

Sample Itinerary

Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County Gesher Hai

Subject to change

Day 1– Welcome to Israel!

Arrival in Israel

Haas Promenade: **Shehechyanu Ceremony**

Check into hotel

Introduction to the program and Orientation

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 2– This is where it all began...

The Ramparts Walk – walk along the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem

City of David and Hezekiah's Tunnels –the place where it all began, 3000 years ago, when David left Hebron and established Jerusalem as the unified capital of the tribes of Israel.

Ge'ula Neighborhood

Kabbalat Shabbat at the Kotel

Shabbat Dinner

Oneg Shabbat

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 3– Shabbat in Jerusalem

Shabbat services in nearby local synagogues

Stroll in nearby neighborhoods

Havdalah

Night out in Jerusalem

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 4– The Old City of Jerusalem

Zion Gate & Mount Zion

The Southern Wall Excavations & Davidson Center

The Jewish Quarter – the alleyways and the streets of the Jewish quarter of the Old City tell the story of those who lived here 2000 years ago, and those who live here today...

The Kotel – the central, most significant site to the Jewish people.

Time Elevator - A journey through the rich 3,000 years of the cities history.

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 5– A City of Three Religions

Sataf Springs – group picnic and hike in Jerusalem hills

Jerusalem on the Seam – the modern city, 1948-2008

Ammunition Hill

Kotel Tunnels –under the ground level of today's city, the Kotel Tunnels take one along the western wall, into the heart of the stones, and Jewish tradition.

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 6- the Judean Desert

Ein Gedi – hike the largest oasis of the Judean Desert, known for the ibex that roam freely, the waterfalls and the overall abundance of wildlife so unique to the desert landscape.

Swim in the Dead Sea

Camel rides

Bedouin Dinner – the Bedouin hospitality is a central part of their tradition, as is their unique cuisine.

Accommodations: Kfar Hanokdim Bedouin Tent

Day 7– Masada

Climb Masada at sunrise

Tour of Masada, through the main sites of the mountain that tell the story of Herod, who built the fortress, and the rebels that lived there, and died there, and left us with the story of the force of faith and the dilemmas that come with it.

Descend via Roman ramp

Artists' workshops in Arad – meet with local artists that made Arad their home, participate in a workshop creating personal souvenirs from the experience.

Travel south

Amutat Ayalim –meet the pioneers of the 21st century, a foundation established by young students committed to social change and to settling the Negev.

Accommodations: Sde Boker GH

Day 8– Pioneers in the Negev

Hike in Ein Avdat Canyon – the Ein Avdat Canyon is the largest oasis in the northern Negev, and also a unique story of nature preservation.

Bike the area of the Ramon Crater

Accommodations: Sde Boker GH

Day 9– Negev

Ben-Gurion's desert home – the simple hut of Israel's first prime minister, who chose to make the desolate Negev his home, tells of the man behind legend and the life behind the historical facts.

Sde-Boker – David Ben Gurion's grave

Kabbalat Shabbat

Oneg Shabbat

Accommodations: Sde Boker GH

Day 10– Shabbat in the Desert

Shabbat Services

Havdalah

Night hike in the Zin Valley – explore the desert by moonlight...

Accommodations: Sde Boker GH

Day 11– Eilat Mountains

Hike through Eilat Mountains

Beach and Snorkeling at the Red Sea

Evening in Eilat

Accommodations: Adi Hotel, Eilat

Day 12– Eilat

Hike in the **Red Canyon**

Kasui Sand Dunes

Kibbutz Ketura – pioneers in the desert (seminar & dinner) – meet the members of Kibbutz Ketura and hear how they chose to make the Arava their home, their pioneering spirit and their role in the development of the region.

Drive along border with Egypt to Eilat – the windy road along the border with Egypt is one of the most desolate and picturesque routes in the country, boasting breathtaking views of Northern Sinai and the Western Negev

Disco Boat

Accommodations: Adi Hotel, Eilat

Day 13– Heading North

Travel North

Nachalat Binyamin Fair

Swim in the Mediterranean Sea

Movie Night in Shfayim

Accommodations: Kibbutz Shfayim

Day 14– Tel-Aviv and the Coast

Photography Workshop in Tel Aviv

Hall of Independence – a modest Tel-Aviv home that became the site of Israel's historical Declaration of Independence, where David Ben-Gurion announced the establishment of the Jewish State.

Rabin Square – since November 4th, 1995 the site of Yitzchak Rabin's murder has become a memorial and a national place of gathering, symbolizing the times and the consequences of the tragic night.

Program with **PACT (Ramla)**

Israel Update – with Neil Lazarus (guest speaker)

Accommodations: Kibbutz Shfayim

Day 15- Tel-Aviv

Palmach Museum

Dialogue in the Dark – an interactive program at the Children's Museum in Holon, demonstrating the range of the senses beyond vision. This exhibit/experience is led by blind guides, who lend their life experience to the thematic and experiential impact of this program.

Tour of Jaffa and Neve Tzedek – the first neighborhoods of today's largest city are a great opportunity to get the sense of the first days of the young state, and the lives of the pioneers that settled the towns and villages.

Not by Bread Alone – the blind and deaf play at the Nalaga'at Center

Accommodations: Kibbutz Shfayim

Day 16– Tel Aviv and free weekend

Tour of Zichron Ya'akov

Disperse to homes of relatives for **free Shabbat**

Group stays in Nachsholim resort

Accommodations: Nachsholim

Day 17– Free Weekend

Group – restful day (including pool, beach).

Accommodations: Nachsholim

Day 18 – Western Galilee

Dor- Habonim Hike

Cesarea

Alona Park- walk through a part of King Herod's water system

Tour of Akko – recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Old city of Akko is a well protected, deepwater port city that has known an eventful history, from the Crusaders, the Muslims to the mixed city that it is today.

Accommodations: Yechiam Rimonei Hagalil, Western Galilee

Day 19- Western Galilee

Sarach – Betzet Hike

Co-existence in the Galilee – the delicate mosaic that is the Galilee population is a fascinating lesson in the challenges and triumphs of co-existence. Explore the history and present situation in the region with local educators.

Accommodations: Yechiam Rimonei Hagalil, Western Galilee

Program with P2K Partner region

Accommodations: Host families in Partnership Region

Day 20- Meet with P2K Partner region

Repelling - Keshet Cave

Rosh Hanikra

Meet with Partnership 2000 at the Bar'am Synagogue

Disperse to P2K homes

Accommodations: P2K Homes

Day 21- Mifgash – Day in the Golan Heights

Ruins of Gamla

Oz 77 – audio visual presentation at Kibbutz Elrom

Valley of Tears – War of 1973

Mt Hermon - ascend via the cable car to the mountaintop

Accommodations: P2K Homes

Day 22 Mifgash – Day in the Galilee

Bike Ride in Hula Valley

Tel Hai/Kibbutz Kfar Giladi – the Fight for Independence

Kibbutz Naot Mordechai Sandal Factory

Paintball Fun at Kibbutz Ayelet HaShachar

Accommodations: P2K Homes

Day 23– Day in the Region

Rosh Pina – Movie and introductions

Hazor HaGilit

Tsfat – Program with *Livnot U'Lehibanot*

Kabbalat Shabbat

Disperse to Homes

Accommodations: P2K Homes

Day 24– Shabbat with Families

Shabbat with Families

Accommodations: P2K Homes

Day 25– The Northern Borders; Lebanon & the Hezbollah

Viewpoint into Lebanon – The Second Lebanon War

Tour Peki'in Druze Village and Druze Hospitality

Kyaking on Jordan River and Ropes Course

Final Party (first part with families, second part participants only)

Accommodations: P2K Homes

Day 26– Return to Jerusalem

Archeological Dig at Beit-Guvrin

Chirbat Midras

Drive to Jerusalem

Evening: preparation for Yad Vashem

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 27– Jerusalem

Yad Vashem – the Holocaust's Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Site of memorials, museums, exhibits and monuments.

Mt. Herzl - overlooking the Jerusalem hills, this is the site where many national dignitaries are buried, such as Yitzchak Rabin, Golda Meir and Theodore Herzl. The complex also includes the national military cemetery and a museum honoring Herzl and his legacy.

Final party

Accommodations: The Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 28– Jerusalem

Tour of Nachal'ot neighborhood

Machane Yehudah Market – join Jerusalemites in the bustling market known for its scents and colorful stalls; practice your Hebrew as you purchase your fresh baked rugelach which help you maintain a good taste of Israel on your flight home.

Kotel – time of personal and group reflection

Haas Promenade – summary of historical outline of the trip.

Last minute shopping

Program summary and evaluation

Travel to Airport

11:25 PM Departure

לשנה הבאה בירושלים

Farewell