



Thursday, February 23, 2022

Central Reform Congregation |

Adult Trip to Israel | Led by Rabbi Daniel Bogard

January 21-31, 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.



Program **Outline**

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

01: SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 | **ON THE WAY TO ISRAEL** | FLIGHT

- ◇ Depart the USA

02: SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 | **ARRIVAL** | TLV

- ◇ 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.
- ◇ 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 in to the hotel.
- ◇ Enjoy a festive welcome **dinner**, followed by orientation with your group leader and tour educator.



03: MONDAY, JANUARY 23 | THE FIRST HEBREW CITY | TLV

- ◇ **Beginnings:** Modern Tel Aviv grew out of ancient **Jaffa**. Gaze out over the Mediterranean Sea; learn why Jaffa, mentioned in the biblical story of Jonah and the Whale, is so historically important; and see how its Old City reflects the present as well as the past.
- ◇ **Jaffa Stories and Coffee:** You're warmly invited into the home of **Doris Hiffawi** to hear about her life as a Christian Arab in Jaffa. Over coffee brewed by her family and Arabic sweets she'll talk about whether the area's Jewish, Muslim, and Christian population mix or merely make do. We'll also find out how female entrepreneurs like Doris are bringing change to this socio-economically deprived neighborhood.
- ◇ Walk through Jaffa's famous **flea market – Shuk Hapishpeshim**.
- ◇ **Neve Zedek** was one of Tel Aviv's first neighborhoods as the city grew outside of Jaffa. Stroll through this stylish area with its boutiques, galleries, and the Suzanne Dellal Center, Israel's world-class home of contemporary dance.
- ◇ **From Hebrew City to Hebrew State:** Walk along the **Independence Trail** 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 Israeli Spark:** Get to know Israel's dominant high-tech companies and most promising startups at the **Center for Israeli Innovation**. designed this to showcase Israel's tech landscape and what makes the country an incubator for innovation.
- ◇ **When the Sun Goes Down:** Enjoy Tel Aviv's hot night life, with its boardwalk and cafés, bars, clubs, shows – and more.



04: TUESDAY, JANUARY 24 | **ANOTHER SIDE OF TEL AVIV** | TLV

- ◇ **Clean Hands for a Better World:** Talk with **Max Simonovsky**, co-founder and CEO of **Soapy**, an award-winning start-up that is using Israeli ingenuity to fight disease in developing countries. Soapy's solar-powered hygiene stations and smart systems create water from the air's humidity to provide people from impoverished villages with 24/7 access to the perfect amount of soap and water.
- ◇ **Out of East Africa:** Meet African women seeking refuge in Tel Aviv and see how they are working toward a brighter future by creating beautiful crocheted products. **Kuchinate** (meaning crochet in Tigrinya) is a collective that celebrates African art and culture while empowering women asylum-seekers, many of whom suffered great hardships while fleeing to Israel. Here we'll:
 - Join women from East Africa for a **traditional coffee-making** ceremony and talk with them about their lives in Israel and the struggles they are seeking to overcome through creativity and collective action.
 - Try our hand at creating East African baskets (or bracelets) during a **craft workshop** led by the women of Kuchinate.
- ◇ Browse your way through **Nahalat Binyamin**, Tel Aviv's arts and crafts market.
- ◇ Visit **ANU – Museum of the Jewish People**, the largest Jewish museum in the world, and join a fascinating journey that portrays the story of the Jewish people through the generations and up to the present time.



05: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 | **COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTH** | TLV

- ◇ Visit the **Yemin Orde Youth Village**, one of Israel's most innovative educational institutions, specializing in integrating new immigrant youth into Israeli society, including a dialogue with faculty and students.
- ◇ **Minority Report: Shefaram** is a fascinating but rarely-visited ancient town and modern city. An early Jewish rabbinical center operating under Roman rule, it was later a Crusader post and is now an Israeli Arab city with Muslim, Christian and Druze communities. We'll meet with residents and hear of their determination to maintain close, respectful ties between the town's different populations. Highlights of our tour will include:
 - **The Food!** Show off your Middle Eastern cooking skills as you whip up some knafeh, the iconic dessert of the Western Galilee, followed by a home-hospitality **lunch**.
 - Visiting a local **mosque** and talking with a muezzin (Muslim clergy) about Islamic practice and life in Israel.
 - The town's beautiful **Roman Catholic church** where we'll hear about the variety of Christian denominations in the area and their relations with the Muslim majority.
 - Our visit to Shefaram will conclude at its now abandoned **synagogue** and a discussion on what, historically and today, it means to be a minority community in the Land of Israel.
- ◇ Drive to the **Yokneam-Megiddo region** partnership for a special visit, followed by **home hospitality dinner**.
- ◇ Return to Tel Aviv.



06: THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 | **BETWEEN TWO CITIES** | JLM

- ◇ Check out of the hotel.
- ◇ **LGBTQ Israelis: Between Civil and Jewish Law:** Go through the history of the LGBTQ community, and tour the LGBTQ Center of Tel Aviv with a possible panel discussion regarding the progress and challenges of the LGBTQ rights movement, with activists and members of various LGBTQ organizations.
- ◇ Depart Tel Aviv.
- ◇ **The Identity of the Israeli Settlement:** Visit **Gush Etzion** and meet with **Shani Abrams Simkovitz** from the Gush Etzion Foundation.
- ◇ **Is Religion the Way Forward or an Obstacle to Peace?** We'll go beyond the Green Line to meet with **Ali Abu Awwad** and **Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger/ Rabbi Shaul Judelman** from **Shorashim** (Roots), a program bringing West Bank Palestinians and their Jewish neighbors together despite their fears and suspicions.
- ◇ Check into the hotel.
- ◇ Dinner at a local restaurant with **Daniel Estrin** - NPR's international correspondent in Jerusalem.
- ◇ **Nighthawks at the Shuk:** Jerusalem at night provides a very different vision of the Holy City. During a free evening at the **Mahane Yehuda Shuk** (open air market), you can check out the bars, cafes, and eating options; see the portraits of local personalities that have been painted on store shutters; and get into the night-market mood by sampling drinks popular with the city's hipsters.



07: FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 | THE HISTORY OF THE HOLY CITY | JLM

- ◇ **Navigate Your Way Through the Labyrinth of Israel Politics:** Join Professor **Reuven Hazan** of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University for an introduction into Israel's turbulent political scene where coalition governments and powerful ideological divisions are a fact of life.
- ◇ **Archaeology & Politics – Do They Mix?** Meet with a representative of **Emek Shaveh**, an organization consisting of archaeologists and community activists, focusing on the role of archaeology in Israeli society and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- ◇ **At the Heart of It All:** Explore the **City of David**, the core of ancient Jerusalem, and learn how the city was administered during the First Temple period. Our visit will include:
 - **Archaeological discoveries** illustrating how the wealthy and powerful lived in ancient Jerusalem.
 - The **Gihon Spring**, the source of Jerusalem's water, which was integral to its survival and religious ceremonies.
 - Wading through the 2,700-year-old **water tunnels** (there's an optional dry exit), an architectural wonder of King Hezekiah's.
 - Traveling through time as we walk in ancient drainage channels from the City of David to the Western Wall's massive foundation stones at the foot of the Temple Mount.
- ◇ **The Jerusalem Archaeological Park** is a large-scale excavation that has uncovered vital parts of ancient Jerusalem. A particular highlight is to walk on the Southern Wall steps used by Jewish pilgrims to enter the Temple, 2,000 years ago. But there is much else to see, including Robinson's Arch, the remains of a major Second Temple-period street, and tunnels used by Jewish fighters hiding from the Roman invaders. A museum, including movies and a 3-D model of ancient Jerusalem, add to the experience.
- ◇ Return to the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- ◇ **Blessings, Challah, and Friends:** Friday night is the traditional highlight of the Jewish week and the Jewish stomach. We'll come together with friends old and new to enjoy the rituals, recipes, and relaxation of Shabbat in Jerusalem.
- ◇ Enjoy **Kabbalat Shabbat** at a local synagogue, followed by **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel.



08: SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 | THE CITY OF SHABBAT | JLM

- ◇ **Shabbat morning Torah reading service** at Azarat Israel, the egalitarian section of the **Kotel** (Western Wall).
- ◇ **Jerusalem and the Cross: Hana Bendcowsky**, Director of the Jerusalem Center for Jewish-Christian Relations, will take us on a tour of the communities and holy sites of the Old City's **Christian quarter**. We'll experience the long history and astonishing variety of Christian groups in Jerusalem, and contemplate the complex situation facing Christian minority groups living in Israel and the modern-day Middle East.
- ◇ There will also be time to see the bargains and the bargaining in the **Old City Shuk** (market) in the Christian Quarter.
- ◇ **Jerusalem and its Writers**: Explore the streets of Jerusalem through the eyes and words of its poets and authors, including Yehuda Amichai and S. Y. Agnon.
- ◇ **Three Stars in the Jerusalem Sky**: At nightfall, we will mark the end of a special Shabbat with a communal **Havdallah ceremony** overlooking the Old City.

09: SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 | THE TWO SIDES OF HEBRON | JLM

- ◇ **The City of Our Forefathers**: Explore Hebron for an inside look at one of the most pivotal issues when discussing modern Jewish settlement. Included will be visits to the **Tomb of the Patriarchs** (Machpelah), Tel Rumeida and Beit Hadassah, followed by a discussion with **Noam Arnon** and other representatives of the Hebron Jewish Community.
- ◇ **Lunch** at a local restaurant.
- ◇ Continue the tour with **Breaking the Silence**, a nonprofit organization made up of veteran combatants who have served in the Israeli military since the start of the second intifada and have taken it upon themselves to expose the public to the reality of everyday life in the occupied territories.
- ◇ Return to Jerusalem.
- ◇ **Group processing session** at the hotel.



10: MONDAY, JANUARY 30 | **THE JERUSALEM MOSAIC** | JLM

- ◇ **The Jerusalem Mosaic – Creating a Multicultural City:** Dialogue with **Tehila Friedman- Nachalon**, a former MK, a leading activist, and thinker involved in efforts to create a more tolerant, pluralistic Jerusalem. We will learn about the complex political and demographic situation in the city and hear of inspiring efforts to build bridges between its different communities through communication and cooperation.
- ◇ **1 City, 2 States, 3 Religions, and 4 Tribes:** Take a ride on **Jerusalem's light rail** and experience the mosaic of the Jerusalem population. As we travel through Jerusalem's diverse neighborhoods, including those populated by Hareidim and Arabs, we'll note the difference between East and West Jerusalem and the ongoing struggles between the city's different communities. Discuss whether Jerusalem is divided, as former President Ruby Rivlin has suggested, into four "tribes."
- ◇ Take a **multi-cultural tasting journey** through the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem's **Mahane Yehuda** open-air market: Enjoy the sights, smells, tastes and sounds of this vibrant area where Jerusalemites shop. This doubles as a delicious **lunch**.
- ◇ **Challenges and Triumphs of Religious Pluralism and Social Justice in Israel:** Dialogue with **Anat Hoffman**, Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC).
- ◇ **Farewell dinner** at a local restaurant.

11: TUESDAY, JANUARY 31 | **UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN** | FLIGHT

- ◇ Check out of the hotel and depart for the airport.
- ◇ Transfer to **Ben Gurion International Airport** and check into your flight to the USA.



Rates & Lodging

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

Dates	Nights	Lodging	Room Cat.	City
Jan 22-26, 2023	4	Royal Beach	Bellavista	Tel Aviv
Jan 26-31, 2023	5	Orient	Orient	Jerusalem
# OF PARTICIPANTS	20+	Single Supplement		
		\$4,928	+\$1,505	

What to **Expect**

Included:

- ◇ 9 nights' accommodations.
- ◇ 10 days of touring with a tour educator (guide) on a luxury, air-conditioned bus.
- ◇ 1 arrival transfer & VIP assistance at the airport.
- ◇ 1 departure transfer & VIP assistance at the airport.
- ◇ Daily breakfast, 3 lunches & 3 dinners.
- ◇ Water on the bus.
- ◇ Portage 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): Tour Educator: \$12 | Driver: \$6 per day per person.

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 20 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.

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.