

DAY 1: SUNDAY, MARCH 3.

Arrival

We will have three pick up points - Tel Aviv, Ben-Gurion Airport, and Jerusalem.

Our meeting place at the Ben-Gurion Airport will be at the Incoming Hall.

From there we shall drive to our hotel at the Dead Sea area where we will spend three nights.

If you wish, you make your own way directly to our hotel at the Dead Sea.



DAY 2 : MONDAY, MARCH 4.

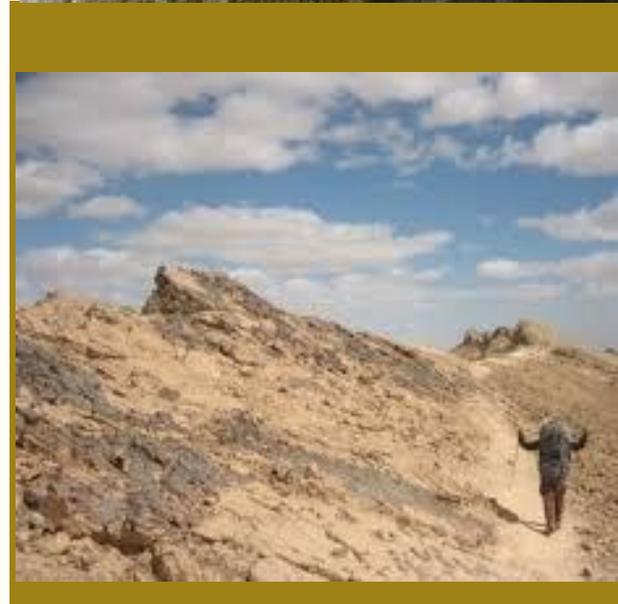
Our first hiking day

We will start trekking from Kibutz Ein Gedi onto a steep, long ascent to Mt. Zruia, gaining over 600 meter of altitude.

We will then descend into an ancient, tough trail that will take us to our reward - the incredible natural pools of the Arugot Oasis.

We shall swim in the pools and the water falls, and then head to meet the bus at the ancient synagogue of Ein Gedi.

We will drive to our hotel in the afternoon. On the way, if we still have some energy left, we might walk to the natural thermals on the beach of the Dead Sea.



DAY 3 : TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Sunrise in Masada

Today is especially exciting

If you had visited Israel in the past, you probably visited Masada. But today we shall climb the snake path to Masada at night, to catch sunrise at the top.

Then, we will have a short tour, talking about the mass suicide that happened there, during the big revolt of the Jews against the Romans.

We shall walk down the Ramp, to the back side of Masada, and now, after being awake for 3 hours, we will really start our trek across the desert plateau, descending to the "Rahaf Canyon" down below.



DAY 4 : WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6.

Walking through 2 gates built by King David

We change landscapes

No more tough arid desert. Instead we visit the blooming lowlands of Israel, where the Historical battle between David and Goliath took place.

We will visit the best evidence that King David was a true historical figure. After, we will visit the amazing caves of Beit Guvrin, a UNESCO world heritage site.

For today's dinner, we will go to a boutique beer brewery - drink as much as you want! Enjoy dinner at your leisure before going back to our hotel.



DAY 5 : THURSDAY, MARCH 7

This is the day we arrive in **Jerusalem**

We will talk about the War of Independence and visit the first Arab village that was conquered in this war by the Jewish pre-state forces.

The outcome of this battle started the refugee issue which has become a key factor in the Israeli Palestinian conflict.

We will then start walking through the biblical landscape of ancient mountain agriculture to Jerusalem, finishing at Mt. Herzl.



DAY 6 : FRIDAY MARCH 8.

Official end of tour

After our final hotel check out, we will go to the City of David, where we will walk through a dark, wet Hezekiah tunnel. Then, on to the Western Wall to finish at the best Arab humus falafel restaurant in Jerusalem.

We will then go back to the hotel to pick up our luggage and say our good-byes.

