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**Gesher L’Torah and Or Hadash**

***Family Adventure in Israel***

Led by Rabbi Michael Tracie Bernstein and Rabbi Lauren Henderson

*December 21, 2025 – January 1, 2026*

updatedAugust 21

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| **Sunday, December 21:** | ***and we’re off!!*** |

* Depart Atlanta – flights TBD

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| **Monday, December 22:** | ***Bruchim Habaim – welcome to Israel!*** |

* Land in Tel Aviv
* Meet your guide, pack up the bus and start the adventure!
* Enter the subterranean munitions factory where Jews produced bullets literally under the noses of the ruling British leading up to the War of Independence at the **Ayalon Institute**
* At the new **ANU Museum of the Jewish People**, understand the connection between Jews around the world and the land of Israel
* Check into the hotel, followed by dinner

***Overnight:*** *Tal by the Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv*

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| **Tuesday, December 23:** | ***Remembering October 7*** |

* Participate in an **actual archaeological dig** at the Beit Guvrin National Park
* Pick vegetables and Uri Alon’s (successful) dream of agriculture in the desert at the **Salad Trail**; hear how October 7th affected his family
* Pay your respects at the site of the **Nova**, where 364 Israelis were killed on October 7th
* See the **collection of cars** abandoned on October 7th

***Overnight:*** *Tal by the Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv*

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| **Wednesday, December 24:** | ***northern exposure*** |

* See the incredible ruins of the port city build by King Herod in **Caesarea**, once the capital during the Roman and Byzantine Periods
* Traditional **Ethiopian** lunch with Agere, and hear about her years-long journey “home” to Israel
* In **Kibbutz Hanaton**, visit the “Conservative mikve” and learn about it and the ritual behind it with Haviva Ner David
* Participate in a **multi-faith art project** in Tzippori
* Continue to your hotel for dinner, followed by a processing session

***Overnight:*** *HaGoshrim Hotel, Galilee*

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| **Thursday, December 25:** | ***mystics and mountains*** |

* In **Tzfat**, explore the alleyways and synagogues of mystics and trace the development of Kabbalah in the 16th Century
* Meet with **Kabbalistic artist** Sheva Chaya and see how she incorporates her mystical studies into her artwork
* On the border of Lebanon, **meet soldiers in action** understand the burden of Israel’s security on the shoulders of 20-year-olds
* Dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *HaGoshrim Hotel, Galilee*

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| **Friday, December 26:** | ***Golan 360o*** |

* Ascend the Golan Heights
* Peer into Syria from Tel as-Saki; hear the courageous stories of the Yom Kippur War and get an update on what is happening today in Syria with **Captain (res.) Yaakov Selevan**
* Travel to Jerusalem, check into the hotel and prepare for Shabbat
* In the evening, participate in a group **Kabbalat Shabbat** at the pluralistic section of the **Western Wall** or overlooking it; then join the thousands of Israelis and Jews from around the world as they bring in **Shabbat at the Western Wall**
* Shabbat dinner in the hotel

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

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| **Saturday, December 27:** | ***Shabbat Shalom*** |

* Optional Shabbat services in a local synagogue or as a group
* **Study session** with Rabbi Bernstein and Rabbi Henderson
* Shabbat lunch in the hotel
* In the afternoon, walk through the Old City to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher** – one of the holiest places on earth for most Christians – and understand the importance to Jerusalem to all monotheistic religions
* **Musical& Havdallah**
* Free evening to explore Jerusalem’s nightlife

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

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| **Sunday, December 28:** | ***This year in jerusalem!*** |

* At the **Haas Promenade**, beginthe exploration of the Jewish love affair with Jerusalem; remember the Biblical accounts of the Binding of Isaac, associated with this spot
* Continue to 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 and our national identity; with your flashlights and water shoes, exit via the **water tunnel dug by King Hezekiah** 2,700 years ago in order to save the city from the Assyrians
* Lunch and shopping time in the Jewish Quarter and the Roman/Byzantine Cardo
* See how incredible King Herod’s Temple Project must have been at the **Western Wall Tunnels**

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

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| **Monday, December 29:** | ***From holocaust to redemption*** |

* Learn and remember at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum**
* As a contrast to the morning, head over to the vibrant **Machane Yehuda Shuk** for a culinary tour to taste some of the incredible Israeli street food; then participate in a **cooking seminar**

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

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| **Tuesday, December 30:** | ***what price freedom?*** |

* Ascend **Masada,** the desert fortress, and hear one of the most dramatic stories in Jewish history
* Hike the **Ein Gedi waterfall trail**
* **Float in the Dead Sea**

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

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| **Wednesday, December 31:** | ***the pillars of our people*** |

* Review the history of Jerusalem at the brand new, interactive **Tower of David Museum**
* **Volunteer work** for Israel’s needy
* **Ride camels** to Abraham’s (of Biblical fame) tent; hear his stories and enjoy his renowned hospitality over a late lunch/early dinner at Genesis Land
* In the evening, meet with a **political analyst** for a look at some of the main issues Israel faces today

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

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| **Thursday, January 1:** | ***l’hitraot – see you soon!*** |

* At **Yad LaKashish – Lifeline for the Elderly** – tour the studios in which brings Jerusalem’s elderly are brought together to make beautiful art together and to make a meaningful contribution to society
* Participate in an **art workshop** summarizing your Israel experience until now with **Kol HaOt**
* **Farewell discussion and dinner**
* Transfer to the airport for your flight home
* Departure times TBD
* Start planning your next trip to Israel!
* Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation.
* Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator.
* All breakfasts plus 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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