

BT Congregation for Humanistic Judaism
Feb. 2021 Trip to Israel & Palestine

| Dates | No. of nights | Hotels |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| February 7-9, 2021 | 2 | Dan Panorama (Tel Aviv) |
| February 9-11, 2021 | 2 | Nof Ginnosar (Galilee) |
| February 11-17, 2021 | 6 | TRYP Bat Sheva (Jerusalem) |

Our rates* based on:

15-19 participants: \$5400
20-24 participants: \$4900
25-29 participants: \$4650

(Single supplement: \$965)

Cost includes:

- Meeting & assistance on arrival & departure at Ben-Gurion Airport by our representative
- Porterage at hotels and airport
- Arrival transfer: Ben Gurion airport – touring day – hotel in Tel Aviv
- Departure transfer: Jerusalem hotel – Touring day – Ben Gurion airport
- 10 overnights at the above mentioned hotels or similar
- 11 days sightseeing as per your suggested program
- Expert government licensed English speaking guide on sightseeing days and transfers, local English speaking Palestinian guide on February 16, 2021
- Luxury air-conditioned vehicle as mentioned above
- Meal arrangements as indicated each day
- Estimate airfare ticket, economy flight

SAMPLE ITINERARY (subject to changes**)**

February 7 Day 1: Sunday

- Mid-morning arrival at Ben Gurion airport.
- We will begin our visit to Israel at the home of Chaim Weissman z”l, the first president of the State of Israel, recently reopened after an extensive renovation. He was the first President of the State of Israel, the head of the Zionist movement for over 30 years, an outstanding scientist, and one of the founders of two leading academic institutions – the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot.
- We will talk about the secular ideas and founding of the state. Lunch on site.

- Continue to the Ayalon Institute (aka – bullet factory) where illegal pre-state munitions were secretly manufactured during the British mandate period in preparation for the war of independence.
- Walk the independence trail and tour Tel Aviv's Bauhaus architecture.
- Transfer to your hotel in Tel Aviv to rest and relax and prepare for the evening.
- Welcome dinner

Overnight: Tel Aviv (D)

February 8 Day 2: Monday

- After breakfast, opening session with Noga Sher Garco, Director of BINA Secular Yeshiva, the only non orthodox institute of its kind in Israel. Over 500 young adults from Israel and all over the world study with BINA. Located in a disadvantaged area of south Tel Aviv, the yeshiva aspires to create dialogue between text study and community work.
- Visit the Bialik Rogozin school, which is home to many refugee students.
- Visit Kuchinate, a special center where female African asylum seekers meet and work. Hear from a local asylum seeker and have a lite lunch
- Jaffa walking tour
- Time at leisure and dinner on own.

Overnight: Tel Aviv (B,L,)

February 9 Day 3 Tuesday

- Visit with Lydia Aisenberg at Givat Haviva, Center for a Shared Society. Givat Haviva aims to build a socially inclusive society by engaging divided communities in collective action towards the advancement of a sustainable, thriving Israeli democracy based on mutual responsibility, civic equality and a shared vision of the future.
- Travel to Caesarea, the ancient seaside palatial home of Herod (lunch included)
- Visit Israel's largest city in the north, Haifa and tour the eclectic mix neighborhood of Wadi Nis Nis.
- Druze hospitality dinner

Overnight Galilee (B, L, D)

February 10 Day 4 Wednesday

- Geopolitical briefing along the northern border with Ret. Lt. Kobi Marom
- Walk thru Tel Dan
- Visit Safed, and see its ancient synagogues and artist colony (lunch on own)
- Meet local Ethiopians and participate in an interactive activity
- End the day with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and dinner (dinner included)

Overnight Galilee (B, D)

February 11 Day 5 Thursday

- Visit Kibbutz Kinneret, where you will see the place where some of social ideology of the original pioneers was brought to life. We will visit the visitor center as well as the historic Kinneret cemetery.

- Drive to Jerusalem, lunch en route
- Visit Mt. Herzl, Jerusalem's military cemetery. We will meet with Rabbi Ofir Yaarden and visit the gravesites of Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres and hear stories of Israel's path to foundation. Meet with Ofir Yaarden.
- Check into your hotel.
- Free evening at the Old Train Station Plaza; dinner on own.

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, L)

February 12 Day 5: Friday

- After breakfast, visit the City of David.
- Enter the Old City of Jerusalem.
- Stop at the Western Wall, with time for personal prayer and reflection.
- Explore the Western Wall Tunnels.
- Lunch on own in the Jewish Quarter.
- Continue with visits to other Jewish Quarter highlights, may include:
 - Stroll along 'The Cardo'
 - See King Hezekiah's First Temple-period 'Broad Wall.'
 - Stand in 'Hurva Square'
- Walk through the Arab 'Shuk'
- Return to the hotel for a chance to rest, relax and prepare for Shabbat.
- Kabbalat Shabbat at the pluralistic section of the Western Wall led by Jeffrey Fralick and rabbis from Tmura-IISHJ, followed by Shabbat dinner together

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, D)

February 13 Day 6: Shabbat

- After breakfast, depart Jerusalem and travel to the Dead Sea region.
- Hike Masada (or cable car)
- Lunch on own at bottom of Masada
- Have a chance to swim and 'float' in the super buoyant waters of the Dead Sea.
- Hike at Ein Gedi
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Free evening in Emek Refaim; dinner on own.

Overnight: Jerusalem Overnight: Jerusalem (B,)

February 14 Day 7: Sunday

- After breakfast at the hotel, meet with Holocaust scholar Rachel Korazim
- Continue to Yad Vashem, Israel's memorial to the Holocaust for a special tour
- Time on own in the Machene Yehuda market
- Head to the renovated Israel Museum where you will tour Shrine of the Book, home to the Dead Sea Scrolls and see a miniature replica of Jerusalem from the Second Temple period with Rabbi Sivan Maas from TMURA IISHJ
- Remainder of the day at leisure
- Dinner on own at the Train station

Overnight: Jerusalem (B,)

February 15 Day 8: Monday

- After breakfast at the hotel, take a seimeline tour of Jerusalem's separation wall
- Meet with Mahmoud Muna and hear a Palestinian perspective
- Travel to the Gush Etzion region and have lunch at a local winery with Efrat mayor Oded Revivi
- Meet with former Palestinian terrorist turned non violent activist Ali Abu AWad from the Yagheer movement
- Dinner with the representatives of Kids for Peace

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, L, D)

February 16 Day 9: Tuesday

- Travel to Ramallah
- Meet with a local Palestinian Authority representative
- Visit with Palestinian pollster, Khalil Shikaki and hear about the Palestinian voices on the street
- Visit Rawabi and tour this new \$1 billion city and meet with the visionary Bashir Masri
- Dinner on own in the Machene Yehuda market

Overnight: Jerusalem (B, L,)

February 17 Day 10: Wednesday

- After breakfast, check-out of your hotel accommodations and depart the hotel.
- *Morning session with Melton Center for Education*
- Volunteer at Pantry Packers
- Visit Yvel and learn about how this unique enterprise is serving Ethiopians.
- Remainder of the day at leisure
- Late Checkout
- Farewell dinner at Touro
- Transfer to the airport for flight

Meals (B, D)

Deposit and cancellation policy:

1. Registration fee of \$300 per person is due by August 1, 2020 of which, \$100 is refundable up to October 1, 2020, thereafter the entire deposit is non refundable
2. Tour Balance is due 45 days prior to arrival
3. Between 45 and 30 days – 50% refundable
4. Between 30 days and 15 days – 25% refundable
5. 14 days or less prior to arrival – non refundable

Everyone should purchase travel insurance! All participants must have passports valid for at least 6 months from date of departure or they may be refused flight boarding.