

Israel Trip · Nov 8–16, 2026

Aron & Chaya Sarah Weber · Tzfas (2 nights) then Yerushalayim (4 nights, Shabbos Toldos) · made by Tab, Oct 11, 2026 (updated Oct 19)

Trip at a glance

- **Flight out:** El Al LY 028, Sun Nov 8, 1:15 PM Newark (Terminal B) → Mon Nov 9, 6:30 AM Ben Gurion (Terminal 3). Seats 42F / 42G.
- **Flight home:** El Al LY 025, Mon Nov 16 at 12:05 AM (= Sunday night) Ben Gurion T3 → 5:05 AM Newark. Seats 41F / 41G.
- **Booking ref CDSGIF** (El Al). Agent: MW Travel, +1 917-474-8334, sales@mwtravelinc.com.
- **Car:** Pery by Champion, confirmation #2392252 (agent Menachem Shovaks), family-size car. Pick up at Ben Gurion Mon Nov 9, 7:00 AM. Booked return (confirmed Oct 11): Ben Gurion **Mon Nov 16, 7:00 AM**, 7 days; drop it Sun night before your flight. \$386.43 before VAT, \$455.99 incl. VAT. Tourists on a B2 visa entry are VAT-exempt: ask the desk to remove VAT, show passports + entry slips (saves ~\$69.56).
- **Nov 9–11, Tzfas:** Rarestone apartment, confirmed Sep 1. Email says check-in 3 PM; the host told you **8:00 AM** is fine (verbal). Check-out 11 AM. They send directions and the door code before you arrive.
- **Nov 11–15, Yerushalayim:** JDira "Brand New Suite – Panoramic view", opposite Rav Shefa Mall (Shamgar St 16), near Belz, Gur, Boyan and Ganei Geula. Host: A. Grunwald. Late checkout to Sun 8 PM is paid, but the plan now checks out Sun morning. Parking: you get entry to the parking lot, not a reserved spot.
- **Shabbos in Yerushalayim:** candle lighting Fri Nov 13 at **4:00 PM**. Havdalah Sat Nov 14 at **5:18 PM**. Rabbeinu Tam is about 5:52 PM (Hebcal).
- **Rosh Chodesh Kislev:** Tue and Wed, Nov 10–11 (Hebcal). It gets dark early: sunset is about 4:40 PM, and most sites close at 4:00 PM.

Fix these before you go

1. **Car return ✓ done (Oct 11).** Pery moved the return to **Mon Nov 16, 7:00 AM** at Ben Gurion, so the car is yours all Sunday. Return it Sun ~8:30 PM before El Al check-in, and let Pery know it's coming back Sunday night.
2. **Tzfas apartment.** The email has no dates or address: confirm Nov 9–11 and the address. **Early entry 8 AM per host (verbal) — confirm the entry code before you fly.**
3. **Jerusalem apartment details.** The emails don't give the street address or your Wed Nov 11 check-in time. Ask A. Grunwald (a0533120297@gmail.com), and tell him you'll check out **Sun morning** (the paid late checkout isn't needed).
4. **Flight meals: kids meal chosen on purpose ✓.** Both seats have the El Al "strictly kosher child meal" (chosen). Nothing to change.
5. **Safety apps.** Download the Home Front Command app (Pikud HaOref) for alerts, and enroll in STEP. Both are advised by the US Embassy (Oct 8, 2026).

Reservations checklist

In book-by order. Tab will WhatsApp you a reminder on each book-by date (never on Shabbos). Phone numbers are written so they work from a US phone; from an Israeli phone, drop +972 and add a 0.

- ☐ **EZ Raider tour, Fun Raider North (Kibbutz Hulata) · Mon Nov 9, 1:00 PM**
Book by Mon Oct 26 *(suggested: 2 weeks ahead; 10% deposit)*
Phone **+972-52-383-3515**. 250 NIS per person, about 1½ hrs. Shomer Shabbos. 10% deposit to book. Ask for a private tour for the two of you.
funraiderbzafon.co.il
- ☐ **Off-road Segway, Kal Daat (Alonei HaBashan) · Tue Nov 10, 9:30 AM**
Book by Mon Oct 26 *(suggested: by appointment only)*
Dubi Hadar **+972-50-887-5507**. By appointment only. Ask the price and length, and whether he runs in November (not checked). Or book the RZR instead: Trakteronei Nachum **+972-52-222-0054**.
- ☐ **De Karina chocolate workshop (Ein Zivan) · Tue Nov 10, 11:30 AM**
Book by Mon Oct 26 *(suggested: listings say workshops are booked ahead)*
Book online. Mehadrin, cholov Yisrael/parve. Workshops Mon–Thu 10–3.
de-karina.co.il
- ☐ **Kinneret private boat, Merkaz HaShayit (Teveria) · Tue Nov 10, 3:45 PM**
Book by Sun Nov 1 *(suggested)*
Phone **+972-72-230-1819**. Self-drive boat 450 NIS (up to 7 people), or ask for a skipper. Shomer Shabbos.
merkaz-hashayit.co.il
- ☐ **Banias Nature Reserve, waterfall & hanging trail entrance · Wed Nov 11, ~9:20 AM**
Book by Sun Nov 1 *(suggested; entry only with a booked slot, per parks.org.il)*
Book the ~9:20 AM time slot for the **waterfall and hanging trail area** (not the springs area) on parks.org.il. The page says entry is only with a reservation confirmation. Adult ₪31. Phone **+972-4-695-0272**.
parks.org.il
- ☐ **Segway tour on the Tayelet, Smart Tour · optional, Fri Nov 13 ~8:30 AM (only if you add it)**
Book by Sun Nov 1 *(suggested; only if you add it)*
+972-2-561-8056 (call or WhatsApp) or *9678, info@smart-tour.co.il. Ask for a private tour for 2.
About 199 NIS per person (reseller price, confirm). 2 hrs. Ages 16–70, max 130 kg.
smart-tour-israel.com
- ☐ **Go Golan Ranger buggy tour · optional swap-in for the north (only if you add it)**
Book by Sun Nov 1 *(suggested; only if you add it)*
Phone **+972-52-649-9565**. Price on request (not checked).
gogolan.co.il
- ☐ **Bashert by Mendy's, Tzfas · dinner Mon Nov 9, 7:30 PM**
Book by Thu Nov 5 *(mendis.co.il says 1–2 days ahead; Thu is the last weekday before you fly)*
Phone: **+972-73-231-1331**. Address: 35 Jerusalem St (the Midrachov).

Hours: Sun–Wed 1–11 PM, Thu 1 PM–midnight. Meat, Badatz Eida HaChareidis.
Book 1–2 days ahead. Source: mendis.co.il.

mendis.co.il

☐ **Shabbos food, Yerushalayim · for Fri Nov 13**

Book by Thu Nov 5 (suggested; ShabbosKodesh.com orders close Wed Nov 11, 8 PM; order before you fly)

ShabbosKodesh.com: +972-2-651-6845. They deliver in Jerusalem. Their site says weekly orders close **Wed night 8 PM**.

Goldy's (mehadrin deli): +972-2-620-0100. Delivery or pickup.

Or pick up Friday morning at Hadar Geula, 13 Malchei Yisrael St (Badatz Eida HaChareidis). Its phone number is not checked.

shabbos-kodesh.com

☐ **Phone data (pre-trip): eSIM or international plan**

Set it up before you fly. You need data for Waze, park bookings and WhatsApp with hosts. For example, your carrier's international plan or an Israel eSIM.

☐ **Caesarea National Park · Wed Nov 11, ~12:45 PM (no booking needed)**

Last entry 3 PM (entry closes 1 hr before the 4 PM winter closing); the plan arrives ~12:45. Adult 50 NIS. +972-4-626-7080 (parks.org.il).

☐ **Mini Israel, Latrun · Sun Nov 15, ~1:15 PM (no booking needed)**

Ticket office closes ~3 PM. 86 NIS per person. 1700-559-559 (Israeli phones only).

☐ **Masada · Thu Nov 12 (no booking needed)**

Masada: entry and last cable car up by **3:00 PM**. Info *3639. A slot on parks.org.il is optional.

Breakfast at Luciana, D City opens 10:00 AM. Call +972-2-534-3211 to confirm (no reservation needed, not checked).

Car return change (fix #1) ✓ Booked

Pery confirmation #2392252 (agent Menachem Shovaks): pickup Mon Nov 9, 7:00 AM; return **Mon Nov 16, 7:00 AM** at Ben Gurion (7 days, \$386.43 before VAT / \$455.99 incl. VAT). You'll drop it Sun night before your flight. Pery: airport desk +972-50-333-0111, branch +972-3-637-7821.

At pickup: Pery quoted \$455.99 incl. VAT (\$386.43 before). Tourists on a B2 visa entry are VAT-exempt: ask the desk to remove VAT, show passports + entry slips (saves ~\$69.56).

Flight meals: kids meal chosen on purpose ✓

El Al booking CDSGIF: kosher child meal (chosen) for both seats. Nothing to change.

Sun Nov 8 → Mon Nov 9 · Land, Tzfas, EZ Raider, Amuka, Meron

Sleep tonight: Tzfas (Rarestone)

Sunday: Newark Terminal B by ~10:15 AM; LY 028 leaves 1:15 PM. Monday is full after an overnight flight. If Monday is too much, drop EZ Raider (Tuesday has no room: Segway 9:30).

6:30 AM Land at Ben Gurion, Terminal 3

About an hour for passports and bags; Pery car pickup is 7:00 AM. Pery desk: Eastern Gallery, Level 1, T3; car at Pardes Parking.

Pery quoted \$455.99 incl. VAT (\$386.43 before). B2 visa entry = VAT-exempt: ask the desk to remove VAT, show passports + entry slips (saves ~\$69.56).

7:30 AM Drive straight to Tzfas, about 2–2.5 hrs

Route 6 north, then toward Karmiel and Tzfas. Drive times in this plan are my estimates; check Waze.

9:30 AM Into the Rarestone apartment early

The host said you can go in from 8:00 AM (the email says 3 PM). Have the entry code before you fly. Drop bags, daven, rest.

Breakfast/food: Mendy's Bagels, 29 Jerusalem St (dairy, Badatz Eida); Cafe Monitin, 70 Jerusalem St. Groceries: Rav Chesed, 13 Jerusalem St (shulsintzfat.com, June 2026).

12:00 PM Lunch in Tzfas Old City

Pizza Tzfat, 35 Jerusalem St (Badatz Eida HaChareidis), or Falafel Yitzchak, 39 Jerusalem St (Badatz Tzfat). Both from the shulsintzfat.com list updated June 2026.

12:30: drive to Kibbutz Hulata, about 25 min.

[Map](#)

1:00 PM EZ Raider tour: Fun Raider North, Kibbutz Hulata **RESERVE AHEAD** Book by Mon Oct 26

You stand and drive an electric off-road "raider", like a big scooter for dirt roads. A guide leads you through the Hula Valley fields, with a fruit break.

~1½ hrs with training. **250 NIS per person**. Tours Sun–Thu 10:00 & 13:00.

Shomer Shabbos. Reservation only (10% deposit). Groups can be mixed, so ask for just the two of you (not checked if they offer it).

Phone **+972-52-383-3515**. Source: funraiderbzafon.co.il, glatiul.co.il (Oct 11, 2026).

[Map](#) funraiderbzafon.co.il

2:40 PM Drive to the magic hill on the Amuka road, about 30 min

3:10 PM Magic hill: water rolls "uphill", ~10 min

~1 km before Amuka. Stop safely, car in neutral, foot off the brake: it rolls "up" (optical illusion). Pin: **32.99964, 35.53637**.

[Map](#) [Waze](#) [Video](#)

3:20 PM Amuka: Rav Yonasan ben Uziel, ~25 min

Biriya forest, just north of Tzfas, in daylight (sunset 4:40 PM, Hebcal).

[Map](#)

3:45 PM Drive to Meron (~20 min)

4:05 PM Kever Rashbi & Rabbi Elazar, Meron: Mincha

Before sunset (4:40). Mincha, Tehillim. Open 24 hrs (Waze). See the Safety page about Meron.

[Map](#)

5:00 PM Back to Tzfas, about 20 min. Rest, Maariv

7:30 PM Dinner: Bashert by Mendy's, 35 Jerusalem St **RESERVE AHEAD**
Book by Thu Nov 5

Phone +972-73-231-1331. Badatz Eida HaChareidis (mendis.co.il). Book for 7:30 PM.

[Map](#)

Tue Nov 10 · Rosh Chodesh · Golan Segway, chocolate, Teveria, Kinneret boat

Sleep tonight: Tzfas

7:00 AM Shacharis with Hallel

At the Ari Ashkenazi shul or the Abuhav shul in the Old City.

[Map](#)

8:30 AM Drive to Alonei HaBashan (northern Golan), about 1 hr

9:30 AM Off-road Segway tour: Kal Daat, Alonei HaBashan **RESERVE AHEAD** Book by Mon Oct 26

Segway X2 (the off-road model) on Golan dirt tracks, led by Dr. Dubi Hadar, a Golan guide for 30+ years. By appointment only, so it's just the two of you. Closed Shabbos.

Phone **+972-50-887-5507**. Ask the price and length. I didn't confirm November dates (source: glatiul.co.il listing, Oct 11).

[Map](#)

Or, same slot: RZR / dune-buggy self-drive in the Golan

Trakteronei Nachum, Had Nes (~45 min from Tzfas): you drive an open off-road buggy yourself, with water crossings, from ~1½ hrs. **+972-52-222-0054**. Aug 2026 reviews show it's running. Price on request. Bring your license (probably needed).

[Map](#) jeepim-bagolan.co.il

11:30 AM De Karina chocolate workshop, Ein Zivan **RESERVE AHEAD** Book by Mon Oct 26

15 min from Alonei HaBashan. Make your own chocolates, 1½–2 hrs. **Mehadrin, cholov Yisrael / parve**. Workshops Mon–Thu 10 AM–3 PM (last starts at 3). Booking required. Price is on the booking page (not checked). The café on site works for lunch (dairy; check its hechsher).

[Map](#) de-karina.co.il

1:15 PM Drive to Teveria, about 1 hr

2:15 PM Kever HaRambam (the Shelah HaKadosh is buried nearby)

[Map](#)

2:55 PM Kever Rabbi Meir Baal HaNess

Open daily, with an Ashkenazi and a Sephardi shul (dannythedigger.com).

[Map](#)

3:45 PM Kinneret boat ride at sunset: Merkaz HaShayit, Teveria

RESERVE AHEAD Book by Sun Nov 1

Shomer Shabbos company. **Private self-drive motor boat (up to 7 people), 450 NIS**. Ask if you need a license, or ask for a skipper (price not checked). Phone **+972-72-230-1819**. Sunset ~4:40.

[Map](#) merkaz-hashayit.co.il

4:45 PM Drive back to Tzfas, about 40 min

Kosher food nearby

- Lunch: De Karina café (dairy), or sandwiches from Tzfas. Dinner in Tzfas: Shitaki, 53 Jerusalem St (Badatz Tzfat), or Malkah, 59 Jerusalem St (Machpud). Source: shulsintzfat.com.

Wed Nov 11 · Rosh Chodesh · Baniyas waterfall → Caesarea → Yerushalayim

Sleep tonight: Yerushalayim (near Rav Shefa Mall)

Long day: about 4½ hrs of driving, north first, then the whole country south. Leave Tzfas by 8:15. Ask A. Grunwald what time you can check in today (the emails don't say). If you fall behind, see the backup plan at the bottom of this page.

6:15 AM Shacharis with Hallel & Musaf (Rosh Chodesh) in Tzfas

Old City: the Ari or Abuhav shul. Meron at sunrise doesn't fit today (you're at Meron on Monday).

[Map](#)

7:30 AM Breakfast, check out of Rarestone (bags in the car)

Pack lunch for the road (Caesarea harbor hechsherim not checked).

8:15 AM Drive to the Baniyas waterfall parking lot, ~50–55 min (arrive ~9:10)

North via Rosh Pina, Route 91 and 918, then Route 99 (map routing estimate, ~51 km; check Waze). In Waze type **Baniyas Waterfall parking lot**, not the springs.

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

9:20 AM Baniyas Nature Reserve (Hermon Stream): waterfall & hanging trail, ~1–1¼ hrs **RESERVE AHEAD** Book by Sun Nov 1

Use the waterfall entrance ("waterfall and hanging trail area"), not the springs entrance. Red loop trail from the parking lot: about 45 min of walking, roughly 1.3 km. It takes you along the stream to the Baniyas Waterfall, Israel's biggest, then up the steps back to the car.

The highlight is the hanging boardwalk, about 100 m long, bolted to the canyon wall right over the rushing water. The rest is paths and steps. **You stay dry the whole way**, no wading.

The Baniyas spring entrance passes the ancient Pan grotto (avoda zara). Use the waterfall entrance.

Winter hours Sun–Thu 8 AM–4 PM, **last entry 3 PM**. Adult ₪31. **Book the ~9:20 time slot on parks.org.il first:** the waterfall-area page says entry is only with a reservation confirmation, at the time shown. Waterfall & hanging trail: **+972-4-695-0272** (springs +972-4-690-2577, or *3639 from an Israeli phone). All read on parks.org.il Oct 11, 2026. The 1.3 km length is from AllTrails (not checked against the park).

[Map](#) [Waze](#) parks.org.il (book here)

10:40 AM Drive to Caesarea, ~2 hrs via Route 6 (no PA areas). Eat lunch on the way.

Arrive ~12:45. Caesarea's last entry is 3 PM, so you have about 2 hrs of buffer.

12:45 PM Caesarea National Park: Herod's Roman harbor by the sea

Roman theater, Herod's palace on the sea, the hippodrome and the old harbor, plus the "Stars of Caesarea" interactive show. About 1¼ hrs. Daven Mincha here. Sun–Thu 8 AM–4 PM in winter, **last entry 3 PM** (entry closes 1 hr before closing). Adult 50 NIS, no booking needed. +972-4-626-7080, or *3639 from an Israeli phone (parks.org.il, read Oct 11, 2026).

[Map](#) parks.org.il

Maybe (optional) Caesarea Aqueduct Beach: Roman aqueduct arches on the sand

MAYBE: 5 min north of the park. Free, own parking, 20–30 min. Go before sunset (4:42). If you stop here, leave for Yerushalayim ~3:15 instead of 2:45.

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

2:45 PM Drive to Yerushalayim, ~1½–2 hrs (rush hour). Arrive ~4:30–4:45, check in

Route 6 south, then Route 1 up to Yerushalayim. Not Route 443, never Route 60. In Waze, turn on "avoid dangerous areas".

[Map](#)

8:00 PM First night at the Kosel

About 15 min by car. Park at Karta or Mamilla parking, or in the Jewish Quarter lot.

[Map](#)

If late Backup plan if the day gets tight

Banias runs long: leave by ~12:15 at the latest and you still reach Caesarea before its 3 PM last entry (~2 hrs).

Can't reach Caesarea by 2:15: skip Caesarea and drive to Yerushalayim (~2½–3 hrs from the north, Route 6 → Route 1).

Dropped from today: the Artists' Quarter & candle makers. It could fit Monday ~5 PM after Meron if the shops are still open (shop hours not checked).

Kosher food nearby

- Uri's Pizza (dairy), corner of Yirmiyahu & Shamgar by the apartment, +972-2-940-8408 (janglo.net listing). Rav Shefa Mall across the street for groceries.

More fun in the north (swap-ins)

In case a day changes, or a place above is full. All checked on Oct 11, 2026 unless marked.

Gamla nature reserve (Golan): ancient city + eagles' cliff

Winter hours Sun–Thu 8 AM–4 PM. Last entry 1 hr before closing. Adult 31 NIS. Phone +972-4-682-2282. About 1 hr from Tzfas.

[Map](#) parks.org.il

Go Golan: guided Ranger (off-road buggy) tours **RESERVE AHEAD**

Book by Sun Nov 1

Local guides drive you to pools and lookouts in the Golan. Phone +972-52-649-9565. Price on request (not checked).

gogolan.co.il

Tractoroni Tzfat: drive your own ATV / RZR buggy

In the Tzfas industrial zone, Sun–Thu 9 AM–7 PM (per listings). An option if you'd rather drive an ATV yourself. Listings give different phones (+972-50-417-7000 / +972-4-301-0377) and no price, so check first.

Rosh Hanikra grottoes + cable car: CLOSED right now

Their website says they're closed for restoration and will announce the reopening date (read Oct 11, 2026). If it reopens by Nov 11, it could replace Banias on Wed morning: ~1 hr from Tzfas, then ~1 hr down the coast to Caesarea. Normally 47 NIS online. Phone +972-73-271-0100.

rosh-hanikra.com

Manara Cliff cable car: closed

Damaged in the war and listed as closed (TripAdvisor, Oct 2026). Don't plan on it.

Jordan River kayaking: skip in November

The kayak sites in the Upper Galilee are a summer activity. I didn't confirm November dates.

Thu Nov 12 · Dead Sea day: D City breakfast, Mitzpe Yericho, camel, Masada, Dead Sea float

Sleep tonight: Yerushalayim · You drive · Plan from TravelMaven, re-timed by Tab

Masada, then a longer float at the separate beach in Ein Bokek. The beach closes at 4:00 PM, so leave Masada by about 2:30. Home by about 6 PM. Daven Mincha at Masada. Sunset is about 4:45 PM.

7:00 AM Shacharis near the apartment (Romema / Kiryat Belz)

Sunrise 6:05 AM. Sof zman tefillah 9:37 AM (GRA, Hebcal). Easy start, because breakfast doesn't open until 10.

9:30 AM Head down south: drive to D City, Ma'ale Adumim, ~20 min

Route 1 east. Route 1 and Route 90 are the normal Israeli-controlled highways (they cross Area C, not PA towns). Never Route 60, no PA (Area A) towns, and don't go into Jericho city. In Waze, turn on "avoid dangerous areas".

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

10:00 AM Breakfast at Luciana, D City (dairy, Italian), ~50 min

Phone **+972-2-534-3211**. Hours Sun–Thu 10:00 AM–10:00 PM (b144 listing and their Instagram, read Oct 11, 2026). Breakfast menu runs until noon (luciana.co.il). **It doesn't open earlier, so call to confirm.**

Kashrus: **Badatz Beit Yosef, mehadrin**, under Rav Mordechai Nagari (b144 and a Kikar HaShabbat article, undated). An older post names a different hechsher, so check the te'udah on the wall. Prices not checked.

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

10:50 AM Drive to the Mitzpe Yericho lookout, ~20 min

Back on Route 1 east, then the Mitzpe Yericho turnoff. It's an Israeli yishuv. Don't continue toward Jericho city (drive time not checked on a map).

11:10 AM Mitzpe Yericho lookout, ~20 min

Scenic views over the Jordan Valley and the north end of the Dead Sea. Free (not checked).

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

11:30 AM Drive to Almog junction (Route 1 / Route 90), ~20 min

At the junction turn **south** on Route 90. North goes to Jericho.

11:50 AM Small camel ride at the Almog gas station, ~20 min

A short ride, more of a photo op, right at the gas station at Almog junction. Pay on the spot. Price and hours not checked (unverified).

Want a longer ride with history? Genesis Land (Eretz Bereishit), Alon, near Kfar Adumim, off Route 1: **+972-2-997-4477** (genesisland.co.il). Camel ₪35 for 7 min or ₪60 for 15 min, from funinjerusalem.com (undated, unverified). Book ahead.

Another option, on the way home via Arad: Kfar Hanokdim, +972-8-995-0097 (30–45 min treks, call for times). That's the ride from the old plan, now only a backup.

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

12:15 PM Drive to Masada, ~1 hr (Route 90 south)

Bring water and snacks. Breakfast was late, so lunch can be light.

1:15 PM Masada (cable car up), ~1¼–1½ hrs. Daven Mincha here

Winter hours Sun–Thu 8:00 AM–4:00 PM. **Entry and the last cable car up close at 3:00 PM** (parks.org.il, read Oct 11, 2026).

Adult entry ₪37 without the cable car. The cable car costs extra (price not checked). Info *3639. You can book a slot on parks.org.il; a booking gets you in if a time slot fills up.

Leave by about 2:30 so you get over an hour floating (the beach closes at 4:00).

[Map](#) [parks.org.il](#)

2:50 PM Down to the beach: Ein Bokek separate beach (men / women), float ~1 hr+

Leave Masada ~2:30 and drive 20 min south to the separate beach at Ein Bokek. Men's and women's sides are separate, with free entry. Winter hours about 7:00 AM–4:00 PM, closed Shabbos (deadsea.co.il). Phone not checked. **All of this is unverified.**

Float only. Don't put your head under, and keep the water out of your eyes. Bring water shoes and a towel; there are showers.

[Map](#) [Waze](#)

4:00 PM Head back to Yerushalayim, ~1¾–2 hrs. Home ~6:00 PM, Ma'ariv

Same way: Route 90 north, then Route 1 west. It's faster than going via Arad (Arad → Route 31 → Route 6 → Route 1 takes about 2¼ hrs, estimated). Sunset is about 4:45, so you'll drive the Dead Sea road at dusk. Mincha before you leave Masada.

7:30 PM Thursday night in Geula / Meah Shearim

Cholent and supper at Hadar Geula, 13 Malchei Yisrael St (Badatz Eida HaChareidis; from a 2026 foodie post, phone not checked). Do your Shabbos shopping on Malchei Yisrael.

[Map](#)

Fri Nov 13 · the Kosel, Geula & Meah Shearim shopping, erev Shabbos

Candle lighting 4:00 PM (Jerusalem, Hebcal)

9:30 AM Kosel

[Map](#)

11:00 AM Geula & Meah Shearim: erev Shabbos shopping

About 10 min from the Kosel by car, and a few minutes from the apartment, so you can drop bags at home on the way.

Gifts, seforim and Judaica in Meah Shearim, then Shabbos things in Geula: flowers, wine and cake. Check that your Shabbos food order is arriving (or pick it up at Hadar Geula, see the checklist).

Friday is the busiest day and many shops close early afternoon, so do the shopping you care about first.

[Map](#)

2:30 PM Home, park the car for Shabbos

No driving or touring until after Havdalah.

4:00 PM Candle lighting

Shkia is about 4:40 PM.

Swap-in (optional): Segway tour on the Tayelet, Smart Tour **RESERVE AHEAD** Book by Sun Nov 1

Moved off Sunday so you have more time with Savta. Thursday is full with the Dead Sea, so it's here as an option.

It fits Friday ~7:15–9:15 AM before the 9:30 Kosel (the Tayelet is about 10 min from the Old City), if Smart Tour runs that early on Fridays. Otherwise it cuts into the Geula shopping.

2 hrs along the promenade with the big view over the Old City, Har HaBayis, Ir David and Har HaZeisim. Start at the Armon HaNatziv community center (free parking).

Book: +972-2-561-8056 (call or WhatsApp) or *9678, info@smart-tour.co.il (call center Sun–Fri). Ask for a **private tour for the two of you** (group tours can be mixed).

Price: about 199 NIS per person, min. 2 (reseller israelwelcome.com's price; confirm). Ages 16–70, up to 130 kg, not pregnant. A long skirt is fine; wear flat closed shoes.

[Map](#) smart-tour-israel.com

Kosher food nearby

- Shabbos food: ShabbosKodesh (+972-2-651-6845), Goldy's (+972-2-620-0100) or Hadar Geula takeout. See the checklist.

Shabbos Nov 14 · Parshas Toldos

In Yerushalayim near Kiryat Belz

Morning Davening: Belz Great Synagogue, Kiryat Belz

Close to the apartment by Rav Shefa Mall. I estimate a short walk; check the route on Friday. There are many shtieblach around Kiryat Belz, Gur and Ganei Geula.

[Map](#)

Afternoon Rest. Walk to a tish or shiur in the neighborhood

5:18 PM Havdalah (Hebcal)

Rabbeinu Tam is about 5:52 PM.

Motzei Shabbos Kosel at night, then a melave malka

The Rubin 2023 plan suggested Café Rimon, Mamilla. I haven't re-checked it.

[Map](#)

Sun Nov 15 · Kever Rochel, Har HaMenuchos, Mini Israel, Savta in Ashdod, fly home

Check out in the morning · LY 025 at 12:05 AM

You have the car all day: Pery now has it booked to Mon Nov 16, 7 AM. Return it at Ben Gurion tonight, before check-in.

8:00 AM Shacharis, breakfast, check out, bags in the car

You're leaving Jerusalem for good after Har HaMenuchos, so everything goes in the trunk. The paid late checkout (to 8 PM) won't be used; let A. Grunwald know.

8:45 AM Kever Rochel

About 20 min. Private cars are allowed through the secured corridor at Checkpoint 300 once approved (kerenkeverrachel.com).

Or take the armored Egged bus 163. Board on Jaffa Rd opposite the Central Bus Station, ride about 30 min (hebronfund.org).

Open daily except Shabbos, but it can close for security. Your rental contract bans driving into PA areas. The corridor is Israeli-controlled, but if you're unsure, take bus 163 or a taxi.

Sunday: your bags are in the trunk, so drive (or take a taxi). Bus 163 there and back adds about an hour and would push the rest of the day. Plan about 45 min there; leave by ~10:15. Checkpoint closures happen, so check the day before (see Security).

[Map](#)

10:45 AM Har HaMenuchos (4 kevarim) · הר המנוחות

About 1 hr. Leave by ~12:15 for Latrun.

1. The Belzer Rebbe, Rav Aharon Rokeach · ר' אהרן רוקח · Block פרושים ב, Plot 5, Row 5, Grave 5

2. Avigdor Klein ben Yosef Yona · אביגדור קליין בן יוסף יונה · Block מ, Plot א, Row ד, Grave 15 · pin = Block מ/Plot א area (~25 m); find Row ד #15 on foot

3. Yeshaya Shalom Weber ben Shlomo · ישיעיה שלום ובר בן שלמה · Block תש, Plot ב, Row כא, Grave 3 · exact grave pin (east side of the hill, ~1.1 km from Klein; drive between)

4. Malka & Menachem Eliezer Estreicher (next to each other) · מלכה ומנחם · Block י, Plot א, Grave 254 / 253 (no row listed)

[Map](#) [Waze](#) [GraveZ: Belzer Rebbe](#) [GraveZ: Klein](#) [Map: Klein plot](#) [Waze: Klein plot](#) [GraveZ: Weber](#) [Map: Weber grave](#) [Waze: Weber grave](#) [GraveZ: Malka Estreicher](#) [GraveZ: M.E. Estreicher](#)

12:15 PM Drive to Latrun, about 25 min (Route 1 west)

Pack lunch before you check out (or pick it up in Geula on Friday); I didn't check food at Mini Israel.

12:45 PM Mini Israel, Latrun: the whole country in miniature

Hundreds of small models: the Kosel, Tzfas, Masada, Ben Gurion airport and more, laid out in a big garden. About 1½–2 hrs.

Open all year Sun–Thu 10 AM–4 PM; ticket office closes about an hour before. Closed Shabbos (shomer Shabbos park). 86 NIS per person; **no booking needed** (minisrael.co.il, read Oct 11, 2026).

Heads up: their site says some models are being renovated and may not be moving or working for now.

Phone 1700-559-559 (only works from an Israeli phone; I didn't find a +972 number).

[Map](#) minisrael.co.il

2:45 PM Drive to Ashdod, about 45 min

Route 3 south via Kiryat Malachi, or Route 6/Route 4; check Waze.

3:30 PM Visit Savta in Ashdod (until ~7:30 PM)

Savta's address: _____

Sunset is about 4:40 PM: daven Mincha at Mini Israel or right when you arrive. Maariv in Ashdod.

7:45 PM Drive to Ben Gurion, about 40–45 min. Return the car

Rental car return is in the lot next to the UPS building. Follow the orange signs, then take the free shuttle to Terminal 3 (Israel Airports Authority site).

[Map](#)

8:45 PM El Al check-in, Terminal 3

LY 025 leaves 12:05 AM and lands at Newark 5:05 AM Monday.

Swap-in (optional): Ir David + Chizkiyahu's water tunnel (wet route)

Doesn't fit Sunday with the Ashdod visit. If you want it, squeeze it into Friday. Timed ticket online (from 16 NIS pp) or +972-77-996-6726. Sun–Thu 8 AM–5 PM in winter (funinjerusalem.com).

About 1½–2 hrs. Walk the tunnel in water up to ~70 cm out to the Shiloach pool (dry route too). Bring water shoes, a flashlight, dry clothes. Park at the First Station and take the shuttle.

[Map](#) cityofdavid.org.il/tickets

Swap-in: Ramparts Walk (on the Old City walls)

Walk on top of the Old City walls from Sha'ar Yafo. Open Sun–Thu 9 AM–4 PM in winter, adult 25 NIS, no booking needed; tickets at the Jaffa Gate office or pami.co.il (read Oct 11, 2026). Phone +972-2-627-7550 (from touristisrael.com, not checked).

[Map](#) pami.co.il

Safety & advisories

Read the day before you fly. Things change fast.

- **US Embassy Jerusalem security alert, Oct 8, 2026:** "exercise heightened vigilance". Flights may be cancelled and airspace may close. Know where your nearest shelter is, and use the Home Front Command app. [source](#)
- **State Department:** a search result showed a page titled "Israel Travel Advisory raised to Level 3: Reconsider Travel". I couldn't open the page to see its date. Check travel.state.gov before flying. [source](#)
- **West Bank checkpoints** were closed Oct 5 and Oct 7, 2026 (US Embassy via OSAC). Closures can affect Kever Rochel, so check the day before. [source](#)
- **Meron:** the city warned people not to come before Lag B'Omer (May 2026, Hidabroot), and the big Lag B'Omer event was cancelled this year. I found no closure for November, but check before you go. [source](#)
- **Rental car:** your Pery contract bans leaving Israel or entering Palestinian Authority areas with the car.
- **Emergency numbers in Israel:** Police 100, Magen David Adom (ambulance) 101, Fire 102.

Sources & notes

- Bookings come from Aron's Gmail: MW Travel itinerary (Aug 11, 2026), Pery confirmation #2392252 (updated Oct 11, 2026, re-confirmed Oct 19), Rarestone confirmation (Sep 1, 2026), and the email thread with A. Grunwald (Aug 13 – Sep 5, 2026).
- Shabbos and Rosh Chodesh times: Hebcal for Jerusalem (candles 40 min before sunset).
- Site hours and prices: parks.org.il, thekotel.org, hebronfund.org (Kever Rochel bus) and kerenkeverrachel.com, plus Caesarea (parks.org.il) and Mini Israel (minisrael.co.il), all read Oct 11, 2026. Hours can change, so call ahead.
- Restaurants: shulsintzfat.com (June 2026 list) and mendis.co.il. Jerusalem places come from foodie posts and listings, so check each hechsher yourself.
- Drive times are my estimates, so check Waze on the day. Items marked "2023 plan" come from the Rubin itinerary and were not re-checked.
- North activities (added Oct 11, 2026), each page read that day: funraiderbzafon.co.il and glatiul.co.il (EZ Raider, Kal Daat Segway), dekarina.co.il, merkaz-hashayit.co.il, jeepim-bagolan.co.il, gogolan.co.il, parks.org.il (Gamla) and rosh-hanikra.com. Kal Daat's November schedule, the activity prices marked "not checked" and the shop hours are unverified, so call ahead.
- Sunday Jerusalem activities (added Oct 11, 2026), pages read that day: smart-tour-israel.com and smart-tour.co.il (Segway; price from israelwelcome.com), cityofdavid.org.il (tickets, reservation center), funinjerusalem.com (Ir David winter hours) and pami.co.il (Ramparts). The Segway price and start time and the Ramparts phone are not confirmed, so call ahead.
- Har HaMenuchos (added Oct 11, 2026): kadisha.org (hours), nelech.co.il (parking), English/Hebrew Wikipedia (who is buried there, kohanim), gravez.me. Chevra kadisha phone not checked.

- Wed/Thu activities (added Oct 11, 2026), pages read that day: kfarhanokdim.co.il (camel trek, phone; now only a backup). Tractoroni Tzfat details come from listings (zefatmap, safednofesh, karamel) that disagree on the phone. Camel price and hours are not checked, so call ahead.
- Banias (Wed Nov 11, added Oct 11, 2026): parks.org.il waterfall-area and springs pages and the park's English brochure (hours, last entry, ₪31, phones, Waze name, booking, the 45-min red loop and the ~100 m hanging trail). Trail length ~1.3 km from AllTrails, not checked against the park. Drive times are map-routing estimates without traffic.
- Thu Nov 12 (from Aron's TravelMaven page, Oct 11, 2026): parks.org.il (Masada), b144 and Instagram (Luciana hours), Kikar HaShabbat (kashrus), deadsea.co.il (separate beach), Hebcal. Drive times are estimates.