



Temple Beth El of Providence
Adult Israel Exploration
Led by Rabbi Sarah Mack

January 28-February 8, 2024
(rev 14 May 23)

Sunday, January 28 DEPARTURE

- Departure from Boston on El Al Flight 016 at 8:15pm.

Monday, January 29 BRUCHIM HABA'AIM-WELCOME TO ISRAEL

- Arrival at Ben Gurion airport at 1:05pm.
- *(Assistance upon arrival by Keshet representatives).*
- Airport Snack
- Opening tree planting ceremony at the Neot Kedumim Biblical Nature Reserve.
- Check-in at hotel and time to freshen up.
- Welcome Dinner at local restaurant

Overnight: *Carlton, Tel Aviv*

Tuesday, January 30 THE FIRST HEBREW CITY

- Breakfast at hotel
- Morning Study session with Dr. Paul Liptz on trends in Israeli society.
- Walk along the "Independence Trail" to learn more about the founding of the city of Tel Aviv and the State of Israel.
- Stroll through the weekly arts & crafts fair at Nahalat Binyamin.
- Lunch stop (on own)
- Docent tour of the Reuben Rubin Museum who captured scenes of daily life throughout pre-State Palestine.
- Lookout over the port of Old Jaffa
- Dinner and evening at leisure

Overnight: *Carlton, Tel Aviv*

Wednesday, January 31 THE GALILEE

- Breakfast at hotel, check-out and depart.
- Travel to Moshav Yogev to plant an "adopted" olive tree on behalf of your community, tour an olive press, and meet a local farmer. (The synagogue will receive bottles of olive oil delivered after the fall harvest.)
- Enjoy wine tasting and a light lunch at the Tulip Winery, which employs special needs residents of Kfar Tikvah.

- Meet the Arab and Jewish women of Sindyanna of Galilee-a female-led non-profit that actively promotes the concepts of “business for peace” and Fair Trade in Israel. Enjoy an olive oil tasting.
- Continue to the hotel which is located on the shores of the Kinneret
- Check-in and dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: *Isrotel Gomeh*

Thursday, February 1 MYSTICS & MOUNTAINS

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Drive to Tzfat, the heart of Jewish mysticism, to explore the alleyways and synagogues of the mystics and trace the development of Kabbalah in the 16th century.
- Art & Kabbalah program with local artist, David Friedman, in his studio.
- Shopping time in the Jewish Quarter and artist colony.
- Lunch break (on own)
- Ascend the Golan Heights for an exciting jeep ride with spectacular views of the Hula Valley or a refreshing nature walk through Tel Dan.
- Outlook over Syria from the bunkers of Mt. Bental.
- Dinner at the hotel.
- Evening: Meet Maj. (Res.) Yaakov Selavan for an update on the current security situation in Syria.

Overnight: *Isrotel Gomeh*

Friday, February 2 JORDAN RIVER VALLEY

- Breakfast at hotel, check-out and depart.
- Travel south to 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”. **OR** Explore the ancient Roman city of Bet She’an, the head of the Decapolis, and site of impressive ruins.
- Lunch break (on own) in Bet She’an.
- Drive south along the Jordan River Valley to Jerusalem.
- Check-in at the hotel to prepare for shabbat.
- Candle lighting
- Kabbalat Shabbat with the local Reform community of Har El.
- Festive shabbat dinner with community members or at the hotel.

Overnight: *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

Shabbat, February 3 JERUSALEM SHABBAT

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Shabbat morning services at Har El or other synagogue.
- Day at leisure to explore the city on your own.
- (The Biblical Zoo is open 10-5, The Israel Museum is open 10-5, The Tower of David Museum is open 10-2, The Bible Lands Museum is open 10-3, The Botanical Gardens are open 9-5).
- Optional walking tour to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- We reconvene in the late afternoon for a meeting with Issam Sa’ad, a former Gaza resident who fled Hamas and is now involved in a unique Jewish-Palestinian dialogue project.
- Group Havdalah
- Evening: Tower of David “Night Spectacular” sound & light show, projected on the walls of the museum. (Dress warmly as we will be sitting outside)

Overnight: *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

Sunday, February 4 THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Begin the day with a spectacular outlook over Jerusalem from the Haas Promenade. Delve into the story of the Binding of Isaac and discuss whether Abraham (or Isaac) passed the test.
- Participate hands-on at a unique archaeological dig, sifting through remains from the Temple Mount.
- Enter the Old City from Zion Gate.
- Lunch break (on own) and shopping time in the Jewish Quarter & Cardo
- Visit the Southern Wall excavations. Explore the centrality of the Temple and the role of pilgrimage in ancient times.
- “Shuk & Cook” program with dinner at the Machaneh Yehuda Market. Visit some of the vendors for a tasting before splitting into groups to prepare our own meal with a private chef. We’ll receive a recipe booklet so that we can prepare Israeli food back home.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, February 5 SHOAH TO TEKUMAH

- Breakfast at hotel
- Morning speaker with a representative of IRAC, the Israel Religious Action Center for an update on pluralism in the public sphere.
- We learn and remember at the Yad Vashem Historical Complex, including the historical museum, Sculpture Garden and Children’s Memorial.
- Late lunch break (on own)
- Visit the new interactive Khan Sha’ar Hagai museum, which brings to life the heroism of so many who tried to break the siege of Jerusalem during the War of Independence.
- Dinner and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday February 6 DEAD SEA REGION-LOWEST POINT ON EARTH

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Depart for the Dead Sea region. En route, optional photo op with “Shushi” the camel at the “Sea Level” marker.
- Cable car up to the fortress of Masada where the last Jewish freedom fighters faced the mighty Roman Empire 2,000 years ago. Tour atop the mountain as we address the troubling issues presented by the Masada story.
- Head to the “lowest place on earth” for a float in the Dead Sea and lunch at one of the hotels at Ein Bokek.

OR

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Depart for the Dead Sea region. En route, optional photo op with “Shushi” the camel at the “Sea Level” marker.
- Explore the ancient site of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found and learn more about the “Yachad” sect who lived there during the Second Temple Period.
- Lunch break (on own) at Ein Bokek
- Continue south along the Dead Sea. Learn more about the Dead Sea’s formation and the pioneering Zionist dream of the Dead Sea Works which harvests various minerals from its salty waters at the Moshe Novomesky Visitor’s Center.

Or Shushi, Dead Sea Factory and Lunch & Float in the Dead Sea at Ein Bokek hotel.

- Return to Jerusalem.

- Dinner and evening at leisure

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Wednesday February 7 BASHANAH HABA'AH

- Breakfast at hotel, check-out and load bus.
- Visit Yad L'Kashish-Lifeline of the Elderly, where shopping is a true mitzvah.
- Docent tour of the Israeli Supreme Court, whose architecture incorporates Biblical concepts of justice and righteousness. Learn about the Israeli judicial system which is influenced by both British and Talmudic law.
- Lunch break (on own)
- Visit the beautiful Chagall Windows at Hadassah Hospital in Ein Karem.
- Free time for last minute shopping and exploration.
- We reconvene in the late afternoon for a summary discussion and farewell dinner.
- Transfer to the airport for departing flight

Thursday February 8 ARRIVAL IN BOSTON

- Departure on El Al Flight 015 at 1:05am.
- Arrival in Boston at 5:45am.

- 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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