



## B'nai Moshe

### *Israel Adventure*

October 27-November 7, 2019

Led by Rabbi Shalom Kantor

updated August 21

#### **Sunday, October 27: DEPARTURE**

- Depart from Detroit

#### **Monday, October 28: BRUCHIM HABA'IM – WELCOME!**

- Arrival in Israel; meet and greet service at the airport
- Meet your guide and travel to Tel Aviv; check into your hotel and freshen up
- **Welcome to Israel ceremony** overlooking the Tel Aviv shoreline
- Welcome dinner at a local restaurant

*Overnight: David InterContinental Hotel, Tel Aviv*

#### **Tuesday, October 29: ISRAEL AT 70**

- Explore just how far Israel has come since its inception with a look at the Startup Nation at the **Taglit Innovation Center**
- Site visit to **Save A Child's Heart** whose mission is to improve the quality of pediatric cardiac care for children from developing countries who suffer from heart disease and who cannot get adequate medical care in their home countries. **Run Activities and play with children that are waiting for or recovering from surgery**
- Delve into modern Hebrew culture and learn Hebrew on the way on a **graffiti tour** of Southern Tel Aviv
- Enjoy the crafts and the street performers at the renowned **Nahalat Binyamin Arts and Crafts Fair** and the adjacent **Carmel Market**
- Dinner at trendy Deca Restaurant

*Overnight: David InterContinental Hotel, Tel Aviv*

#### **Wednesday, October 30: GOING DOWN**

- In **Sderot** – the town (in)famous for being the target of Hamas rockets, tour the town, see the collection of katyusha rockets which landed in the area and see how they protect their residents; understand why it is so difficult to find an apartment available for rent or purchase
- Pick vegetable grown in the desert sand and hear one man's (successful) modern-day Zionist dream at the **Salad Trail**
- In **Yerucham**, enjoy the homemade lunch in the houses of the locals and hear the stories of how their families arrived in this development town with the founding of the State of Israel

- Encounter with **Lt. Colonel Ido Fromer**, commander of a Drone Squadron; in addition to his operational responsibilities, Col. Fromer trains Israeli air force pilots on the laws and ethics of combat in the IDF and runs a robotics lab for Yerucham's youth
- Stop at **David Ben Gurion's grave** and explore his vision of making the desert bloom
- Dinner in the hotel

**Overnight:** Beresheet Hotel, Mitzpe Ramon

#### Thursday, October 31: **THE CRATER AND THE CREATOR**

- Optional **sunrise hike** along the Ramon Crater and over to Camel Mountain; discuss why the Torah was given in the desert
- Return for breakfast and some spa time in the hotel
- At the **Mitzpe Ramon Visitors Center**, learn about the formation of the geological craters and about Israel's first astronaut, who took his name from this crater
- Take **Jeeps** off road to see the hard to reach phenomena of the Ramon Crater
- Visit the **Derech Eretz Lone Farm** – an initiative to increase the Jewish population in the Negev; taste the wines produced from the grapes grown in this desert farm and hear this Zionist story
- Dinner in the hotel
- Take advantage of the low light pollution and see the plethora of **stars and planets** from Israel's strongest portable telescopes

**Overnight:** Beresheet Hotel, Mitzpe Ramon

#### Friday, November 1: **FROM OUT OF THE CRUCIBLE**

- Travel up to Jerusalem
- Option I: Learn and Remember at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum**  
Option II: See the Dead Sea Scrolls and other gems at the **Israel Museum**
- Regather at the **Mt. Herzl National Military Cemetery** and pay tribute to the leaders of the nation who dedicated their lives to Israel and to the soldiers who lost their lives defending it
- Time permitting, join the scores of Jerusalemites getting ready for Shabbat at the **Machane Yehuda Shuk**
- Check into the hotel and prepare for Shabbat
- In the evening, participate in a community service led by Rabbi Kantor at the Ezrat Yisrael section of the Western Wall; then join the thousands of Israelis and Jews from around the world as they bring in the **Shabbat at the Western Wall**
- Shabbat Dinner in the hotel

**Overnight:** Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

#### Saturday, November 2: **SHABBAT SHALOM**

- Participate in a local Conservative service
- Torah study with Rabbi Kantor
- Lunch in the hotel
- Take a walking tour of the **Christian Quarter of the Old City**, including the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**, which has fascinating ceremonies on Saturday afternoons
- Group **havdallah**

- At the Tower of David, see the **King David Sound and Light Show** as it is projected on the walls of this ancient citadel
- Free evening

**Overnight:** *Orient Hotel, Jerusalem*

### **Sunday, November 3: THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM!**

- Begin our exploration of the Jewish “love affair” with Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade** with its magnificent views and powerful Biblical, historical and contemporary narratives
- Enter the **City of David** (the original Jerusalem of King David and First Temple times) for a guided visit with Bible in hand; then descend Warren's shaft a slosh through the water tunnel that King Hezekiya dug to save Jerusalem from the Assyrians 2,700 years ago (or the dry option)
- Walking tour and shopping time in the **Jewish Quarter** and the Roman/Byzantine Cardo
- Take the Behind the Scenes tour of the **Western Wall Tunnels** for the latest archaeological finds
- In the evening, meet a **political analyst** and hear the major issues facing Israel today

**Overnight:** *Orient Hotel, Jerusalem*

### **Monday, November 4: STARTUP NATIONS**

- Tour of the **Separation Wall/Fence** in Jerusalem with Col. (ret.) Danny Tirzah, who was responsible for creating its route and who served as a senior advisor of Prime Minister Olmert during his negotiations with the Palestinians
- Visit the new Palestinian city of **Rawabi** inside the West Bank; meet with developer Bashar El Masri to discuss the vision driving one of the more optimistic Palestinian responses initiatives in recent years and consider its potential contribution to a peace solution to the refugee problem
- Continue north; visit **Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu**, learn how this religious kibbutz led the “Green Revolution” in organic farming in Israel. “Bio Bee” tour of the fields and their “bug factory”
- Check into your hotel, followed by dinner there

**Overnight:** *Setai Hotel, Galilee*

### **Tuesday, November 5: THE GOLAN HEIGHTS – STRATEGIC CHALLENGES**

- Ascend the Golan Heights to a former Syrian bunker at **Mitzpe Gadot**; discuss the strategic significance of the Golan and the problem of strategic depth
- Continue to **Tel a-Saki**, where Israeli soldiers were subject to strategic surprise by the Syrian Army during the first days of the Yom Kippur War. Discuss the issue and implications of strategic surprise in Yom Kippur War and for today’s military thinking; then meet **Col. Nir Atir**, then one of the 19 year old soldiers who held up the Syrian invasion long enough for Israel to mobilize its reserves during the Yom Kippur War
- **Meet with soldiers** stationed on the Golan
- Overlooking the Syrian border "crossing" into Israel, meet with **Colonel Kobi Marom**, former commander of the Eastern Lebanese Front and the Hermon Brigade, and an expert on Syria and the Hizbollah. We will discuss the role of the IDF in deterring Iran on the Golan and its humanitarian work with Syrian medical refugees
- Finish the day with a **VIP wine and cheese tasting** at the Golan Heights Winery
- Dinner in the hotel overlooking the Kinneret

**Overnight:** *Setai Hotel, Galilee*

### Wednesday, November 6: **MOUNTAINS AND MYSTICS**

- Tour the charming synagogues and wander around the galleries of **Tzfat**, while exploring the development of Kabbalah
- Meet a **Kabbalistic artist** and hear how he incorporates his learnings into his artwork
- At **Ziv Hospital** in Tzfat, meet the doctors who work day and night to save the lives of Syrians wounded in the conflict and (hopefully) with the Syrians themselves
- Continue toward Tel Aviv

**Overnight:** *David InterContinental Hotel, Tel Aviv*

### Thursday, November 7: **A LOOK AHEAD**

- Visit an **Arab high school** in Lod to meet the student body and principal, **Shirin Chafi-Natur**, an Arab woman who also teaches Hebrew literature to Jewish students in an attempt to bridge a seemingly unbridgeable gap
- Tour the **Bialik House**, followed by a processing session there
- Freshen up at the hotel and **late check-out**
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant
- Transfer to the airport for your flight home
- Start planning your next trip to Israel!

- Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation.
- Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator
- All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.
- This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet



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