By law, all places for public use in Israel must be made accessible. This includes museums, nature reserves, restaurants, and historic sites. Unfortunately, there are some places that are necessarily more difficult to access. Some popular sites that are not accessible include the Bahai Hanging Gardens, Rosh Hanikra, and trails around Mitzpe Ramon. Ben Gurion Airport has a number of concessions for the mobility challenged, from elevators and ramps to designated helpers. There's also a strong network in place so that travelers can receive any necessary equipment or services. Yad Sarah is a charity that provides medical support and equipment to both Israelis and foreigners in need. More than ever before, wheelchair accessible travel in Israel is available from north to south. Information in English can be found through Friends of Yad Sarah. To simplify your trip, we offer below a number of spots that are verified as wheelchair accessible.

Northern Israel

As famed as it is for its natural beauty and wealth of historical sites, northern Israel is a hotspot for travelers. Starting in Herzliya, the ancient Roman Villa on the coast at Apollonia National Park is very wheelchair friendly. In the historic and rich city of Akko, the ancient Crusader tunnels are all wheelchair accessible, with the exception of the escape tunnel. While most of Haifa is accessible, the Bahai Gardens are not, although views from the top and bottom terraces are still striking.

Hula Park, a nature preserve and haven for wild birds, is covered with wooden walkways and bridges that are easily navigated. Caesarea, an ancient Roman port city and the site of many ruins, is an accessible site on the coastline. For the biblical highlights roundup, the Yardenit Baptismal site, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, and the Mount of Beatitudes are all wheelchair accessible. This highlights of the north tour takes you to all of these, and more.

Central Israel

Central Israel's main cities for visitors include Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. In Jerusalem, most of the Old City is easy to access. This includes the Western Wall, Dome of the Rock, Mount of Olives, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Via Dolorosa, the path Jesus is believed to walk to his crucifixion, also meets this standard. If you're having trouble navigating this area, keep an eye out for the blue and white signs that mark wheelchair accessible trails. The Israel Museum and Yad Vashem, along with Machane Yehuda, are also simple to navigate and have many ramps and elevators.

Tel Aviv is very wheelchair friendly, from the boulevards to the beaches. Hilton Beach offers beach specific wheelchairs, and a ramp that extends to the water from the promenade. Both the Sarona and Carmel Markets are optimized for accessibility, as is the historic Jaffa Port and the churches and alleyways that surround it. One of our favorite spots to visit, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, is accessible in a number of ways.

Southern Israel

In the south, the main draws are natural beauty, including the singular Dead Sea and Negev Desert. While both of these offer their own challenges, they are wheelchair accessible. Many beaches at the Dead Sea have both ramps and special changing rooms.

The stunning oasis of Ein Gedi is also wheelchair friendly. A number of paved or flattened paths are available to reach the main attractions, including waterfalls and pools. <u>Eilat</u> draws in many to dive or visit Timna Park and goes out of its way to make all welcome. This travel guide details all there is to do in and around the city. In the last few years, Masada has been running their cable car to the top more frequently. The site itself is mostly flat with pavement and easy to navigate.

Traveling in Israel With a Wheelchair

No matter if you're trying to explore the wilds or see the cities, wheelchair accessible travel in Israel is openly available. Countrywide provisions mean that all public transport and sites must be accessible for all. If you're

looking to get off the beaten path, we also offer <u>private transport</u> to meet your every need and make this the trip of a lifetime!

Thank you and Best regards,



Gail Siegel/Senior Tour Operator Ella's Department

Mobile: +972 52 4570144 | Tel: 076-530-5751

Email: gail@sareltours.com

Sar-El

Sar-El Tours & Conferences Academy







