



**Bell Wholesale Travel, Inc.**



Great People in the Talmud  
In the Footsteps of Rabbi Meir and Rabbi Yochanan  
Led By: Rabbi Karsh

**MONDAY  
NOVEMBER 7**

Depart for Israel via United Airlines from Chicago O'Hare.

**TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 8**

Arrive in Tel Aviv and meet our guide. Check-in at the Kibbutz Lavi Hotel. The kibbutz was founded on the site of the Mishnaic village of Lavi. During the time of the Mishna, there stood an inn called "Lavi" for travelers between Teveria and Tzippori. **Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi - Galilee**

**WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 9**

After breakfast travel to the Mediterranean coast to **Caesarea**, the magnificent remains of Herod's city, the Roman capital and port and fortified Crusader town. Tour the Roman theater, hippodrome and, walk the promenade to the renovated port area. Afterwards we arrive at **Tel Megiddo**, the biggest archeological hill in Israel (and the world) and considered to be by many the most interesting one of them all. This spot consists of one of the most important junctions in the history of the human race and we will inspect its many hidden secrets through, among others, the palace, the stables, the silo, the gates and the water system which await us there. It is a historical gem that unfolds the fascinating story of a rich period full of changes. Then we'll travel through **Atlit**, here we can learn of the Ma'apilim, the illegal immigrants that reached the country between 1939 and 1945, and their suffering at the British detention camp. Continue to **Akko**, a city of fascinating historical heritage, a rare blend of East and West, authentic sights from the past, a unique meeting place of art and religion alongside the remains of various cultures – all these have made Acre one of the most important cities of the ancient world.  
**Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi – Galilee**

**THURSDAY  
NOVEMBER 10**

See the **Grave of Rabbi Meir**, visit **Kfar Nachum** ancient synagogue Rabbi Yochanan probably attended, see other synagogue he refused to attend! Visit the natural hot baths (**Chamei Tveriah**). Stop at an **Israeli Army Base**. Continue to **Tiberias** was the site of the Sanhedrin approx. 150 C.E. Enjoy lunch at a **fish restaurant** on the Kinneret, and afterwards a **boatride** on the Kinneret. Next we will visit one of the oldest moshavot in Israel. **Rosh Pina** has aged gracefully over the past 120 years. The small town of today is very different from the moshava founded in 1878 when a group of ultra-orthodox Jews settled here and became farmers with the support of the Baron Edmund de Rothschild. **Visit a winery**. Continue to **Safed**, a picturesque city of spiritual people and artists, wrapped in mysticism and mystery, and steeped in sacred atmosphere. Safed is one of the four holy cities in Israel. It has been a spiritual center since the 1600s when it was the center of Kabbala. **Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi – Galilee**

**FRIDAY  
NOVEMBER 11**

**Tzippori**, following the revolt in 132–135, many Jewish refugees from devastated Judea settled there, turning it into a center of Jewish religious and spiritual life. Rabbi Yehuda Hanasi, the compiler of the *Mishnah*, a commentary on the *Torah*, moved to **Sepphoris**, along with the Sanhedrin..., some Jewish academies of learning, yeshivot, were also based there. Continue to the nearby **Kfar Kedem** in Mitzpe Hosh'a'aya where you can smell, taste and experience life as it was 2,000 years ago. You will have the opportunity to relive some of the Biblical Village life and appreciate the importance of domestic animals while being treated to traditional foods in a shepherds' tent. Continue to **Beit She'an**, one of the most ancient cities in the country. Friday night davening at the Kotel, dinner together at hotel. **Overnight: Jerusalem**

**SATURDAY  
NOVEMBER 12**

Shabbat morning davening at the Great Synagogue, enjoy the beautiful davening with a choir and Chazan. Shabbat Lunch at the hotel. Shabbat Day relax at hotel, optional walking tour of the city. Saturday night free to see the city night life. **Overnight: Jerusalem**

**SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 13**

Visit the **Mir Yeshiva** in Jerusalem one of the largest Yeshivot in the World. **Herodian**, visit the fortress built by Herod. True to his legendary paranoia, Herod built a lavish and heavily fortified palace today known as the Herodian. It is 15 kilometers south of *Yerushalayim*, and 5 kilometers south-east of Beit-Lechem. He spared no effort. He skimmed on no luxury. He shunned no expense. We get a chance to see the Mishnah era from another perspective. Visit **Yad Vashem**, Israel's Holocaust remembrance and education center which is an emotional and heartrending experience, but seeing the exhibits and remembering the Holocaust gives the more than one million individuals, world leaders and dignitaries who pass through its doors annually a meaningful way to commemorate the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Next we will visit the **Israel Museum**, the largest cultural institution in the State of Israel and one of the leading art and archaeology museums in the world. Descend through the many layers of Jerusalem's past at the time of the Temple, we will head through the **Western Wall Tunnels**. Inside, we'll view the most interesting model shows depicting 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**". Return to the hotel for dinner. **Overnight: Jerusalem**

**MONDAY  
NOVEMBER 14**

Get an early start today to experience **Masada**, taking the cable car to the top to view the ruins of King Herod's mountaintop fortress and the last stronghold of the Jewish revolt against the Romans in 73 CE. Visit the new museum in the Visitor Center, which reveals the secrets of the daily life of the rebels, the story of the excavations, and understand how the site became one of Israel's most important symbols. At the **Ein Gedi** Antiquities National Park see the remains of the Talmudic village with its synagogue and mysterious mosaic floor. End the day with a dip in the **Dead Sea**, the "greatest outdoor spa in the world" and the world's lowest, saltiest body of water. **Overnight: Jerusalem**

**TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 15**

Visit the Jewish Shuk, **Machaneh Yehudah**, stroll through some of the specialty shops of Machaneh Yehudah with a chance to taste delicious food and find some great deals. Travel just outside of Jerusalem to **Gush Etzion**. Daven at **Kever Rochel** where Rachel Imeinu was buried after she died in childbirth along the way. Continue to the Kfar Etzion Museum to view an emotionally moving audio-visual presentation about the history of the area. It was in these hills in the 1948 War of Independence that Jews sacrificed their lives to help save Jerusalem. View the actual bunker where they hid out and see how their grandchildren came to Gush Etzion to rebuild. We will visit **Sadna**, a very special place, a school for handicapped children. The most worrisome part of caring for special children is that they will always need care. Whether they suffer from Down's syndrome, autism or cerebral palsy, at Sadna each child has his own program designed to help him realize his full potential. The school has proven to be one of the greatest successes in Israeli special-needs education. **Overnight: Tel Aviv**

**WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 16**

Visit **Beit Hatfutsot**: The Museum of the Jewish People. The museum runs through the 2,500 year history of the Jewish diaspora, sending you around the world to the Jewish communities which established and grew uniquely. With a multimedia and family history library, Jews can even trace back their own roots here! Next we will visit the **Palmach Museum**, an experiential museum, covering the Palmach legacy through the stories of individuals and groups. We will join a group of young Palmach recruits from its establishment, and advance through the story of the Palmach until the end of the War of Independence. We will continue to the House of Israel's first prime minister, **David Ben-Gurion**, on a street named after him. The house remains as it was, and next to it is a museum with a permanent exhibition about Ben-Gurion and his heritage. Witness the moving declaration of the State at **Independence Hall**. Next we'll enjoy a walking tour of **Neve Tzedek**, Tel Aviv's new hip neighborhood where the intellectual elite lived during Israel's early days. Continue to **Old Jaffa and stop at the Visitors Center** followed by a sunset walking tour of the ancient Jaffa seaport. Farewell Dinner at an Israeli restaurant. **Overnight: Tel Aviv**

**Thursday  
November 17**

Morning transfer to Ben Gurion airport for your return flight home.

*PLEASE NOTE! We reserve the right to omit any site and/or change the itinerary  
Should it be necessary due to local conditions.*

*Shalom & Have a Great Trip!*

**Bell Wholesale Travel, Inc.**

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