

program*

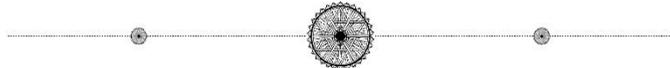
* whatcha gonna do.

Program dated: October 31, 2018



PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE 2018 CONGREGATIONAL TRIP TO ISRAEL

Track II – BNEI MITZVAH (3 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. **Welcome dinner** at **Riverside**, a unique events venue built like an upside-down rowing-boat, with an elliptical wooden patio overlooking the Yarkon river.

Overnight: Hilton, Tel Aviv



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Day Three: Monday, December 24, 2018

OLD NEW LAND

- *Optional Minyan.*



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.
- Depart Tel Aviv and drive north along the Coastal Plain.
- Guided visit to **Caesarea**, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities in the Roman Period. Visit the Herodian Theater and excavations along the Mediterranean shore, concluding with the interactive audio-visual program, *The Stars of Caesarea*, located in the ruined 900-year-old Crusader town.
- Depart Caesarea; lunch on own en route.
- 2:00 p.m. **PAS DOES TIKKUN OLAM**: Hands-on experience with **Leket**, a volunteer organization that provides food for the needy by collecting excess produce from farms and food distribution companies.
- Drive to the **Upper Galilee** and check into the hotel.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.
- **Basketball camp** led by **Tamir Goodman**, a former professional basketball player who has become a successful entrepreneur, coach, educator, and motivational speaker.

Overnight: Pastoral Hotel, Kibbutz Kfar Blum, Upper Galilee



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Day Four: Tuesday, December 25, 2018

NATURE AND SECURITY IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

- *Optional Minyan.*

- Breakfast at the hotel.

Buses #1 & #2:

- 8:30 a.m. Take a **Jeep tour** off-road up the **Golan Heights** in the footsteps of Israeli soldiers and their battles in the Six-Day War. Enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.

- 10:00 a.m. Walk through the **Tel Dan Nature Reserve**, located on the largest tributary of the Jordan River, and explore the ruins of the great Biblical city of Dan.

Buses #3:

- 8:30 a.m. Walk through the **Tel Dan Nature Reserve**, located on the largest tributary of the Jordan River, and explore the ruins of the great Biblical city of Dan.

- 10:00 a.m. Take a **Jeep tour** off-road up the **Golan Heights** in the footsteps of Israeli soldiers and their battles in the Six-Day War. Enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.

All:

- Lunch on own en route.

- **Israel's Border with Syria:** Cross the Golan plateau to the border with Syria, and a view of the abandoned city of Kuneitra and the nearby United Nations outpost, for an insight on Israel's security situation on the **Golan Heights**, and the enormous challenges it faced in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

- Return to the kibbutz hotel.

- 4:00 p.m. *Special in Uniform:* Dialogue with **Special in Uniform** IDF soldiers and staff. Special in Uniform is an innovative program that integrates youth with disabilities into the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and helps prepare them for careers following army service. The program was founded to give everyone a right to fulfill their potential and be accepted into society, regardless of any disability. Special in Uniform goes beyond the walls of IDF bases, helping its graduates integrate into the workforce and Israeli society in meaningful ways.

- **Dinner** at the hotel.

8:30 p.m. ***Evening programs at Kibbutz Kfar Blum (together with track 3):***

- ***Celebrating Israel on Your Feet:*** Dance to Israeli classics and modern hits in an **Israeli Dance workshop**.

- ***The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border:*** Dialogue with **Lt. Col (Res.) Sarit Zehavi** who served for 15 years in the Israeli Defense Forces, specializing in Military Intelligence with the IDF Research & Analysis section and within the IDF Northern Command.

Overnight: Pastoral Hotel, Kibbutz Kfar Blum, Upper Galilee



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Day Five: Wednesday, December 26, 2018

DREAMERS IN THE NORTH

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out.
- Explore **Tsfat**, a center of Jewish mysticism for hundreds of years and a contemporary artists' colony, including:
 - Guided visit to the **Ari, Caro** or **Abuhav Synagogues**, each with its great stories and mystical messages.
 - A stroll through the quaint **Artists' Colony**, shop in the galleries and crafts shops and engage in dialogues with local artisans inspired by the messages of **Kabbalah**.
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch** at the **Bat Ya'ar Ranch**, just outside of **Tsfat**.

All:

- Drive to Jerusalem.
- **Welcome to Jerusalem** - ברוכים הבאים: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- 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

Option # 1: Sunrise Hike

- Very early wake-up.
- 4:30 a.m. Depart the hotel and descend to the **Dead Sea basin**.
- 6:00 a.m. **Climb via the Snake Path to Masada**.
- Breakfast boxes at Masada.

Option # 2: Morning at Masada

- Early breakfast at the hotel.
- 7:00 a.m. Descend to the **Dead Sea basin**.
- 8:30 a.m. **Ascend by cable car to Masada**.

All:

- 9:00 a.m. **Bnei Mitzvah Ceremony** atop Masada.
- Explore Masada, Herod's mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defence and its current significance in modern Israel.
- 12:30 p.m. **Celebratory lunch** in **Kibbutz Ein Gedi**.
- Experience an astonishing sense of weightlessness as you float in the super-saline **Dead Sea**.
- Return to Jerusalem.

Adults:

- 6:30 p.m. **Parents' Night Out!** Enjoy a delicious **dinner** at **Ima**, located near the Machaneh Yehuda market, offering a menu of Middle-Eastern, Kurdish-style food.

Youth:

- **Dinner** at the hotel.
- 8:00 p.m. **Halleluya Jerusalem!** The City of David's Nighttime Presentation tells the story of our return to rebuild ancient Jerusalem. A thrilling, outdoor cinematic experience projected onto the ancient ruins in the actual site where this story unfolded. Under the stars of Jerusalem's night sky, cutting-edge video mapping technology, the first of its kind in Israel, reveals a story 2,500 year in the making.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Seven: Friday, December 28, 2018

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Enter the **Old City** of Jerusalem.
- Take a walking tour of the **Jewish Quarter** for visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:
 - A walk along the **Rooftops** of the Old City for a behind-the-scenes look at the various communities in Jerusalem and how they live alongside each other.
 - The **Cardo**, the main street of Jerusalem in the 6th century.
 - **Hurva Square**, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.
- Lunch on own in the Jewish Quarter.
- 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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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.



- Return to the **Old City**.
- **In the Footsteps of David**: Compete in a friendly family team game, leading from **Mount Zion** to the **Tower of David**!



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

MEMORY & RENEWAL

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Breakfast at the hotel.

Adults:

- 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 new **Historical Museum**
 - The **Children's Memorial**
 - A concluding **Memorial Service**

Children under 10 (accompanied by youth counselors):

- Visit the **Biblical Zoo**, a beautifully landscaped habitat with a special focus on preserving Biblical fauna, geared to children of all ages (2-80).

All:

- Walk along the **connecting trail** from Yad Vashem to **Mt. Herzl**.
- Stop at the **grave of Theodor Herzl**, the visionary behind modern Zionism and the reinstitution of a Jewish homeland.
- 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 shops. *Tasting cards will be provided.*
- Return to the hotel for time to finish packing.
- Late check-out from the hotel.
- 4:30 p.m. Visit the **Ayalon Institute** near Rehovot for an eye-opening tour of a clandestine munitions factory used during the British Mandate.
- 6:00 p.m. **Farewell dinner** at the **Ayalon Institute**.
- 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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