

NORTH PENINSULA JEWISH COMMUNITY • EXPLORE ISRAEL - L'DOR VADOR

Participating: Peninsula Temple Beth El • Peninsula Temple Sholom
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NORTH PENINSULA JEWISH COMMUNITY
December 23, 2018 - January 3, 2019

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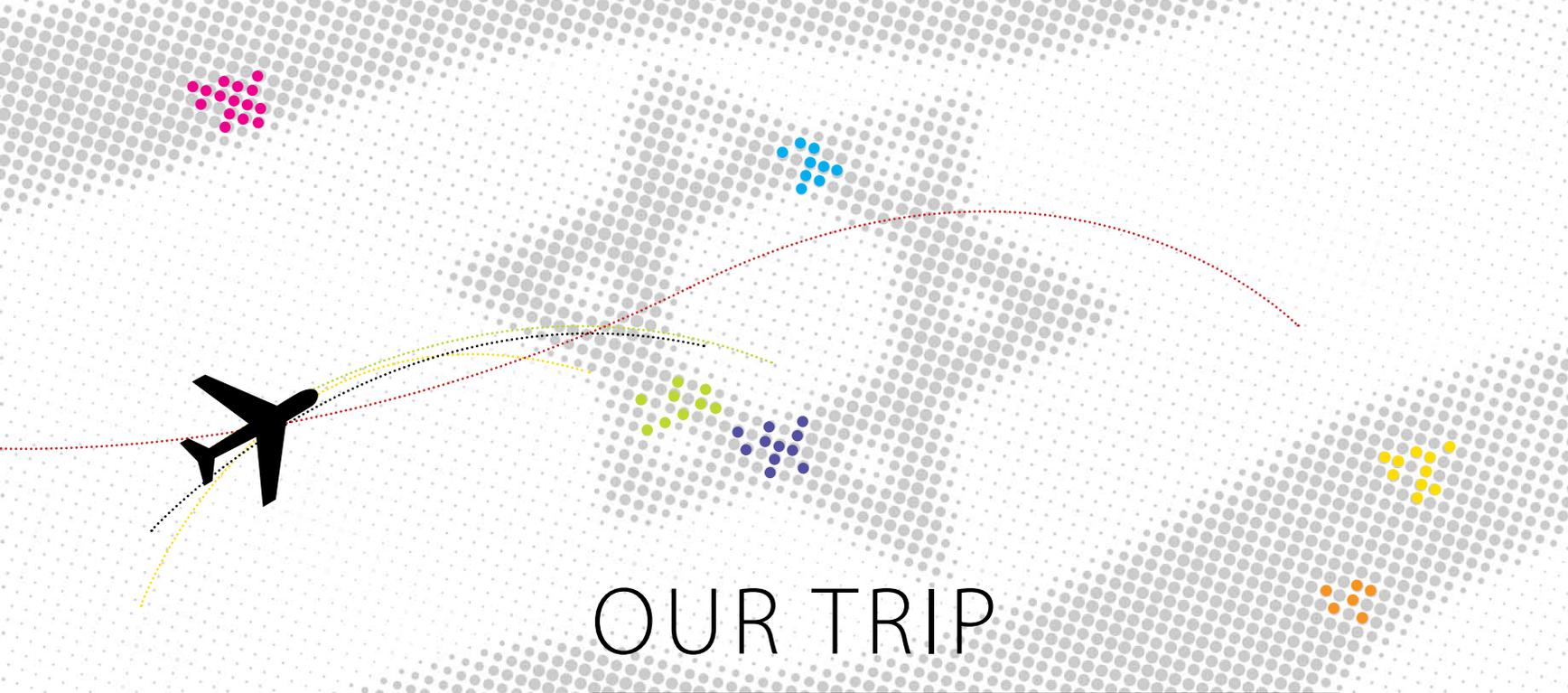


Your Tour Educator

Every journey we offer is accompanied by a Tour Educator (TE) who brings your itinerary to life. Some of our TE's have decades of firsthand experience leading people to particular places.

Your TE will provide you with an authentic understanding of the locations you will visit, will introduce you to the locals, and will share his/her enthusiasm and passion for the local culture. The result is a journey that transforms your understanding of a place, connecting you to the people and places you encounter in a way that is palpable and unforgettable.

Our TE's are like no other: intelligent, knowledgeable, engaging and fun. They will become an indispensable part of your experience and some might just become lifetime friends.



OUR TRIP

DECEMBER 23, 2018 – **JANUARY** 3, 2019
(Optional Petra Extension: January 2-6, 2019)

FROM **\$3,149** LAND ONLY

INCLUDES

- 9 nights' accommodation at select hotels
- 10 days of touring in a luxury, air-conditioned bus with licensed, English speaking tour educator (2 guides & 2 buses. No buses on Saturday December 29)
- 1 group transfer and assistance to and from the airport
- Youth Counselor per bus throughout the trip
- All site entrance fees and program fees as per itinerary
- Meals: daily breakfast, 1 lunch and 5 dinners
- Portage at the airport and hotels

הקרוסלה העברית הראשונה



DAY ONE ↘ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018

DEPARTURE

- Depart the U.S.A.

Overnight: Flight

DAY TWO ↘ MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018

ARRIVAL

- Arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Meet your tour educator at the airport and transfer to Jerusalem.
- Welcome to Jerusalem: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem, and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- Stop at the Haas Promenade for an overlook of the Old and New City of Jerusalem and to recite the traditional “shehechyanu” blessing.
- Check into the hotel.
- Welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY THREE ↘ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2018

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Depart for the Old City.
- Walking tour through the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, for visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:

For First-Timers:

- A walk along the Ramparts of the Old City.
- A walk along the Rooftops of the Old City for a behind-the-scenes look at the various communities in Jerusalem and how they live alongside each other.
- The Cardo, the main street of Jerusalem in the 6th
- King Hezekiah's First Temple-period “Broad Wall”.
- Hurva Square, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.
- Walk through the Western Wall Tunnel, the underground continuation of the Western Wall alongside the Temple Mount.

For Returnees:

- The 2,000-year-old Herodian Mansions.
- Visit the Isaac Kaplan Old Yishuv Court Museum which captures the Jewish life in the Old City from the 1600's till 1948.
- Enter the four Sephardi synagogues, which reflect the richness and diversity of Diaspora Jewish traditions.
- Visit the Karaite Synagogue and meet with representatives of the community. The Karaites recognize the Tanakh alone as its supreme legal authority in Jewish religious law and theology.
- Enter the City of David, and walk through the recently opened Second Temple-period tunnel under the walls of the Old City, emerging in the Jerusalem Archaeological Park.

All:

- Visit the Kotel (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.
- Lunch on your own in the Jewish Quarter.
- Drive to the Israel Museum.



Adults:

- Visit 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.

Children:

- Visit 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 special children's visit to the Youth Wing.

All:

- Return to the hotel.
- Free time in the Mamilla pedestrian arcade, a very contemporary shopping area with a whiff of the past, located outside the Jaffa Gate of the Old City; dinner on own.
- Through a new multimedia expedition - I Am Jerusalem - take a journey to the past, present and future of Jerusalem. Learn why Jerusalem is so important to Judaism, Islam and Christianity as you take a virtual ride through the streets, alleys, markets and attractions of the Old and New Cities.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY FOUR ↘ WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2018 MEMORY & RENEWAL

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the Yad Vashem complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:

For First-Timers and kids over 10:

- The Avenue of the Righteous
- The Historical Museum
- The Children's Memorial

For Returnees:

- The Art Museum
- The Holocaust Film Archive
- The Exhibitions Pavilion
- The Sculpture Garden
- The Valley of the Communities

For Both First-Timers and Returnees:

- Participate in a concluding Memorial Service at Yad Vashem.

Children under 10, accompanied by a youth counsellor:

- Visit the Biblical Zoo, a beautifully landscaped habitat with a special focus on preserving Biblical fauna, geared to children of all ages (2-80).

All

- Lunch on your own, en route.

Afternoon Option 1:

- Israeli Film and a Window In: Meet with students and teachers from the Ma'aleh Film School for a screening and discussion, exploring the intersection of Judaism and modern life. Ma'aleh's unique, cutting-edge films attempt to foster deeper



“Sabra, the Hebrew name for prickly pear cactus fruit, fruit of the nopale cactus, native to Mexico, now endemic in the Middle East.”

From Wikipedia



understanding and dialogue between religious and secular Jews. While Ma'aleh graduates are shaping the future of the Israeli film and television, they also created a first-of-its-kind video-therapy for at-risk youth, Ethiopian immigrants, terror victims and adults with special needs.

Afternoon Option 2:

- Depart for Beit Guvrin.
- Take part in an archaeological dig at the Beit Guvrin Caves and prepare to get your hands dirty as uncovering pottery from the Hellenistic period, 2,300 years ago, followed by a crawl through the Maresha Cave Labyrinth (crawling is optional). Beit Guvrin-Maresha National Park was recently recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Return to Jerusalem.

All:

- Return to the hotel.
- Stroll along the Ben-Yehuda Street and Nachalat Shiva pedestrian malls, joining the many Israelis out on the town, with dinner on own.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY FIVE ▽ **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2018** **INTO THE DESERT, MASADA AND THE DEAD SEA /** **IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE CONFLICT**

Option 1:

- Early breakfast at the hotel.
- Descend to the Dead Sea basin.
- Ascend by cable-car or walk up the Snake Path 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 defence and its current significance in modern Israel.

- Experience an astonishing sense of weightlessness as you float in the super-saline Dead Sea.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Ride camels through the desert in Biblical-style.

Option 2:

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Israeli Politics: A Guide for the Perplexed: Dialogue with Gil Hoffman, the chief political correspondent and analyst for the Jerusalem Post.
- LaDa'at The Geopolitics of Jerusalem: Travel through the city of Jerusalem, exploring some of its political and diplomatic complexities - including the 'Security Barrier' - to gain a behind-the-headlines insight into current developments.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Drive to Gush Etzion.
- The Identity of the Israeli Settlement: Visit Gush Etzion and meet with Shani Abrams Simkovitz from the Gush Etzion Foundation.
- Creating A Joint Future For Palestinians And Israelis: Meet with Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, Ali Abu Awwad, Shaul Judelman who all live in the Bethlehem / Gush Etzion Area and founded the Roots coexistence project. The Roots project draws Israelis and Palestinians who, despite living next to each other, are separated by walls of fear- not just fear of each other, but even of the price of peace. Without building trust, the suspicions between these two communities will suffocate the political peace agreements.

All:



- Return to Jerusalem.

Evening Adults' Program:

- Enjoy parents' night out in Jerusalem, with its fine dining and culture events. (On own account; Da'at will make reservations.)

Evening Children's Program with a Youth Counsellor:

- Movie and pizza night at the hotel!

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SIX ↘ **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2018**

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.

Option 1:

- Giving Back with Pantry Packers: Participate in Tikkun Olam by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families; after a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons and caps in order to fill bags of rice, beans and other commodities.

Option 2:

- Visit the Yad BeYad (Hand in Hand) Bilingual School, dedicated to bringing together Jewish and Arab children in a positive and natural learning environment.

All:

- Depart for Tel Aviv-Jaffa.
- Visit the Old City of Jaffa and ascend from the old port through the renovated alleyways to the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv at the place where it all began.
- Walk through the famous Jaffa Flea Market - "Shuk Hapishpishim"; lunch on own.

- Visit the Nachalat Binyamin pedestrian mall, with its bi-weekly crafts fair and eateries. Alongside is the colorful Carmel open-air market and across the way Sheinkin Street, with its hip cafés and funky chic shopping.

- Check into the hotel.

- Kabbalat Shabbat services at local synagogues.

- Home Hospitality Shabbat dinner/communal Shabbat dinner with local congregants OR festive Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY SEVEN ↘ **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2018**

SHABBAT IN TEL AVIV | walking tours

- Breakfast at the hotel.

- Shabbat services at the hotel.

- Shabbat lunch at the hotel.

Afternoon Option 1:

- Walk down Bialik Street in Tel Aviv for a visual journey through Tel Aviv's past and present, including a view of the houses of artist Reuven Rubin and writer Chaim Nachman Bialik.

Afternoon Option 2:

- Walking tour through colorful Neve Zedek, one of Tel Aviv's earliest neighborhoods. Today it is a cultural mecca, with many small boutiques and galleries, and the Suzanne Delal Dance and Theater Center.

All

- Return to the hotel.
- Ben Kodesh Lechol: Havdallah overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.
- Free Evening in Tel Aviv for an opportunity to:



- Meander through the Old City of Jaffa.
- Stroll down Rothschild Boulevard, with its many cafés and bars.
- Experience Tel Aviv Port, with its restaurants and clubs.
- Explore the gentrified Neve Zedek
- Saunter down the Tel Aviv Beach Promenade.
- Wander through the Tachana, Tel Aviv's renovated old train station, now a center of boutiques and good food, and one of Tel Aviv's blooming hot spots.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY EIGHT ↘ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2018 CULTURE AND CREATIVITY IN TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at the hotel.

Option 1:

- Start Up Nation: Explore the world of renowned Israeli inventions and creations at the State of Mind Innovation Center, followed by a dialogue with an up and coming startup entrepreneur.
- Stroll down Rothschild Boulevard to view examples of the intriguing Bauhaus-style architecture from the 1930s; the local proliferation of the style won Tel Aviv recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage site and the nickname of 'the White City'.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- From the Templers to the Hipsters: Guided tour to the newly renovated Templers town of Sarona, now a hip and vibrant fashion and culinary center, including free time to stroll through the indoor food and spice market Including a visit to the Historic Olive Mill and Press House for olive oil tasting and free time to stroll through the indoor food and spice market.

- Israeli beer tasting in Sarona.
- Special program on Jewish and Israeli Art at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, guided by one of the museum curators.

Option 2:

- Street Art, Language & Graffiti: Join a local artist, to explore the urban culture of the city.
- LaDa'at EthnicTasting Tour: walk through Tel Aviv's famous Levinsky Market, where you'll find a combination of foods and sweets from all over the Mediterranean and hear the unique stories of the individuals who sell them.
- Depart towards Rehovot.
- Visit the Ayalon Institute near Rehovot for an eye-opening tour of a clandestine munitions factory used during the British Mandate.
- Return to Tel Aviv.

All:

- Return to the hotel.
- Enjoy a Middle-Eastern-style dinner at Maganda, in Tel Aviv's Yemenite Quarter, with a varied menu of traditional salads and grilled meats.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY NINE ↘ MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018/ NEW YEAR'S EVE A MOSAIC OF ISRAELI SOCIETY

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel and depart for the North, driving along the coast.

Option 1:



- Guided visit to Caesarea, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities in the Roman Period. Visit the Herodian Theater and the excavations along the Mediterranean shore, concluding with a visit to the ruined 900-year-old Crusader town.
- Guided visit to Zichron Ya'acov, one of the first communities established by the early Zionist pioneers, including a walk along the colorful Pedestrian Mall with lunch on own.
- Guided by a local resident, visit the famous Ein Hod artist colony south of Haifa, and explore some of the many galleries throughout the village.

Option 2:

- Visit the Yemin Orde Youth Village, one of Israel's most innovative educational institutions, specializing in integrating new immigrant youth into Israeli society. Dialogue with faculty and students.
- Drive to Haifa.
- Visit the Technion, one of the top 10 universities in the world for science and technology research. Take a guided tour to explore the various campuses and laboratories and engage in a conversation regarding Israeli startups and future ventures.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Visit the Beit Hagefen Community Center, including a walking tour of Wadi Nisnas and a dialogue on coexistence in Haifa with some members of the Arab community.

All:

- Check into the hotel in Haifa.
- WELCOME 2019! Visit a Druze village in the Carmel Mountains for a window into the unique world of the Israeli Druze community, with a festive New Year's dinner.

Overnight: Haifa



DAY TEN ↘ TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019 SERENITY AND SECURITY IN THE GOLAN

- Breakfast at 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.

Option 1:

- 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.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Walk through the Tel Dan Nature Reserve, located on the largest tributary of the Jordan River, and explore the ruins of the great Biblical city of Dan.

Option 2:

- The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border: Field seminar on the northern border and dialogue with (Ret.) Sarit Zehavi, a former senior intelligence officer.
- Visit a family boutique winery on the Golan Heights; wine tasting is included.

All

- Return to the hotel.
- Dinner on own and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Haifa



DAY ELEVEN ↘ WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018 LEAVE YOUR MARK

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- From the top of Mount Carmel view the Baha'i Gardens and gold-domed Shrine of the Bab, one of the holiest sites of the Baha'i religion.
- Visit an IDF base for a dialogue with officers and soldiers (pending confirmation).
- Tikkun Olam hands-on experience with Leket, a volunteer organization that provides food for the needy by collecting excess produce from farms and food distribution companies.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Visit Neot Kedumim, a large interactive "Biblical landscape reserve" dedicated to the flora and lifestyle of ancient times - with tree planting.
- Farewell dinner at Neot Kedumim or Mini Israel.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport for the departure flight to the U.S.A.

Overnight: Flight

DAY TWELVE ↘ THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2018 RETURN

- Departure flight to the U.S.A., arriving the same day.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO EILAT AND PETRA

DAY ONE ↘ WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018 TEL AVIV - EILAT

- Return to Tel Aviv and check into the hotel.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY TWO ↘ THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2018 TEL AVIV - EILAT

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- Transfer to Tel Aviv's Sde Dov domestic airport and fly to Eilat.
- Upon arrival in Eilat, transfer to the hotel.
- Check into the hotel and enjoy the rest of the day leisure.
- Dinner on own.

Overnight: Eilat

DAY THREE ↘ FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2018 PETRA

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early departure for the Arava Border Crossing.
- Upon completion of passport procedures, cross into Jordan.



- Travel through the Arava to the ancient Nabatean City of Petra, situated between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea and which was an important crossroad between Arabia, Egypt and Syria-Phoenicia. Petra, half-built, half-carved into the rock, is surrounded by mountains riddled with passages and gorges, and is one of the world's most famous archaeological sites where ancient Eastern traditions blend with Hellenistic architecture.
- Lunch at a local hotel or restaurant.
- Late afternoon return to the Arava Border Crossing and transfer back to the hotel.
- Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Eilat

DAY FOUR ↘ SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 2018

SHABBAT IN EILAT

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Free time for 'fun in the sun' with optional water sports, swimming with dolphins, Red Sea cruise or just rest and relaxation.
- Late check out of the hotel and transfer to the Eilat Airport.
- Board a domestic flight to Ben Gurion Airport or to Tel Aviv and transfer to the international terminal at Ben Gurion Airport.

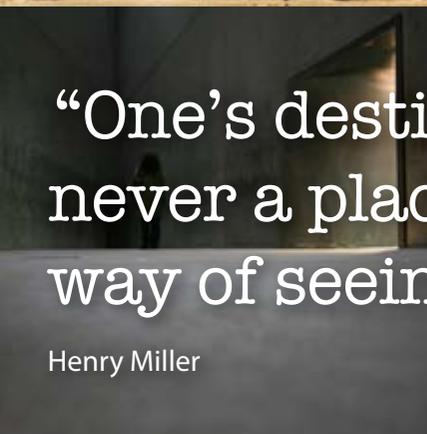
DAY FIVE ↘ SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018

RETURN

- Departure flight to the U.S.A., arriving the same day.

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Henry Miller



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