

**Sunday, August 2: DEPARTURE**

- Depart SLC on the flight of your choice.

**Monday, August 3: BARUCHIM HABA'IM (WELCOME)**

- Arrival in Israel (meeting time by 3 :00 pm for group transfer to begin tour in Tel Aviv).
- Travel to the ancient port of **Jaffa** for an overview of the city and its sister city, modern **Tel Aviv** for a **Shechiyanu** ceremony and group activity of **setting the trips expectations**.
- Group welcome dinner in Tel Aviv.
- Optional walking tour along Tel Aviv's **Coastal Promenade**.  
**Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel—Tel Aviv**

**Tuesday, August 4: THE FIRST HEBREW CITY: TEL AVIV**

- Visit **Neot Kedumim Biblical Nature Reserve** to start our trip experiencing the intimate connection between Jewish tradition and the Land of Israel during a tree planting ceremony.
- Reenact the moving moment when David Ben Gurion declared the establishment of the State of Israel at **Independence Hall** on May 14, 1948. Examine the miracles and struggles leading up to this dramatic event.
- Tour of **Tel Aviv**. Feel the creative pioneering energy of the first Hebrew city built in 2,000 years, the economic, technological, architectural, and cultural center of the modern State of Israel.
- Enjoy the funky crafts and the creative sidewalk artists and street musicians in the **Nachalat Binyamin** outdoor Artists' Market.
- Participate in a clay workshop in the pitch dark at the **Na Lagaat** (Please Touch) Blind-Deaf Center.
- Dinner on own and evening at leisure.
- Optional activity: Learn Israel dancing with a **Dance Israel** workshop at the hotel—learn history through your body!  
**Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel—Tel Aviv**



**Wednesday, August 5: ISRAEL'S FACE TO THE SEA**

- Travel to **Caesarea**, the ancient Roman capital and port city built by Herod the Great on the shores of the Mediterranean. Consider the challenges faced by Jews living in a predominantly Roman city during a walk through the remains of the theater, hippodrome, bath house complex, and palace of this magnificent city.
  - Continue to the artists' colony of **Ein Hod**. Tour the colony and participate in a hands-on workshop with a professional artist.
  - Travel to the Druze village of **Daliyat el-Carmel** for an ethnic lunch and a dialogue with community leaders on the Druze Israeli Arab community's relationship to Israel and their place in Israeli society.
  - Continue to Haifa for a bus tour of the city, including the spectacular **Bahai Gardens**. Learn about the Bahai faith and the importance of Israel as a destination for pilgrimages.
  - Continue to the **Upper Galilee** to our hotel at the foot of the **Golan Heights**.
  - Dinner in hotel.
- Overnight:** Merom Golan

**Thursday, August 6: NORTHERN EXPOSURES**

- Enjoy a short walk in the **Tel Dan** national reserve, a beautiful paradise that lies in the ancient city ruins of Dan. We will walk down the gorgeous trails leading through dense forest and the Dan River. See the fascinating Canaanite archway built centuries before the famed Roman archways.
  - Travel to a **kibbutz** on the Lebanese border for a view into **Lebanon** and a briefing of the political situation in the area. Meet with Israeli soldiers and learn about their service along an often hostile border.
  - Travel to the mystical city of **Zefat** to explore its narrow alleyways, ancient synagogues and many colorful shops and galleries of the Artists' Colony. Meet a Kabbalistic Artist in his studio to learn about the secrets of Kabbalah through the lens of his art. For the younger generation: **Candle making workshop and a special activity with the Tzfat Kabbal Center**.
  - Lunch on own.
  - Dinner on kibbutz.
  - Evening activity : Enjoy a Kibbutz tour/lecture and learn about this true Israeli concept.
- Overnight:** Meron Golan



**Friday, August 7: THE ANCIENT GALILEE**

- Depart for Jerusalem.
  - On our way, stop at the ancient Galilean capital city of **Tzippori**, where Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi compiled the Mishnah, the text which allowed Judaism to flourish for 2,000 years in the Diaspora. Explore the magnificent synagogue and mosaics, examining the complex relationship between Jewish and Pagan Roman civilizations.
  - Kfar Kedem: Get a view into life in the Land of Israel 2,000 years ago—from the back of a donkey!
  - Enjoy a "Mishnaic" lunch.
  - Transfer to Jerusalem along the Trans-Israel Highway.
  - Upon arrival, you'll have time for check in and freshening up before meeting together for Shabbat dinner.
  - Shabbat evening program with Rabbi Samuel L. Spector. Enjoy a special **Shabbat Dinner with a local family** in one of the neighborhoods of the New City of Jerusalem. Learn about the various traditions and meanings that accompany the festive Shabbat meal.
- Overnight:** Prima Kings Jerusalem Hotel

**Shabbat, August 8: SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM**

- Morning services at synagogues of individual choice.
  - Aftnoon **walking tour** of Jerusalem's oldest neighborhoods outside the Old City, **Yemin Moshe** and **Mishkenot Sha'ananim**. These were the first neighborhoods built outside the Walls of the Old City and therefore they were open to Bedouin raids.
  - Free evening.
- Overnight:** Prima Kings Jerusalem Hotel

**Sunday, August 9: JERUSALEM: CROSSROADS OF THREE RELIGIONS**

- Visit the **Haas Promenade**, overlooking a magnificent panoramic view of Jerusalem. Explore the Jewish "love affair" with Jerusalem through the stories of the Binding of Isaac and King David's establishment of the city as the capital of the People of Israel 3,000 years ago.
- Explore the **City of David**, "the original Jerusalem," along with some of the most ancient archaeological finds in the country, including remains that some scholars believe to be



from King David's reign. Discuss age-old questions of Jewish political morality in light of the story of David and Batsheva.

- Climb through a 2,000 year old **Herodian Drainage System** built by King Herod to the **Davidson Center**, then participate in a family scavenger hunt in the **Jewish Quarter** with time for lunch on your own and shopping in the Cardo.
- Proceed to the holy **Western Wall—"Kotel."** The Kotel is part of the few remaining structures of the Temple Complex built by Herod the Great.
- Descend through the many layers of Jerusalem's past at the time of the Temple through the **Western Wall Tunnels**. Inside, a most interesting model shows the different dwelling periods and history of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Stand on the site believed to be the nearest spot to the "Holy of Holies."
- Ascend the roof of the **Austrian Hospice** for a spectacular view of Jerusalem and the entire Old City.
- Walk via the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, for a guided tour of the church.
- Evening: Hands-on art program for the whole family with **Kol Ha'ot**—Illuminating Jewish Learning Through Art.

**Overnight:** *Prima Kings Jerusalem Hotel*

**Monday, August 10: MODERN JERUSALEM**

- Our first stop will be **Pantry Packers** for an exciting hands-on opportunity to pack commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families. These packages, which bear a sticker with the name of the packing group, will later be included in large food baskets destined for needy families throughout the country.
- Optional visit to a **Jerusalem Tefillin factory** including a meeting with a scribe.
- Learn and remember at **Yad Vashem**, Israel's central memorial to the victims of the Shoah, including the Historical Museum, the Children's Memorial and the Avenue of the Righteous. Explore the relationship between the Holocaust and the State of Israel.
- *Alternative program for children under 10 years of age:* the **Jerusalem Biblical Zoo**.
- *Adults:* Geopolitical tour of Jerusalem and the **Seam Zone Barrier**. Explore the complexities of the geopolitics of Jerusalem and the personal and human price which Jerusalem



residents pay due to the complex nature of the situation, as well as considering possible scenarios for the future of the city.

- **Children: Jerusalem Scavenger Hunt.** Explore Jerusalem neighborhoods and create a photo montage of the experience.

**Overnight:** Prima Kings Jerusalem Hotel

**Tuesday, August 11: CONTEMPORARY ISRAEL: WHERE ANCIENT MEETS MODERN**

- Travel to the **Dead Sea**, lowest point on earth, to visit Herod's mountain fortress of **Masada**. Explore why the Jews chose to live here after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans, and learn about the terrible choices the Jews had to make there and its relevance for us today.
- Lunch on own.
- Hike to the natural pools and waterfalls of Nahal David in the **Ein Gedi Oasis**.
- Relax and float in the **Dead Sea** (weather permitting).
- Continue to **Kfar Hanokdim** which is a Bedouin encampment for camel rides and Bedouin hospitality and Hafla meal where you will also sleep over.

**Overnight:** Kfar Hanokdim

**Wednesday, August 12: WHAT PRICE FREEDOM?**

- After breakfast depart Kfar Hanokdim and prepare to 'get dirty' as you participate in an archaeological dig under Tel Maresha at **Beit Guvrin**. You'll discover pottery from the time of the Maccabees and get an appreciation for the tedious work of archaeologists!
- Visit the **Latrun Armored Museum**, to be given a tour by an Israeli soldier. Learn about the road to Jerusalem and the battles relating to this corridor. This is a great picture opportunity with the tanks of the IDF from all their wars.
- Join the 'underground' at the **Ayalon Institute**, where a once-secret Haganah munitions factory existed during the Mandate Period under Britain.
- Check in to your Tel Aviv hotel and check in and enjoy the evening at leisure.

**Overnight:** Dan Panorama Tel Aviv



**Thursday, August 13: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER – SHALOM ULEHITRA'OT!**

- Today we will have meetings and experiences which will help us put our trip together.
- Head to the **Carmel Market** where Tel Avivians barter over fresh goods and various products. Have a sample of Middle Eastern dishes or pastries while the noise and smells of the bazaar surrounds you.
- Return to the Hotel for late check-out and departure preparation.
- Evaluations and summary.
- Final Banquet and transfer to the airport for flights back to the USA... arrive August 14, 2020.

**OPTIONAL PETRA EXTENSION**

- After your final banquet head to Sde Dov airport for your flight to Eilat airport. Catch your flight and transfer to your Eilat hotel and enjoy the evening at leisure.  
**Overnight: Dan Panorama Eilat**

**Friday, August 14: PETRA DAY TOUR**

- After breakfast, we'll be transferred to the Arava border crossing where we'll meet our guide. Then we'll drive through the wonderful mountainous landscape of Jordan and arrive at the world famous Petra ruins where we'll walk through the narrow canyon and see its great monuments such as the treasury, Roman Theater, and Royal Tombs.
- At the end of the day we'll drive back to the border crossing and return to our hotel in Eilat.  
**Overnight: Dan Panorama Eilat**

**Saturday, August 15: LEHITRAOT**

- After breakfast meet your transfer who will drive you to Ben Gurion airport where you will catch your International flight home.

Full Israeli Breakfast Buffet is included daily plus other meals as listed in the itinerary.  
All sightseeing with an English speaking licensed Israeli guide-educator.  
All entrance fees included according to the itinerary.  
All hotel taxes included.

