

**Temple Shaaray Tefila's  
In-Depth, Adult Focused  
Tour to  
ISRAEL**

**Led by Rabbi Joel Mosbacher  
October 4-15, 2018**

(As of 8/21/18)



*Traveling together in Israel is an opportunity to connect – with the people of Israel, with the land itself, and with each other. As a traveling community, we will bond through our shared experiences, from the fun and adventurous to the historical and spiritual.*

**Day 1: Thursday, October 4, 2018: DEPARTURE**

- We depart the United States on our overnight flight to Israel.

---

**Day 2: Friday, October 5, 2018: WELCOME TO ISRAEL!**

- We arrive at Ben Gurion Airport where we are met by an Ayelet Tours representative for transfer assistance.
- We travel to **Tel Aviv** for a **welcome ceremony** overlooking Tel Aviv and Jaffa.
- We continue with a **co-existence tour** through **Old Jaffa**. This experience brings together a Jewish and Arab tour guide to explore the mixed city of Jaffa, where Jews and Arabs live side by side, and trace the different historical narratives.
- We check in to our hotel and refresh.
- As the sun begins to set, we join together for **Kabbalat Shabbat** with members of **Beit Tefilah Yisraeli**, followed by a **Shabbat welcome dinner** at our hotel.

**Overnight in Tel Aviv**

---



### Day 3: Saturday, October 6, 2018: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we set out on a **walking tour** through **Neve Tzedek**, including a stroll through the UNESCO World Heritage **White City** to see the Bauhaus architecture, as well as the Old City Hall and Square.
- We take a tour arranged through Julie Fisher and coordinated by **Hotline for Migrants and Refugees**, Israel's leading organization protecting the rights of refugees, migrant workers and victims of human trafficking. Our time will include a discussion of their work in South Tel Aviv.
- We continue to newly restored **Sarona Market** to discover a world-class dining experience and have time for lunch on own.
- Continue to **Beit Hatfutsot**, the Museum of the Jewish People, which is much more than a museum. This unique global institution tells the extraordinary story of the Jewish people. (Open 10 am – 3 pm) **OR**
- We visit the **Tel Aviv Art Museum**, housing a comprehensive collection of classical and contemporary art, specifically Israeli art, as well as a sculpture garden. (Open 10 am – 6 pm)
- Spend the evening at leisure and enjoy dinner on own.

### Overnight in Tel Aviv

---

### Day 4: Sunday, October 7, 2018: FOUNDATIONS OF THE STATE



- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We travel south to **Moshav Netiv HaAsara**, located on the Gaza border, for insight into security complexities of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza, while trying to create a thriving home, including dialogue with a resident.
  - Our next stop is at the **"Salad Trail,"** where we will participate in a unique hands-on agricultural tour and witness how Israeli innovation is literally making the desert bloom with crops grown out of some of the most inhospitable sands imaginable. We will pick and taste fruits and vegetables straight from the kibbutz's self-picking farm, and encounter flying strawberries, tiny orange orchards, racing pigeons, and herbal gardens. We enjoy a delicious farm-to-table **lunch** together here.
- We continue to **Eshkol** to visit the **Protected School**. Here, we will witness the bravery and hope of the children and teachers. We view the buildings, which are used for both learning and shelter.
- We meet **Yaron Bob** at his workshop. Struck by the terror of shell attacks, Yaron decided to transform something horrible into something beautiful – and so began his artwork, known as **"Rockets to Roses."**
- We travel to **Yerucham** to check into our hotel and enjoy **dinner**, followed by an introduction to this newly energized southern city by a representative of the Mayor's office (mayor may join upon availability).

### Overnight in Yerucham



---

### Day 5: Monday October 8, 2018: DESERT ADVENTURES

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We set out this morning to the **Mitzpe Ramon Visitor's Center**, which tells the geological story behind this unique and amazing work of nature, and also tells the story of Israeli pilot, astronaut and hero Ilan Ramon.
- We enjoy a **hike** in the **Ramon Crater**, followed by a **jeep tour** further into the Crater to marvel at the spectacular landscape.
- Next, we visit **Carmey Avdat Desert Winery** for a **tour and wine tasting**.
- Stop at **Sde Boker** to visit the original desert hut of David Ben Gurion.
- This evening, we enjoy **dinner** together at our hotel.

### Overnight in Yerucham

---

### Day 6: Tuesday, October 9, 2018: NEGEV THEN AND NOW

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we walk through the Nabatean ruins at **Mamshit National Park**, where the Arabian horse was bred OR We travel to Segev Shalom, where we meet Amal Abualkom, who will share her story as an entrepreneur to give Bedouin women a voice and a better future. (One activity for entire group – TBD)
- Next, enjoy a **camel ride** through the Negev Desert at a Bedouin encampment.
- Ascend **Masada** by cable car or snake path, to view the remains of King Herod's fortress, including the walls, synagogue and bathhouses, and learn about the Jewish Zealot's last stand against the Roman forces.
- We travel to our hotel to check in and enjoy **dinner** together.

### Overnight at the Dead Sea

---

### Day 7: Wednesday, October 10, 2018: THE DEAD SEA

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, enjoy an unsinkable swim in the healing, salty waters of the **Dead Sea**.
- We drive north to the beautifully peaceful Carmel Forest Spa resort. We stop for lunch on our own en route.
- Enjoy a free afternoon at the resort (spa appointments must be made in advance).
- Later this evening, we drive to nearby **Haifa**, where we enjoy dinner joined by our partners from the **Leo Baeck Institute**. They welcome us and share a bit about our time with them tomorrow.

### Overnight in the North

---



## Day 8: Thursday, October 11, 2018: CONNECTING WITH LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

- Breakfast and check out of our resort.
- This morning, we visit our partners at the **Leo Baeck Institute campus**. We'll spend the majority of the day learning from their leadership about the innovative programming taking place here, meeting faculty and students along the way. **Lunch** on site with Leo Baeck representatives.
- We ascend to **Jerusalem**. Upon our arrival, we say the "Shehecheyanu" and take in the panoramic view of the **City of Gold** from atop **Mt. Scopus**.
- We sift through the Temple Mount rubble at **Emek Tzurim**, where new and important finds are made every day.
- We check into our hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure and dinner on own.

### Overnight in Jerusalem

---

## Day 9: Friday, October 12, 2018: ONE CITY, MANY PERSPECTIVES

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We travel through Israeli and Palestinian neighborhoods beyond the '67 borders with **Ir Amim**, a left leaning organization focused on finding an "equitable peace" in Jerusalem. We will discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the city. The tour focuses on the relationship between the Israeli authorities and the Palestinian population, Israeli policy in Jerusalem and its social and political implications, and the Separation Barrier and its effects on the city.
- Lunch on own in the **Jewish quarter** before we take part in a special tour of the **Old City** with **Ateret Cohanim**, a right leaning group focused on Jewish settlement throughout all four quarters of the Old City. It is an action that some see as inflammatory, but it can look very different when viewed up close. They also work to improve relations with their Arab neighbors. It is a totally different and eye-opening way to tour the Old City.
- We return to our hotel for time to freshen up before joining **Kabbalat Shabbat services** with a local progressive community. After the service, we enjoy **Shabbat dinner** hosted by families in the community.

### Overnight in Jerusalem

---



## Day 10: Saturday, October 13, 2018: SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day at the **Tower of David Museum**, where we learn the story of Jerusalem, detailing the major events in the city's history from the first evidence of the city until it became Israel's capital, including its significance to three religions.
- We enjoy a **walking tour** through the **Old City**, including visits to the **Arab market (shuk)**, and the **Christian quarter**, where we stroll along the **Via Dolorosa** and end at the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.
- Spend the afternoon relaxing during the calmness of Shabbat.
- Later this afternoon, we meet with **Khaled Abu Toameh**, an Israeli-Arab journalist, lecturer and documentary filmmaker for an insightful discussion.
- As Shabbat comes to an end, we join together for **Havdallah**.
- Dinner on own tonight.
- Later this evening, we walk to the **Tower of David**, where we enjoy the spectacular **Sound and Light show**.



## Overnight in Jerusalem

---

## Day 11: Sunday, October 14, 2018: MODERN & ANCIENT JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we receive a high level political update (speaker TBD).
- Next, we tour **Yad Vashem**, Israel's memorial to the Holocaust, to visit the many moving exhibitions. Our visit includes a **memorial ceremony** at the **Valley of the Lost Communities**.
- We return to the **Old City** and walk through the **Jewish quarter**, and tour the **Western Wall tunnels**, where we discover the archaeological wonders that once remained untouched for centuries.
- Enjoy free time in Jerusalem to shop and discover on own.
- In the early evening, a chef leads us through **Machane Yehuda** for a sensual immersion, engaging with the vibrant colors, smells and flavors that will be found in this bustling marketplace. We wander through the pyramids of spices, bright-colored exotic vegetables, nuts, olives, and delicious halva creations. Our chef will introduce us to the most characteristic ingredients of the local cuisine and to the Israeli food habits, while we prepare a festive **farewell dinner** together with our purchases.
  - After dinner, we stroll through the market to see the beautiful art on many of the closed stall shutters. The market comes to life again after dark as a popular nightlife hotspot.
  - We check out of our hotel and transfer to the airport for our overnight flight back to the United States.



---

**Day 12: Monday, October 15, 2018: WELCOME HOME!**

- We arrive in the United States this morning.

**THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!**

*\*Itinerary subject to change*

U:\ITINERARY\Mosbacher Joel Israel OCT 2018 v2.docx

