


# program\*

\* whatcha gonna do.

Program dated: May 8, 2018



## PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

### 2018 CONGREGATIONAL TRIP TO ISRAEL

Track I – YOUNG FAMILIES (2 buses)

December 22-31, 2018



Day One: Saturday, December 22, 2018

#### DEPARTURE

- Group flights:
  - 9:00 p.m. Depart from Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) on El Al flight #026 arriving to Ben Gurion International Airport at 2:20pm on December 23.
  - 11:50 p.m. Depart from John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) on El Al flight #008 arriving to Ben Gurion International Airport at 5:10pm on December 23.

Overnight: Flight

Day Two: Sunday, December 23, 2018

#### WELCOME TO ISRAEL

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by our representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Group transfers to the city of **Tel Aviv**, known as the “city that never sleeps,” with its centres of culture, recreation and national history, and great beaches.
- Check into the hotel.
- **Welcome dinner** at the hotel.
- **Bruchim Ha'baim!** Opening activity for the **Young Families Track**. Celebrate the beginning of your journey and take part in an **orientation** with PAS staff and your tour educators.

Overnight: Hilton, Tel Aviv



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Day Three: Monday, December 24, 2018

**MEET THE DREAMERS**

- Morning moment.



**PAS EVENT**  
**WELCOME TO ISRAEL @ 70!**

Begin the trip together as a community with a special

**ISRAELI BREAKFAST EVENT**

with opening remarks and greetings from your **Rabbis** and **trip leaders**.



- Check out of the hotel.
- Visit the **Museum of the Jewish People - Beit Hatfutsot**, including the new exhibition *Heroes – Trailblazers of the Jewish People*, a refreshing view of what it really means to be a hero. Meet different types of Jewish heroes throughout our history including scientists, intellectuals, leaders, revolutionaries, cultural figures, athletes and more – men and women with unique talents.
- Lunch at your own expense.
- Visit the **Ayalon Institute** near Rehovot for an eye-opening visit and a climb down to see the secret clandestine munitions factory used during the British Mandate.
- Continue driving south to the **Negev Desert**.
- Check into the hotel; free time to enjoy the hotel's facilities and meet your local neighbors – the Negev ibex!
- **Dinner** at the hotel.
- **Icebreakers & games** led by the PAS and da'at staff, at the hotel.



Overnight: Beresheet, Mitzpe Ramon



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Day Four: Tuesday, December 25, 2018

### ADVENTURES IN THE NEGEV

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the **gravesite** of Israel's first Prime Minister, **David Ben-Gurion**, located at **Sde Boker** in the Negev Desert, overlooking the Wilderness of Zinn.
- Enjoy a short nature walk to the **Ein Avdat** spring.
- Visit the **Chan Hashayarot** encampment in the Negev Desert for Bedouin-style hospitality, a **camel ride** and a **'Hafla' lunch**.
- Return to Mitzpe Ramon.

#### **Option #1:**

- Visit the **Alpaca Farm** in Mitzpeh Ramon, where the Dvir family raises a herd of llamas and alpacas, horses, donkeys, angora sheep and many more animals.

#### **Option #2:**

- Expand your horizons by meandering through the canyons and geological formations of the crater, by off-roading in a **jeep tour**.

#### **All:**

- Return to the hotel; free time to enjoy the hotel's facilities.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.
- *Weather permitting:* **Stargaze** on the cliff of the **Ramon Crater**.

Overnight: Beresheet, Mitzpe Ramon



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Day Five: Wednesday, December 26, 2018

## SEARCHING FOR ROOTS

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out and depart Mitzpe Ramon.
- Take part in an **archaeological dig** at the **Beit Guvrin Caves** and prepare to get your hands dirty as uncovering pottery from the Hellenistic period, 2,300 years ago, followed by a crawl through the Maresha Cave Labyrinth (crawling is optional). *Beit Guvrin-Maresha National Park was recently recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.*
- **Box lunch** en route.
- Drive to Jerusalem.
- **Welcome to Jerusalem** - ברוכים הבאים: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- Enter the **Old City** via the **Jaffa Gate**; climb up to the top of the **Tower of David Museum of the History of Jerusalem** for an overlook of the Old and New City of Jerusalem.
- Walk along the **Old City Ramparts** of the Old City from the Jaffa Gate to the Zion Gate.
- Check into the hotel.



## PAS EVENT

### CELEBRATING ISRAEL @ 70 & PAS at 136!

Celebrate **Israel's 70th birthday** with a "Jerusalem of Gold" ambience,  
at the beautiful **Olmaya Hall**,  
with spectacular views of the Old City lit up in the background,  
and greetings by the **Mayor of Jerusalem**.  
Enjoy the best of Israeli cocktails and cuisine,  
music performances and festivities for all ages.



Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Six: Thursday, December 27, 2018

**INTO THE DESERT, MASADA AND THE DEAD SEA**

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Descend to the **Dead Sea basin**.
- Ascend by cable-car to **Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and the site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defense and its current significance in modern Israel.
- Lunch at your own expense at the Masada Visitors Center.
- Experience the weightlessness of the **Dead Sea** as you float in its waters.
- Return to Jerusalem.

**Adults:**

- **Parents' Night Out!** Enjoy a delicious dairy **dinner** at a local Jerusalem restaurant.

**Children:**

- **Pizza dinner, pajama party and fun movie night** at the hotel!

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Seven: Friday, December 28, 2018

## MEMORY & RENEWAL

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.

### Option 1:

- Visit the **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:
  - The **Avenue of the Righteous**
  - The **Historical Museum**
  - The **Children's Memorial**
  - A concluding **Memorial Service**

### Option 2:

- Visit the renewed and wonderfully creative **Israel Museum**, with its wide-ranging and eclectic collection, from Archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls, to Jewish Life and Art, European art, contemporary Israeli art and the open-air model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple period – including a special children's visit to the Youth Wing.

### All:

- Lunch on own at Jerusalem's **Ben-Yehuda Street**.
- Return to your hotel; time to relax and prepare for Shabbat.



# PAS EVENT EREV SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

Welcome Shabbat with **Kabbalat Shabbat** services at the **Jerusalem International YMCA Auditorium**. The Jerusalem International YMCA is a cultural, sports and educational center located in the heart of the Jerusalem.

The Y strives to foster equality and friendship among members of all religions, with an emphasis on Judaism, Christianity and Islam, while serving as an oasis of multiculturalism and a space for coexistence among the residents of Jerusalem and beyond.

The historic building, with its elegant arches, domes, and 152-foot observation tower overlooking Jerusalem's Old City & New City, is an iconic landmark, designed by Arthur Loomis Harmon, architect of the Empire State Building.

Gather together with your fellow congregants for a private

## PAS COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER

at the David Citadel Hotel



- **Oneg Shabbat Learning Experience:** Join local scholars for intimate group learning sessions, including:
  - **The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict:** A dialogue with a senior **Encounter** staff member. Encounter is a nonpartisan educational organization cultivating more informed and constructive Jewish leadership on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
  - **Religious Pluralism & Freedom of Religion in Israel:** A panel discussion some of Israel's Progressive leaders.
  - **Israeli Politics in 2018:** Dialogue with a leading Israeli journalist/political analyst.
  - **Parashat Hashavua:** Learning about this week's Torah Portion.
  - Fun programs for the younger kids at the hotel's **Children's Play Center**.
  - **Oneg Shabbat for teens**, led by PAS staff.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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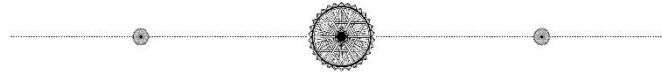
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Day Eight: Saturday, December 29, 2018

**SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM**

- Enjoy breakfast at your leisure at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning Services at local Jerusalem synagogues.



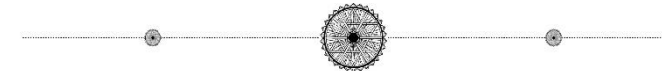
**PAS EVENT**

**PAS COMMUNITY KIDDUSH LUNCHEON**

in the **Blaustein Hall**, overlooking the Old City.



- **Yemin Moshe Scavenger Hunt** - discover the fabulous story of the expansion of Jerusalem beyond the Old City. Wandering from the Montefiore Windmill through the winding alleys of Yemin Moshe with an Israel ScaVentures picture pack, you will learn the story of a frontier neighborhood that became one of Jerusalem's most beautiful neighborhood.



**PAS EVENT**

**PAS COMMUNITY HAVDALLAH & CONCERT**

at the **Jerusalem International YMCA Auditorium**



- Dinner at your own expense.
- *Optional:* Special late night visit to the **Western Wall Tunnel**, the underground continuation of the Temple Mount's Western Wall, exposed in recent years; visit the **Kotel** (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Nine: Sunday, December 30, 2018

### THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- Morning moment.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- **PAS DOES TIKKUN OLAM Giving Back with Pantry Packers:** Participate in a **Tikkun Olam** project by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families; after a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons and caps in order to fill bags of rice, beans and other commodities.
- Mark your visit to Israel by **planting a tree** at the **Jerusalem Bird Observatory** and enjoy free time at the new **Jerusalem Deer Valley Park**, to relax and enjoy the nature.
- Take a *multi-cultural tasting journey* through the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem's **Machaneh Yehudah** open-air market: Enjoy the sights, smells, tastes and sounds of this vibrant area where Jerusalemites shop.
- Return to the **Old City**; walking tour through the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City of Jerusalem, for visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:
  - The **Cardo**, the main street of Jerusalem in the 6<sup>th</sup> century.
  - King Hezekiah's First Temple-period "**Broad Wall**".
  - **Hurva Square**, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.
- Visit the **Kotel** (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.
- Return to the hotel for time to finish packing.
- Late check-out from the hotel.
- **Fun farewell dinner** at **Black Bar Burger**, serving up a tremendous array of unique burgers and meat dishes.
- Group transfers to Ben Gurion International Airport to check in for your departure flight to New York.

Overnight: Flight

Day Ten: Monday, December 31, 2018

### RETURN TO NEW YORK

- Group flights:
  - 12:30 a.m. Depart on El Al flight #001, arriving to John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) at 5:45am.
  - 1:00 a.m. Depart on El Al flight #027, arriving to Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) at 6:20am.



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