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***B’nai Torah Congregation***

***“My Heart is in the East” Tekumah Trip to Israel***

*February 2-7, 2026*

(Itinerary subject to change)

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| **Monday, February 2** | ***bruchim haba’aim-welcome to israel-Tu B’Shvat*** |

* Rendezvous at Ben Gurion airport in the morning.
* Celebrate Tu B’Shvat and your arrival in Eretz Yisrael with a tree-planting ceremony.
* Packed Brunch
* Visit and tefillah at **Hostage Square** in order to recall the freed hostages whom were held by Hamas from October 7th; this area – outside the Tel Aviv Museum of Art – is to be kept as a permanent site to remember the plight of the hostages.
* See the areas of Tel Aviv that were hit during the **Rising Lion campaign** against Iran
* Continue to Zichron Yaakov for check-in and to freshen up.
* Welcome Dinner at the hotel with Jesse Hutcher.

***Overnight:*** *Elma Hotel, Zichron Yaakov*

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| **Tuesday, February 3** | ***northern exposure*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Tefillah and meeting with Rabbi Elisha Wolfin of the Masorti community of Zichron Yaakov, Ve’ahavta.
* Survey the Northern Border with Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, founder of the Alma Research and Education Center which focuses on geopolitics of the Middle East.
* Lunch with a Druze Family with Druze soldiers in the village of Yanuch Jat
* Visit Avivim, a community on the Lebanese border whose winery was destroyed by Hizbullah rockets and is part of the MyTree project which adopts Israeli farmers.
* Dinner on own in charming Zichron Yaakov.

***Overnight:*** *Elma Hotel, Zichron Yaakov*

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| **Wednesday, February 4** | ***tekumah*** |

* Breakfast at hotel and check-out
* Travel to the Tekumah region (Gaza border area).
* See the grassroots initiative at the Shuva Junction – which has fed tens of thousands of soldiers going into and coming out of Gaza – and meet the soldiers benefiting from it today; meet with Dror Trabelsi, who left his life behind in order to make sure this site runs with love and efficiency*.*
* Lunch break (on own) in Netivot.
* Visit the Tekuma “Car Cemetery” to where hundreds of destroyed vehicles were removed. Hear the moving stories of the victims and survivors of the vehicles.
* Pay your respects at the site of the Nova Festival at Re’im where so many young people were killed or kidnapped by Hamas. *Mincha* service.
* At Kibbutz Urim, meet Tali Medina who stayed back to run the kibbutz dairy even when her wounded husband and 4 children were evacuated. Tali is one of 20 Israeli women honored by JNF for their heroism on October 7th.
* Travel to Jerusalem.
* Check-in at the hotel.
* Dinner and evening at leisure.

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Thursday, February 5** | ***altruism in action*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel & tefillah
* Morning speaker: Yitzhak Sokoloff or Neil Lazarus for a strategic update.
* **Volunteer hands-on** at Yad L’Kashish-Lifeline of the Eldery, preparing packages for the elderly artisans. Tour the workshops and stop in the giftshop where shopping is a mitzvah. OR prepare sandwiches for schoolchildren who are evacuees or have parents in reserve duty.
* Lunch break (on own)
* Visit the newly opened rehab facility at Hadassah Hospital on Mt. Scopus. ***Bikur Cholim*** with those impacted by the war.
* Pay our respects to those who have fallen at the Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery.
* Dinner and evening at leisure.

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Friday, February 6** | ***to be a free nation in our land*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel & tefillah
* Learning session with the faculty of the Hartman Institute
* Guided Tour of the National Library including the Bearing Witness Archive of the events of October 7th.
* Lunch break (on own) in Machaneh Yehuda shuk. Pick up food for tomorrow’s picnic lunch.
* Prepare for shabbat
* Kabbalat Shabbat at the hostage families tent at Kikar Paris or at Kehillat Tzion.
* Festive shabbat dinner at the hotel.

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Shabbat, February 7** | ***shabbat in jerusalem*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Shabbat morning services at local synagogues.
* Lunch is on your own today. *It is possible to pre-order Shabbat lunch at the hotel for an additional fee or join Rabbi Epelbaum for a picnic lunch at a nearby park (weather permitting).*
* Free time to rest or explore
* Summary Session followed by Group Havdalah and check-out.
* Transfer to airport for departing flights.
* Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation.
* Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour educator.
* All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.
* This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet.



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