



Study Abroad: Diplomacy in the New Middle East

Itinerary Subject to change

DAY #1

- Depart from NYC

DAY #2

- Shalom! And welcome to Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport! Today you'll meet your Israeli staff team and begin traveling north along the coast.
- Walking tour of ancient port city of **Jaffa**
- Program introduction and orientation

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv Hotel

DAY #3

- **Israel's Foreign Policy** with [Dr. Ronen Hoffman](#), former Member of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee
- **Media in Conflict Zones** - first-hand perspective of reporting during war
- **Negotiation Simulation** with [Dr. Lesley Terris](#), expert on International Mediation and Political and Strategic Simulations

OVERNIGHT: Kibbutz Guest House, Galilee

DAY #4

- Start the day off right with a hike on Mt. Meiron, the highest point in the Galilee and a mountain rich with history
- Wander through the mystical city of **Tzfat** where you will meet with a local Kabbalistic artist and enjoy free time walking the cobblestone streets and exploring the colorful artists colony.
- Friday night marks the beginning of **Shabbat**, and we'll celebrate it together as an inclusive group experience

OVERNIGHT: Kibbutz Guest House, Galilee

DAY #5

- Enjoy a restful **Shabbat** with a kibbutz tour and a chance to relax with your fellow travelers

OVERNIGHT: Kibbutz Guest House, North

DAY #6

- Ascend the beautiful Golan Heights for a spectacular view of the region and Israel's neighbors from **Mt. Bental**
- Hike down the water-filled **Nahal Zavitan**
- Cool off with relaxed **rafting or tubing** down the upper Jordan River
- Travel to Tel Aviv for **Diplomat at the bar - An informal session with [Amb. Ron Prosor](#)** - Israel's former Ambassador to the United Nations and the United Kingdom

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv Hotel

DAY #7

- **The southern frontier** - tour Israel's southern border with [Colonel \(res.\) Miri Eisin](#). Participants will witness first-hand the proximity of the Gaza strip to the Israeli villages and learn about the diplomatic challenges it presents to the State of Israel
- Travel to a Bedouin village to **ride a camel**, enjoy a traditional hafla dinner feast, and spend the night in an open-air **Bedouin tent**

- OVERNIGHT: Bedouin Tent, Negev Desert

DAY #8

- Wake up long before the sun comes up for your pre-sunrise ascent to **Masada** via the Roman Ramp (it's worth the early hours). Explore the desert mountaintop fortress
- Cool off swimming under the desert waterfalls at the **Ein Gedi** oasis reserve.
- No trip to Israel is complete without a surreal float in the **Dead Sea**. You've got to feel it to believe it!
- Enjoy a **group night out** in Tel Aviv, the city that never sleeps

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv Hotel

DAY #9

- Learn about what it meant to establish the modern State of Israel at **Independence Hall**
- Reflect on Israel's democratic ideals and future at the **Rabin Square Memorial**.
- Enjoy free time and lunch in Tel Aviv's bustling outdoor **Carmel Market**
- Unwind with some well-deserved **beach time** along the Mediterranean coast

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv Hotel

DAY #10

- **Jerusalem Tour - Between the Political and the Diplomatic** led by former [MK Dr. Ronen Hoffman](#). Visit to the Knesset including a meeting with a leading MK dealing with Israel's Foreign Affairs and International relations, followed by a panel meeting with political advisors and media consultants.
- Follow this with a visit to the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, including a meeting with one of Israel's top diplomats for a discussion on foreign affairs.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem Hotel

DAY #11

- Get oriented to Jerusalem with a panoramic view of the city from the **Haas Promenade**

- Then, see it up close as you scale the Rampart Walls surrounding the **Old City**. You'll tour the legendary Jewish Quarter and have time for personal reflection at the **Western Wall**, also known as the Kotel
- Visit the **City of David** complex and discover the joy of splashing through Hezekiah's water tunnel
- As the day comes to a close, there's no better place to get a feel for Jerusalem than the hustle and bustle of the **Machane Yehuda open-air market**. Local Jerusalemites fill the market just before Shabbat begins. Explore, eat, shop. Take it all in!
- Friday night marks the beginning of **Shabbat**, and we'll celebrate it together in Jerusalem, the historic center of Jewish life.

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem Hotel

DAY #12

- It's Shabbat in Jerusalem! If you choose, you can partake in a Shabbat service at a Jerusalem synagogue or celebrate the Day of Rest sleeping in
- Enjoy a relaxed afternoon taking a walking tour of **Jerusalem's colorful neighborhoods** and having some fun at a local park.
- End Shabbat with a **Havdallah** ceremony to mark the start of the new week.
- **Group Night Out** to Jerusalem's famous downtown Ben Yehuda Street

OVERNIGHT: Jerusalem Hotel

DAY #13

- Today begins with a somber visit to the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum**
- Continue on to **Mt. Herzl - Israel's National Cemetery**

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv Hotel

DAY #14

- **Middle East Challenges and Opportunities** - Maj. Gen. (res.) Amos Gilead, Executive Director, Institute for Policy and Strategy (IPS) and Chairman, Annual Herzliya Conference Series, IDC Herzliya. Former Director, Political-Military Bureau, Ministry of Defense
- **The return of the Russian front?** - [Dr. Dima Adamsky](#), Senior Lecturer, Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy
- **'Public Diplomacy 2.0' hands-on Simulation** - learn from the experience of an IDC-based initiative aimed at informing and influencing foreign publics regarding Israel
- **The Next Generation Pitch night & Farewell cocktail:** meeting with the Lauder School Argov Program for Diplomacy & Leadership's Fellows and/or select students from the Public Diplomacy program to discuss Israel's Foreign Relations- challenges and opportunities, and pitching their ideas to Israeli diplomats from Israel's Foreign Ministry.
- Farewell cocktails with diplomats and students.

OVERNIGHT: Tel Aviv Hotel

DAY #15

- Time to say goodbye as you **fly back home** following this experience of challenging by new ideas, discovery of an extraordinary culture, and and a once-on-a-lifetime academic program