
HDS 2017 Israel Trip

Sunday May 14th - Friday May 26th, 2017

Chaperones: Rabbi & Mrs. Menachem Fruchter, Mr. & Mrs. Mayer Fogel

Sunday Evening, May 14th

Depart from Hebrew Day School

Monday Evening, May 15th

Welcome to Eretz Yisrael, Israel, the Holy Land, your Homeland!

Scenic overlook of Jerusalem

Dinner & Guest Speaker - Introduction to Israel

Tuesday, May 16th

Jerusalem /Yerushalayim - The Heart of the Jewish People

Ir Dovid - 3D Film overview of history of Yerushalayim

- The location of King David's Palace
- Walk through Chizkiyahu's ancient water tunnel
- Original Jesubite fortifications of the Shiloach Spring - The place where the Jewish Kings were coronated

Tour of Jerusalem's Old City Jewish Quarter

Alone on the wall exhibit - the story of the expulsion of the Jews from the Old City in 1948

Aish HaTorah World Headquarters - overlook of the Temple Mount and introduction to the Kotel

The Kotel/Wailing Wall - The Western Wall of the Temple Mount, the holiest place on Earth that is accessible to us today, where Jews throughout the millennia have poured out their hearts in prayer.

Journey to Jerusalem Multimedia Experience - A Western Wall Heritage Foundation Project

The Jewish People were forced to leave Jerusalem when the Bais Hamikdash/Holy Temple was destroyed. Today the Jewish Nation is back in Jerusalem. You will be standing in Jerusalem - what route did your parents and forefathers take to get you here? Using a

special computer simulation and presentation everyone will have an opportunity to relive the journeys of the Jewish People and see if they can chart a way back home to Jerusalem.

Migdal Dovid/David's Citadel/Tower of David - The landmark fortress at the Jaffe Gate entrance to the Old City. We will view a mesmerizing night light show that is projected on the walls and grounds on the inside of this fortress.

Wednesday, May 17th

The Judean Desert: Masada , Ein Gedi and the Dead Sea

Masada - Hike to the top of this world famous mountaintop fortress. Learn the story of the heroic defenders of the fortress and the tragic decision that they made.

Dead Sea - Float (you can't sink!) on the azure colored wonder! What was here before?

Ein Gedi - Desert Oasis Nature Walk to waterfalls with a view of the Jordanian mountains. What happened to King David when he and his men hid here? Who were they hiding from?

Thursday, May 18th

Eretz Yehuda

Temple Mount Sifting Project - In 1999, Muslims conducted illegal renovations on the Temple Mount and disposed of over 9,000 tons of dirt mixed with invaluable archaeological artifacts. We will work as archeologist and help sift the dirt for invaluable archaeological artifacts. Many tourists have found remarkable historic artifacts doing this activity.

Latrun -Yad Lashiryon - Israel's Armored Corps Memorial & Tank Museum - The largest museum collection of armored vehicles on display in the world. Touch and climb over some of the smallest and largest tanks ever made. Watch a movie about Israel's Armored Corps.

Tel Azekah - scenic park with an overlook of the valley where the famous battle between Dovid and Goliath (David & Goliath) took place.

Soreq Cave - Stalactite Cave- A guided tour of the wondrous Soreq cave of stalactite & stalagmite formations.

Bar Kochba Caves - During the Bar Kochba rebellion, many Jews hid in underground caves to escape the Roman armies. We will crawl our way through dark and narrow passageways to see these caves.

Machaneh Yehuda Shuk - The large Jerusalem marketplace bustles with shops of all types, and is at its busiest on Thursday nights as the market is full of people buying their Shabbos needs.

Visit with the Boston Rebbe for a message of inspiration and blessings

Friday, May 19th

Yerushalayim

Martef Hashoah - A holocaust memorial exhibit on Har Tzion in the Old City

Kotel Tunnels Tour - An excavation along the entire length of the Western Wall. Learn more about the Kotel and arrive at the spot which is the closest that a Jew today may come to the location of the Holy of Holies. We will have only a few minutes at this special holy place. Make sure to use your time wisely!

Western Wall Heritage Foundation Virtual Tour of the 2nd Temple - Using cutting edge 360 virtual reality headsets take a guided tour through Jerusalem of the Second Temple period and of the Second Bais Hamikdash!

Yad Eliezer Chessed Project - Help pack food boxes for needy families

Geulah shopping district - Judaica, food, souvenirs, artwork, custom yarmulkas and more.

Shabbos preparations.

Kabalas Shabbos - Welcome the Shabbos Queen

Shabbos, May 20th

A day of rest in Jerusalem

A city at rest. Beautiful Shabbos meals and program at Yeshivas Netiv Aryeh overlooking the Kotel. Special speakers, rest (well deserved!), and walking tour.

Musical Havdalah ceremony to escort out the Shabbos.

Melava Malka with music and dancing at the Tomb of King David on Har Tzion

Sunday, May 21st

The Negev - Southern Israel

Tel Be'er Sheva - Tour of ancient Be'er Sheva - City of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

Israel Air Force Museum - Learn about the world's best air force - see & touch over 150 different planes, including the plane from the Entebbe raid. Watch a movie on the plane that tells the story of this impossible and yet successful rescue mission.

Sand Surfing - a unique experience on the soft sand dunes south of Be'er Sheva

Jeep tour into the Makhtesh Hagadol, the Grand Canyon of Israel. Collect colored sands.

Camel Ranch - Hour long camel ride along the cliffs on the Ancient Nabitean Spice Route

Monday, May 22nd

Along the Coast and Up North

Ayalon Institute - the location of the secret bullet factory. A story of ingenuity and danger. You will be amazed at the creativity and daring of the early Israeli pioneers. I don't see a bullet factory - there is only a small laundry and bakery? If you were there at the time would have been able to keep the secret? Why does a bullet factory need a room with UV lights?

Netanya - The beautiful Israeli city with a promenade on the cliffs along the sea. We will go horseback riding on the Netanya beach.

Rosh Hanikra - Cable car ride to the base of the white limestone cliffs on the Mediterranean Sea at the northern border. Walk through the "grottos" where the contrast of the blue waters crashing through the stark white caves will leave you with lasting memories of the beauty of the holy land. Experience another "4D" movie that tells the story of the grottos and the tale of "The night of the bridges" - the daring act of espionage during June of 1946.

Keshet Cave - Easy walk to the top of a beautiful stone arch with panoramic views. Make sure to have your camera with you.

Meron - The burial site of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai - the great Sage and revealer of the Zohar and Kabbalah - the guide to the mystical secrets of Judaism.

To our accommodations in the mystical mountaintop city of Tsfat.

Tuesday, May 23rd

The Galil

Tour of many of the historical synagogues in the old city of Tsfat.

Tour of Tsfat's Artist Quarter - Tsfat has become a gathering place for Jewish artists from around the globe. Be mesmerized by the unique items in the many galleries - just try not to spend all your money!

Candle factory and shop .

Glassblowing gallery and demonstration.

Gan Hashlosha - It is said that Time magazine acclaimed Gan Hashlosha as the prettiest site in Israel and among the world's 20 most exotic sites. A beautiful natural warm-water spring where you will go swimming and enjoy the beautiful flora.

Kfar Kedem - Take a journey back in time. Dress in costume, with donkey rides and hands on activities such as wine making, spinning wool, working an olive press, and grinding wheat kernels to bake pitas, all using only the tools used in the Talmudic era.

Visit the burial places of the great sages Rabbi Akiva and the Rambam. Learn about their fascinating life stories and take the opportunity to say a prayer at their gravesites.

Night boat ride on the Kinneret

Wednesday, May 24th

The Golan Heights

Katzrin Golan Visitors Center - 4D Movie!

Katzrin Golan Winery Tour

Hula Valley Nature Reserve - A paradise for birds and people. It is considered one of the world's most prominent bird-watching sites. Bike riding and special tour.

Kibbutz Misgav Am - overlooking Lebanon. Dramatic view into Lebanon, Syria and the Mediterranean - Meet the rugged farmers that live here and hear how they get along with their "friends" to the North.

Har Bental - Mt. Bental is a mountain that overlooks Syria. We will walk the trenches and enter the bunkers of this former Syrian outpost. From here we will see all the way to Damascus!

Katzrin Talmudic Village - See how they lived in the time of the Talmud & learn about the Sages of the Mishna

The incredibly gifted musical trio "Simply Tsfat" will perform a private concert for HDS at the Fiddlers Inn. Dancing is optional, but no one has been able to resist!

Thursday, May 25th

Hevron - The city of our Patriarchs

Dramatic hike and rock climb on Mount Arbel - Breathtaking views over the kinneret and Jordan Valley Rift.

Kinneret Lake boardwalk promenade and shop for those unable or unwilling to experience Mount Arbel.

Ma'arat Hamachpela - The ancient building built on top of the cave of the final resting place of Avrohom & Sara, Yitzchok & Rivka, Yakov & Leah, the Patriarchs and Matriarchs of the Jewish Nation!

Kever Rachel - The tomb of Rachel. Why was she buried here and not in Chevron and why is it said that this is the best place in the world to have your prayer's answered.

Return to Jerusalem for the Trip review and final banquet.

Last Prayers at the Kotel, to say goodbye and pray that we all merit to return again soon!

To the airport for the return trip to Hebrew Day School! What a trip!

Next year in Jerusalem!
לשנה הבאה בירושלים

Itinerary & Schedule subject to change based on daily condition and timing