

ADAS (in) ISRAEL

An Unforgettable Adas Israel Congregational Journey to Israel

TRAVEL DATES: JUNE 18 - 28, 2020

DAY ONE: THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020

ON THE WAY TO ISRAEL

- Depart the US.
- Overnight: Flight

DAY TWO: FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2020

THE START OF A SPECIAL JOURNEY

- Arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport. Our representative will be on hand to assist with all formalities and ensure your journey has the smoothest of starts.
- Welcome to Jerusalem: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- A First Look at the Holy City: Over the centuries, many have been moved and awed by their first sight of Jerusalem. We'll stop at the Haas Promenade for a stunning overview of the city and celebrate our arrival with a special ceremony and the traditional "shehechiyanu" blessing of thanksgiving.
- Check into the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- 7:07 p.m. Candle lighting.
- Sacred Time, Sacred Space: Join Jerusalemites in a musical Kabbalat Shabbat at the Old Train Station Plaza, a central neighborhood hub for food, entertainment, culture, and enrichment.

OR

- Sacred Time, Sacred Space: Kabbalat Shabbat services with Kehillat Zion.
- Return to the hotel.
- Gather together with your fellow congregants for a private Shabbat dinner at the hotel.
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY THREE: SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2020

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM | Walking Tours

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning Services at local Jerusalem synagogues.
- Shabbat lunch at the hotel.
- Optional afternoon walking tours including:
- Yemin Moshe Scavenger Hunt- discover the fabulous story of the expansion of Jerusalem beyond the Old City. Wandering from the Montefiore Windmill through the winding alleys of Yemin Moshe with an Israel ScaVentures picture pack, you will learn the story of a frontier neighborhood that became one of

Jerusalem's most beautiful neighborhood.

- Hebrew Writers: Walk through the streets of Jerusalem, guided by the writings of Jerusalem's poets and authors, such as Yehuda Amichai, S.Y. Agnon, and others.
- A Mountain Holy to Many: Old City Walk along the Old City Ramparts of the Old City from the Jaffa Gate to the Zion Gate. Experience the overlapping religions and the complexity of inter-religious relations at Mount Zion. The site is venerated by Christians as the location of Jesus' Last Supper but was once a mosque while, in a room directly below, Jews pray at the place where King David is believed to have been buried.
- From the Diaspora to Jerusalem: Take a walking tour through the colorful neighborhood of Nahlaot. Visit the various synagogues, walk through the narrow alleys, and learn more about the different ethnic communities who make up the neighborhood's mosaic.
- 8:30 p.m. Ben Kodesh Lechol: Seuda Shlishit at the hotel, followed by
- Free evening in Jerusalem, joining the many Israelis out on the town.
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY FOUR: SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020

TIKKUN OLAM, REPAIRING THE WORLD

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Da'at Encounters -The Art of Tikkun Olam: Meet elderly, often impoverished, immigrants who are finding a sense of purpose and creating beautiful artwork at Yad LaKashish (Lifeline for the Elderly). We'll hear personal stories and see the aging artisans in action, talk with those running this inspirational organization, and check out the fabulous gift shop that supports this endeavor.
- Making Our Mark: Feel the land and help it flourish with a tree planting After the ceremony, explore the Gazelle Valley Park, a 250-acre haven of nature in urban Jerusalem with wildlife, including 30 gazelles, roaming through the park.
- Take a multi-cultural tasting journey through the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem's Machane Yehudah open-air market: Enjoy the sights, smells, tastes, and sounds of this vibrant area where Jerusalemites shop.
- Giving Back with Pantry Packers: Participate in a Tikkun Olam activity by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families; after a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons, and caps and fill bags of rice, beans, and other commodities.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY FIVE: MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020

INTO THE DESERT: MASADA & THE DEAD SEA

- Enjoy an early breakfast at the hotel before setting out to explore the Dead Sea region.
- As Low as it Goes: We'll drive to the Dead Sea Basin, 1412 feet below sea level and the lowest place on earth. The desert, the landscape, and the views are breathtaking.
- The Last Stand: Climb via the snake path or take the cable car to the top of Masada with its extraordinary views and fascinating archaeological remains. This UNESCO World Heritage site is where Jewish rebels are believed to have made their final attempt to resist Roman invaders (c 74 CE). We'll learn about Masada's importance as a symbol of Jewish defense and discuss its influence on modern Israel.
- B'nai Mitzvah Service atop Masada.
- Lunch and a "Swim" in the Sea of Salt: Float into happiness at a private beach on the Dead Sea. Not much can live or swim in what is the saltiest piece of water in the world, nine times saltier than the ocean, but the weightless feeling of floating is great fun. You'll also enjoy a buffet lunch at a Dead Sea

hotel.

- We'll drive by Qumran, where a separatist Jewish sect from the Second Temple period created an isolated community and where the Dead Sea Scrolls, some of the most ancient and important religious manuscripts in existence, were discovered.
- The Desert Experience: Guests are treated like royalty in desert societies. Take a camel for the test drive and ride into the Judean wilderness. Afterward, we'll recline in a spacious tent and enjoy Middle Eastern hospitality and a traditional "hafla" dinner. Even the patriarch Abraham will be on hand to welcome us to Genesis Land as we get a taste of life and travel in Biblical times.
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SIX: TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020

Breakfast at the hotel.

Track 1: Hartman Institute Text Study Program

To be developed with the Hartman Institute staff

Track 2: Israeli/Palestinian Track - THE BIG PICTURE

The Geopolitics of Jerusalem: Travel through the city of Jerusalem exploring some of the political and diplomatic complexities of recent years; drive around the seam zone, with an in-depth study seminar on the ramifications of current developments with (Res.) Danny Tirza, one of the seam zone's designers.

A Place of Contemplation and Conflagration: Visit one of the most religiously powerful but contentious places in the world, the Temple Mount. The original site of the Jewish Temples, the Temple Mount is also holy to Islam as the place where the prophet Muhammad is believed to have started his "night journey" to heaven. You will see the al-Aqsa Mosque, one of Islam's most sacred sites and the stunning, golden Dome of the Rock.

Track 3: Greatest hits tour for first timers - Jerusalem of Gold

Start the morning off with Tefillah at Azarat Yisrael, the egalitarian section of the Kotel.

Going Under, Going Deeper: Explore the Western Wall Tunnel, the underground continuation of the Kotel, and examine important archaeological discoveries that are revising our understanding of daily life in ancient Jerusalem. Learn about the second temple through a new Virtual Reality Experience. Take a walking tour through Jerusalem's Old City and the Jewish Quarter and experience the center of Jewish life, history, and holiness. Among the highlights will be:

The Cardo, the main street of Roman-controlled Jerusalem and its spectacular Byzantine-era columns.

Living, Praying and Building in the Jewish Quarter: Visit Hurva Square, the hub of the modern-day Jewish Quarter, and visit one of its major places of worship, the Hurva Synagogue. This synagogue's architecture and history reveal much about the transformations in this area over the last 150 years. It was destroyed by the Jordanian Army during Israel's War of Independence in 1948 but has been, after a long process, restored to its former glory.

Track 4: Family Adventure - Connecting to the land of Israel

Join the Temple Mount Sifting Operation. Sift through the rubble that originated in the Second Temple period. Learn about the findings from archaeologists and expert guides at the site.

Hiking in the Hills: Stretch your legs with a hike that will take you from the tree-laden beauty of the Jerusalem Hills down to the Sataf Springs. Along the way, witness how ancient methods of agricultural cultivation are being revived in modern Israel.

Experience Ein Yael, an interactive, living museum, located on a 2,000-year-old archaeological site. Weave, paint, and try your hand at crafts typical of life in ancient times.

Visit the Biblical Zoo and newly constructed Israel Aquarium, a beautifully landscaped habitat with a special focus on preserving Biblical fauna, geared to children of all ages (2-80).

Track 5: Mindfulness retreat in the North

To be developed further

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SEVEN: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2020

Breakfast at the hotel.

Track 1: Hartman Institute Text Study Program

To be developed with the Hartman Institute staff

Track 2: Israeli/Palestinian Track - Discover Gush Etzion

Learn about one of the only religious sites dedicated to a female hero at Kever Rachel and discuss the controversial steps that were taken to keep it accessible to the Jewish people.

Visit the lone tree, a long-standing symbol of hope for those expelled from Gush Etzion in 1948.

Creating A Joint Future for Palestinians And Israelis: Meet with Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger/ Shaul Judelman and Ali Abu Awwad who all live in the Bethlehem/Gush Etzion Area and founded the Roots coexistence project. The project draws Israelis and Palestinians who, despite living next to each other, are separated by walls of fear - not just of each other, but also of the price of peace. Without building trust, the suspicions between the two communities will suffocate the peace process.

See the view from the highest point in the Gush - Tatzpit Ha'elef.

Finish the day at the Tzomet Institute and learn about innovation for the religious community.

Track 3: Greatest hits tour for first timers - Modern State of Israel

Visiting Yad Vashem, the national memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust is an essential emotional and educational experience. Your guided tour will include:

The Avenue of the Righteous, where trees symbolic of the renewal of life have been planted along with plaques honoring brave non-Jews who saved Jews during the Shoah.

The Historical Museum, a state-of-the-art interactive display reflecting decades of research and educational expertise. The story of the Holocaust, with an emphasis on individual victims, is told through survivor testimonies, original artifacts and personal possessions saved from the ghettos and camps.

The Children's Memorial, where candles shine like stars in the sky to commemorate the 1.5 million children lost during the Holocaust.

AND/OR

Sacrifice and the State: Visit Mount Herzl, Israel's national cemetery, to discuss key events in the nation's history and to honor those who fell while fighting for the state. Our visit will include:

The Main Military Cemetery where Israel's fallen soldiers are buried side by side regardless of rank, each with a simple, stark gravestone. A Visionary from Vienna: See the museum dedicated to Theodor Herzl, the founder of the modern Zionist movement, including a reconstruction of his Vienna study where he wrote his visions of a Jewish homeland. Leaders of the Nation: Visit the graves of Israeli leaders including Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres and learn how they dealt with the great questions confronting the state. We will also visit the grave of Theodor Herzl, the founder of the modern Zionist movement.

AND/OR

Guided tour of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament.

AND/OR

Explore the wonderfully creative Israel Museum, with its eclectic collection, ranging from archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls to Jewish life and art, European art, contemporary Israeli art and the open-air model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple period.

Track 4: Family Adventure - Discover your Inner Creativity

Sculpt and paint your own pottery with a local artist at their ceramic studio.

Visit Shuk Machane Yehuda for a special tasting tour that will heighten all of your senses.

Make your own chocolate at the Galita Chocolate workshop in Kibbutz Tzuba.

Track 5: Mindfulness retreat in the North

To be developed further

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY EIGHT: THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020

Breakfast at the hotel.

Track 1: Hartman Institute Text Study Program

To be developed with the Hartman Institute staff

Track 2: Israeli/Palestinian Track - MEET THE LOCALS

Meet with the YMCA youth choir director Micah Hendler, and learn how he uses music as a tool for uniting teens from different religions and national background.

Da'at Encounters Speaking Common Languages of Peace: Examine the role of shared Jewish-Arab education in creating integrated communities and in turning fear into friendship. We'll tour the Hand in Hand (Yad b' Yad) school in Jerusalem, part of a network of bilingual, multicultural educational institutions which aim to show that the two communities can learn and live together.

Head back to the old city to visit the huge eclectic backgammon store in the Arab shuk, learn how to play, and meet with the organizers of the local shesh-besh competitions, and learn how they use this game as a means for dialogue.

Track 3: Greatest hits tour for first timers - Wonders of the North

As we drive north on the Trans-Israel Highway, there will be an opportunity to see the Security Barrier which runs along the seam zone between Israel and the Palestinian Territories, and to learn about the barrier's effects on Israeli security and Palestinian communities.

Visit a farm at Kfar Hassidim and get a sense of the pioneering spirit of its founders, lunch and tour.

Perhaps it's the combination of mysticism and art, and maybe it's the mountain air in Israel's highest city; entering Tsfat, there is a sense of something uniquely Jewish but not quite of this world. Here, you'll:

Visit the Ari Synagogue and share in the inspiration and innovation that moved Rabbi Isaac Luria (the Holy Ari) and his fellow mystics. In Tsfat they developed the Kabbalah, the esoteric insights of Judaism and created Kabbalat Shabbat, the prayers sung on Friday evenings to welcome the arrival of the Sabbath.

See the Caro synagogue, built originally, like the Ari, in the 16th century. It is where Rabbi Joseph Caro, one of the greatest of all Jewish legal authorities, taught and lived. Hear the story of how he was visited here by a maggid, an angelic messenger, who revealed secrets of the Torah.

Walk through the cobbled streets and alleyways to the Artists' Colony with its galleries, shops, and studios. Meet with David Friedman, a Tsfat artist inspired by Kabbalah.

Return to Jerusalem.

Track 4: Family Adventure - The Old City Family Tour

Take the new antique train down to the Kotel OR walk along the Ramparts from Jaffa gate.

Learn about the second temple through a new Virtual Reality Experience.

No visit to Israel is complete without experiencing the Western Wall (the Kotel), widely considered Judaism's holiest site. Each year, over one million notes containing prayers and wishes are placed in the cracks of the wall. We'll discuss the wall's historical and contemporary importance and experience its unique atmosphere.

Free time in the Jewish Quarter.

At the Heart of It All: Explore the City of David, the core of ancient Jerusalem, and learn how the city was administered during the First Temple period. Our visit will include:

Archaeological discoveries illustrating how the wealthy and powerful lived in ancient Jerusalem.

The Gihon Spring, the source of Jerusalem's water and integral to its survival and religious ceremonies.

Having fun wading through the 2,700-year-old water tunnels (there's an optional dry exit), an architectural wonder of King Hezekiah's.

Track 5: Mindfulness retreat in the North

To be developed further

Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY NINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2020

TEL AVIV: THE FIRST HEBREW CITY

- Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check out.
- Drive to Tel Aviv, also known as "the city that never sleeps." A place of sun and fun, its centers of culture and history are complemented by great beaches, stores and entertainment.
- From Hebrew City to Hebrew State: Walk along the newly-opened Independence Trail and embark on a remarkable journey that begins with the founding of Tel Aviv in 1909 and ends with the establishment of Israel in 1948.
- Stroll down the Nahalat Binyamin pedestrian mall, with its bi-weekly craft fair and eateries. Alongside is the colorful Carmel open-air market, with time for lunch on own.
- Check into the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- 7:29 p.m. Candle lighting.
- Kabbalat Shabbat services at the Tel Aviv Port: As the sun sets over Tel Aviv, join Israelis from diverse backgrounds in welcoming Shabbat through prayer, song, and community. This musical Shabbat service will be with Beit Tefilah Israeli.
- Shabbat dinner at the hotel.
- Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY TEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2020

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning services at local Tel Aviv synagogues.
- Lunch at the hotel.
- Afternoon at leisure with a chance to swim in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Ben Kodesh Lechol: Seuda Shlishit at the hotel, followed by

- The City at Night: Tel Aviv's food scene is on fire with world-class chefs and a huge range of happening restaurants. See and taste for yourself during a free evening with dinner (on own account). Afterwards, those who love the nightlife can sample the city's bar, club and café culture or stroll along the refurbished promenade and port.
- Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY ELEVEN: SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2020

ISRAELI MOSAIC

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- What's Going on in Bohemian Tel Aviv? Join experts on Tel Aviv's alternative scene for an urban adventure and graffiti tour. Explore the latest street art and find out what it reveals about life, ideas, and ideology in Israel's cultural capital.
- Neve Zedek was one of Tel Aviv's first neighborhoods as the city grew outside of Jaffa. Stroll through this stylish area with its boutiques, galleries, and the Suzanne Dellal Center, Israel's world-class home of contemporary dance.
- Ascend from the port of Old Jaffa through the renovated alleyways to the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv at the place where it all began.
- Lunch on own in Jaffa.
- Experience the unique interactive exhibits at the Children's Museum in Holon.
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport and check in for your departure flight.

Overnight: Flight

DAY TWELVE: MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2020

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Return to the U.S.

Draft itinerary: final experience plans currently in formation.