****

**Congregation B’nai Moshe**

***My Heart is in the East Israel Experience***

Led by Rabbi Shalom Kantor

*November 10-20, 2025*

updatedMarch 9

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monday, November 10:** | ***Bruchim Habaim – Welcome!*** |

* Land in Israel
* Meet and greet service; meet your tour guide and travel to Tel Aviv
* **Shehechinyanu**: Welcome to Israel ceremony overlooking the Mediterranean Sea
* Welcome dinner and orientation in a local restaurant

***Overnight:*** *Tal by the Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tuesday, November 11:** | ***“if i forget thee, oh tel aviv?”*** |

* Volunteer at the **Leket Distribution Center**, which saves food from hotels and restaurants and distributes it to the needy
* See the lovely crafts and enjoy the street performers at the renowned **Nahalat Binyamin Arts and Crafts Fair** and taste the street food at the adjacent **Carmel Market**
* Visit the **ANU Museum of the Jewish People** to see how the Jewish People spread across the world and their contributions to it
* Get a glimpse into Hebrew Culture on a **graffiti tour** of Southern Tel Aviv

***Overnight:*** *Tal by the Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Wednesday, November 12:** | ***startup nation*** |

* **Jaffa Stories and Coffee**: in the home of **Doris Hiffawi**, hear about her life as a minority (Christian Arab) in Jaffa and - over coffee brewed by her family and Arabic sweets - find out how female entrepreneurs like Doris are bringing change to this socioeconomically deprived neighborhood
* Visit the sub-terranean factory in which Jews produced bullets literally under the noses of the British Army before the War of Independence at the **Ayalon Institute**
* Depart from the hotel for **Save a Child’s Heart**, a program which brings children from Africa and across the Middle East to Israel for life-saving heart surgery; then interact with the children as they prepare for or recover from their surgery
* In the evening over dinner, meet with a **political analyst** for insight on the events in Israel since October 7th

***Overnight:*** *Tal by the Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Thursday, November 13:** | ***October rain*** |

* Travel south to the Gaza Envelope
* In the border city of **Sderot**, view into the northern Gaza Strip for a glance at what happened on October 7th and the ensuing war; then visit the **Police Station Memorial**
* Pay your respects at the **Reim Supernova Festival site**
* Meet with a farmer who survived the October 7th onslaught, hear his stories, and pick and taste fresh vegetables for your enjoyment at the **Salad Trail**
* Meet and speak with soldiers at the **Shuva Brothers soldier pampering station**, providing fresh-cooked meals round the clock for troops entering or exiting the Gaza Strip (this could be substituted for a BBQ dinner with soldiers for an additional cost of about $200 per person)
* Continue to Jerusalem and check into your hotel

***Overnight:*** *Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Friday, November 14:** | ***This year in jerusalem!*** |

* Begin our exploration of the Jewish “love affair” with Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade** with its magnificent views and powerful Biblical, historical and contemporary narratives
* Continue to the **City of David** - the original Jerusalem of King David and First Temple times - for a guided visit with Bible in hand; then descend Warren's shaft a splash through the water tunnel that King Hezakiya dug to save Jerusalem from the Assyrians 2,700 years ago (or take the dry tunnel)
* Return to the hotel and prepare for Shabbat
* In the evening, have a Kabbalat Shabbat service as a community at the Ezrat Yisrael section of the Kotel; then join the thousands of Israelis and Jews from around the world as they bring in the **Shabbat at the Western Wall**
* Shabbat dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Saturday, November 15:** | ***Shabbat Shalom*** |

* Attend one or more of the many **Shabbat services** taking place in Jerusalem
* **Study session** with Rabbi Kantor
* Shabbat lunch in the hotel
* Walking tour of the **Christian Quarter** of the Old City, including a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher
* Musical havdallah, followed by a free night in town

***Overnight:*** *Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sunday, November 16:** | ***from holocaust to redemption*** |

* Learn and remember at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum**
* Take the Connection Path up to the **Mt. Herzl National Military Cemetery**; hear the stories of the leaders and soldiers who are making sure the Holocaust could never happen again, with a special focus on those buried here over the last two years
* “I’m all shuk up”: As a contrast to the morning, take a culinary tour of the vibrant **Machane Yehuda Market** for sensory overload; then participate in a cooking workshop and have a community dinner over the results!

***Overnight:*** *Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monday, November 17:** | ***What price freedom?*** |

* Travel south to **Masada**, the fortress built by King Herod and used by Jewish zealots defending themselves from the Roman army; hear one of the most dramatic stories in Jewish history
* **Hike the Waterfall Trail** in the desert oasis of Ein Gedi and hear the Biblical stories of King Saul and David which took place here
* **Float in the Dead Sea**

***Overnight:*** *Herbert Samuel Hotel, Jerusalem*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tuesday, November 18:** | ***northern exposure*** |

* Depart from the Jerusalem and travel north through the Jordan River Valley
* On **Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu**, learn about the effect the kibbutz movement had on the beginnings of modern Israel and how they have become world leaders of organic agriculture with their production of…bugs!
* Ascend the Golan Heights
* View into **Syria**; get an update on what is happening in Syria today by **Lt. Colonel (res) Eyal Dror** and hear about Operation Friendly Neighbor, which brought injured and sick Syrians into Israel for lifesaving treatment, which LC Dror commanded
* **Wine and cheese tasting** at the boutique Pelter Winery
* Continue to our hotel and check in, followed by dinner

***Overnight:*** *Kibbutz Merom Golan Guest House, Golan Heights*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Wednesday, November 19:** | ***mystics and mountains*** |

* In **Tzfat**, explore the alleyways and synagogues of mystics and trace the development of Kabbalah in the 16th Century
* Meet with a **Kabbalistic artist** and see how s/he incorporates his mystical studies into her/his artwork
* Discussion on Jewish mysticism and the power of Kabbala with **Rabbi Eyal Riess**
* Time permitting, flock to the **Hula Valley** for birdwatching of migrating birds
* Dinner in the hotel followed by a group reflection session

***Overnight:*** *Kibbutz Merom Golan Guest House, Golan Heights*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Thursday, November 20:** | ***Rounding it up*** |

* Drive north to the **Alma Research Center** and meet with Lieutenant Col. Sarit Zehavi understand how this NGO helps the IDF collect information from enemies to the north
* Visit the home of Agere, an **Ethiopian immigrant**; over a traditional *injera* lunch, hear the incredible story of her journey “home” to Israel
* In **Caesarea**, see the incredible ruins of King Herod’s ancient port city, once the capital of Israel during the Roman and Byzantine periods
* Final discussion and farewell dinner in Caesarea
* Continue to the airport for your flight home
* Start planning your next trip to Israel!
* 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

****

**Keshet Educational Journeys**

PO Box 52236 Jerusalem 9152102 Israel

Phone: 972-2-671-3518 | Fax: 972-2-671-3624

keshet@keshetisrael.co.il | www.keshetisrael.co.il