



***Israel Exploration***  
***Co-Led By Rabbi David Baum***

*June 8-19, 2026*  
(rev 18 May 20025)

**Monday June 8**      ***HERE WE COME!***

- **Departure on El Al from Miami.**

**Tuesday June 9**      ***BRUCHIM HABAIM – WELCOME!***

- **Arrival at Ben Gurion airport (TLV) in the morning.**
- *(Assistance upon arrival by Keshet representatives for the designated group flight).*
- Enjoy a welcome breakfast at the **Neot Kedumim Biblical Nature Reserve** followed by an opening tree planting ceremony.
- Visit the interactive **Khan Sha'ar Hagai museum**, which brings to life the heroism of so many who tried to break the siege of Jerusalem during the War of Independence.
- Ascend to **Jerusalem** and celebrate our arrival with the ***Shehechyanu*** and the magnificent views of the city from the **Haas Promenade**. Begin our exploration of the Jewish love affair with Jerusalem starting with the Biblical story of *Akedat Yitzhak* (The Binding of Isaac).
- Lunch break (on own).
- Check-in at our hotel and time to rest and freshen up before a group dinner.

***Overnight: Cassia, Jerusalem***

**Wednesday June 10**      ***THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM***

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Begin the day at the **City of David**, site of biblical Jerusalem. See the probable foundations of King David's palace; Bible in hand, understand how Jerusalem became the venue for the development of classic Jewish values such as political morality and our national identity.
- Then grab your flashlights and water shoes, to wade through the **water tunnel dug by King Hezekiah** 2,700 years ago in order to save the city from the Assyrians. (Dry tunnel option).
- Lunch break (on own) and shopping time in the **Jewish Quarter** and **Cardo**.
- Participate hands-on at a unique **archaeological project**, sifting through excavated remains from ancient Jerusalem.
- Explore the Machaneh Yehuda market which reflects the diversity of Israeli society. Learn how to shop and taste the variety of foods in the vibrant Shuk; then participate in a cooking workshop, culminating in dinner!

***Overnight: Cassia, Jerusalem***

**Thursday June 11      FROM HOLOCAUST TO REDEMPTION**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- **B'nei Mitzvah ceremony** at the Ezrat Yisrael **Egalitarian Kotel**.
- Celebratory Kiddush
- Learn and remember at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum**, including visits to the historical museum, Children's Memorial, and Sculpture Garden.
- Late Lunch break (on own)
- At the **Mt. Herzl National Military Cemetery**, visit and pay tribute at the graves of Israeli soldiers.
- Dinner and evening at leisure.

**Overnight:** Cassia, Jerusalem

**Friday June 12      TEKUMAH REGION (GAZA BORDER)**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Travel to **Sderot**. Outlook over Gaza.
- Hear the tragic story of the attack on the **Sderot Police Station**, which was completely destroyed and is now a memorial park.
- Lunch break (on own) to support local businesses.
- Visit the **"car cemetery"** memorial site.
- Pay your respects at the **site of the Nova Festival** at Re'im where so many young people were killed or kidnapped by Hamas.
- Return to the hotel to prepare for Shabbat.
- Candle lighting: 19:02
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** services as a group at Ezrat Yisrael. Then, join thousands welcoming **Shabbat at the Kotel** plaza with song, dance and prayer.
- Walk back to the hotel for **Shabbat dinner**.

**Overnight:** Cassia, Jerusalem

**Saturday June 13      SHABBAT SHALOM**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning services at local synagogues.
- Day at leisure to explore on your own or enjoy the hotel pool. (The Biblical Zoo is open 10-5, The Israel Museum is open 10-5, The Tower of David Museum is open 10-2, The Bible Lands Museum is open 10-3, The Botanical Gardens are open 9-5).
- Lunch is on your own today. *It is possible to pre-order Shabbat lunch at the hotel for an additional fee.*
- Optional **walking tour** to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre **or** Jerusalem through the neighborhood Mishkenot Sha'ananim with the poetry of Yehuda Amichai.
- We reconvene in the late afternoon for a meeting with Issam, a former Gaza resident who fled Hamas because of his co-existence work.
- Seudat Shlishit Dinner at the hotel
- 20:24 Group Havdalah
- Evening: **Tower of David "Night Spectacular"** sound & light show, projected on the walls of the museum.

**Overnight:** *Cassia, Jerusalem*

**Sunday June 14**      **WHAT PRICE FREEDOM?**

- Early Breakfast at the hotel. Pack bus and depart.
- Depart for the Dead Sea Region. En route, optional photo op with “Shushi” the camel at the “Sea Level” marker.
- Ascend Herod’s Mountain fortress of **Masada** by cable car. Explore why the Jewish rebels chose to live here after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans. Descend by cable car.
- Head to the Dead Sea for a **float in the Dead Sea** and lunch at a hotel in Ein Bokek.
- Travel north through the Jordan River Valley for check-in and dinner at our hotel on the Golan Heights.

**Overnight:** *Ramot Hotel, Golan Heights*

**Monday June 15**      **GOLAN 360'**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Drive along the Golan Heights plateau to Mt. Bental. Geopolitical survey of Lebanon and Syria Lt. Col. (Res.) Gidi Harari. (Parallel program for kids in the bunkers.)
- Travel to nearby **Ein Zivan**.
  - Chocolate Lover’s Option: Hands-on workshop at the De Karina Boutique **Chocolate Factory**
  - Wine Lover’s Option: Wine tasting at the Pelter **Winery**.
- Picnic Lunch
- Visit and stand in solidarity with **IDF soldiers guarding** Israel’s northern border.
- Visit the **Agamon Hahula Nature Reserve**, a JNF site. Guided tour to see the birds and other wildlife in the “Hidden Safari” vehicle.
- Return to the hotel for dinner

**Overnight:** *Ramot Hotel, Golan Heights*

**Tuesday June 16**      **MOUNTAINS & MYSTICS**

- Breakfast at the hotel, check-out and depart.
- Ascend to **Tzfat** and learn how the mystical traditions that emerged here 500 years ago continue to impact the Jewish world. Explore the narrow alleyways and synagogues.
- Meet a **Kabalistic artist** in his studio; learn about Kabbalah via the lens of art.
- Lunch and shopping time on your own in Tzfat.
- “Adopt a Vineyard” Program with MyTree in Israel and the **Jezreel Winery** on **Kibbutz Hanaton**.
- Continue to Tel Aviv for check-in at our hotel on the beach promenade.
- Dinner and evening at leisure.

**Overnight:** *Crown Plaza Hotel, Tel Aviv*

**Wednesday June 17**      **THE FIRST HEBREW CITY**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Walk along the **Independence Trail** to learn about the founding of Tel Aviv-the first Hebrew City-as well as the establishment of the State of Israel.

- Docent tour of the **Reuven Rubin Museum**, focusing on the rebirth of Hebrew culture and art in Tel Aviv's early years. **OR** Visit the **Ayalon Institute**, a secret underground bullet factor from the Mandate Period.
- Lunch break (on own)
- At **Save a Child's Heart**, learn about this institution which brings children from Africa and across the Middle East to Israel for life-saving heart surgery; then interact with the children as they prepare for or recover from their surgery.
- Return to hotel. Time to enjoy the beach or hotel pool or explore on your own.
- Dinner and evening at leisure.

**Overnight:** Crown Plaza Hotel, Tel Aviv

#### Thursday June 18

#### "IF I FORGET THEE, OH TEL AVIV?"

- Breakfast at hotel
- Morning speaker: Geo-political update with Neil Lazarus.
- Load bus and depart.
- Lunch break (on own)
- Learn some Hebrew and about issues in modern Israeli society through a **Graffiti/Street Art tour** in southern Tel Aviv.
- Visit Old **Jaffa** and the Jaffa Flea Market. Time for last minute shopping.
- Summary discussion and **farewell dinner**.
- Transfer to the airport for departing flights.

#### Friday June 19

#### ARRIVAL IN THE U.S.

- **Departure on El Al to Miami.**

- Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation
- Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator.
- All breakfasts and underlined meals are included in the package price
- This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet



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