

# Eco Israel Tours

## An Eight-Day Exploration of Ecological Issues, Sustainable Communities, and Faith Teachings in Israel

The itinerary below includes a range of programs on Israel and the environment including:

- Renewable Energy in Israel
- Israel's Water Challenges
- Flora and Fauna in the Middle East
- History and Religion
- Organic Farming in Israel
- The Dead Sea
- The Golan Heights

### Day 1 | Tiberias and the Sea of Galilee

Time	Activity
10:00	Meet tour guide and bus in Tel Aviv or Ben Gurion airport
11:00	Drive to Tiberias, with a stop on the way for an outdoor introduction to the trip
14:30	Check in to hotel/ hostel in Tiberias (3 stars)
16:00	Tour at the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum and Tiberias, with a focus on water issues
19:00	Dinner at hotel / local restaurant in Tiberias

### Day 2 | The Golan Heights

Time	Activity
09:00	Drive to observation point from the lower Golan Heights
09:30	Guided learning session on water, Israel, and faith teachings
10:30	Drive to Gamla Nature Reserve
11:00	Tour at Gamla Nature Reserve
13:00	Drive to Kazerin

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13:30	Lunch at Kazerin
14:30	Drive to Alonei Habashan and view the wind turbines
15:30	Meet a renewable energy entrepreneur
16:30	Drive to Majdal Shams and meet the Druze Community
18:30	Drive to Tiberias
19:30	Dinner at hotel in Tiberias

## Day 3 | Northern Galilee

Time	Activity
07:00	Drive to Hula Nature Reserve
07:30	Bird watching at the Hula Lake, and guided discussion on bird migration and biodiversity in Israel
10:00	Drive to the Banias Nature Reserve
11:00	Enter the Banias Nature Reserve, discussing history, flora and fauna
13:00	Drive to Kiryat Shemona
13:30	Lunch at Kiryat Shemona
14:30	Drive to Manara
15:00	Go on cable car to Manara Cliff, the highest cliff in Israel, overlooking the Hula Valley, the Golan Heights and Mt. Hermon
18:00	Drive to Tiberias
19:00	Dinner at hotel

## Day 4 | Jordan River and Dead Sea

Time	Activity
08:30	Drive to Kibbutz Degania – Introduction to ecological issues and faith teachings in relation to the Jordan River
09:30	Tour Kibbutz Degania
10:30	Watch and discuss the Degania dam, the Yarmuk stream, and water issues
11:30	Drive along the Jordan River to the Dead Sea area
13:00	Lunch stop and discussion about the lower Jordan River
14:30	At the Dead Sea, overview of ecological issues of and faith teachings about the Dead Sea
15:30	Swim in the Dead Sea at Mineral Beach
17:30	Drive to hotel
18:30	Dinner at hotel in the Dead Sea area

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## Day 5 | Masada and Ein Gedi

Time	Activities
08:00	Drive to Masada
08:30	Visit the ancient fortification of Masada
12:00	Drive to the Ein Gedi Kibbutz
12:30	Lunch at Ein Gedi
13:30	Tour at the Botanical Gardens of Ein Gedi
15:00	Hike in the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve
16:30	Drive back to hotel
17:30	Discussion and guide learning about the changes in desert life between the past and the present
18:30	Dinner at hotel

## Day 6 | Jerusalem

Time	Activities
08:00	Drive to Almog Junction
09:00	Visit ECOME and explore how the environment can bring together people of different faiths
10:30	Drive to Jerusalem
11:00	From Mount Scopus/Mount of Olives – introduction to Jerusalem's ecology and history
12:00	Lunch in Jerusalem
13:00	Guided tour of the Old City
17:00	Visit the Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development on Mount Zion, with a discussion with a member of its staff
18:00	Drive to hotel in Jerusalem
18:00	Check in and dinner
20:00	Night out in Jerusalem

## Day 7 | From Jerusalem to Tel Aviv

Time	Activities
08:00	Drive to Yael Spring
08:30	Bike-riding in the Jerusalem hills
11:00	Guided learning and group discussion on Jerusalem and sustainable urban development
12:00	Drive to Ein Rafa
12:30	Visit Ein Rafa and lunch with the local population

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14:00	Hike at Sataf Spring and discussion on organic agriculture and trees
17:00	Drive to Tel Aviv
18:00	Check in to Hotel
19:00	Walk the south Tel Aviv promenade towards Jaffa
20:00	Last dinner out in Jaffa
21:00	Night out in Tel Aviv/Jaffa

## Day 8 | Caesarea, Yarkon and Airport

Time	Activities
09:00	Drive to Caesarea
09:30	Tour Caesarea
10:30	Drive to Yarkon Nature reserve
11:30	Tour the Yarkon Nature reserve and discuss the history of the river and its rehabilitation
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Final session and closure
15:00	Drive to airport