Congregation Beth Or
11 Day Tour of Israel
Led by Rabbi Greg & Laurie Marx
June 26-July 6, 2022
$6,041.00 per person
member price, double occupancy/air & land

Day 1 (Sun. June 26): We leave the States for a journey to the land where our heritage will unfold before our eyes. We will walk, see, feel and touch the roots of our faith and of our nation, and come to better know our Jewish homeland.

Day 2 (Mon. June 27): WELCOME HOME: TEL-AVIV!

Flying over the Atlantic Ocean and over Europe, we will reach the shores of Israel. After formalities at Ben Gurion airport we will be met by our guide and begin exploring the city of Tel-Aviv, the first Modern Hebrew city and the cultural and business center of Israel. To get an overall view of the city we will go to Joppa, stroll through its beautiful streets, galleries and cafes, view the beautiful ancient port and enjoy one of the most impressive panoramic views of Tel-Aviv. Dinner tonight will be at the hotel.

Day 3 (Tue. June 28): MEETING THE LOCAL SOCIETY

We will start the day doing some volunteer work at Latet (to give), an organization that provides assistance to needy populations, by providing food and aid programs to many families and Holocaust survivors. We will hear about their work and assist in one of their projects. We will continue to Machon Ayalon to learn about secret ways in which ammunition was manufactured by the Jewish underground underneath the grounds of an active kibbutz, during the British Mandate rule. Back in Tel-Aviv, we will visit Nachalat Binyamin, a typical historic neighborhood of the city, and experience the city’s fun atmosphere as we walk through the Art Market. Dinner tonight will be on our own. A list of suggested restaurants will be given to us.

Day 4 (Wed. June 29): COAST TO GALILEE

Before we leave Tel-Aviv, we will visit the new “Anu” (Us) Museum (ex-Diaspora), telling the story of the Jewish People throughout the world and throughout the generations. Then, we will continue to Apolonia, a gorgeous 13th century Crusader castle with stunning views of the Mediterranean. We will also make a stop at Ein Hod, an artists’ village on the Carmel to enjoy the many beautiful galleries it offers. Finally, we will visit Beit Shearim, the largest Necropolis in the land, where beautiful tombs from the Talmudic period have been found. In the late afternoon, we will drive towards Kibbutz Kfar Blum, our home for the next days, to enjoy a nice local Galilean


Today will be dedicated to the spectacular northern part of Israel. We will ride jeeps along the Northern Border of Israel. Driving through fertile countryside and overlooking the magnificent Mt. Hermon, we will reach Har Ben Tal, a military post overlooking the border of Israel with Lebanon and Syria. Besides obtaining a marvelous view of the entire region, we will learn about the miracles of the six days and the Yom Kippur wars, and get a better understanding of the current security dilemmas Israel deals with. We will visit one of the finest Wineries Israel is so famous for, and then spend a few hours in the city of Safed. Those who wish will be able to shop in the artists’ quarter, stroll through the beautiful streets of Safed or sit in one of its cafes. An optional Kayaking down the Jordan River will be offered at the end of the day. Dinner tonight will be at the hotel.
Day 6 (Fri. July 1): ASCENDING TO JERUSALEM
In the morning, will board a wooden boat, replica of an ancient fishing boat and sail across the beautiful Kinnereth (Sea of Galilee). Back on land, we will visit the ancient Beit Alpha synagogue, where a spectacular mosaic floor awaits us. Depicting the Ark of the Covenant, the Zodiac and the offering of Isaac, it tells us the story of Jewish life in the Galilee. Then we will make a stop at Belvoir, a crusader castle still standing at its full glory and have a last overview of the magnificent Galilee, before we leave it behind us. Driving down the Jordan Valley, we will make a quick stop for a typical falafel meal, at the town of Beit Shean. Then, we will cross a part of the Wilderness of Judea, where we will become acquainted with the Bedouin life, as we begin ascending to the Golden City and capital of Israel - Jerusalem. Before going to the hotel, we will make a short stop on Mt. Scopus to get our first glimpse of the city and make a shechechyanu toast. At the end of the day, right before the sun sets down, we will go to the Kotel to receive the Sabbath in the most glorious way possible, before returning to the hotel for dinner.

Day 7 (Sat. July 2): SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM
After services with Rabbi Marx at a local reform synagogue, we will spend the rest of the day exploring the city on our own. Those who wish can join Laurie Marx to a visit of the Israel Museum. We will visit the Model of Jerusalem in second Temple period, the Shrine of the Book, holding the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Wing of Jewish Art and Life for its most impressive collection of religious and secular artifacts from Jewish communities worldwide. Otherwise, you may want to join Rabbi Marx for a visit of the Old city of Jerusalem and the Christian Quarter to visit the impressive Church of the Holy Sepulcher, where Christians believe Jesus was buried. At night, a memorable event awaits us, as we view the spectacular light and sound show at the Tower of David, telling the story of King David and Jerusalem. Dinner tonight will be on our own.

Day 8 (Sun. July 3): DEAD SEA AREA
We will leave Jerusalem and descend towards the Dead Sea, located in the lowest place in the world, 1300 ft. below sea level! We will start our day by a fun Camel Ride. We will continue the astonishing ruins of Masada. Using a cable car, we will reach Herod's magnificent fortress, site of the zealots stand against Rome. Well preserved storehouses, cisterns and palaces will be among the features to visit. At noontime, we will stop at Ein Bokek for lunch and a float on the salty sea. Our final stop will be at Ein Gedi, where David wrote some of his beautiful psalms. After a short hike, we will reach the waterfall where David cut off Saul's skirt (I Samuel 24). Dinner tonight will be on our won.

Day 9 (Mon. July 4): THE HISTORY OF JERUSALEM
We will begin the day at Yad Lakashish, an organization providing work opportunities and support services to elders. We will visit their therapeutic workshops and those who wish will be able to purchase beautiful souvenirs to take back home. Our next stop will be at Ammunition Hill, place of one of the most furious battles to take place in the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem in 1967. For lunch, a fun experience awaits us, as we spend it at the colorful, world famous Machane Yehudah Market. Strolling around it, we will taste a variety of local delicacies, cheeses, sweets and many other tempting surprises. We will continue to Mt. Herzl and pay respect to Michael Levin from Philadelphia, who was killed in the second Lebanon War and is buried at Mt. Herzl. We will also visit the Mt. Herzl Museum, offering a spectacular audio-visual encounter with the history of the Zionist Movement and its efforts towards the establishment of the State. Finally, at Yad Vashem, the museum of the Holocaust, we will better
understand the miracle of Israel’s revival and return to the Land, as promised by God. This evening, an interesting encounter awaits us as we meet with Rabbi Gilad Kariv, executive director of the Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism. Dinner tonight will be on our own.

**Day 10 (Tue. July 5): JERUSALEM: THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM**

We will begin the day at the City of David, where the story of Jerusalem truly began. We will walk through the Hezekiah’s Tunnel and view some of the most exciting archeological findings of recent years. We will also visit the Western Wall Tunnel, running along the continuation of the Western Wall. Here we will get a better understanding of how the impressive complex of the Temple Mount was constructed. Next, we will visit the newly renovated Hachurva Synagogue, situated at the heart of the Jewish Quarter. Built in the 18th century and destroyed in 1948, it is considered the most important and most beautiful synagogue in the Old City. The rest of the day will be free. You may want to use the time to walk around the Jewish Quarter, bargain for deals in the Arab Market or at the fancy Mamilla shopping area, or just enjoy a quiet afternoon at the hotel and finish packing. Dinner tonight will be at a typical Middle Eastern restaurant in Abu-Gosh.

**Day 11 (Wed. July 6): Arrival back home, after having seen, touched and tasted Israel** Arriving home we will have renewed our feeling that Israel is our second home and a true homeland, as it glows before our eyes and in our hearts forever.

*The itinerary is as described but is subject to local conditions at the time of the tour. Itinerary may change at the discretion of the tour director(s) or land operators.*

**INCLUDES:** Round trip airfare from Newark, NJ on El Al – economy class, Round-trip transfers between Airport and Hotels, Hotel Accommodations and Taxes, 9 Day Tour of Israel with Guide, Breakfast Daily & 4 Dinners, All Entrance Fees & Medical Insurance while in Israel- (must be 85 years or younger – ages 75-85 addtl $60 pp), Personalized Name Badge, Document Case with Luggage Tags, Gratuities, “Whisper” Earphones provided for Guiding, **Current Airport Taxes which are subject to change until ticketed**

**HOTELS:** 2 nights Herods, Tel Aviv / 2 nights Kfar Blum, Northern Region / 5 nights Inbal, Jerusalem.

**PRICE:** $5,861.00 per person, based on double occupancy. Pricing is based on a minimum of 25 travelers. Single supplement is $1,241.00, additional and limited. Any increase in airfare and ground cost due to inflation, fuel surcharge, if tour falls under specified number, dollar devaluation, will be pro-rated and passed on to tour members. *Current Covid testing costs are not included. Based on current protocols, $180 per person.*

**PAYMENT:** Initial Deposit of $1,500.00 per person is due immediately, as Space is Limited. Final payment is due on or before April 14, 2021. Cancellation insurance is recommended, as there are cancellation penalties that will apply.

**Cancellation Insurance:** A group insurance policy will be offered. For details contact Sharon at Journeys Unlimited. Deposits and land costs must be paid by check only. Airfare may be put on credit card.

**Make checks payable to:** Journeys Unlimited, Inc.

**Mail Registration and Payments to:** Journeys Unlimited, 1040 B Second Street Pike, Richboro, PA 18954

Attn: Debbie Rosenberg

**For further information call:** Rabbi Marx at 215-646-5806 (gmarx@bethor.org); Sharon Gallo at 215-357-8666

Ext. 104 (sharon@journeys-unltd.com) or Debbie Rosenberg at 215-489-9049 (traveldr@verizon.net)