

**Beth Hillel B'nai Emunah
Family Friendly Adventure in**

ISRAEL

Led by Rabbi Nate Crane

December 25, 2022 – January 4, 2023

(As of 6/22/22)

Israel is a land of connections and reconnections. It is a place that both holds nostalgia and awaits rediscovery. Over the decades, so much in Israel has changed dramatically, yet the essence that draws us remains the same. Join us on a fun, interactive and hands-on journey of discovery, experiencing time-honored sites in a new light and sharing new experiences that will form the base of cherished memories for years to come. Our tour will create positive Jewish experiences for participants of all ages here in Israel.



Day 1: Sunday, December 25, 2022: DEPARTURE

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

Day 2: Monday, December 26, 2022: WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

- Shalom and Bruchim Habaim – welcome to Israel! Our time in this incredible land has officially started and our excitement mounts as we set off on the adventure ahead. Just beyond passport control, an Ayelet representative will meet us in the baggage claim area and assist us through customs.
- Our adventure begins as we travel into the city of **Tel Aviv** and check into our hotel, with a chance to freshen up after our long journey.
- This evening, we join together for a delicious **welcome dinner** at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

Day 3: Tuesday, December 27, 2022: GETTING TO KNOW TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day following the **Independence Trail** through the **Rothschild District**. Along the way, we'll discover the architectural, cultural and intellectual foundations of this great city, including a stop outside Israel's Independence Hall (currently closed for renovations).
- Next, we stroll down the **Nachalat Binyamin pedestrian mall**, with its bi-weekly craft fair and eateries. Alongside is the bustling **Carmel Market** filled with colorful produce and goodies from halva and baklava to gifts and mementos. Time for lunch on own.
- After lunch, we visit **Old Jaffa**, the ancient port city, and stroll through the cobblestone alleyways, admiring the crafts and art galleries as we take in the views of the sea.
- Enjoy the evening exploring this metropolitan city and having dinner on own. We suggest a visit to **Sarona Market** for a world-class dining experience with something for everyone.



Old Jaffa

Overnight in Tel Aviv



Day 4: Wednesday, December 28, 2022: DISCOVERIES ABOUND ALONG THE MED COAST

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We begin our day at the **Ayalon Institute**, where we discover the secrets of this underground ammunition factory that played a pivotal role in Israel's fight for independence.
- We stop in **Holon** to discover the **Israeli Children's Museum**, an educational-cultural institution promoting tolerance, acceptance, and respect for one another by providing a unique experience through the use of adventures and exhibitions for children of all ages.
- This afternoon, we travel north along the Mediterranean coast to **Caesarea**, the Roman regional capital. Here, we view the ancient theater, stroll through the hippodrome and Roman theater and stand in awe at Herod's palace and harbor.
- Our next stop is in **Akko** to visit the Crusader-era fortress and British prison as we learn about this historically important port.
- We continue to the **Galilee** to check into our kibbutz and enjoy **dinner** together this evening.

Overnight in the Galilee

Day 5: Thursday, December 29, 2022: ENJOYING THE NORTH

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- This morning, we visit **Kfar Kedem** to learn about the ways of life in the Galilee 2,000 years ago. While here, we discover how cheese was made in ancient times in a hands-on demonstration.
- Next, we travel to the mystical city of **Safed**, where we wander through the cobblestone streets to view the ancient synagogues and shop in the artist's quarter. We participate in a **candle making workshop**.
- After time for lunch on own, we stop for a sweet treat with purpose at **Buza Ice Cream**. We'll meet owners **Adam Ziv and Alaa Sweitat**. This Jewish-Arab team have not only found meaningful friendship through their business, they have created "a corner of delicious sanity."
- We return our kibbutz for a relaxing evening and **dinner** together tonight.



Safed

Overnight in the Galilee



Day 6: Friday, December 30, 2022: NORTHERN ADVENTURES

- Breakfast and check out of our kibbutz.
- This morning, we set out on an adventurous **jeep tour** through the **Golan Heights**, riding along ancient Roman roads, passing through Syrian ruins and admiring the stark beauty of this windswept plateau. We ascend to the top of **Mount Bental**, a former Israeli bunker overlooking the ruins of **Quneitra** and the **Valley of Tears**. As the full vista comes into view, we reach a deeper understanding of both the past and present complexities facing Israel in a hostile Middle East.
- Next, we participate in a hands-on **chocolate workshop**, learning from the experts in a fun and delicious way as we make our own confections at the **DeKarina Chocolate Factory**. Adults may choose to savor the flavors of local wine varietals at the adjacent **Pelter Winery**.
- Later this afternoon, we meet **IDF lone soldiers** in the Golan, including a close personal connection with our community.
- We ascend to **Jerusalem**, stopping at the **Haas Promenade** to say Shehecheyanu as we look out over the **City of Gold** for the first time together!
- We check into our hotel and have a chance to freshen up.
- As the sun sets, we join together to attend the **Egalitarian Kabbalat Shabbat service** offered at **Ezrat Israel** (Adjacent to the Western Wall plaza), followed by **Shabbat dinner** together at our hotel.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 7: Saturday, December 31, 2022: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we enjoy **Shabbat services** at a local congregation (options provided), followed by **Shabbat lunch** together at the **Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center's** Masorti campus.
- This afternoon, we visit the **Old City of Jerusalem** for a walking tour of the different quarters. We enter the Ottoman walls via the **Jaffa Gate** and continue into the **Jewish quarter**, filled with synagogues, shops and history, where we wander through the **Cardo Market** and pass by the ancient **Broad Wall**, stopping along the way for lunch on our own.
- The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.
- We gather together to enjoy a special **Havdalah** overlooking the Old City.
- We enjoy a festive **dinner** together on this, the last night of 2022!

Overnight in Jerusalem



Jerusalem's Old City



Day 8: Sunday, January 1, 2023: A NEW YEAR IN THE CITY OF GOLD

- Breakfast at our hotel. Happy New Year!
- Today, we start our year off right with Tikkun Olam – we'll engage in an unforgettable 90-minute hands-on experience of packing food staples included in monthly food baskets, delivered to Israel's neediest families at **Pantry Packers**.
- We continue to **Emek Tzurim**, where we participate in the dig that is sifting the Temple Mount rubble. New and important finds are made here every day.
- Next, visit **Ir David, the City of David**, where the stories of the Biblical King David come to life through the palace excavations, underground passageways and monumental fortifications. For the fearless, descend with a flashlight into **Hezekiah's Tunnel**, a 2,700-year-old pitch-black water-filled tunnel, a marvel of engineering, that brought water into the ancient city.
- After dinner on own, we take in the **Tower of David Night Spectacular**, a sound and light show that transforms the walls of David's Citadel into the living story of Jerusalem.

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 9: Monday, January 2, 2023: THE DEAD SEA BASIN ADVENTURES

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We depart early this morning and travel south to the **Dead Sea basin**. Upon arrival, we ascend the imposing mountain of **Masada** by cable car to view the remains of King Herod's fortress, including the synagogue, walls and bathhouse, as we learn about the Jewish Zealots' fateful last stand against the Roman forces.
- We descend the mountain and head to the beach for an included **lunch** and an unsinkable swim in the luxuriating, salty and mineral-rich waters of the **Dead Sea**, where we can cover ourselves in silky, healing mud and float at the lowest place on Earth.
- After our refreshing afternoon dip, we enjoy a short hike to the hidden waterfalls in the desert oasis of **Ein Gedi**.
- As we return north, we visit **Genesis Land** to experience authentic Biblical hospitality in the hills overlooking the Judean Desert, including a **camel ride** and a traditional **hafla dinner**.
- We return to Jerusalem later this evening.



Dead Sea

Overnight in Jerusalem



Day 10: Tuesday, January 3, 2023: MODERN JERUSALEM/WE REMEMBER

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day at **Yad Vashem**, Israel's memorial to the Holocaust, where we view the many moving exhibitions, including the Hall of Names, the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations, as well as those specific to the children who perished in the Holocaust. Younger children may visit the nearby **Biblical Zoo** (accompanied by parents).

Alternative visit for this morning:

- We visit **Yad B'Yad**, a cutting-edge Jewish-Arab school, where we meet with teachers and administrators and peek in on a class of students. Our time here will illuminate both the hopes and challenges of integrated co-education in Israel.
- At **Mt. Herzl**, Jerusalem's military cemetery, we pay our respects at the gravesites of Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres and hear stories about some of the less well-known heroes buried here.
- Next, we visit the famed **Machane Yehuda**, where we take in the sights, smells and sounds of the bustling marketplace and learn about some of Israel's delicacies during our **tasting tour** led by a local chef. We will gather staples and supplies from the various stalls, culminating in an immersive **cooking class** where we prepare our own festive **farewell dinner**, recounting all of our adventures together.



Machane Yehuda

Overnight in Jerusalem

Day 11: Wednesday, January 4, 2023: WELCOME HOME!

- Breakfast and early check out of our hotel.
- We transfer to the airport for our flight back to the United States, landing later today.

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!!

**Itinerary subject to change*

