

Or Shalom Jewish Community
Israel Experience
With Rabbi Katie Mizrahi
June 19-30, 2019

Day 1: Wednesday, June 19

(Program will be adjusted to accommodate arrival time)

- Welcome to Israel
- Shehechyanu on Haas Promenade overlooking Jerusalem
- Group dinner at hotel

Overnight: Jerusalem

Dinner included

Day 2: Thursday, June 20

- Breakfast at hotel & Morning service at Egalitarian Kotel
- Where it all began – the **City of David**. Tour the remains of the biblical city of Jerusalem.
- Walk through the southern excavations, viewing the evidence of destruction and the building of successive societies. End at the **Western Wall**.
- Lunch on own in the **Jewish Quarter**
- Walk the alleyways of the Old City's Jewish Quarter. Hear stories spanning 3000 years of Jewish life in the quarter
- Options:
 - Tour the moat and old Turkish Prison at the Tower of David Museum
 - Walk through the narrow alleyways of the "Souk" and enjoy the sights and sounds of a Middle Eastern bazaar. Visit key religious and historical sites on the way.

- Dinner at hotel

Overnight: Jerusalem

Breakfast and Dinner included

Day 3: Friday, June 21

- Breakfast at hotel
- Tour the world's foremost memorial and museum dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust, **Yad Vashem**. Children will visit the **Biblical Zoo**.
- At **Mt. Herzl Cemetery** "Meet" the dreamers, statesmen, and fighters who gave us the State.
- Visit the colorful Machane Yehuda Market
- Musical Kabbalat Shabbat with **Naava Tehila** at First Station
- Shabbat dinner at hotel

Overnight: Jerusalem

Breakfast and Dinner included

Day 4: Saturday, June 22

- Breakfast at hotel
- Optional tefilot
- Walk along the **Ramparts** of the Old City, getting a bird's eye view.

- Tour the **Christian, Armenian, and Muslim Quarters** of the Old City, discussing the diversity found in this one square kilometer space.
- Lunch in Old City
- Rest time/Optional visit to the Israel Museum
- Havdala
- Night out (on own). Suggestion: After dinner- Ben Yehuda street or enjoy Light & Sound show at the Tower of David

Overnight: Jerusalem

Breakfast and Lunch included

Day 5: Sunday, June 23

- Breakfast at hotel
- Experience Israel Experts Signature **Changing Map of Israel** program. This interactive program provides background on the history and external forces that shaped the borders of modern Israel.
- Tour the security barrier in the Jerusalem area. Understand the security, geographic, and political concerns that determined its route.

Bethlehem & West Bank

- Travel to Bethlehem with Palestinian guide Husan Jubran. Tour the checkpoint that Palestinians cross on their way to work in Israel. Understand the security, humanitarian, and political challenges. Enter Bethlehem. Hear from civil society activists and tour the geopolitical landscape. Discuss the religious significance of the city. Visit the Banksy Walled Off Hotel.
- Visit with residents at the West Bank community of **Tekoa**. Hear about their lives and their views for peaceful coexistence.
- [While adults are in Bethlehem & West Bank, youth will participate in a dialogue with **Kids for Peace**, and a **scavenger hunt** in the Nahlaot neighborhood of Jerusalem]
- Dinner at hotel
- Processing Session

Overnight: Jerusalem

Breakfast and Dinner included

Day 6: Monday, June 24

- Breakfast at hotel
- Visit to Ein Gedi Nature Reserve
- Float in the **Dead Sea**
- Enjoy lunch at the Ein Gedi Spa
- Visit the **Bedouin village** of Segev Shalom and meet with local residents. Hear about the Bedouin way of life of their challenges in modern Israel.
- Dinner at hotel

Overnight: Beersheva

Breakfast, and Lunch included

Day 7: Tuesday, June 25

- Breakfast at hotel
- Tour the **Western Negev**. Survey the border with Gaza and meet with local residents.

Day 11: Saturday, June 29

- Breakfast at hotel
- Gain insights into Israeli politics and culture through a Graffiti tour of South Tel Aviv.
- Options: Beach Time or walking architectural/historical tour
- Havdala
- Night out in Tel Aviv

Overnight: Tel Aviv

Breakfast included

Day 12: Sunday, June 30

- Encounter with members of the grassroots group Women Wage Peace
- Walk through the ancient city of Jaffa, focusing on Jewish and Arab coexistence. Meet with local coexistence advocates Ihab and Ora Balha.
- Visit Independence Hall and relive the historic occasion of Israel's founding
- Lunch on own on Rothschild Blvd.
- Free time for exploring and shopping
- Closing program at Israel's public square -- Rabin Square
- Final dinner at Tel Aviv Restaurant

Late night departure for San Francisco

Breakfast and Dinner included

*Please note that the above itinerary is tentative only, and is subject to the availability of speakers and sites.