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***United with Israel***

Led by Cantor Stephen and Randi Freedman

*July 20-31, 2025*

draftedApril 11

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| **Sunday, July 20:** | ***Here we come!*** |

* Depart from the US

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| **Monday, July 21:** | ***Bruchim Habaim – Welcome!*** |

* Land in Israel
* Meet and greet service; meet your tour guide and pack up the bus
* Start your tour **planting trees** and make the connection to the land of Israel
* Welcome to Israel ceremony where Israel got its official start – outside of **Independence Hall**; walk along the **Independence Trail** and relive David Ben Gurion’s announcement despite the challenges that were surely to come
* Lunch on own at the trendy Sarona Foodie Market
* At the interactive **Palmach Museum**, follow Jewish youth looking to jumpstart the Jewish State
* Check into the hotel and freshen up
* Welcome dinner and orientation in a local restaurant

***Overnight:*** *Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv*

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| **Tuesday, July 22:** | ***if i forget thee, oh tel aviv*** |

* At the **ANU Museum of the Jewish People**, understand how the Jewish People spread across the world and our significant contributions to it
* **Jaffa Stories and Coffee**: in the home of **Doris Hiffawi**, hear about her life as a minority (Christian Arab) in Jaffa and - over coffee brewed by her family and Arabic sweets - find out how female entrepreneurs like Doris are bringing change to this socioeconomically deprived neighborhood
* See the lovely crafts and enjoy the street performers at the renowned **Nahalat Binyamin Arts and Crafts Fair** and taste the street food at the adjacent **Carmel Market**
* 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 the prepare for or recover from their surgery
* Free evening to enjoy the sunset and Tel Aviv’s night life
* Optional dinner and show at the **Na Laga’at** (please touch) **Center**, where all waiters and actors are deaf and/or blind (not included in program cost)

***Overnight:*** *Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv*

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| **Wednesday, July 23:** | ***northern exposure*** |

* In **Caesarea**, see the incredible ruins of King Herod’s ancient port city, once the capital of Israel during the Roman and Byzantine periods
* Enter the home of Agere, an **Ethiopian immigrant**; over a traditional *injera* lunch, hear the incredible story of her journey “home” to Israel
* Walking tour of charming **Zichron Yaakov** for a look at the original pioneers of the First Aliya
* Meet with **Ofer Eden**, who – as a 19-year-old paratrooper lost his right arm and the use of his left arm – went on to become a successful entrepreneur, mountain-biker and kayaker
* Continue northand check into your hotel followed by dinner there

***Overnight:*** *Pastoral, Kibbutz Kfar Blum*

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| **Thursday, July 24:** | ***mystics and mountains*** |

* In **Tzfat**, explore the alleyways and synagogues of mystics and trace the development of Kabbalah in the 16th Century; free time to enter the galleries and shops
* Meet with a **Kabbalistic artist** and see how s/he incorporates his mystical studies into her/his artwork
* Lunch on own in Tzfat
* **Encounter with soldiers in action** on the Lebanon border and contemplate the weight of Israel’s security on the shoulders of these youngsters
* Dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Pastoral, Kibbutz Kfar Blum*

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| **Friday, July 25:** | ***Golan 360o*** |

* Ascend the Golan Heights
* View into **Syria** from the bunker in Tel as Saki; hear the heroic stories from the Yom Kippur War and get an update on what is happening with our neighbors to the northeast by **Major (res.) Yaakov Selavan**
* Learn about 2,000 years of Jewish history on the Golan at the **ancient Ein Kshatot Synagogue**
* Lunch on own in Tzemach en route
* Continue to Jerusalem via the Jordan River Valley; check in to the hotel and prepare for Shabbat
* In the evening, have a community Kabbalat Shabbat service at the Ezrat Yisrael (pluralistic) section of the Western Wall; then join the thousands of Israelis and Jews from around the world as they bring in the **Shabbat at the Kotel**
* Shabbat dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Saturday, July 26:** | ***Shabbat Shalom*** |

* You may want to attend one of the local **Shabbat services** in town
* Study session with Cantor Freedman
* Shabbat lunch in the hotel
* Walking tour of the **Christian Quarter** of the Old City, including a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher
* Light **Seuda Shlishit** at Mishkenot Shaananim – the first neighborhood outside of the Old City walls
* Musical havdallah
* In the evening, review the history of Jerusalem at the **Tower of David Nighttime Spectacular** as it is projected on the walls of this ancient citadel
* Free night in town

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Sunday, July 27:** | ***This year in jerusalem!*** |

* Begin our exploration of the Jewish “love affair” with Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade** with its magnificent views and powerful Biblical, historical and contemporary narratives
* Continue to the **City of David** - the original Jerusalem of King David and First Temple times - for a guided visit with Bible in hand; then descend Warren's shaft a splash through the water tunnel that King Hezakiya dug to save Jerusalem from the Assyrians 2,700 years ago (or take the dry tunnel)
* Lunch and shopping in the **Jewish Quarter and the Roman/Byzantine Cardo**
* See just how incredible King Herod’s Temple project must have been at the **Western Wall Tunnels**
* Say a prayer at the **Western Wall**

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Monday, July 28:** | ***from holocaust to redemption*** |

* Learn and remember at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum** and participate in a memorial in the memory of the six million
* Take the Connection Path up to the **Mt. Herzl National Military Cemetery**; hear the stories of the Leaders of the Nation and of the soldiers who fell defending it; ceremony for Israel’s fallen
* I’m all shuk up: as a contrast to the morning, take a **culinary tour** of the **vibrant Machane Yehuda Market** for sensory overload; then participate in a **cooking workshop** and have a community dinner over the results!

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Tuesday, July 29:** | ***never again is now!*** |

* Early morning departure to the Gaza envelope
* Tour with a survivor around **Kibbutz Kfar Aza**, which was badly hit on October 7th
* Lunch at the **Salad Trail**; then hear the incredible story of the farmer who owns this site; pick vegetables and fruit grown in the desert sand
* Pay your respects at the Reim Field, **site of the Supernova Music Party**; ceremony in memory of those who lost their lives
* **Treat soldiers** who have been working so hard over the last year and a half to a barbeque dinner and hear about their experiences
* Return to Jerusalem

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Wednesday, July 30:** | ***What price freedom?*** |

* Travel south to **Masada**, the fortress built by King Herod and used by Jewish zealots defending themselves from the Roman army; hear one of the most dramatic stories in Jewish history
* **Float in the Dead Sea**, enjoy a **spa** and lunch at a Dead Sea hotel
* **Hike the Waterfall Trail** in the desert oasis of Ein Gedi and hear the Biblical stories of King Saul and David which took place here
* Dinner in the hotel, followed by a **political analyst** to speak about the issues that Israel faces today

***Overnight:*** *Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem*

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| **Thursday, July 31:** | ***the people in your neighborhood*** |

* Depart from the hotel
* At **Yad LaKashish** – Lifeline for the Aged – see the incredible crafts made by Jerusalem’s elderly; then participate in everyone’s favorite mitzvah: shopping in their gift shop!
* See the Dead Sea Scrolls and other gems at the **Israel Museum**
* Last minute shopping time
* Summary discussion
* Farewell dinner
* Travel to the airport for your flight home
* 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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