

**TEMPLE EMANU-EL EXPLORES ISRAEL!  
JUNE 22 – JULY 6, 2010**

(This itinerary is tentative and subject to change.)

**Tuesday, June 22** - Today our journey begins as we depart the United States for our overnight flight to Israel.

**Wednesday, June 23** - Welcome to Israel! Upon arrival, we will be met and transferred to our hotel in Tel Aviv. Tonight we will enjoy dinner together at Maganda Middle Eastern restaurant to celebrate our arrival.

**Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv**

**Thursday, June 24** - We will start our stay with a visit to the Palmach Museum, an experiential museum, covering the Palmach legacy through the stories of individuals and groups. Visitors to the museum join the group of young Palmach recruits from its establishment, and advanced through the story of the Palmach from 1941 until the end of the War of Independence. We will learn the story of one of our own Temple members who fought in the Palmach in the War of Independence.

Continue to Kikar Rabin, the place where Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was shot to death following a peace rally on November 4, 1995. We proceed to Independence Hall where on the 14th of May in 1948, Ben Gurion read Israel's Declaration of Independence. The hall where it happened looks exactly like in those days.

This afternoon, we visit Machon Ayalon, nicknamed "The Lipstick Factory," in Rehovot. This pre-state secret underground munitions factory was built by the Palmach right under the noses of the British.

**Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv**

**Friday, June 25** - At the Diaspora Museum, we will have the opportunity to follow 2500 years of Jewish life around the globe through special thematic exhibits. We will walk through the charming historic Neve Zedek quarter, Tel Aviv's first neighborhood. Enjoy craft shopping and free time for lunch in Nachlat Benyamin Market and the colorful open air Carmel Market.

After freshening up at the hotel, we will drive to the overlook in Jaffa for a short Shabbat service led by Rabbi Lawson. This is where Jonah embarked for Tarshish as read on Rosh Hashana. Following, we will enjoy a traditional Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

**Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv**

**Saturday, June 26** - A day of rest and leisure in Tel Aviv. You may choose to attend services at Beit Daniel, Israel's largest Progressive (Reform) synagogue. Or just enjoy a day on the shores of the Mediterranean. If you have relatives in Israel, this is a good day to visit with them.

**Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv**

**Sunday, June 27** - Today we depart Tel Aviv and drive northward along Israel's coast. At Caesarea, we will see ancient history come to life at the new multi-media center. Excavations include an impressive amphitheater, bathhouse and aqueduct. In Haifa, we will enjoy the amazing view of the Carmel region and a stunning overview of the Baha'i Gardens. At Akko, we will have an extensive visit to the Prison, Crusader Fortress and Hammam (Turkish baths). This prison was made famous in Leon Uris' book, Exodus. We will check into our kibbutz in the Galilee for the next 2 nights. Dinner is included.

**Kibbutz Hagoshrim**

**Monday, June 28** - . This morning, our first stop is the Banias, the main source of the Jordan. We will hike through the beautiful nature preserve. We will explore the Golan Heights and gaze down over the Galilee as the Syrians once did. At Kibbutz El Rom, we will see the moving story of the brave Valley of Tears Kahalani battle, which secured the Golan Heights during the Yom Kippur War. This kibbutz was destroyed during the Yom Kippur War and then rebuilt. Its main industry is agriculture and El Rom studios produce subtitles and translations for film and television. We will visit the mystical city of Tzefat (Safed) with its fascinating synagogues, galleries and shops. Dinner is included.

**Kibbutz Hagoshrim**

**Tuesday, June 29** - We will explore the ancient, magnificently excavated city of Tzippori, home to Rabbi Judah the Prince, editor of the Mishna in 200 C.E.) and see beautiful mosaics and other finds from that time. Further south along the Jordan Valley is Beit Shean, an ancient city from the time of King Saul. Explore the excavated remains of the Roman city including amphitheaters and the Cardo. As we enter Jerusalem, we will take in a breathtaking view of the Old City and pause for a special blessing.

**David Citadel, Jerusalem**

**Wednesday, June 30** - We will tour David's City, the most ancient section of Jerusalem, built by King David, including the new discoveries in the Spring Tower. In the Rabbinical Tunnels, we will walk alongside the Western Wall's massive foundation stones. A visit to the Burnt House will reveal the remains of a house belonging to an affluent family from the second Temple period. In the Christian Quarter, we will visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher built on the site believed by many to be where Jesus was crucified.

**David Citadel, Jerusalem**

**Thursday, July 1** - Today we will tour the new Holocaust Memorial Museum at Yad Vashem including the Children's Memorial. At Har Herzl Military cemetery, we will visit the graves of Theodor Herzl, Israel's prime ministers and those who have fallen in battle. Our driving tour will take us by the Knesset, Supreme Court Building and Shrine of the Book, home of the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will end our day with a visit to the colorful, bustling Machaneh Yehuda open air market.

**David Citadel, Jerusalem**

**Friday, July 2** - We will depart Jerusalem early this morning to drive down to the lowest point on earth, the Dead Sea region. We will drive by Qumran, overlooking the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. At Masada, we will ascend by cable car to this last stronghold of the Zealots in their struggle against the Romans. We will tour Herod's Palace, synagogue and bathhouse. We will drive to Ein Gedi nature preserve for a short hike. At the Dead Sea, we will enjoy an unsinkable swim in the salty waters. Upon return to Jerusalem, we will prepare for Shabbat. We will greet Shabbat at the Western Wall and then return to our hotel for a traditional Shabbat dinner.

**David Citadel, Jerusalem**

**Saturday, July 3** - Shabbat is a day at leisure to attend optional services at a synagogue of your choice. You may want to visit museums, family or friends or just explore the neighborhoods of Jerusalem. At sundown, the city comes alive for dining or shopping.

**David Citadel, Jerusalem**

**Sunday, July 4** - Today we will visit the Tower of David Museum. We will drive south to Beit Guvrin-Maresha National Park for a hands on experience of an Archaeological Dig. Afterwards, tour Beit Guvrin which contains antiquities and unusual caves including those of Tel Maresha. Beit Guvrin was once an important Roman city. The caves were used for refuge during the Bar Kochva revolt against the Romans. The caves include water cisterns, stables and burial caves .

**David Citadel, Jerusalem**

**Monday, July 5** - Today will be your day for final shopping, packing, museums and independent sightseeing. We will have a farewell dinner at Darna Restaurant. Following dinner, we will transfer from Jerusalem to Ben Gurion for check in for our return flight home.

**Tuesday, July 6** - We arrive home with memories to last a lifetime!

We will be finalizing our transportation arrangements once our group count is firm. We need at least 15 passengers traveling together to qualify for group air rates. You will need to advise us whether you will be flying with us when you sign up for the tour.

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**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING THIS TRIP TOGETHER!!!!**