



# VIP Israel – Executive Tour

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Monday, August 01, 2011 - Sunday, August 14, 2011

**1** Monday, August 15, 2011 (VIP & Transfer)

Welcome

## WELCOME TO ISRAEL

- Touchdown at **Ben Gurion International Airport**.
- After you descend from the aircraft, you'll be transferred to the **Masada Lounge** for relaxation and refreshments. Meanwhile, a **VIP Israel representative** will process your luggage while agents of Israel's border police expeditiously clear you through customs.
- Be escorted to your **private jet** for your short flight to **Eilat**.
- When you arrive in Eilat, a **VIP Israel representative** will assist you with transfer to your hotel for check-in.
- Spend your afternoon relaxing on the beach and experience the delights of Eilat.
- Enjoy a gourmet dinner at your hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Eilat, Queen of Sheba (Hilton)

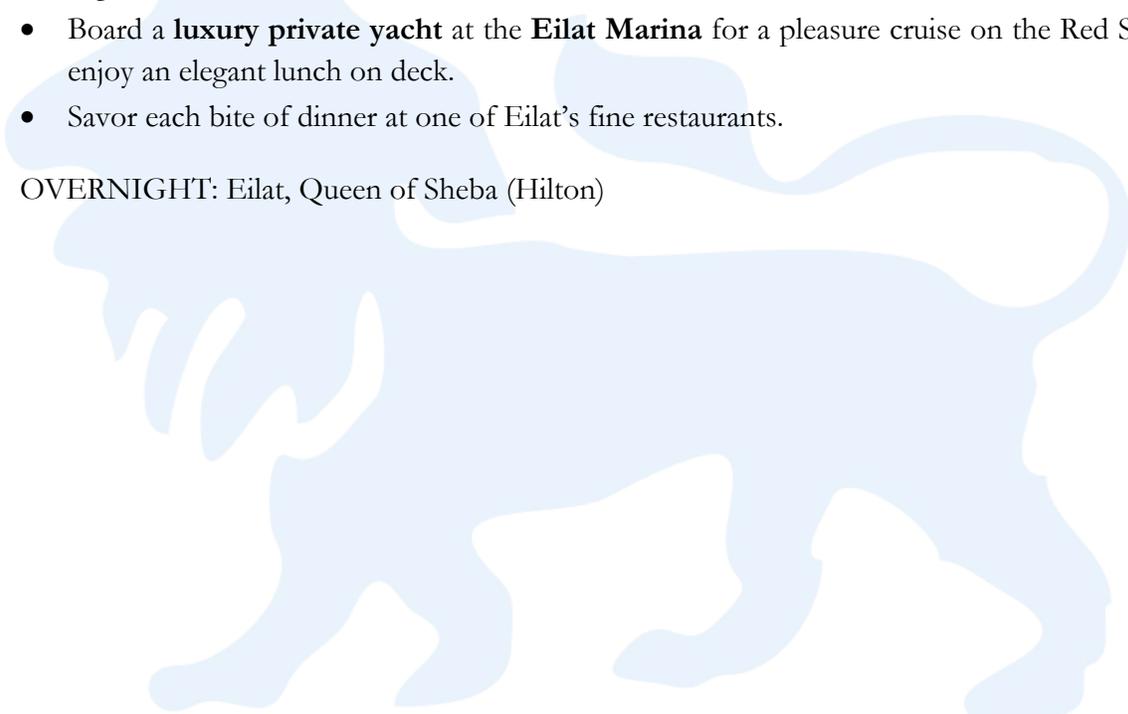
## 2

Tuesday, August 16, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Eilat

- After breakfast, choose from an array of activities on the Red Sea.
- You may rent a **jet ski** or a **motorboat**, take a **Banana-Ride** or have fun on a pedal boat.
- Other water-sport activities include water-skiing, windsurfing, parasailing, and “snuba” diving (a combination of scuba diving and snorkeling, in which the air tanks remain on a boat).
- Enter the observation pod at the **Underwater Observatory** – one of the largest seaquariums in the world and built into a coral reef.
- Take an underwater safari tour on the **Yellow Submarine** and explore coral reefs from depths of 25-60 meters.
- Board a **luxury private yacht** at the **Eilat Marina** for a pleasure cruise on the Red Sea and enjoy an elegant lunch on deck.
- Savor each bite of dinner at one of Eilat’s fine restaurants.

OVERNIGHT: Eilat, Queen of Sheba (Hilton)



### 3

Wednesday, August 17, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Petra

- After breakfast, travel to **Petra** – one of the most spectacular sites in Jordan. The ancient city of Petra was carved into the red stone mountainside almost 2,600 years ago.
- Upon your return to Eilat, spend the afternoon relaxing, swimming and having some good old-fashioned fun.
- Enjoy dinner at one of Eilat's fine restaurants

OVERNIGHT: Eilat, Queen of Sheba (Hilton)

### 4

Thursday, August 18, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Dead Sea

- After breakfast, check-out of your hotel and start your ascent with a luxury vehicle, through the **Arava Valley** to the Dead Sea.
- Take time to visit the **Timna Copper Mines** and the spellbinding **King Solomon's Pillars**, where you can marvel at the huge multi-colored rock formations.
- Continue north. Stop at **Mitzpeh Ramon** to gaze into the Ramon Crater, another geological wonder. Partake in **hiking & rappelling in the Ramon Crater!**
- View the vigorous process of erosion, which swept away the upper strata of the **Ramon Crater**, penetrated deep into the ground, creating a "window" onto the layers of rock.
- **Arrive at the Dead Sea, check into your hotel.**
- **Enjoy evening at the Dead Sea.**
- Take a **swim or 'float'** & let the buoyant waters support you as you relax on your back and think of nothing else but the sea and the salt all around you!

OVERNIGHT: Dead Sea, La Meridian

## 5

Friday, August 19, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Jerusalem

- After breakfast checkout of your hotel to experience a **flight** around Masada/Dead sea area in a **private plane**.
- Arrive at **Masada** - Ascend the cliff top fortress by cable car, or for the more daring, ascend the snake path just as the Jews did thousands of years ago.
- Explore the ancient remains of the fortifications, **King Herod's** palace, storerooms and baths. Take in the beauty of the natural **Ein Gedi Waterfall**; take a light hike along a waterfall oasis, whose beauty exudes vibrant hues of green, red, blue and yellow, a small slice of heaven.
- The oldest ruins found in Ein Gedi are from the fourth millennium BCE, when people in Eretz Israel first began to use copper.
- Arrive in **Jerusalem** relax and freshen up

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

- As the sun sets, preparations will be made for welcoming the Shabbat.
- 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 for Judaism.
- Friday night dinner at hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem, King David

## 6

Saturday, August 20, 2011 (Free Day)

Jerusalem

- Enjoy a traditional Shabbat lunch at your hotel.
- Spend the day at leisure.
- Enjoy a night cap and cigars on the hotel terrace overlooking the Temple Mount.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem, King David

- After breakfast, enjoy a privately guided tour by one of the archeologists who excavated the **Western Wall Tunnels**. Inside, an interesting model shows the different dwelling periods and history of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Stand on the site believed to be the nearest spot to the “Holy of Holies”.
- Enjoy a visit to the **Davidson Center** – the newly opened visitors’ center, located at the Jerusalem Archaeological Park.
- Tour the **Southern Wall Excavations** with an archeologist guide. Some of the most important archaeological discoveries have been unearthed, proving this site to be one of the key areas of Jerusalem. Among the remains is a complex of royal palaces dating back to the seventh century.
- Take a **guided walk** around the **Jewish Quarter**, was reconstructed after the city was unified at the conclusion of the Six-Day War. A special point of interest in the restored Jewish Quarter is the “Cardo”, meaning the “heart” of this ancient Byzantine City.
- View the unearthed main Roman thoroughfare and ancient marketplace. Its imposing columns found by archaeologists have been re-erected. Nearby see the Hurva Synagogue.
- Visit the **excavated ruins of a “Burnt House”** that was part of Jerusalem during the Second Temple period. These burned ruins remained undisturbed until they were uncovered in the 1970s.
- Explore the excavations of the **Herodian Mansions**, located beneath the present-day Jewish Quarter. Here, you’ll discover how the high priests and wealthy Jerusalemites lived.
- Then, visit the remarkable **Jerusalem Museum**, located in the impeccably restored ancient Citadel.
- Go on a VIP tour of the **Mabat 2000 Security Center** at the Jaffa Gate Police Station.
- Receive a private tour of the dwellings of courageous Jewish families who have reclaimed homes in the Arab quarter of the Old City through Ateret Cohanim.
- Visit the **Tomb of King David**. A solemn tomb which also contains the torah ‘crowns’ from communities destroyed in the Holocaust.
- Enjoy a wonderful walk along the walls and rooftops of Jerusalem’s Old City. The magnificence of Jerusalem’s Old City and its surrounding areas can be fully appreciated from this unique viewpoint.
- Delight in a gourmet dinner at Luger’s Restaurant.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem, King David

## 8

Monday, August 22, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Jerusalem

- After breakfast, start the day with a private tour of the new **Yad Vashem**, the memorial to the six million innocent victims of the Holocaust. A holocaust survivor will escort you while he shares personal stories as you walk through the exhibits.
- Continue on to visit the famous and remarkable **Israel Museum** where you will be met and addressed by one of its Curators.
- On the premises and housed in a specially built structure is an architectural masterpiece, **The Shrine of the Book**, where you will be able to view the Dead Sea Scrolls.
- Tour **Mt. Herzl's new museum** dedicated to the life of Theodore Herzl, the father of the Zionist Movement. At Mt. Herzl, visit the gravesites of Prime Minister Golda Meir, Theodore Herzl, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and others.
- Learn about the heroism in the 1967 battle for the liberation of Jerusalem at **Ammunition Hill**. Once it was a Jordanian army camp, but became a symbol of bravery in honor of the Israeli soldiers' heroic efforts during the Six-Day War.
- Take a **private tour** of the **Knesset** escorted by a Knesset member.
- Enjoy **dinner** and political update from **Jerusalem Post newspaper Chief Political Correspondent Mr. Gil Hoffman** for an update on the state of Israel and a Q & A session.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem, King David

## 9

Tuesday, August 23, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

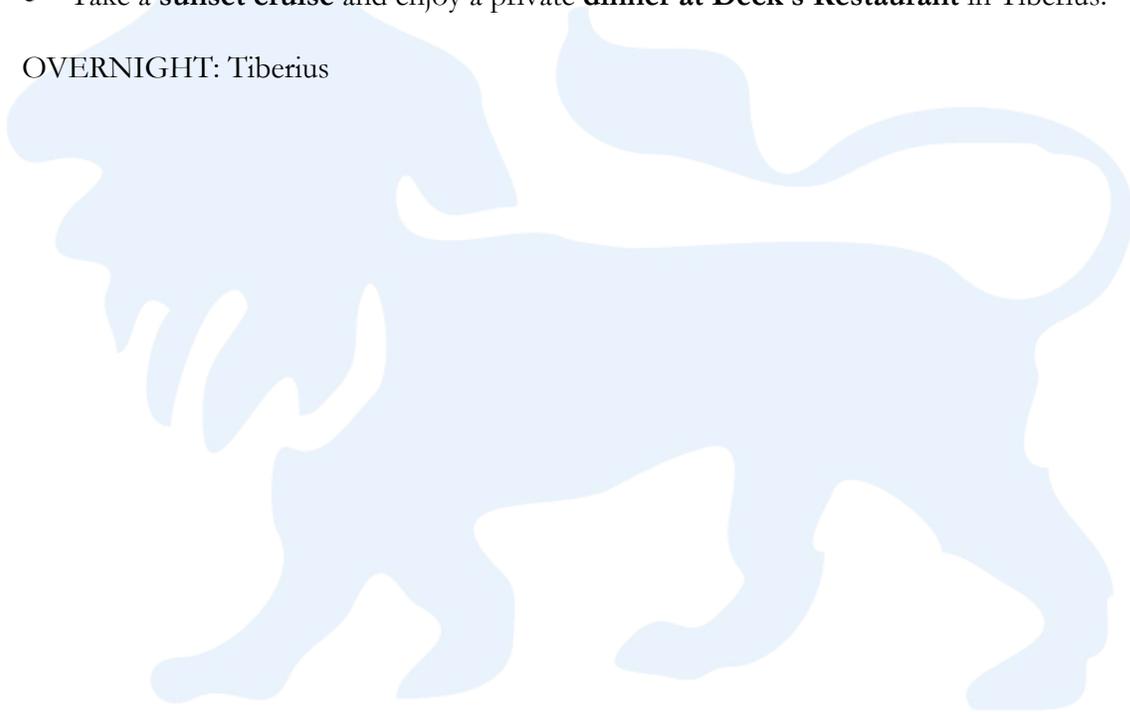
Chevron

- After a buffet breakfast at the hotel, depart in an armored vehicle from Jerusalem and stop for supplication at the very special site of **Rachel's Tomb**.
- Travel to the holy city of **Chevron** to visit **Ma'arat Hamachpela** where our patriarchs and matriarchs are buried. Walk in their footsteps and those of King David, Ruth, and Menucha Rochel.
- Meet with Rabbi **Danni Cohen**, the Rabbi of Chevron, and some of the special families that live there.
- Drive **Dune Buggies** around the dirt in **Kfar Adumim**. This is a very exciting experience!
- Return to Jerusalem and enjoy an authentic **Moroccan dinner** at the fabulous **Darna Restaurant**.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem, King David

- After breakfast, check-out of the hotel and travel north along the Jordan Rift to the ancient remains of **Beit Shean** – one of the oldest settled sites in the country. In biblical times, this is where the Philistines nailed the bodies of King Shaul and his sons to Beit Shean's city walls. The Talmud mentions this area as being the “entrance to paradise...”
- At the foot of **Mt. Gilboa** is a beautiful park, **Gan Hashelosh**. The garden includes a natural swimming pool. This is a delightful place where you can take a dip in the waters.
- Arrive in **Tiberias** and check into the **Galei Kinneret** Hotel.
- Located in this scenic lakeside resort is the famous **Tiberias Hot Springs**, known throughout the ages for its curative powers.
- We will have time to relax and take a swim at the shores of the Kinneret.
- Take a **sunset cruise** and enjoy a private **dinner at Deck's Restaurant** in Tiberias.

OVERNIGHT: Tiberius



- After breakfast, we will board awaiting **jeeps** and ascend the **Golan Heights**, which rise majestically to the north and east of Lake Kinneret. Besides containing beautiful nature reserves and springs, which feed the Jordan River, it also serves as a line of defense for Israel.
- Ascend the **Golan Heights**, where you will have the very special privilege of being the guest of an **Armored Brigade** at their **IDF base**. This is an exclusive VIP experience!
- Drive to a **shooting range**, a place where some of the secret forces of Israel are trained and we will practice shooting from an automatic **Uzi gun**, an **AK47 (Kalashnikov)**. This is an exclusive and amazing experience.
- During the course of the tour, we will pass former Syrian army headquarters and positions overlooking the Galilee. This tour will help you realize the strategic significance of the Golan and its importance to the security of the country.
- Take the new **cable cars** up the mountain towards **Kibbutz Manara**, the northern most kibbutzes in Israel. Halfway up the mountain, we will stop for some adventure as we try our hand at **cliff rappelling**, mountain sliding and other adventurous activities.
- Onward to **Katzrin** – it was established in 1977 and was one of the first urban settlements in the Golan.
- While in Katzrin, see a fascinating **audio-visual presentation** describing the history of the Golan throughout the ages. Tour the ancient reconstructed Talmudic Village and a partially restored 1,500-year-old synagogue.
- Onward to **Tzfat** to absorb the special ambience of this town of contrasts, where ancient sites such as the AriZal's synagogue and ancient burial sites exist side by side with modern art galleries.
- Tour the synagogues, courtyards and shops in the mystical city of Tzfat. As you wander through the winding, cobblestone streets, browse through the artists' workshops and take a dip in the famous Mikveh of the Ari z"l.
- Stop by the **HaMeiri Tzfat Cheese Factory** to take a private tour, which includes stories about Tzfat and a sound and light show of dairy and cheese production.
- Return to your hotel to freshen up before dinner at the Pagoda Restaurant.

OVERNIGHT: Tiberius

## 12

Friday, August 26, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Coastal

- After breakfast, check-out of the hotel and travel to **Rosh Pina Airport**, where you will board a private jet for your flight to Tel Aviv.
- Visit the ancient city of **Caesarea**, built by **Herod the Great** and once the seat of Roman rule. The **Caesarea National Park** contains an impressive **Roman Ampitheatre**, the **Hippodrome**, a horse-racing arena that could seat 20,000; also a giant headless statue on **Byzantine Street & Mansion**, and the **Roman Aqueducts**.
- The **Time Tower** combines 3-D imaging technology with the local structures to bring history 'truly' to life!
- Visit **'The Ranch'** for horseback riding and other activities **along the beach**.
- Stroll through the intriguing **Nachlat Binyamin Arts & Crafts Fair** (open every Tuesday & Friday) for more than 250 Israeli artists presenting their handcrafts, jewelry, judaica and interesting gifts; also live music, glassblowing, and life street performances on a regular basis.
- After checkin enjoy Shabbat dinner in your hotel.
- Walk along the **Promenade** which **connects the Old Jaffa Port to Modern Tel Aviv** boardwalk **full of restaurants and clubs**.

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv, David Intercontinental

## 13

Saturday, August 27, 2011 (Vehicle)

Tel Aviv

- Enjoy lunch in your hotel dining room.
- Visit the **Diaspora Museum** at **University of Tel Aviv**. The museum illustrates the life of the Jews in different communities around the world during 2000 years of exile.
- Spend the remainder of the day relaxing on the luxurious beaches in Tel Aviv.

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv, David Intercontinental

# 14

Sunday, August 28, 2011 (Guide & Vehicle)

Center

- After breakfast visit the **Science Garden** at the **Weizmann Institute in Rehovot**.
- Walking around this outdoor “museum”, no one whispers and tiptoes, and no one is expected to! The green lawns of the **Clore Garden of Science** are filled with exhibits large and small.
- The carefully built displays have been designed by **Weizmann Institute** scientists to demonstrate the laws of physics, solar energy, water power and other natural phenomena that we take for granted every day. Not only that, but people of all ages are invited to "please touch" the durable **hands-on exhibits** – twisting, pushing, bouncing and piecing them together. In most cases, the exhibit comes alive when a person becomes a part of it.
- Our next stop will be at the **Ayalon Institute Museum**, situated north of the city of **Rehovot**. This was the first clandestine bullet production factory operated by members of the **Hatzofim Aleph, Palmach, and Habonim** pioneer groups during the British Mandate rule. After viewing an audio-visual presentation we will discover the secret entrance to the underground bullet factory, which was so successfully disguised from the British!
- Cross the **Ayalon Valley**, a major battlefield throughout history. **The Latrun Police Station** located here was the scene of much bloodshed during the **War of Liberation** in 1948 and was liberated from Jordanian rule in 1967. Visit the Memorial Wall and view a short, moving audio-visual documentary offering a more in-depth explanation of the battles fought here.
- Tour the **Armored Brigade Museum** housing an impressive exhibit of armored vehicles.
- Tour the brand new “**Mini-Israel**,” where you can see over 350 detailed, miniature crafted exact replica models of historical, religious, archeological and modern sites throughout Israel – those you have just seen during this trip and those you will want to see next time!
- Ascend the **highest observatory in the Middle East** (located on the 49th floor of the Round Building at **Azrieli Center**), for **dinner**. It's possible to see the coastline that stretches from Ashkelon in the south, to Hadera in the north.
- Dinner at the **Azrieli Center Mall** next door.

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv, David Intercontinental

# 15

Monday, August 29, 2011 (Transfer)

Farewell

- After breakfast, check-out of your hotel and transfer to **Ben Gurion Airport**. Relax in the **Masada Lounge** while a VIPIsrael representative handles your luggage and checks you in for your flight back home.