



CONGREGATIONAL ISRAEL EXPERIENCE
JULY 1-12, 2012

COSTS ARE BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE TOTAL GROUP AND DO NOT INCLUDE AIRFARE

20 - 24 adults	\$2895	25 - 29 adults	\$2795	30 - 34 adults	\$2695
35 - 39 adults	\$2595	40 - 44 adults	\$2555		
Single supplement \$700					

THIS QUOTE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- ❖ 2 Nights in Tel Aviv Dan Panorama in Tel Aviv (deluxe rooms)
- ❖ 2 Nights at the Sea of Galilee Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Hotel (deluxe rooms)
- ❖ 5.5 nights in Jerusalem Prima Royal Hotel
- ❖ late check out on July 11 from the Jerusalem hotel.
 - Group meeting and assistance by a group representative from Ramah upon arrival **after** passport control
 - Group meeting and assistance upon departure until boarding pass collections.
 - 9 days of touring in a deluxe air conditioned bus

TRANSFERS INCLUDED:

- Group arrival transfer at Ben Gurion airport/Tel Aviv Hotel (all must meet w/in 1 hr. timeframe)
- Departure transfer Jerusalem Hotel/Ben Gurion Airport

ENTRANCE FEES INCLUDED:

Neot Kedumin with tree planting,
Independence Hall,
Caesarea,
Atlit Immigrant detention camp.
Jeep tour of the Golan Heights (2 hours)
Beit Shean,
Davidson Center,
City of David including Hezekiah Tunnel water walk with torches,
Western Wall Tunnels,
Emek Tzurim dig at the Mount of Olives,
Masada and round trip cable car.
Hotel Accommodations for the guide in Tel Aviv x 2 nights and Nof Ginosar x 2 nights

MEAL ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDED:

Buffet breakfast *daily* at the above mentioned hotels.
July 2 - welcome dinner at Maganda Restaurant or similar in Tel Aviv
July 4 - dinner at Nof Ginosar - main dining room
July 5 - dinner at Nof Ginosar - main dining room
July 6 - Shabbat dinner in the Main dining room of the Jerusalem Hotel
July 7 - Shabbat lunch in the Main dining room of the Jerusalem Hotel
July 9 - Dinner at a local restaurant - Anna Ticho or similar
July 11- farewell dinner at Olive and Fish or similar

Not Included:

Airfare Personal expenses Travel or medical insurance Invited Guests Border Taxes
Meals not mentioned above Drinks during meals Tips to the driver, guide, hotel and restaurant staff



**ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RELIGION
ASSOCIATION OF RABBIS & CANTORS**

***CONGREGATIONAL ISRAEL EXPERIENCE,
JULY 1-12, 2012
11-22 Tamuz 5772***

With the **RAMAH ISRAEL INSTITUTE**
In association with **TRAVEL BY JANE**

***THE MANY FACES OF ISRAEL:
FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE
TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY***



Narrative Itinerary as of July 25, 2011
(Subject to Change)

Note: Letters in [brackets] after hotels indicate meals included in the trip package that day.



Sunday, July 1, 2012 – Israel Pilgrims

- Departure from the U.S

Monday, July 2 – *B'ruchim HaBa'im! Welcome to Israel!*

Arrival in Israel

- Meet your Ramah Staff & Tour Educator (guide) at Ben Gurion Airport
- Welcome – *Shehechyanu* Ceremony at a biblical nature preserve, **Neot Kedumim**. The visit to this unique park includes a tour of the natural environment of the Bible and tree planting.
- Transfer to Tel Aviv. Check into the hotel
- **Group Dinner** and **orientation** in Yemenite Quarter

Overnight: Tel Aviv [D]

Tuesday, July 3 – *The Foundations of the Modern State of Israel*

- Relive the historic moment when Israel was proclaimed a state at **Independence Hall** in Tel Aviv.
- Explore the city of Tel Aviv with an opportunity to walk around Nahalat Binyamin (the outdoor crafts fair), Shenkin St. and the Carmel Market or beach promenade.
- Lunch on own
- Choose one of the following options:
 - **OPTION A:** Leket Israel (formerly Table-to-Table): Taking the biblical concept of gleaning the fields, volunteer at Leket Israel's largest food bank and food rescue network.
 - **OPTION B:** Jaffa Institute: Visit a Tel Aviv-Jaffa-based nonprofit organization. The Institute's mission is to "... provide educational, recreational and social enrichment programs to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty found in the communities of Jaffa, South Tel Aviv, and Bat Yam, and support each child's self esteem so that he/she can evolve into a healthy, educated and productive adult".
 - **OPTION C:** Bina: Visit an organization which strives to strengthen Israel as a democratic, pluralistic society, emphasizing humanistic aspects of Judaism.
- Dinner on own



Overnight: Tel Aviv [B]

Wednesday, July 4 – *The Mediterranean Coast*

- Depart Tel Aviv and drive north along the Mediterranean Coast.
- Visit **Caesarea**, the Crossroads of the ancient world. The city was built by Herod between 25 BCE and 13 BCE in honor of the Emperor. The port served as the gateway to Rome and became a model Roman Center that included an amphitheater, a hippodrome, palaces and a sophisticated water system.



- Lunch on own
- Visit **Atlit “Illegal” Immigrant Detention Camp**. The Camp was originally built as a British military camp in 1938 and functioned as a temporary holding facility for thousands of illegal Jewish immigrants from 1939 – 1948. A restored ship has just gone on exhibit, which provides an authentic experience to understand the events connected with the camp.

- Meet the staff of The Hamidrasha Educational Center for Renewal of Jewish Life in Israel, founded in 1991 “to make the cultural and spiritual landscape of Israeli society a pluralistic, modern Jewish one by cultivating an alternative, knowledgeable educational leadership and public.”
 - Check into the hotel
 - Group Dinner at the hotel
 - Evening Program: A discussion on American/Israeli relations
- Overnight: North [B, D]**

Thursday, July 5 – Mountain Tops and Mysticism

- Experience the Holy City of **Zfat (Safed)** – the mystical city. We will tour the ancient synagogues, wander the narrow courtyards, and visit the city’s modern artists’ quarter. Time for shopping included.
- Lunch on own
- Drive to the **Golan**. Tour the Golan in Jeeps driving along the pre-1967 Syrian strategic front lines overlooking farms and towns of Northern Israel
- Drive to the top of an extinct volcano, Mt. Bental, for a commanding view of the Golan and Southern Syria
- Group dinner at hotel
- Evening program: Parents Circle - Families Forum (PCFF) is a grassroots organization of bereaved Palestinians and Israelis. The PCFF promotes reconciliation as an alternative to hatred and revenge.



Overnight: North [B, D]

Friday, July 6 – Between Beit Shean and Jerusalem

- Begin the day with a visit to **ancient Beit Shean**. Throughout history, Beit Shean has been a major city guarding the trade routes. Walk through the Cardo (main street) of the Roman city and visit the Roman theater, the bath house and many other charming aspects of the town
- Continue on to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
- **Ascend to Jerusalem**
- Panoramic view of the Old City
- Lunch on own in **Mahaneh Yehuda Market** and prepare for Shabbat
- Celebrating **Shabbat at the Kotel** and **walk back to the hotel** for Kabbalat Shabbat and Group Dinner at the hotel (special transportation needs will be accommodated)

Overnight: Jerusalem [B, D]



Shabbat, July 7 – Shabbat Shalom

Parashat Balak

- Shabbat services at a choice of neighborhood synagogues (Ramah will provide an annotated list and walking directions)
- *Torah Lishma* (Torah for its own sake) - Study Session
- Group **Shabbat lunch** at the hotel
- Shabbat rest; the hotel swimming pool is available
- Late afternoon walking tour in vicinity of hotel
- Choose one of the following:
 - OPTION A: Shabbat Walk in Jerusalem neighborhoods
 - OPTION B: Discussion with Dr. Ariel Ben Moshe
- **Havdalah**
- Free evening and dinner on own

Overnight: Jerusalem [B, L]

Sunday, July 8 – Jerusalem: Yizkor

Fast of the 17th of Tammuz: Fast Day lamenting the breach of the walls of Jerusalem by the besieging ancient Romans (1st century C.E.).

- Visit the national Holocaust Memorial Museum at Yad Vashem
 - Begin with a ceremony at Valley of Communities
 - Tour the museum and memorials.
- Lunch on own
- Choose one of the following:
- OPTION A: Visit the Israel Museum
- OPTION B: What is Jerusalem? Tour the borders of Jerusalem, including a visit to a key point in the 1967 battle for Jerusalem, Ammunition Hill.
- Meet Dr. Sabella (details to be announced)
- Free Evening. Dinner on own.



Overnight: Jerusalem [B]

Monday, July 9 – Jerusalem: The Eternal City

- **Bar / Bat Mitzva Ceremony** at the foot of **Robinson's Arch** at the southwestern corner of the Temple Mount. See a computerized **Virtual Model** program of the Second Temple at the Davidson Center.
- Lunch on own with time for shopping in the **Jewish Quarter**
- **Visit the City of David– Where Jerusalem Began.**
Learn about the recent discoveries, and walk through the **Shiloach Water Tunnel** from the time of King Hezekiah.
- Group Dinner at local restaurant.
- **Evening Program: Visit the Kotel Tunnels** – An experience not to be missed!



Overnight: Jerusalem [B,D]

Tuesday, July 10: MASADA: A Question of Freedom



- Early morning departure to **Masada**. Ascend via cable car.
- **Masada** is one of seven palace-fortresses set up by King Herod-as a refuge and winter resort. In 73 CE, site of the Roman siege against the last of the zealots who revolted against Rome. You will discuss whether the actions of the zealots were justified, or if they were “fanatics” who should be remembered as such.

- Descend by way of cable car. At **Ein Bokek**, enjoy spa facilities or take a dip in the magic waters of the **Dead Sea**. A buffet lunch is included as well.
- Return to the hotel in Jerusalem.
- Free Evening. Dinner on own.

Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem [B, L]





Wednesday, July 11 – Looking Back/Looking Forward

- Visit **Yad LeKashish – Lifeline for the Old** is a non-profit workshop based in Jerusalem that provides employment and social services to over 300 elderly artisans. Visit includes an opportunity to purchase crafts made by the artisans.
 - Located on the Mt. of Olives, overlooking the Old City, **Emek Tzurim** provides us with an opportunity to share in a hands-on archeological salvation project.
 - Lunch on own
 - Sum up session and free time
 - Return to the hotel – late check out
 - **Farewell Dinner**
 - Depart to Airport
- [B, D]

שלום ולהתראות!
Shalom U'L'Hitra'ot!

Note: the itinerary is subject to change without notice.

**Verify that your passports are up-to-date.
They need to be valid until at least January, 2013.**

**Wherever I am going...I'm always
headed for Eretz Yisrael.
(RABBI NACHMAN OF BRATZLAV)**

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