



Sunday, August 28, 2022

Temple Beth El | Multigenerational Family Trip To Israel | Led by Rabbi Asher Knight

June 15-25, 2023

The **J²** way

J² crafts journeys of inspiration, education, and Jewish connections to Israel and worldwide. We are guided by a simple but powerful concept: No two trips are the same; each experience should be personal, meaningful, and backed by superb service. Travel is not just about the places you visit, but the connections you make along the way.

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Program **Outline**

We are committed to providing you with an educational, enlightening, and inspirational program that will be created in partnership with you.

01: THURSDAY, JUNE 15 | ON THE WAY | FLIGHT

- ◇ Depart the USA.

02: FRIDAY, JUNE 16 | THE START OF A SPECIAL JOURNEY | TLV

- ◇ Group arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport. Our representative will be on hand to assist with all formalities and ensure your journey has the smoothest of starts.
- ◇ Meet your tour educator who will accompany you on this journey of education and inspiration.
- ◇ Group transfer to **Tel Aviv**, also known as “the city that never sleeps.” A place of sun and fun, its centers of culture and history are complimented by great beaches, stores, and entertainment.
- ◇ Check into the hotel.
- ◇ Watch the sunset as we take part in Friday night services at the beach.
- ◇ **Welcome dinner** at a local restaurant.



03: SATURDAY, JUNE 17 | **FOUNDATION OF THE CITY & STATE** | TLV

- ◇ Breakfast at an Israeli hotel is an experience in itself. Start the day with a bounteous buffet.
- ◇ Visit the **Ayalon Institute** near Rehovot for an eye-opening tour of a clandestine munitions factory used during the British Mandate.
- ◇ Stop at the **Jaffa Overlook** for an introduction to Tel Aviv at the place where it all began.
- ◇ Culture Tours of Tel Aviv, Combining Street Art, Language & **Graffiti**: Join a local resident, to explore the urban culture of the city.
- ◇ **From Hebrew City to Hebrew State**: Walk along the newly opened **Independence Trail** in Tel Aviv and embark on a remarkable journey that begins with the founding of Tel Aviv in 1909 and ends with the establishment of Israel in 1948.
- ◇ **The City at Night**: Tel Aviv's food scene is on fire with world-class chefs and a huge range of happening restaurants. See and taste for yourself during a free evening with dinner (*on your own account*). Afterward, those who love the nightlife can sample the city's bar, club and café culture or stroll along the refurbished promenade and port.

04: SUNDAY, JUNE 18 | **COMMUNITIES PAST AND PRESENT** | UPPER GALILEE

- ◇ Check out of the hotel and depart Tel Aviv.
- ◇ Drive along the coast and back in time to **Caesarea**, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities during the Roman Period. Explore life 2,000 years ago with its ancient theater, palace, and bathhouse.
- ◇ Walk through the 2,000-year-old water tunnel at **Park Alona**, the water source for ancient Caesarea.
- ◇ Visit **Kfar Kedem** in the Galilee for a hands-on family experience, exploring Jewish life of 2,000 years ago, including donkey rides, costumes, pita baking and a special **lunch**.
- ◇ Continue to the Upper Galilee and check into the kibbutz hotel.
- ◇ **Dinner** at the hotel.



05: MONDAY, JUNE 19 | THE NORTH AT ALL ITS GLORY | UPPER GALILEE

- ◇ Take a nature hike to the Hanging Trail at the **Banias Nature Reserve**. The trail is suspended above the gorge and the rushing waters of the Banias Stream, the second largest source of the Jordan River, at the foot of Mount Hermon. We'll end at the famous Banias Waterfall, the largest in Israel.
- ◇ Take a **Jeep tour** off-road up the Golan Heights in the footsteps of Israeli soldiers and their battles in the Six-Day War. Enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.
- ◇ The panoramic views from **Mt. Bental** (overlooking the abandoned Syrian town of Kuneitra) give sharp insights into Israel's security situation on the Golan Heights, and the enormous challenges it faced in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.
- ◇ **Cool Off Down the Jordan River:** With the hot weather, it's time to take to the water with **rafting or kayaking** down the Jordan River. This is the parched Middle East rather than the Rockies, so the current is mainly calm and suitable for ages five and up. Water shoes are recommended.
- ◇ Return to the hotel for **dinner**.
- ◇ **Thoughts and Experiences Thus Far:** Opportunity for group conversation & reflection.

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06: TUESDAY, JUNE 20 | A TALE OF TWO HOLY CITIES | JLM

- ◇ Check out of the hotel.
- ◇ Explore **Tsfat**, a center of Jewish mysticism for hundreds of years and a contemporary artists' colony, including:
 - Guided visit to the **Ari, Caro or Abuhav Synagogues**, each with its great stories and mystical messages.
 - A stroll through the quaint **Artists' Colony**, shop in the galleries and crafts shops and engage in dialogues with local artisans inspired by the messages of Kabbalah.
- ◇ Drive south past **Tiberias**, an ancient/modern city located on the shores of Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee). One of Israel's four holy Jewish cities, this is where the "Jerusalem" Talmud was codified and where Maimonides is buried.
- ◇ Continue south towards Jerusalem
- ◇ **Welcome to Jerusalem:** Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- ◇ *(Optional)* Visit to the renewed and wonderfully creative **Israel Museum**, with its wide-ranging and eclectic collection, from Archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls to Jewish Life and Art, European art, contemporary Israeli art and the open-air model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple period – including a visit to the Youth Wing for the kids. (The luggage will be taken to the hotel.)
- ◇ Check into the hotel.



07: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 | THE OLD CITY MAZE | JLM

- ◇ Take a walking tour through **Jerusalem's Old City and** the Jewish Quarter and experience the center of Jewish life, history and holiness. Among the highlights will be:
 - A walk along the **rooftops** that will provide an extraordinary scene of multi-faith Jerusalem. From this one spot, we will see the domes of three great religious landmarks: The Church of the Holy Sepulchre (marking where Jesus is believed to have been crucified); the Jewish Quarter's Hurva synagogue; and the Dome of the Rock, one of Islam's most sacred and beautiful sites.
 - **The Cardo**, the main street of Roman and Byzantine Jerusalem.
 - **King Hezekiah's Broad Wall**, a massive wall built to protect Jerusalem from invasion 2,700 years ago.
 - **Hurva Square**, the center of modern-day life in the Jewish Quarter.
 - No visit to Israel is complete without experiencing the **Kotel (Western Wall)**, widely considered Judaism's holiest site. Each year, over one million notes containing prayers and wishes are placed in the cracks of the wall. We'll discuss the wall's historical and contemporary importance and experience its unique atmosphere.
 - **Going Under, Going Deeper:** Explore the **Western Wall Tunnel**, the underground continuation of the Kotel, and examine important archaeological discoveries that are revising our understanding of daily life in ancient Jerusalem.
- ◇ **Diggin' for Roots:** We'll literally get in touch with the land and history of Israel during an archaeological dig at the **Beit Guvrin Caves**. Get your hands dirty uncovering pottery from the Hellenistic period, 2300 years ago before crawling through the Maresha Cave Labyrinth. The non-crawlers among us will visit a more spacious part of the cave complex in this UNESCO World Heritage Site
- ◇ Return to Jerusalem and to the hotel.



08: THURSDAY, JUNE 22 | MASADA & THE DEAD SEA | JLM

- ◇ Early departure to the **Dead Sea Basin**.
- ◇ **Bnei Mitzvah Service** at the ancient Ein Gedi Synagogue.
- ◇ Ascend by cable-car to **Masada**, Herod's Mountain palace and the site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defense and its current significance in modern Israel.
- ◇ Descend the mountain via cable car.
- ◇ Experience the weightlessness of the **Dead Sea** as you float in its waters.
- ◇ Hike in **Nahal David**, part of the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve. This is a desert oasis with springs, waterfalls, and freshwater pools, so don't forget your swimsuits. Featured are the ibex, hyraxes, and other desert mammals that live in this area. Nahal David is named after the biblical David, who fled here to escape from the murderous King Saul. Walk through Arugot Stream in the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve, the largest and most beautiful in the Judean Desert, into a world of canyons and waterfalls.
- ◇ Return to Jerusalem.



09: FRIDAY, JUNE 23 | MEMORY NEAR AND FAR | JLM

ADULTS & OLDER YOUTH:

- ◇ Visit **Yad Vashem**, the national memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, an essential emotional and educational experience. Your guided tour will include:
 - The **Avenue of the Righteous**, where trees symbolic of the renewal of life have been planted along with plaques honoring brave non-Jews who saved Jews during the Shoah.
 - The **Historical Museum**, a state-of-the-art interactive display reflecting decades of research and educational expertise. The story of the Holocaust, with an emphasis on individual victims, is told through survivor testimonies, original artifacts, and personal possessions saved from the ghettos and camps.
 - The **Children's Memorial**, where candles shine like stars in the sky to commemorate the 1.5 million children lost during the Holocaust.

YOUNGER YOUTH:

- ◇ Experience **Ein Yael**, an interactive, living museum, located on a 2,000-year-old archaeological site. Weave, paint, and try your hand at crafts typical of life in ancient times.

ALL:

- ◇ Enjoy the sights, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the **Mahane Yehuda** open-air market, with lunch (*not included in package*). Don't miss the opportunity to taste Israeli craft beers at the beer bazaar.
- ◇ **Giving Back with Pantry Packers:** Participate in a **Tikkun Olam** activity by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families. After a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons, and caps to fill bags of rice, beans, and other commodities.
- ◇ Return to the hotel.
- ◇ **Kabbalat Shabbat** services at **Kehillat Mevasseret** in Mevasseret Zion, led by Alona Nir-Keren followed by home hospitality/communal **Shabbat dinner** (*pending confirmation*).



10: SATURDAY, JUNE 24 | **UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN** | FLIGHT

- ◇ Explore the wondrous stalactites and stalagmites in the **Sorek Cave**, part of the Avshalom Nature Reserve located in the Judean Hills.
- ◇ **Hiking in the Hills:** Stretch your legs with a hike that will take you from the tree-laden beauty of the Jerusalem Hills down to the **Sataf Springs**. Along the way, witness how ancient methods of agricultural cultivation are being revived in modern Israel.
- ◇ Return to the hotel for packing and some free time.
- ◇ **Ben Kodesh Lechol:** Havdallah overlooking the Old City.
- ◇ Late check-out from the hotel.
- ◇ Festive farewell **dinner** and closing remarks.
- ◇ Group transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport and check-in for your return flight to the USA.

11: SUNDAY, JUNE 25 | **HOME** |

- ◇ Return to the USA.



Rates & Lodging

Group rates are land only, per person sharing a double room:

| Dates | Nights | Lodging | Room Cat. | City |
|-------------------|--------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| June 16-18 | 2 | Crowne Plaza | Deluxe | Tel Aviv |
| June 18-20 | 2 | Pastoral | Classic | Upper Galilee |
| June 20-24 | 4+LCO | Inbal | Standard | Jerusalem |
| # OF PARTICIPANTS | 30+ | | 3 rd child reduction | Single Supplement |
| | | \$4,495 | -\$1,080 | +\$1,630 |

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What to **Expect**

Included:

- ◇ 8 nights' accommodations.
- ◇ Late check out on the day of departure is included.
- ◇ 9 days of touring with a tour educator (guide) in a luxury, air-conditioned bus.
- ◇ 1 group arrival transfer & assistance at the airport.
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- ◇ Daily breakfast, 1 lunch & 5 dinners.
- ◇ Water on the bus.
- ◇ Porterage at the airport & hotels.
- ◇ All site entrance fees & program fees as per your final program.
- ◇ Online portal to inform & to facilitate recruitment and registration.
- ◇ A personal tour operator who will take care of all your logistics and work with you to ensure a successful and seamless travel experience.

Excluded:

- ◇ **Credit card fees.**
- ◇ Flights to & from Israel.
- ◇ COVID related expenses, including tests.
- ◇ Evening transportation when dinner is not included.
- ◇ Amendments to the program: In the event that any sites, programs or meals etc are added to the program, an additional fee may be required.
- ◇ Personal extras: Items of personal nature such as laundry, wines, mineral water, beverages, coffee, tea, food other than the table d'hotel menu, passport and visa fees, insurance, and foreign port taxes, unless otherwise specified.
- ◇ US and foreign airport taxes, Q fuel surcharge and border taxes when applicable.
- ◇ Value Added Tax is currently not applicable to tourists visiting Israel. Should the law change, you will be notified accordingly, and VAT will be added to your final invoice.
- ◇ **Gratuities:** We recommend the following guidelines for tipping (amounts are in US dollars): Group of 30/40 participants and more: Tour Educator: \$12 | Driver: \$6 per day per person.

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Terms & Conditions (T&C's):

Please review separate attachment or request that we send you our full T&C's. Until you do that, here is the small print, and other stuff you may want to know:

Rates: Rates are per person based on double occupancy and a minimum number of 30/40 full-paying participants. Should the number of participants drop below the minimum listed, the cost of the trip will be adjusted to reflect the additional expense of operating the program.

Currency: Tour prices are per person in **U.S.** dollars. All hotel accommodations, motor coach transportation, special dinners, sightseeing, admissions, luggage handling and the services of local guides, drivers, and the tour guide/educator are included.

Payment policy: The following payment policy has been instituted in order to reflect current realities. J² Adventures reserves the right to adjust its terms of payment, including cancellation policies and initial deposits. Notification of any changes will be made explicitly to the participants where relevant.

- An initial refundable deposit of \$500 per person, non-transferable is due at the time of reservation unless another amount is indicated.
- Final payment is due 90 days before the scheduled trip begins, or as specified in your invoice.

Cancellation policy: All cancellations need to be made in writing.

- If your cancellation is made more than 30 days prior to departure all your monies will be fully refunded.
- If your cancellation is made less than 30 days prior to departure you will be provided with a travel credit, valid for 18 months for travel on a J² travel program.
- If your J² travel program is cancelled at any time you will receive a full refund.

Cancellation less than 30 days before departure may also include:

- Hotel or supplier cancellation fees.
- The cost of the PEACE OF MIND TRAVEL PROTECTION PROGRAM (POM), for trips only to Israel, if this was purchased.

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Travel insurance: We strongly recommend that you purchase your own travel insurance. Please discuss land, air, and health insurance options with your insurance provider. Some insurance programs provide more comprehensive coverage when the policy is purchased in close proximity to the initial trip deposit. We, therefore, recommend that you secure insurance within 14 days of your initial deposit payment date.

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