

# Experience Israel



FIRST FRUITS OF ZION'S  
MODERN ISRAEL TOUR

APRIL 19-30, 2020



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Eleven days, including travel

**J**oin us for a unique and unforgettable journey through the land of Israel. You will be amazed and delighted at the modernity of the country as we experience post-1900s sites. Your heart will be moved as we visit modern-day battle sites and open our eyes to the reality of Israel's militaristic society.

We will celebrate Israeli Independence Day among the people on the streets of Jerusalem and feel the mournful loss of Israel's young sons, brothers, and friends on Memorial Day. No other tour will allow you to experience Israel like this as we kayak the Jordan River, jeep the historic "Burma Road," hike Israel's dramatic desert mountains, participate in a living archaeological dig, and enjoy with Israel's amazing produce and landscape.

Israelis from all walks of life will spend time with our group and you will be astonished at the diversity of the culture. Experiences in a Bedouin village, in a Samaritan town, on location at battle sites, in the mystical alleyways of Tzfat, inside Israel's Knesset (parliament building), and on the sandy beaches of Tel Aviv will deeply enhance your connection to the land and her people in ways that most tourists never experience.

This is your opportunity to truly touch the physical land and attach to her people. Come with us, and be inspired at the beauty, productivity, cooperation, and ingenuity of this Modern-day Miracle: The Land of Israel.

Visit [ffoz.org/events](http://ffoz.org/events), call **800-775-4807**, or e-mail [tikvah@ffoz.org](mailto:tikvah@ffoz.org) for more information.

Cost \$4,350 per person  
\$3,100 land-only package available

Includes airfare from Chicago, IL, USA, all hotels, all breakfasts and dinners, all transportation within Israel, all tips and entrance fees. A \$500 deposit secures your participation and is due at the time of registration; remaining balances are due December 15, 2019.



“ This is my fourth time to Israel, and I have never before interacted with the people like we did on this tour. I was REALLY surprised by the Samaritan priest and what he shared. Meeting the Bedouin people and spending time in their tent drinking tea was meaningful and interesting. Of course, walking down into the City of David and hearing from the Jewish lady who lives in the midst of Arab families was really eye-opening. I would come on this tour again just to connect with the locals.

*-M. Rogers*

“ This was a tour with purpose. It was well-planned and very well coordinated. Thank you!

*-A. Thompson*

“ I was very, very happy with all of the activities, adventures, and experiences. The “Man on the Mountain” who lives on the Syrian border rocked my world in regard to what I thought about the borders of Israel. Wow! Amazing to hear from a living history book!

*-J. Levy*

“ I didn't expect to experience so many emotions. Spending national holidays in Israel surrounded by Israeli's was very powerful.

*-V. Kirby*

“ Really loved the family participation from Boaz and Tikvah's family. I give Tikvah a “10” for her love and care for us! Thank you for your efforts. Overall the tour exceeded my expectations and we are all going home changed.

*-S. Menderhall*

“ Thank you so much for the great tour! I enjoyed it all! We were all so blessed and welcomed by the Israeli people. It was fun to interact with the nation like this.

*-R. Hall*

“ Our driver was amazing with a great sense of humor, he was refreshing to see each time we entered the bus. AMAZING was our tour guide also! She was knowledgeable and had an incredibly spunky attitude that was reviving and uplifting. It was wonderful to be around the Michael family and to spend time with local Israelis.

*-A. Marryshaw*

“ I enjoyed the hiking and all of the outdoor experiences. It was really nice to come half way around the world and not spend all of our time in museums. Spending so much time outside in the beauty of the land of Israel was probably my favorite thing.

*-H. Schoenwald*

# TENTATIVE ITINERARY (subject to change)

- Sun, April 19 | **Travel day—The Journey Begins** Departing from Chicago, IL USA.
- Mon, April 20 | **Arrival—The Land Welcomes You** Land in Tel Aviv. Graffiti Tour in the modern and eclectic Florentine District of Tel Aviv. Check in to hotel, stroll on the beach and sunset dinner. Welcome Meet and Greet, tour overview and expectations. *Overnight, Leonardo Ashkelon*
- Tue, April 21 | **Yom HaShoah, Planting and Blossoming—The Negev Desert, Borders from West to East** Kibbutz Yad Mordechai, Holocaust resistance and war efforts, national siren at 10 AM. S'derot, life on the border talk with Rabbi Ari, view some of the area's defense structures. Picnic Lunch with Hands of Mercy Messianic Relief Organization. The Vidor Arava Center, learn about desert produce and Israel's technological advancements. Sunset desert camel ride. Bedouin hospitality, dinner and traditional Middle Eastern tea service. *Overnight Kfar HaNokdim, Arava Desert*
- Wed, April 22 | **Israel's Heartland—The Eastern Border from the Dead Sea to Tiberias** Early morning float in Dead Sea or desert hike to waterfalls. Samaritan Village, presentation by local Samaritan priest. Picnic Lunch at observation point overlooking modern-day Sh'kem. Ariel Community Center talk, settlers in the heart of Samaria. Tura Winery tour, wine and cheese tasting. Evening time of reflection on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. *Overnight, Tiberias Nof Ginosar*
- Thu, April 23 | **Mystical and Magnificent—The Northern Experience** Presentation by local Kabbalist artist. Shopping in Tzfat's breath-taking artist colony. Lunch on your own in Tzfat, free choice. Misgav Am, lecture by "The Man on the Mountain," on Israel's border with Lebanon. Jordan River Kayaking. The Olive Oil Experience. *Overnight, Tiberias Nof Ginosar*
- Fri, April 24 | **Come Let Us Go Up—The Western Coast Up to the Holy City** Atalit, 1940s holding camp for incoming Jewish immigrants. Latrun Tank Museum and picnic lunch. Jeep Trip "Up the Burma Road," retrace the ingenious convoy route into Jerusalem. Kabbalat Shabbat at the Kotel. Erev Shabbat group dinner, Messianic Jewish "Sabbath Table" service. *Overnight, Lady Stern*
- Sat, April 25 | **Shabbat—The Day of Rest and Refreshing** A list of suggested Shabbat Services or independent activities will be provided. All meals provided by the hotel. *Overnight, Lady Stern*
- Sun, April 26 | **Jerusalem Today—Rebuilding, Restoring and Repairing** Temple Mount visit, Emek Tzurim "Sifting Project," hands-on participation and learning in archeology. Join the "Beautiful Land Initiative," volunteer hour in the Kidron Valley picking up trash. Silwan Valley, lecture and hospitality given by a Jewish family living there. Israeli Pizza lunch and overlook of Jerusalem from the Haas Promenade. Gush Etzion Light and Sound Show. Dinner on the Streets: Machane Yehuda Shuk "Foodie Taste and Tour." *Overnight, Lady Stern*
- Mon, April 27 | **New City Jerusalem—Interacting with the Modern State** The Knesset, Israel's parliamentary building. Har Herzl cemetery, place of honor, place of memory. Israel Museum, world synagogues display and special Israeli-style lunch. Friends of Zion Museum, the nations' participation in preparing Israel for statehood. Yom haZikaron, the beginning of "Memorial Day," evening national siren 8 PM. Viewing of the Lone Soldier Memorial Ceremony. *Overnight, Lady Stern*
- Tue, April 28 | **Yom haZikaron "Memorial Day"—The Time to Remember** Kotel tunnel "Behind the Scenes" tour, learn what is happening under the Wall today. Chamber of the Holocaust, Israel's first Holocaust Memorial Museum. Mount Zion, the Pauline Rose house, early Messianic Jewish pioneer. Memorial Day, Nation Siren at 11 AM on Mount Zion. FFOZ's Bram Center presentation on Early Messianic Luminaries and lunch. Ride Jerusalem's modern light rail down Jaffa Street. Ammunition Hill, Jerusalem's 1967 stronghold battle scene, walk the trenches. Evening Street Party on Ben Yehuda, When Our Sorrow Turns to JOY! *Overnight, Lady Stern*
- Wed, April 29 | **Yom haAtzmaut, "Independence Day"—The Time to Celebrate** Beach Day on Chof Yerushalayim in Tel Aviv. Picnic lunch and Israeli Air Force national air show. Ayalon Institute, secret ammunition factory key in Israel's successful resistance of the British before the War of Independence. Jerusalem streets scavenger hunt. Dinner and farewell ceremony. *Overnight, Lady Stern*
- Thu, April 30 | **Date of Departure—Saying "L'Hitraot: Farewell for Now"** Depart to Airport 8:00 AM for El Al return flight.



This course schedule is given in good faith, but it is subject to changes without prior notice to adapt to climate conditions, time limitations, other circumstances, or at the discretion of the instructor.

