

Save The Date June 26 - July 7, 2022

Join Congregation B'nai Israel CBI 100th Anniversary Israel Tour

LED BY

Rabbi Doug Sagal

TRIP DATE

June 26-July 7, 2022

DESTINATION

Israel

Sunday, June 26 – Depart U.S.A.

Monday, June 27 – Going up into the Land

- Arrive in **Israel** on to be met and assisted by your ITC representative (today's program depends on arrival time).
- Tour **Old Jaffa**, the ancient port city once known as Zion Gate from which Jonah tried to flee and where Solomon brought the Cedars of Lebanon on the way to Jerusalem. Today paintings and sculptures have been installed in its ancient alleys.
- **Shehehiyanu**—Welcome ceremony on top of **Tel Jaffa** overlooking modern Tel Aviv.
- Check-in to the **Carlton Hotel on Tel Aviv's Mediterranean Coast**.
- **Welcome dinner at Maganda Restaurant** in Tel Aviv's **Yemenite Quarter**.
- Overnight: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Tuesday, June 28 – The Hebrew City and the Jewish State

- Walking tour of historic "**Little Tel Aviv**" - Discover the quaint **Neve Tzedek** neighbourhood that gave birth to the "**first Hebrew city in 2,000 years**", once home to Zionist cultural pioneers Eliezer Ben Yehuda, S. Y. Agnon and Rabbi Kook.
- **ITC Touch:** Discover **City of Sand and Sea**, a mosaic fountain created by artist and writer Nachum Gutman portraying scenes from the history of Jaffa and Tel Aviv.
- Hear about the establishment of **Tel Aviv** at the **Founders' Monument**. Then stroll down **Rothschild Boulevard** to view the **Bauhaus** architecture for which central Tel Aviv was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Visit the new **Israel Innovation Center**, located in the **Tel Aviv Stock Exchange**, to learn through its interactive exhibit about new advancements by Israeli Start-Ups in fields such as science, technology,

medicine, security, aero-space and more.

- Lunch on your own and free time to explore the **Nachalat Binyamin** crafts fair. While there checkout the nearby **Carmel Market** and great street food. Then have a look at bohemian **Sheinkin Street** – All Three of these Tel Aviv icons meet at the "**Magen David Junction**".
- Guided tour of the **Ayalon Institute** in **Rehovot** – an underground bullet factory used by Jewish forces before the founding of the State of Israel.

2nd Timers Option – Off the Beaten Track in Creative Tel Aviv

- **Graffiti tour** the hip **Florentine** neighborhood to discover Tel Aviv's remarkable street art.
- Visit the **Joseph Bau House**, the former workshop of graphic artist and animator Joseph Bau to discover his amazing life story. Rebecca and Joseph Bau are the couple whose wedding is shown in Schindler's List. After immigrating to Israel, he pioneered Israeli animated film and produced forged documents for the Mossad.

- Free time to **swim** in the **Mediterranean Sea** and enjoy **Beachside Promenade**.
- Free evening. Dinner on own.
- Overnight: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Wednesday, June 29 – Cradles of Jewish Civilization in the Galilee

- Depart for northern Israel.
- Explore the ruins of **Tzippori**, the city where Rabbi Judah Hanasi sealed the Mishna. Discover Tzippori's remarkable ancient mosaic pavements, including **Mona Lisa of the Galilee, Nile Flood Festival and Orpheus**, who looks like King David (?). **What do the ruins of Tzippori reveal about Jews and Hellenism?** Then ponder why an **ancient synagogue** floor features a wheel of the zodiac.

- Lunch on own
- Explore mystical **Tzfat**, cradle of **Kabbalah** (Jewish mysticism) in the 16th century. Visit its old synagogues and picturesque alleyways. Then discover the origins of our Friday night service in the city where **Lecha Dodi** was written.
- Lakeside dinner at **Decks Restaurant**.
- Check-in to the **Ramot Resort Hotel** by the Sea of Galilee.
- Overnight: Ramot Resort Hotel, Sea of Galilee region

Thursday, June 30 – Ancient and Modern Geopolitics and Israel's Finest

- Walk in the lush **Tel Dan Nature Reserve**, one of the sources of the **Jordan River**, where you'll discover biblical intrigue and one of the oldest arches in the world.
- Lunch on own.
- **Jeep tour** to the **Golan Heights** for a special perspective on Israel's complex geopolitics as we visit former Syrian bunkers overlooking Israel. Then look out over the Syrian border from strategic **Mt. Bental**.

The group can split between parents and children for the following two tasting activities located next to each other on Kibbutz Ein Zivan.

- **Chocolate making workshop** at the **De Karina Chocolate Factory**.
- Tour and **tasting** at the boutique **Pelter Winery** on nearby **Kibbutz Ein Zivan**.
- Dinner with young **Israeli soldiers**, who are giving some of their best years to the defense of Israel - **Meet the Israeli army's human side**.
- Overnight: Ramot Resort Hotel, Sea of Galilee region

Friday, July 1 – Across Israel: A Multicultural Jewish Society

- Discover **Ethiopian Jewish culture** at the **Germachin Center** in **Beit Shean**. Learn about this community's modern day Exodus story and the

challenges facing the Ethiopian Israeli community today.

- Continue south through the **Jordan Valley** and ascend to **Jerusalem**.
- **Shehehianu**/Welcome ceremony overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem.
- Lunch on own in the bustling **Machane Yehuda Market**. Take in a slice of local life as you see Jerusalemites preparing for Shabbat and pick up supplies for our group Seudah Shlishit picnic on Saturday afternoon. Along the way, see the picturesque **Nachalaot** neighborhoods.
- Check-in to the **Inbal** in **Jerusalem**.
- Free time to relax and prepare for Shabbat.

Friday/Shabbat evening options

- Light Shabbat candles at hotel.
- Attend the "**Israeli Kabbalat Shabbat**" service at the **First Station Compound** (begins at 5:00pm, so it is also possible to continue to one of the other kabbalat options listed below).
- **OR:** Join hundreds of other Jews from around the world to **Greet the Sabbath** at the **Western Wall**. Option to pray together as a congregation at the "**Masorti Kotel**", where men and women can stand together.
- **OR:** Attend **Friday night services** at a local Jerusalem synagogue.
- **Festive Shabbat Dinner** at hotel
- Overnight: Inbal, Jerusalem

Saturday, July 2 – And on the Seventh Day... in Jerusalem

- **Shabbat morning services** at local synagogues/minyanim (options and walking maps to be provided).
- **Shabbat Lunch** at hotel
- Free time to relax, explore the city on own and enjoy **hotel pool**.
- Walking tour to the historic **Montefiore Windmill** to discover the first neighbourhood built outside the walls of the Old City. Then continue to nearby **Ketef Hinnom**, a First Temple period burial site where archaeologists discovered the oldest biblical text ever found.
- Havdalah with Rabbi Sagal.
- Free evening. Dinner on own.
- **Evening option:** Watch the **Night Spectacular – Sound and Light Show** at the **Tower of David**.
- Overnight: Inbal, Jerusalem

Sunday, July 3 – The Old City of Jerusalem: An Ancient Jewish Legacy

- Briefing on **Religious Pluralism in Israel and the Masorti (Conservative) Movement** by **Rabbi Andy Sacks**, Deputy Director of the Masorti Movement.
- Discover the archaeological story of

the **Western Wall** and episodes of Jewish life in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago at **Robinson's Arch** and the **Southern Wall Excavations**.

- Walk through the **Western Wall Tunnels** to discover underground Jerusalem.
- Lunch on own
- Tour of **Jewish Quarter** including the **Herodian Mansions, Cardo, Broad Wall** and **Rooftops** followed by free time to shop and explore on own.

2nd Timers Options:

- **Synagogues of the Jewish Quarter**, Tour includes visits to the **Four Sephardic Synagogues**, the restored **Hurva Synagogue**, the **Karaite Museum**. Then hear about the remarkable discoveries under the ruins of the **Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue**.

- Free evening. Dinner on own.
- **Recommendation for the evening:** Visit the **First Station Compound**, Jerusalem's restored Ottoman railway station turned restaurant – cafe area.
- Overnight: Inbal, Jerusalem

Monday, July 4 – Holocaust, Remembrance and Continuity

- **Update on Israeli and Middle East politics** by **Steve Linde**, editor-in-chief of the **Jerusalem Report** and former editor of the **Jerusalem Post**.
- Guided tour of **Yad Vashem** Israel's national Holocaust memorial and museum, including the **Historical Museum** and **Children's Memorial**.

2nd Timers Track at Yad Vashem – Holocaust Art

- Guided tour of **Yad Vashem Campus** focusing on Holocaust art. This track will examine both art created to memorialize different aspects of the Holocaust and art produced during the holocaust by its victims, including visits to the **Museum of Holocaust Art**, the **Yad Vashem Synagogue** and viewing sculpture installed at **Yad Vashem**.

- Lunch on own.
- Meaningful visit to the **Mt. Herzl Cemetery** to discover chapters in the history of Israel at the graves of **Yitzhak Rabin**, **Golda Meir**, **Theodore Herzl** and **Hannah Senesch**.
- Engage in **hands-on tzedakah** at **Pantry Packers** or **Yad Ezra Veshulamith** preparing food packages for distribution to some of Israel's neediest people.
- Free evening. Dinner on own.
- Overnight: Inbal, Jerusalem

Tuesday, July 5 – Masada and the Dead Sea: Freedom Fighters or Fanatics?

Set out across the **Judean Desert** and ascend **Masada** by cable car to tour the ruins of Herod's palace and the last outpost of Jewish independence. **Discussion: Which Jewish Legacy – Masada or Yavne? Which decision did our ancestors make?**

2nd Timers Options: Ancient Jewish Communities of the Dead Sea Coast

- Tour the ruins of **Qumran**, where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were found and hear about the ascetic sect which lived there 2,000 years ago.
- Visit the ancient synagogue of **Ein Gedi** to see its fascinating mosaic floor with an oath than members swore to preserve the secret of the community.

- Swim in the **Dead Sea**, the lowest place on earth, at a local resort. The resort also has a fresh water pool and spa facilities. Massage and spa treatments available by prior reservation at own expense.
- Lunch at **Dead Sea resort**.
- Time permitting: Walk in **Ein Gedi Nature Reserve** opportunity to bathe in waterfalls and hear how **David** hid there from **King Saul**.
- Stop off at "**Abraham's Tent**" (**Genesis Land**) for a **Camel ride** and biblical dinner before returning to **Jerusalem**.
- Overnight: Inbal, Jerusalem

Wednesday, July 6 – Wrapping Up

- Visit **Yad Lakashish**, a unique employment project helping Jerusalem's elderly, including a stop in its shop "where shopping is a mitzvah!"
- Visit the **Israel Museum** to see the **Dead Sea Scrolls** and the **Model of ancient Jerusalem** in the first century. Free time to explore additional exhibits on own. **Recommendations: Modern Israeli art, Synagogue interiors** in the **Judaica Section** and the **Archaeology Wing**.
- Lunch on own
- **Remainder of afternoon free** to explore on own and get in last minute shopping.
- **Late check out**
- Farewell Dinner at **Medita Restaurant**
- Transfer to **Ben Gurion Airport – See you again soon!**

Thursday, July 7 – Back in the USA

- Begin planning your next Israel trip with **Rabbi Sagal** and **ITC Tours!**