

program*

* whatcha gonna do.

Program dated: October 31, 2018



PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

2018 CONGREGATIONAL TRIP TO ISRAEL

Track I – YOUNG FAMILIES (2 buses)

December 22-31, 2018



Day One: Saturday, December 22, 2018

DEPARTURE

- Group flights:
 - 9:00 p.m. Depart from Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) on El Al flight #026 arriving to Ben Gurion International Airport at 2:20pm on December 23.
 - 11:50 p.m. Depart from John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) on El Al flight #008 arriving to Ben Gurion International Airport at 5:10pm on December 23.

Overnight: Flight

Day Two: Sunday, December 23, 2018

WELCOME TO ISRAEL

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by our representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Group transfers to the city of **Tel Aviv**, known as the “city that never sleeps,” with its centres of culture, recreation and national history, and great beaches.
- Check into the hotel.
- 8:30 p.m. **Private welcome dinner** at the hotel.
- **Bruchim Ha'baim!** Opening activity for the **Young Families Track**. Celebrate the beginning of your journey and take part in an **orientation** with PAS staff and your tour educators.

Overnight: Hilton, Tel Aviv



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Day Three: Monday, December 24, 2018

MEET THE DREAMERS

- Morning moment.



PAS EVENT
WELCOME TO ISRAEL @ 70!

Begin the trip together as a community with a special

ISRAELI BREAKFAST EVENT

with opening remarks and greetings from your **Rabbis** and **trip leaders**.



- Check out of the hotel.
- Drive to the **Museum of the Jewish People - Beit Hatfutsot** (15-minute drive).
- 10:00 a.m. Visit the **Museum of the Jewish People - Beit Hatfutsot**, including the new exhibition *Heroes – Trailblazers of the Jewish People*, a refreshing view of what it really means to be a hero. Meet different types of Jewish heroes throughout our history including scientists, intellectuals, leaders, revolutionaries, cultural figures, athletes and more – men and women with unique talents.
- Lunch on own.
- Drive to the **Ayalon Institute** (40-minute drive).
- 1:30 p.m. Visit the **Ayalon Institute** near Rehovot for an eye-opening visit and a climb down to see the secret clandestine munitions factory used during the British Mandate.
- Continue driving south to the **Negev Desert** (2-hour drive).
- Check into the Beresheet hotel. The combination of breath-taking desert scenery together with the unique architecture and top-quality service makes Beresheet one of the most extraordinary hotels in Israel. Beresheet is one of the most successful hotels in Israel and it enjoys a large number of returning guests, both Israelis in tourists come back to this amazing hotel every year. Beresheet guarantees an unforgettable hospitality experience - great service, a gourmet restaurant, a luxury spa, elegant and comfortable rooms and of course, the second to none desert view!
- Free time to enjoy the hotel's facilities and meet your local neighbors – the Negev ibex!
- 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. (two seating's) **Dinner** at the hotel.
- 8:00 p.m. **Icebreakers, games** and **journaling** led by the PAS and da'at staff, at the hotel.

Overnight: Beresheet, Mitzpe Ramon



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Day Four: Tuesday, December 25, 2018

ADVENTURES IN THE NEGEV

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Sde Boker (30-minute drive).
- Visit the **gravesite** of Israel's first Prime Minister, **David Ben-Gurion**, located at **Sde Boker** in the Negev Desert, overlooking the Wilderness of Zinn.
- Enjoy a short nature walk to the **Ein Avdat** spring.
- 12:00 p.m. Visit the **Chan Hashayarot** encampment in the Negev Desert for Bedouin-style hospitality, a **camel ride** and a **'Hafla' lunch**.
- Return to Mitzpe Ramon (30-minute drive).

Option #1:

- 3:00 p.m. Visit the **Alpaca Farm** in Mitzpeh Ramon, where the Dvir family raises a herd of llamas and alpacas, horses, donkeys, angora sheep and many more animals.

Option #2:

- 3:00 p.m. Expand your horizons by meandering through the canyons and geological formations of the crater, by off-roading in a **jeep tour**.

All:

- Return to the hotel; free time to enjoy the hotel's facilities.
- 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. (two seating's) **Dinner** at the hotel, and **journaling** with PAS Staff.
- 8:30 p.m. *Weather permitting:* **Stargaze** on the cliff of the **Ramon Crater**.

Overnight: Beresheet, Mitzpe Ramon



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Day Five: Wednesday, December 26, 2018

SEARCHING FOR ROOTS

- Morning moment.
- Early breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:30 a.m. Check out and depart Mitzpe Ramon (1.5-hour drive).
- 10:00 a.m. Take part in an **archaeological dig** at the **Beit Guvrin Caves** and prepare to get your hands dirty as uncovering pottery from the Hellenistic period, 2,300 years ago, followed by a crawl through the Maresha Cave Labyrinth (crawling is optional). *Beit Guvrin-Maresha National Park was recently recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.*
- **Lunch** at Beit Guvrin-Maresha National Park.
- Drive to Jerusalem (1-hour drive).
- **Welcome to Jerusalem** - ברוכים הבאים: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- Enter the **Old City** via the **Jaffa Gate**; climb up to the top of the **Tower of David Museum of the History of Jerusalem** for an overlook of the Old and New City of Jerusalem.
- Walk along the **Old City Ramparts** of the Old City from the Jaffa Gate to the Zion Gate.
- Check into the hotel.



PAS EVENT

CELEBRATING ISRAEL @ 70 & PAS at 136!

Celebrate **Israel's 70th birthday** with a "Jerusalem of Gold" ambience,
at the beautiful **Olmaya Hall**,
with spectacular views of the Old City lit up in the background,
Enjoy the best of Israeli music and cuisine!



Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Six: Thursday, December 27, 2018

INTO THE DESERT, MASADA AND THE DEAD SEA

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Descend to the **Dead Sea basin** (1.5-hour drive).
- Ascend by cable-car to **Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and the site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defense and its current significance in modern Israel.
- Lunch on own at the Masada Visitors Center.
- Drive to **Kalya Beach** (1-hour drive).
- Experience the weightlessness of the **Dead Sea** as you float in its waters.
- Return to Jerusalem (1-hour drive).

Adults:

- **Parents' Night Out!** Enjoy a delicious dairy **dinner** at a local Jerusalem restaurant.

Children:

- **Journaling** with PAS Staff, **dinner, pajama party** and **fun movie night** at the hotel!

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Seven: Friday, December 28, 2018

MEMORY & RENEWAL

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.

Option 1:

- 9:00 a.m. Visit the **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:
 - The **Avenue of the Righteous**
 - The **Historical Museum**
 - The **Children's Memorial**
 - A concluding **Memorial Service**

Option 2:

- 9:30 a.m. Visit the renewed and wonderfully creative **Israel Museum**, with its wide-ranging and eclectic collection, from Archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls, to Jewish Life and Art, European art, contemporary Israeli art and the open-air model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple period – including a special children's visit to the Youth Wing.

All:

- Lunch on own at Jerusalem's **Ben-Yehuda Street**.
- Return to your hotel; time to relax and prepare for Shabbat.



PAS EVENT EREV SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

Welcome Shabbat with **Kabbalat Shabbat** services led by PAS clergy
at the **Jerusalem International YMCA Auditorium**

The Jerusalem International YMCA is a cultural, sports and educational center located in the heart of the Jerusalem.

The Y strives to foster equality and friendship among members of all religions, with an emphasis on Judaism, Christianity and Islam, while serving as an oasis of multiculturalism and a space for coexistence among the residents of Jerusalem and beyond.

The historic building, with its elegant arches, domes, and 152-foot observation tower overlooking Jerusalem's Old City & New City, is an iconic landmark, designed by Arthur Loomis Harmon, architect of the Empire State Building.

Gather together with your fellow congregants for a private

PAS COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER

at the David Citadel Hotel



- 8:00 p.m. **"Israel Unplugged"** – After a week of touring and a festive Shabbat dinner, we are all invited to sessions where Track Staff Leaders will interview their Israeli friends (thought leaders, artists, activists, visionaries and more) about the hot topics of the day and about what inspires them about this modern-day miracle in the Middle East.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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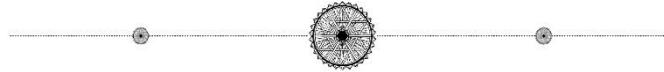
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Day Eight: Saturday, December 29, 2018

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

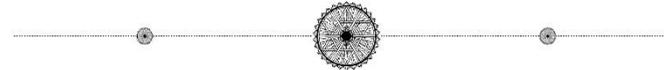
- Enjoy breakfast at your leisure at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning Services at local Jerusalem synagogues.



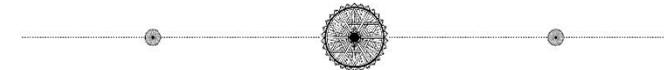
PAS EVENT

PAS COMMUNITY KIDDUSH LUNCHEON

in the **Blaustein Hall**, overlooking the Old City.



- 2:00 p.m. **Yemin Moshe Scavenger Hunt** - discover the fabulous story of the expansion of Jerusalem beyond the Old City. Wandering from the Montefiore Windmill through the winding alleys of Yemin Moshe with an Israel ScaVentures picture pack, you will learn the story of a frontier neighborhood that became one of Jerusalem's most beautiful neighborhood.



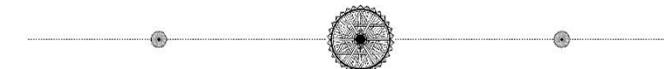
COMMUNAL MOMENT

CONCERT: HAVDALLAH ACROSS THE WORLD

at the **Jerusalem International YMCA Auditorium**

Our Shabbat in Jerusalem will be concluded by an uplifting Havdallah experience, featuring music from diverse Jewish traditions. Cantors Azi Schwartz and Rachel Brook, with Music Director Colin Fowler, will host an all-star lineup of soloists. We will share in the sanctity of Shabbat with legendary singer, Shuli Nathan, esteemed oud player Elias Haddoub, and prominent actress Galit Giat, who is currently starring at Habima National theatre. We are honored to be joined by these artists, who represent the Jewish diaspora and best in Israeli culture. An outstanding instrumental ensemble and some unforgettable surprises await as the music moves you and your spirit rises. The event will take place in the breathtaking concert hall of the Jerusalem YMCA, located in the heart of the new city, built in 1934 to promote peace and tolerance.

Much like the Havdalah service itself, which leaves the lasting taste, scent, and sound of Shabbat as we depart from holiness to profane, this Havdalah event will do the same as we conclude our visit to Israel. Rabbi Cosgrove's remarks, the ceremony and the concert will leave a lasting and profound memory of the evening, encapsulating the entire trip.



- Dinner on own.
- *Optional:* Special late night visit to the **Western Wall Tunnel**, the underground continuation of the Temple Mount's Western Wall, exposed in recent years; visit the **Kotel** (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Nine: Sunday, December 30, 2018

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.

Bus #1:

- 8:30 a.m. **PAS DOES TIKKUN OLAM Giving Back with Pantry Packers:** Participate in a **Tikkun Olam** project by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families; after a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons and caps in order to fill bags of rice, beans and other commodities.
- 10:30 a.m. Mark your visit to Israel by **planting a tree** at the **Jerusalem Bird Observatory** and enjoy free time at the new **Jerusalem Deer Valley Park**, to relax and enjoy the nature.

Bus #2:

- 8:30 a.m. Mark your visit to Israel by **planting a tree** at the **Jerusalem Bird Observatory** and enjoy free time at the new **Jerusalem Deer Valley Park**, to relax and enjoy the nature.
- 10:30 a.m. **PAS DOES TIKKUN OLAM Giving Back with Pantry Packers:** Participate in a **Tikkun Olam** project by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families; after a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons and caps in order to fill bags of rice, beans and other commodities.

All:

- Walk through the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem's **Machaneh Yehudah** open-air market: Enjoy the sights, smells, tastes and sounds of this vibrant area where Jerusalemites shop. *Tasting cards will be provided.*
- Return to the **Old City**; walking tour through the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City of Jerusalem, for visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:
 - The **Cardo**, the main street of Jerusalem in the 6th century.
 - King Hezekiah's First Temple-period "**Broad Wall**".
 - **Hurva Square**, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.
- Visit the **Kotel** (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.
- Return to the hotel for time to finish packing and **journaling** with PAS Staff
- Late check-out from the hotel.
- 6:00 p.m. **Fun farewell dinner** at **Black Bar Burger**, serving up a tremendous array of unique burgers and meat dishes.
- Group transfers to Ben Gurion International Airport to check in for your departure flight to New York.

Overnight: Flight

Day Ten: Monday, December 31, 2018

RETURN TO NEW YORK

- Group flights:
 - 12:30 a.m. Depart on El Al flight #001, arriving to John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) at 5:45am.
 - 1:00 a.m. Depart on El Al flight #027, arriving to Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) at 6:20am.



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