

Life in & around Neve Ya'ar

1. How to find an apartment near Neve Ya'ar (NY)?

There are two neighborhoods near NY, namely Ramat Yishay and Givat Ha'Kalaniyot which are very convenient for finding an apartment if you have no car. Otherwise, you will have to bus to NY, which eventually will be quite costly. As in most places in the world, the easiest way to find an apartment is by accessing the internet. There is a website that you not only can find an apartment, but also other things such as, car, ice-box, television and bike. It is a Hebrew website, and thus you will need the help of locals who know Hebrew, but this is not a problem as Israelis are happy to help out. The website is www.yad2.co.il.

Another way to find an apartment is to ask the house owners. Below is some information on landlords who have recently rented houses.

1. Apartment 1 is located in Irit Street with one bedroom and a living room, and the landlord provides a refrigerator. Important, there is a gas oven in the open kitchen. Contact person, Maoz, 052-3809911 or 04-9831940.
2. Apartment 2 is located in Simtat Ha'Lotem Street with a bedroom, a living room and an open kitchen. A refrigerator, an air conditioner, a sofa, and an electrical oven are provided. Tel: 0544983730.

2. How can we get to around?

2.1 Ben Gurion airport

The convenient way between NY and the Ben Gurion International airport is by train from Haifa. The train is accessed with any of the three buses 301, 331 and 332 to either of the two Haifa train stations. The first train station is Lev Hamifratz, and the entrance is through the shopping mall. The second train station is the Haifa-Center HaShmona which is a separate building (in memory of eight Railways workers). It takes about 90 mins to the TLV airport by train. The official timetable in English can be accessed at <http://www.rail.co.il/EN/Pages/Homepage.aspx>; Bus website is <http://www.bus.co.il/>.

2.2 Jerusalem

Unfortunately, there is no direct bus from NY to Jerusalem. We can take the 955 from Nazareth to Jerusalem or 940 or 960 from Haifa to Jerusalem. It is about 3 hours from NY to Jerusalem including 30 min from NY to Haifa (Lev Hamifratz). We can take 331, 332 or 301 from Ramat Yishay to Lev Hamifratz (not Haifa center HaShmona). Bus of 960 is from platform16.

2.3 Tel Aviv

The bus 826 is a direct bus from Nazareth to TLV via NY. It may take 2 hours from NY to TLV. Another way is by train that is same to the airport. It depends on your terminal that which one is the best way to get TLV.

3 Shopping

There are two supermarkets near NY, one is behind the shopping mall of Ramat Yishay. Another is in Ramat Yishay West (the name is victory, near the Ramat Yishay West bus stop). I prefer the former one because it is cheaper. But it is little hard for us to take the stuff we bought from the supermarket to home without the car. There are some clothing stores and a SuperPharm in the shopping mall of Ramat

Yishay. I think it is a good choice that we buy something in the Haifa city if we visit there on the weekend. By the way, it's very lucky that the bus from NY to Haifa, namely 301, 331 and 332 still work on weekends even on Shabbat.

4 Is there any place worth visiting nearby?

1) **Church of the Annunciation**

A traditional site of Joseph and Mary's home in Nazareth.

The mosaics and paintings of Mary on the church walls, as well as in its yard, were given by different countries and reflect their respective national motifs.

<http://www.nazarethinfo.org/OldSite.aspx?levelid=63538>

<http://wikitravel.org/en/Nazareth>

We can get there by bus 331.

2) **The Bahai Garden in Haifa**

In July 2008, the Bahai Gardens in Haifa and Akko were inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List, in recognition of their "outstanding universal value" as holy places and places of pilgrimage for the followers of the Bahai Faith.

<http://www.ganbahai.org.il/en/>

3) **Tiberias area including the Sea of Galilee and Safed**

Tiberias is one of the four Jewish Holy cities, and the capital of the Galilee. It has a long history since it was established in the early Roman period. It is a good choice to spend a weekend, walking in the vicinity or cycling around the Galilee lake. And there are some hot-springs nearby in winter.

Safed is a rather small town located in Northern Israel and at an elevation of 900 meters. Safed has been considered one of Judaism's Four Holy Cities, along with Jerusalem, Hebron and Tiberias.

<http://www.safed.co.il/>

4) **Akko city (Acre old city)**

In 2001 UNESCO declared Acre a World Hheritance Site due to its beauty and history of the city including the walls and fortresses. It's an exciting experience and great place to drink a coffee or enjoy a dinner with the sunset.

<http://www.akko.org.il/en/Old-Acre-Visitors-Center-about>