing, a SHALOM ISRAEL TOURS representative will be waiting to welcome you as you exit the plane. Your party will be transported quickly through the airport, to the flight staff passport control, and continue to facilitate luggage identification and handling.

**Ascend to Jerusalem**

As you ascend the mountains into Jerusalem, in a single view you will perceive the both Old City and the expanse of modern Jerusalem. There is no better place to start your adventure.

**Dinner & Orientation**

Enjoy a welcome dinner & orientation with your tour guide and get ready for the experience of a lifetime!

**Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 2 - Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup>  
**JERUSALEMS OLD CITY - THE ETERNAL CITY**

**City of King David**

After breakfast we will embark on a fascinating tour of the City of King David Archeological Park. There you will see over 3.800 years of history, dating back to the time of Abraham, to when the earliest foundations of Jerusalem were first laid. Look at excavations of remains left over from the Second Temple and Byzantine-created walls right outside Hezekiah's Tunnel. Take a journey to some of the latest archaeological digs going on in the area while you are there.

**The Archeology Gardens and the Davidson Center**

Next we will visit The Archeological Gardens and the Davidson Center. Here you can explore the rich and vibrant history of the temple mount, including a recent excavation of seventh century royal palaces, located by the Southern Wall. Unlock the layers of history of the Old City at this center from the time of the Canaanites to the Mameluke period.

**Western Wall Tunnels**

In the evening we'll take your time walking through the Western Wall Tunnels. Enriched with thousands of years of history, these tunnels tell the story of the ancient Jews living during the period of the two temples.



## **The Jewish Quarter**

Steeped in ancient and modern Jewish and cultural history, the Jewish Quarter remains one of the single-most visited spots in Israel. It is the home of the only surviving piece of wall from the Holy Temple, and is surrounded by museums and archeological sites that tell the story of the Jewish people in the area.

## **The Hurva Synagogue**

Visit the Hurva Synagogue in the Jewish Quarter section of the Old City of Jerusalem. Rich in history, the newly rebuilt synagogue in its 19th century style, serves as a reminder to the entire global Jewish population of their enduring strength and capacity to handle adversity.

**Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

## Day 3 – Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> **MASADA & THE DEAD SEA**

### **Masada**

After breakfast we will head south through the Judean Desert to explore Masada's ancient fortification remains, King Herod's palace, the baths, cisterns, and barracks, and the modern Masada museum.

### **Dead Sea**

Enjoy a relaxing, therapeutic day at the Dead Sea, an oasis of warm, buoyant water and mineral-rich mud in the middle of the Judean Wilderness!

### **Ein Gedi National Park**

Visit where [King] David hid from Saul amongst Ein Gedi's rivers, canyons, and rich vegetation. Today, Ein Gedi serves as a modern refuge from city life and from the arid desert. Enjoy this beautiful oasis—hike the clearly marked trail, splash in the waterfalls, and keep your eyes peeled for exotic wildlife!

**Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

## Day 4 – Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> **GUSH ETZION & HEBRON - OUR FORFATHERS**

### **Ammunition Hill**

After breakfast we'll learn about and memorialize the lives of those who fought and died at Ammunition Hill, the site of one of the bloodiest battles fought during the 1967 Six Day War. This interactive museum will enable visitors to relive the events that took place at this former Jordanian guard post, and to explore the heroic lives of the Israeli soldiers who gave their lives for the victory and reunification of the holy city of Jerusalem.



### **Yad Vashem**

Take your time walking through Yad Vashem, where you'll encounter the world's best Holocaust memorial exhibits. The museum will help re-instill in visitors the powerful message that Holocaust museums all over the world embody: Never forget.

### **Machne Yehuda "Shuk" (Market)**

For a true Jerusalem experience, visit "the shuk" on a Thursday or Friday when this outdoor marketplace is abuzz with Jerusalem locals stocking up on produce, fresh meats and fish, and fragrant spices for Shabbat. Meander through the colorful walkways, try your hand at bargaining, and enjoy some world-class falafel!

### **WELCOME SHABBAT AT THE KOTEL (WESTERN WALL)**

Upon reaching the steps leading down to the Kotel, look around and notice people from all corners of the world converging together with one purpose in mind; to welcome the Shabbat at the holiest place on earth.

**Shabbat Dinner & Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 5 – Shabbat July 9<sup>th</sup>

### **SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM**

#### **Shabbat Morning & Lunch**

Enjoy a morning at leisure & lunch at your hotel

#### **A unique Shabbat afternoon tour...**

In the late afternoon we'll explore around the Jewish Quarter, each stone has a remarkable story... which we'll uncover together.

#### **Ben Yehuda Street**

Looking for a night out on the town? After Shabbat head to Ben Yehuda Street where you'll find restaurants, shops, street vendors, street performers, and more!

**Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem



Day 6 – Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup>

## **THE JAZREEL VALLEY & TIBERIUS – THE HOLY CITY OF WATER**

### **Kfar Kedem**

After breakfast we will check out of our hotel and head north into the Jazreel Valley. Our first stop will be a recreated ancient Galilean village called Kfar Kedem. We will have a blast dressing in ancient garb, riding donkeys through the Galilee hills and baking our own pita!.

### **Cruise on the Sea of Galilee**

Arrive in Tiberias for a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Learn all about the biblical and modern history that surrounds this important body of water.

**Dinner & Overnight:** Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, Southern Galilee

Day 7 – Monday July 11<sup>th</sup>

## **THE GOLAN HEIGHTS – ISRAELS GREEN PARADISE**

### **Mount Bental**

Visit Mount Bental and get the best panoramic view of the Golan Heights, with a clear view of Israel's neighbor, Syria, as well as Mount Hermon. At Mount Bental, there are also remnants of an Israeli bunker as well as an imaginative steel sculpture garden.

### **The Valley of Tears**

Despite the bloody history, today The Valley of Tears, is known for the heroism of the Israeli 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Brigade and their nonstop strength in defending Israel from the oncoming Syrian attack. Today, this area is a symbol of courage for all Israelis.

### **Kibbutz El Romm**

At the foot of Mount Bental we will visit Kibbutz El Romm to view the original footage from the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Kahalani battle. This was the decisive battle which secured the Golan Heights for Israel to this day and enables residents of the North to dwell in peace.

### **Jeeping in the Golan Heights to Katzrin!**

We will jeep from the Valley of Tears through the Golan Heights toward Katzrin for the next step in our adventure!

### **Golan Magic Welcome Center**

The visitors center in Katzrin looks to turn the history of the Golan Heights into a multi-faceted journey with Golan Magic. It includes a state-of-the-art three-dimensional model of the Golan Heights, complete with light and sound effects, and a short film documenting the area that is rich in history.



### **Golan Heights winery**

The delightful atmosphere created by the Golan Heights Winery is not to be missed. Not only will you be able to take part in a fabulous wine tasting event, but you will learn how their wonderful brands of wine are produced and a bit of history about the winery itself.

**Dinner & Overnight:** Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, Southern Galilee

Day 8 – Tuesday July 12<sup>th</sup>

### **TZFAT – THE HOLY CITY OF KABBALAH**

#### **Tal Dan**

We'll spend the morning at Tel Dan National Park, built by the Tribe of Dan when they were pushed by the Philistines from their lands near the Mediterranean and conquered this northern city and renamed it Dan. Combining lush nature with a biblical archaeological experience, at the heart of the park is Tel Dan- the capital of the ancient northern kingdom.

#### **Jordan River Rafting**

When the snow melts and the spring hits, it is time to go Jordan River Rafting! Not only can you take advantage of the various water sports, including kayaking and whitewater rafting, will also take in some breathtaking views as you travel down the river.

#### **Tzfat - Safed**

Next we will visit Tzfat, one of the four holy cities in Israel, the City of Air. It has been a spiritual center since the 1600s when it was the center of Kabbala (Jewish mysticism). One of Israel's holiest cities awaits soul-seekers, nature enthusiasts, and historians to its cobblestone, art-line streets, majestic mountains, and Kabala-infused atmosphere.

#### **Tzfat Artists Quarter**

Browse Israel's best religious art as you wander through the narrow, cobblestone streets of Tzfat's Artists Quarter. You'll see men and women deeply engaged in the creative, often religious, process of artistry; yet the friendly artists always have time to speak with tourists who pop into their workshops.

#### **BBQ & Klezmer Concert**

Toward the late afternoon watch the sun begin to set over the mountains and enjoy a BBQ buffet and music played by famous Tzfat musicians.

**Overnight:** Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, Southern Galilee



Day 9 – Wednesday July 13<sup>th</sup>

## **TEL AVIV – ISRAEL’S MODERN CITY**

### **Ancient City of Caesarea**

Our day will begin by checking out of our hotel and heading south toward Israel’s coast. The Caesarea National Park contains an impressive Roman Amphitheatre, the Hippodrome, a horse-racing arena that could seat 20,000; also a giant headless statue on Byzantine Street & Mansion, and the Roman Aqueducts.

### **Tel Aviv**

Arrive in Tel Aviv, Israel’s modern city and home to Israel’s famous high tech industry,

### **The Palmach Museum**

Our first stop in Tel Aviv will be to follow a Palmach unit as they tell their story from their recruitment date right until the War of Independence. The Palmach Museum allows for an interactive experience so you can feel as though you are a part of this historic event, honoring these historic men.

### **Jaffa Flea Market**

Discover unique treasures at the Jaffa Flea Market. There is a vibrant atmosphere, exotic aromas, and lots of noises as you try your luck bargaining with the sellers for that amazing vintage purchase!

### **Old Jaffa Port**

Our final stop will be for a farewell event at the Old Jaffa port. One of the most attractive places on Israel’s coast, the Old Jaffa Port is full of biblical and historical references, this port is a hub for artists, galleries, and individualistic shops where you can find just about anything your heart desires.

### **Farewell**

Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for your temporary departure from Israel.