







## Welcome To Ashkelon

Welcome to Ashkelon, an activity-packed city, where a history of 4,000 years blends harmoniously with a vibrant modern city that offers a wealth of leisure and recreational tourism activities. Ashkelon boasts 12 kilometers of spellbinding coastline and offers a spectacular variety of rare archaeological sites, visitor centers, restaurants, recreational activities and other surprises.

Come and relax in this seaside city, where the beach plays a significant part in the city's character, with

its striking, well-kept promenade and a variety of hotels that dot its coastline.

## Fascinating History

Ashkelon, one of the most ancient cities in the world, was established more than 4,000 years ago. The city has an exciting past that is evident in its many archaeological and historical sites.

#### Ashkelon National Park

Ashkelon National Park boasts a surprising variety of spots to explore and leisure options. Here, 4000 years of the city's history are evident to the eye and capture the soul. In the park you will find The Canaanite City Gate (the oldest arched gate of its kind in the world, built in approximately 1800 BC), A vast Roman Basilica, the remains of the church of Santa Maria Viridis from the Byzantine period, relics from the Crusader Period and Richard the Lionheart's Third Crusade to the conquest of Ashkelon by the Muslims, a system of dozens of different types of water wells and more. There is nothing more for you to do but devote yourselves to the green lung that enshrouds this exciting rich history.

## The Sarcophagi Courtyard

This unique site incorporates an impressive collection of archaeological findings, the highlight of which are two sarcophagi (coffins), which are the most important findings from the Roman period.

## The Byzantine Church

Explore the remnants of a Byzantine church, built in the 4th century, with the remains of an apse, columns, square rooms, prayer room and a baptism room.

## Tomb of Sheikh Awad, Bar Kokhba Promenade

A large tomb from the Mamluk period (13-16 centuries AD), surrounded by an impressive domed structure. It was built to centralize the Muslim population of pilgrims near the beach, with the purpose of overseeing holy gravesites, in order to prevent the Crusader invasion.



## Ashkelon Marina & Beaches

Ashkelon's stunning beaches span about 12 kilometers of coastline. The beach plays a very significant part in the character of this coastal city. One of Ashkelon's most delightful sites is its international marina, which is one of Israel's most beautiful marinas.

#### Beaches

Ashkelon has 6 official beaches, which are well-kept and clean. Ashkelon's beaches are not only perfect for a refreshing swim but also for an evening walk at all times of the year, to enjoy a romantic sunset or just to relax.

#### **Private Cruises**

Looking for an unusual experience? Want to escape the hustle and bustle? Take a break and sail off into the horizon: on a private cruise for a couple or a group, including luxurious personal hospitality - anything from light refreshments to a chef-made meal.

www.mazayharuach.com.

## Diving

Ashkelon offers diving courses for divers of all levels, including an introductory diving session and guided diving session. www.southern-divers.co.il



## Hotels

As a southern coastal city, Ashkelon enjoys a pleasant climate most of the year. Ashkelon boasts a variety of hotels and you will find something to suit every budget, mood and nature of the holiday. All you have to do is choose...

# #

## Holiday Inn Holiday Inn

The hotel is situated on the Bar Kokhba promenade and offers a spectacular view of Ashkelon's beaches. The hotel has 215 rooms and 10 suites, all of which face the adjacent beach. The hotel, has a covered swimming pool, food halls, prestigious restaurants, and a conference hall. The hotel also has a health club and spa and a tennis court. www.h-i.co.il



### The Leonardo Ashkelon

This hotel, which belongs to the Fattel hotel chain, is situated next to Ashkelon's marina and offers an excellent and luxurious holiday to families and business people. The hotel has 131 rooms with balconies facing the sea, a spa with 8 treatment rooms, a swimming pool, hot tub and a gym, a children and teen club, a business lounge and four conference and event halls.

www.fattal.co.il



## The Regina Goren Hotel

Situated near Delilah Beach, with 41 pleasant rooms. The hotel has meeting facilities, a bar and tourism desk. The Ashkelon Marina is an eight minute walk from the hotel.

www.reginagoren.com



# Fun, Attractions & Tours

Ashkelon boasts an abundance of tourist attractions to satisfy every fancy, whim and mood. Everyone will find something to do!

## Sea-Park Entertainment and Recreation

The Sea- Park complex is situated on Ashkelon's spectacular beachfront, it is a unique ecological complex that offers an entertainment and leisure experience for the whole family.

#### Ashkelon Market

A beautiful, colorful market, bursting with intoxicating aromas and lots of surprises.

## Ashkelon's Artists and Craftspeople

In Ashkelon you'll find an abundance of artists and craftspeople who derive their inspiration from the city. Many of them open their homes, which act as galleries, to visitors by appointment. A visit which will certainly give your holiday in Ashkelon a different and original facet.

## **International Congress Center**

The congress center is situated on the campus of the Ashkelon Academic College. The center boasts three different sized auditoriums with state of the art audio visual technology, www.convention.org.il







