



# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---

## Israel Itinerary

**Day 1 Thursday, April 16, 2020:** Depart from JFK to Tel Aviv

Your flight info:

Alitalia AZ 603 Departing JFK at 5:45pm – Arriving in Rome at 8:20 am April 17th

Alitalia AZ 808 Departing Rome FCO at 12:00 pm – Arriving in Tel Aviv at 4:20 pm

**Day 2 Friday, April 17, 2020:** Arrive in Tel Aviv (D)

You'll arrive at Tel Aviv International airport and meet your tour guide and coach driver. We'll take a short drive to Tel Aviv and check into your hotel, the **Dan Panorama Tel Aviv**. You'll have time to unpack and relax. Our hotel is located right on the Mediterranean Sea, a short walk to the beach. If you don't want to swim in the sea, then you might want to spend some time in the pool before heading to dinner

**Dinner and overnight Dan Panorama Tel Aviv**

**Day 03 Saturday April 18: Yaffo - Neve Tzedek – Rothschild Ave.**

Enjoy a famous Israeli buffet breakfast in your hotel and then we'll begin our day with a visit to the Old Port of **Jaffa** (Yafo - established in 1909). It's just south of Tel Aviv where we'll find a beautiful panoramic view of Tel Aviv as well as gain a sense of the first Jewish city of the modern era. Jaffa is where the Prophet Jonah set out on his ill-fated sea voyage before returning to warn the people the potential dangers coming from Nineveh, the ancient Assyrian city, a city known today as Mosul. We'll also visit the largest and most important mosque in Jaffa, the **Mahmoudiya Mosque**, built during the 18th and 19th centuries in the time of the Ottoman Empire



We'll then visit **Neve Tzedek**, the first neighborhood built in the "new" city of Tel Aviv, back in 1887. At the beginning of the 20th century Neve Tzedek was the home of many artists and writers. For lunch we'll enjoy an Israeli favorite, Falafel.

We'll then explore the World Heritage Site of the White City of **Tel Aviv** –founded in 1909 and developed as a metropolitan city under the British Mandate in Palestine. The city was constructed from the early 1930s until the 1950s, designed by architects who were trained in Europe where they practiced their profession before immigrating to Israel. The new town of Tel Aviv is an outstanding example of new town planning and architecture in the early 20th century.

**Dinner and overnight Tel Aviv hotel**



## THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---



**Day 04 Sunday April 19:** Aleph High School of Arts - Caesarea – Acco – Rosh Hanikra - Haifa Buffet breakfast in your hotel.

9:00 am Visit to **Check Point Software Technologies, LTD.** Check Point ([www.checkpoint.com](http://www.checkpoint.com)) is a leading provider of cyber security solutions to corporate enterprises and governments globally, and the largest pure-play security vendor globally and provider of industry-leading solutions to protect customers from all types of cyber attacks.

Afterwards, we'll head to **Aleph High School of Arts**. Its highly professional program is focused on music, theater, visual arts, dance and film. Its students are encouraged to inter-ethnic and religious tolerance and strive for open mindedness and respect. The course work is rigorous and many graduates hold key positions in the art world in Israel and abroad, some are leading dancers, artists, actors, musicians, journalists as well as in fields of science and technology.

We then drive north along the Mediterranean to visit **Caesarea**, built by Herod the Great toward the end of the first century B.C. and for many centuries it was the seat of Roman and later Byzantine rule. We'll walk through the excavated fortress and view the aqueduct, which was once used to bring water to the city. We'll visit the ancient theater, still used as a performance venue.

From there we'll head north to the port city of **Akko (Acre)**. The town was of major significance during the Crusader period in the Holy Land. Because of its position, located on a peninsula encompassing a natural bay, the city gained international significance from 1104 to 1291 as the capital of the Crusader kingdom of Jerusalem.

Akko (Acre) represents the tumultuous history of the Land of Israel possibly better than any other city in the country, a city that has been shaped by the Romans, Ottomans, Crusaders,

Mamelukes, Byzantines, and British, and fittingly is today home to a brilliantly coexistent mixed population of Jews, Christians and Muslims. The city is also home to part of the **Bahai World Center** (the other part being in Haifa, just down the road), another UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Old City of Akko is itself a UNESCO World Heritage Site in recognition of the remains of the Crusader town both above and below street level. The city is also one of a very small number of Ottoman walled towns with citadels, mosques, khans and baths, which have been preserved. In Akko, these sites were built on top of the ruins of the Crusader structures.

We'll experience the beautifully renovated **Knights' Halls** which played a major role in the defense of Akko during Crusader times in the 11th century. The Templars Tunnel discovered in 1994 was used by Templars to get from the port area in the east into the fortress in the western part of the city in times of battle. Drive to Haifa check into your hotel, the **Dan Panorama Haifa**.

**Dinner and overnight Haifa hotel**



**Day 05 Monday April 20: Kfar Kedem - Nazareth - Cana – Sea of Galilee**



# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---



Our first visit after breakfast is to **Kfar Kedem**. A recreated ancient Galilean village that enables us to experience and “touch the past”. Enjoy a donkey ride, learn and participate in some hands-on methods of farming and shepherding from the lifestyle of biblical times.

Then we'll head to **Nazareth** for a tour of the city that was home to Jesus during his youth. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, erected on the site where, according to Catholic tradition, the archangel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she would

become the mother of the Son of God.

Drive to **Kibbutz Hotel Hagoshrim**, our hotel for the next 3 overnights.

**Dinner and overnight hotel Hagoshrim**

## **Day 06 Tuesday April 21: Boat ride - Capernaum - Tabgha - Mt of Beatitudes**

After a delicious breakfast, we'll take part in a time honored Israeli tradition of **planting a tree**, representing life and planting a stake in hope and optimism. Following our planting, we'll head to the **Sea of Galilee for a Boat ride**. We'll then continue to the 2,000-year-old remains of **Capernaum** and stand in what is left of the synagogue in which Jesus is believed to have ministered. We'll visit the house turned, today into a church by the Byzantines. It's said to be the home of the apostle Peter. We also visit **Tabgha**, commemorating the feeding of the 5,000.

For lunch we'll enjoy a seafood meal of St Peter Fish on shore of the

**Sea of Galilee**. After lunch visit the **Mount of Beatitudes**, the site where Jesus preached His Sermon on the Mount

**Dinner and overnight hotel Hagoshrim**



## **Day 07 Wednesday April 22: Tzfat - Golan Heights - Mt Bental - Chocolate workshop at Dekarina Chocolate Factor**

After breakfast, drive to the mystical city of Tzfat (Safed) to visit the Yosef Caro Synagogue Alcove. Yosef Caro was the 16th century codifier of Jewish law. We will also visit the site that some believe Cain and Able were buried. Afterward we'll have some free time to enjoy the city's thriving Artists' Colony and shop at the local kiosks, galleries and gift shops.

In the afternoon we'll ascend to the **Golan Heights and Mt. Bental** where we'll enjoy an amazing panoramic view of the Golan Heights and Syria.

**Dinner and overnight hotel Hagoshrim**

## **Day 08 Thursday April 23: Beit Shean - Sachne - Kibbutz Bio Tour Sde Eliyahu – Jerusalem**



# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---



After breakfast, we'll check out of our hotel and head-south to Beth Shean, once a major Biblical city, located in the center of major trade routes. We'll visit the Roman theater, the amphitheater where gladiators once fought, the Byzantine bathhouse, and the main avenue, the colonnaded Paladius Street.

A short drive leads us to the **Schne, also known as Gan Hashlosha National Park**. It is a well-known water park to the west of the Valley of the Springs (Bet She'an Valley). Enjoy the wonderful pools, whose waters come from springs and

cascades along the Amal streambed. The temperature of the spring water is a constant 28°C, all year round, and this is the source of the park's Arabic name Sakhne, meaning "hot". We then keep heading southbound along the Jordan valley to visit **Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu**, a leader in the development, growth and expansion of organic farming in Israel. See high-tech agriculture first hand created by BioBee Biological Systems. Proceed to the holy city of Jerusalem, one of the oldest cities in the world and check into Ramada hotel, our hotel for the next 4 nights.

**Dinner and overnight hotel Ramada, Jerusalem**

## **Day 09 Friday April 24: Israel Museum - Yad Vashem / Science Museum - Machane Yehuda**

After breakfast, the first visit of the day is to the **Israel Museum**, which is not only the country's largest cultural institution, but also one of the world's finest archaeological museums. The tour includes visiting the Shrine of the Book, the famous **Dead Sea Scrolls**.

The adults among (plus children over 12) will visit **Yad Vashem Holocaust museum**. Opened in 1963, Yad Vashem is the world's leading Holocaust memorial and research center through the museum and follow the fate of Europe's Jews from the early 1930s through their liberation in 1945.

At the same time, the younger children will enjoy a visit to the **Bloomfield Science Museum** in Jerusalem. Opened to the public in its present location in the summer of 1992, the museum in Jerusalem is an informal cultural and educational institution that presents exhibitions consisting of interactive exhibits on subjects of science and technology. We'll end our day at the bustling **Machne Yehuda Market**, the largest open air market of Jerusalem, enjoying the colors and smell and tastes of the season before returning to our hotel.



**Dinner and overnight hotel Ramada, Jerusalem**





# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---

## Day 10 Saturday April 25: Old City of Jerusalem



Enjoy the Israeli buffet breakfast in your hotel. Today's adventure will be filled with experiences focused on two of the world's major religions Christianity and Judaism. Our first stop is at **Mount of Olives** - one of the most prominent sites in the Jerusalem vicinity mentioned in the Holy Scriptures where you will be able to enjoy a spectacular panoramic view of the Old City. Descend along Palm Sunday and enter the **Garden of Gethsemane** alongside the Church of All Nations. Enter the Old City of Jerusalem via **Lions Gate** and walk along the Stations of the Cross (Via Dolorosa). We visit St. Anne's Church, the

home of the Virgin Mary and see the Ecce Homo where Pilate proclaimed "Behold the man..."

Continue along the famous Jerusalem Bazar and via the **Armenian Quarter**, reaching **Mount Zion** on the south side of Jerusalem, King David's city. We see the Upper Room, view the traditional **tomb of King David**, and proceed to the **Cardo**, the main street in Ancient Roman cities located in the Jewish Quarter, before continuing to the **Western Wall also known as the Wailing Wall**, the most sacred place for the Jewish People.

**Dinner and overnight hotel Ramada, Jerusalem**

## Day 11 Sunday April 26: City of David - Western Wall Tunnels – Bethlehem – Talitha Kumi visit / tour school

After breakfast we'll head to the **City of David**, where King David first established his capital 3,000 years ago. This site served as the first capital of a unified Jewish state and is adjacent to where King David's son and successor, Solomon, built the First Temple. Today, archaeologists continue to find remnants from King David's Jerusalem that shed new light on the history of this fascinating city.

We will take a walk through the subterranean Hezekiah's Tunnel. According to the book of Kings II, the tunnel was built in the 8th century BCE by King Hezekiah to protect Jerusalem's water when the city was under attack by the Assyrian army.



We will tour **the Western Wall Tunnels**, which are located right next to the Western Wall plaza, and underneath many of the buildings and homes in the Old City. Here, we can see a high-tech model of what archaeologists believe the Holy Temple and the city of Jerusalem looked like 2,000 years ago, and we will see the full length of the original Western Wall, some 1,600 feet longer than what is visible from the plaza above ground.

In the afternoon, we drive to Bethlehem and visit the Church of the Nativity in **Bethlehem**, which stands upon the site where Jesus was born.

We'll then visit the **Talitha Kumi school**. The Educational Centre of Talitha Kumi is located in Beit Jala close to Bethlehem. The school provides classes at all educational levels, from first grade to high-school



# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---

level. The complex also includes a kindergarten, a community college, a boarding school for girls, as well as a large guesthouse.

**Dinner and overnight hotel Ramada, Jerusalem**

**Day 12 Monday April 27: Visit Neve Shalom - Dig for a Day in Bet Juvrin – Drive to Kfar Hanokdim - Camel Ride**



This morning after breakfast, we check out from our hotel, heading south to **Neve Shalom**: an intentional community jointly established by Jewish and Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel. The village is located midway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv-Jaffa.

Our next stop will be the **Beit Guvrin National Park**. Beit Guvrin is an important archaeological site in southern Israel around 60km south of Jerusalem. The Park encompasses the remains of the ancient city of Tel Maresha and covers some 5,000 dunams. The site has a tumultuous history from the First Temple Period through to modern times. We'll

experience a hands on dig in an actual archaeological excavation from the time of the Maccabees.

Excavations are done at the Hellenistic or Second Temple Period.

Once we're done digging, we'll head farther south to the Bedouin compound of **Kfar Hanokdim**, to spend a unique evening and overnight in a Bedouin tent, ride a Camel, enjoy Bedouin hospitality and join in a traditional dinner. We'll end the night circled around a bonfire in the Judean desert. Tonight get a good night's sleep because we'll be up before dawn to experience the sunrise from the incredible site of Masada.

**Dinner & Overnight Kfar Hanokdim; Bedouin Camp**

**Day 13 Tuesday April 28 (Eve of Israel Independence Day): Sunrise Masada - Ein Gedi - Qumran - Dead Sea Swim – Drive to Tel Aviv**

Early morning drive to the footsteps of **Masada** on along its western slopes. We'll hike up the Roman Ramp to the site of the final Jewish stronghold that fell to the Roman Empire in the year 73 CE, thus ending the Great Revolt that saw the destruction of the Second Temple three years earlier. On this mountaintop fortress the last Jewish inhabitants chose to take their own lives rather than be subjected to slavery under the Romans.

We shall descend along the famous "Snake Path" and take a short drive to **Ein Gedi Oasis**, famous for the persimmon groves confiscated by Cleopatra. Ein Gedi is where David concealed himself when he fled from King Saul.

Continue along the Sea shoreline to visit **Qumeran**, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found by a Bedouin shepherd in 1948. Enjoy a **swim & "float" in the Dead Sea** before heading to north back to Tel Aviv for your last night in Israel.

**Dinner and overnight Dan Panorama Tel Aviv hotel.**

**Day 14 Thursday April 30: Flight back to USA or extend your stay in Rome**



# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---



## ***EXTENSION ROME***

### **Day 14 Wednesday April 29 (Israel Independence Day): Flight to Rome**

Transfer from TLV hotel – TLV AP for your flight to Rome

Alitalia AZ 815 Departing Tel Aviv at 9:30 am – Arriving in Rome at 12:15 pm

Arrival at Rome Fiumicino Airport

For those not extending in Rome you will stay in the airport and connect to your flight back to the USA

Transfer to your Hotel – Rest of the day at leisure

**Overnight Hotel Victoria**

### **Day 15 Thursday April 30 – Rome**

After breakfast the day will be dedicated to the visit of the cradle of the Christianity - **Vatican City** with **San Peters Cathedral** and the **Vatican museum** including the Michelangelo masterpiece the **Sistine Chapel**. After the Vatican tour we will continue to have an overview of the Eternal City

**Overnight in Hotel Victoria**

### **Day 16 Friday May 1st – Rome**

**Free day** to discover Rome on your own and to do some last-minute shopping.

Tonight, **Farewell dinner** at a local restaurant

**Overnight in Hotel Victoria**

### **Day 17 Saturday May 2nd – Return USA**

After breakfast transfer to Rome Fiumicino airport for your flight back home

Alitalia 608 Departing Rome at 10:40 am – Arriving JFK at 2:15pm

---

Operated by





# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

---

\*\*\* Program is subject to changes and availabilities

## Rates include:

### **Israel Itinerary**

- \* Porterage & tips at airport and hotels
- \* Guide escorted round trip transfer from/to Tel Aviv international airport
- \* Licensed English speaking tour guide throughout the entire tour
- \* Luxury air-conditioned Motorcoach with WIFI
- \* 12 overnights at following hotels or similar
  - 2 nights Hotel Dan Panorama / Hotel Renaissance in Tel Aviv
  - 1 night Hotel Dan Panorama Haifa in Haifa
  - 3 nights Hotel Kinar in Tiberius area, Golan wing room
  - 4 nights Hotel Ramada in Jerusalem
  - 1 night Kfar Kanokdim Bedouin compound
  - 1 night @ Hotel Dan Panorama / Hotel Renaissance in Tel Aviv
- \* Entrance fees as per itinerary : National park ticket; Bet Juvrin, Caesarea, Beth Shean, Sachne, Ein Gedi, Qumran, Masada, short camel ride in Kfar Hanokdim Bedouin compound, Archaeological dig in Bet Juvrin, Crusaders Halls in Acre, Rosh Hanikra with 2 ways cable car, Western Wall Tunnel, City of David, Israel Museum, Science museum/Yad Vashem with personal headphones in Yad Vashem, Boat ride on Sea of galilee, Chocolate work shop in Dekarina, visit to Kfar Kedem, entry to all Churches, Mosques and Synagogues , Jerusalem and Bethlehem as per your program below.
- \* 2 Bottles of Water per person per day.
- \* 12 breakfasts,
- \* 11 dinners
- \* 4 lunches

### **Rome Extension**

- 3 nights at Hotel Victoria 4\* or similar
- Round trip airport transfers
- City Tour with local English speaking guide
- Visit Vatican museum & Sistine Chapel
- Farewell Dinner at local restaurant
- Daily breakfast
- Hotel taxes (excluding local city tax to be paid locally)







# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

## PASSENGER RESERVATION FORM / CONTRACT

Thornton Donovan School

Trip to ISRAEL

4/16 – 4/29/2020

Optional extension to Rome 4/29 – 5/2/2010

ENCLOSED IS MY (OUR) DEPOSIT CHECK OF **\$1000.00** + \$100 per airline seat booked per person payable to:

**GT Experiences.**

<i>Rates Per person</i>	<i>Double occupancy</i>	<i>Triple occupancy</i>	<i>Single occupancy (limited availability)</i>
<b>Israel Portion</b>	<b>\$3,550</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$5,133</b>
<b>Rome Extension</b>	<b>\$ 680</b>	<b>\$ 670</b>	<b>\$ 880</b>
<b>Airfare</b>	<b>\$1,300</b>		

Travel insurance premium (if accepted) to be paid by credit card that will be charged directly by the Insurance carrier CSA/Generali. (see below)

☐

**We will extend our stay in Rome (please check this box if you want to extend your stay)**

**PASSENGER INFORMATION:** Please print. Include a copy of the picture page of your Passport(s). Important for airline/hotels.

**Name(s) as it/they appear on your passport(s)**

	<b>First Name/Middle init</b>	<b>Last name</b>	<b>Pass #</b>	<b>Nationality</b>	<b>Date of Birth</b>
<b>1</b>					
<b>2</b>					
<b>3</b>					
<b>4</b>					

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Operated by





# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

**ROOM ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION:** (please check the type of room requested and assign each passenger to each room)

☐ Double Room\_\_ Passenger nr \_\_/Passenger nr \_\_ ☐ Double Room\_\_ Passenger nr \_\_/Passenger nr \_\_  
☐ Single Room\_\_\_\_\_ Passenger nr \_\_\_\_/ ☐ Triple Room: Passenger nr \_\_\_\_/ Passenger nr \_\_\_\_/  
Limited number of single rooms available. Passenger nr \_\_\_\_/

**INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT:**

☐ We accept the flights proposed at \$ \_1,300\_\_ per person:  
1 AZ 603 16APR JFK FCO 545P 820A 17APR  
2 AZ 808 17APR FCO TLV 1200N 420P  
3 AZ 815 29APR TLV FCO 930A 1215P  
4 AZ 608 02MAY FCO JFK 1040A 215P  
☐ I will handle my (our) own international flights  
NOTE: GT Experiences is not responsible for any domestic connecting or international flights booked by other travel agencies or non-refundable fares.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE: coverages are available at**

<https://www.csatravelprotection.com/certpolicy.do?product=G-TOUR03>

☐ I (we) **ACCEPT** travel insurance to be paid by the following credit card:  
Credit card Nr \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Security code \_\_\_\_\_  
Premium charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Land Only - \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Air and Land

**Premiums (rate per person)**

- Israel Land Only \$ 252
- Air and Land \$ 318
- Including Rome Extension land only \$ 283
- Land & Air including Rome Extension: \$ 379

☐ I (we) **DECLINE** travel insurance

Payment of premium can be done up to the final payment of the cost of the trip but the coverage will start only at time of payment of the premium itself. We suggest you to pay the premium at time of initial deposit.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT:** **(Not traveling with you)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Operated by





# THORNTON-DONOVAN SCHOOL

Please review the Terms and Conditions for explanation of cancellation policy, final deposit information, etc.

**I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions. ALL PASSENGERS MUST SIGN THIS FORM.**  
**If under age 18, parent or guardian must sign.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signatures required)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signatures required)

## **GROUP TERMS & CONDITIONS**

### **PAYMENT POLICY**

#### **PAYMENTS:**

- \$1000 per person + \$100 per person per airline seat *Once all the services will be confirmed additional deposits will be requested for Hotels, Airlines, and other land services included in the itinerary.*
- 25% 90 days prior departure
- Final payment 60 days prior departure

#### **AIR DEPOSIT:**

Airlines require a \$100.00 per seat deposit to hold the space

The airfare quoted will be a special "NEGOTIATED" NON-REFUNDABLE fare booked in a specific class of service, and is subject to space availability

### **CANCELLATION POLICY AND FEES**

- 90 days and over prior to departure date: \$300 per person
- 89-22 days prior to departure date: 25% of total price
- 21-14 days prior to departure date: 50% of total price
- 13-8 days or less prior to departure date: 75% of total price
- 7 days and less: 100% of total price

Operated by

