


# program\*

\* whatcha gonna do.

Program dated: June 27, 2018



## PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE 2018 CONGREGATIONAL TRIP TO ISRAEL

**Track III – TEEN FAMILY TRACK (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 **2C**, a Kosher-meat restaurant at the top of the **Azrieli Center**, offering the most stunning views of Tel Aviv.

Overnight: Hilton, Tel Aviv



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Day Three: Monday, December 24, 2018

**FOUNDATIONS OF A CITY AND A STATE**

- *Optional Minyan.*



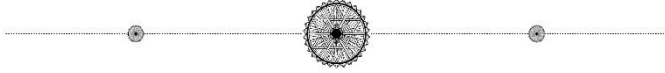
## PAS EVENT

# 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.
- **Foundations of a City and a State:** Zionist ideology and the revival of the Hebrew language come alive as you walk through the **Trumpeldor Cemetery**.
- Walk down **Bialik Street** in Tel Aviv for a visual journey through Tel Aviv's past and present, including a view of the houses of artist Reuven Rubin, writer Chaim Nachman Bialik.
- **A Building Telling the Tale of a City:** Special visit to **Beit Ha'ir**, the historical Town Hall of Tel-Aviv, now an open house for those residents, artists, writers, scholars, tourists, and other guests who want to become better acquainted with Tel Aviv and to partake in its story and spirit.
- Depart Tel Aviv and drive north along the Coastal Plain; lunch on your own en route.
- Arrive to **Haifa**; visit the **Technion – Israel Institute of Technology**, a science and technology research university, among the world's top ten, and learn how one university has contributed so much to Israel and the world.
- **This is the Hope:** continue to **Beit Ha'Gefen – The Arab-Jewish Cultural Center**, a non-profit association, which believes in creating shared egalitarian spaces that contain the variety of identities and cultures in Haifa in particular and Israel in general. **Meet with Arab and Jewish teens and enjoy local music and dinner.**
- Enjoy **Buza ice cream** for dessert. *Buza is a local Galilean ice cream produced from the finest products, 100% natural and based on Italian experience. Buza, the Arabic word for ice cream, is owned and operated by Alaa Sweetat, a local Muslim and Adam Ziv, a Jew from Kibbutz Sa Tsa.*
- Drive to the Upper Galilee and check into your hotel.

Overnight: Hagoshrim Hotel, Kibbutz Hagoshrim, Upper Galilee



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Day Four: Tuesday, December 25, 2018

## NATURE AND SECURITY IN THE NORTH

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Follow the **Israel Trail** as you **hike** along the **Amud Stream**, the highest of the flowing streams in Israel, as it meanders through the hills of the Upper Galilee with its 26 flourmills, which once served the residents of Tsfat and the villages nearby; a great place to wander through pools and rest in the orchard.
- Lunch on your own in the Upper Galilee.
- Take a **Jeep tour** off-road up the **Golan Heights** in the footsteps of Israeli soldiers and their battles in the Six-Day War. Enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.
- **Israel's Border with Syria:** Cross the Golan plateau to the border with Syria, and a view of the abandoned city of Kuneitra and the nearby United Nations outpost, for an insight on Israel's security situation on the **Golan Heights**, and the enormous challenges it faced in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.
- Return to the kibbutz hotel.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.

### **Option #1 - evening programs at Kibbutz Kfar Blum (together with track 2):**

- **Celebrating Israel on Your Feet:** Dance to Israeli classics and modern hits in an Israeli Dance workshop.
- **The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border:** Dialogue with a **high ranking IDF officer.**

### **Option #2:**

- Special **torch-light** tour of **Nimrod's Fortress**, one of most impressively preserved structures from the Middle Ages. In his book *The Innocents Abroad* Mark Twain describes it as "the most glorious ruins mound of its kind in the world".

Overnight: Hagoshrim Hotel, Kibbutz Hagoshrim, Upper Galilee



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Day Five: Wednesday, December 26, 2018

**A MOSAIC OF ISRAELI SOCIETY**

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out and drive to Kibbutz Hanaton; en route discuss the ever-changing nature of kibbutz life today.

**Teens:**

- **Meitav Hanoar – The Best of Our Youth:** Dialogue with members of the pre-Army academy (*mechina*) in **Hannaton**.

**Adults:**

- Tour **Kibbutz Hannaton**, the only kibbutz in Israel where you will find families from all the spectrums of Judaism. Meet with residents to take a closer look at life in a modern kibbutz and the challenges of Jewish pluralism.

**All:**

- **PAS DOES TIKKUN OLAM** Hands-on experience with **Leket**, a volunteer organization that provides food for the needy by collecting excess produce from farms and food distribution companies.
- Lunch on your own.
- Drive to Jerusalem along the Trans-Israel Highway for a close-up view of the ‘**Security Barrier**’ along the seam zone between Israel and the Palestinian Territories.
- **Welcome to Jerusalem** - ברוכים הבאים: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- 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

## CREATING MEMORIES

### Option #1:

- Early breakfast at the hotel.
- Join Descend to the **Dead Sea basin**.
- **Ascend by cable car to Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Explore the rich archaeological remains from the Roman period.
- **Bnei Mitzvah Ceremony** atop Masada.
- **Celebratory lunch** in **Kibbutz Ein Gedi**.
- Return to Jerusalem.

### Option # 2:

- *Optional Minyan*.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- **Israeli Film and a Window In:** Meet with students and teachers from the **Ma'aleh Film School** for a screening and discussion, exploring the intersection of Judaism and modern life. Ma'aleh's unique, cutting-edge films attempt to foster deeper understanding and dialogue between religious and secular Jews. While Ma'aleh graduates are shaping the future of the Israeli film and television, they also created a first-of-its-kind video-therapy for at-risk youth, Ethiopian immigrants, terror victims and adults with special needs.
- Experience the sights, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the **Machaneh Yehuda** open-air market with a **local chef**, choosing the best and freshest ingredients the *shuk* has to offer. Return to a kitchen in the market for an interactive **cooking session**, followed by a delicious **lunch**.

### All:

- Visit the **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:

#### Option 1:

- The **Avenue of the Righteous**
- The **Historical Museum**
- The **Children's Memorial**

#### Option 2:

- The **Holocaust Toy Exhibit**
- The **Art Museum**
- The **Holocaust Film Archive**
- The **Exhibitions Pavilion**
- The **Sculpture Garden**

- Participate in a concluding memorial service and opportunity for reflection at **Yad Vashem**.

### Adults:

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

### Teens:

- **Shutaf - Inclusion, Community, Fun: Pizza dinner and bowling** with teens who participate in **Shutaf Inclusion Programs** in Jerusalem, offering year-round activities for children, teens, and young adults, with and without disabilities.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem



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Day Seven: Friday, December 28, 2018

## THE CHALLENGES OF THE LAND

- Optional Minyan.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- **The Geopolitics of Jerusalem:** Travel through the city of Jerusalem, exploring some of its political and diplomatic complexities – including the ‘Security Barrier’ – to gain a behind-the-headlines insight into current developments.
- Drive to **Gush Etzion**.  
**Option #1:**
- **A Taste of the IDF:** Special **boot camp training at Caliber 3**, a leading counter terror & security training academy in Israel.  
**Option # 2:**
- Ride the longest **zipline** in Israel at ‘Eretz Ha’ayalim’ (Deer Land).  
**All:**
- **Creating a Joint Future for Palestinians and Israelis:** Meet with **Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger** and **Ali Abu Awwad**, who all live in the Bethlehem / Gush Etzion Area and founded the Roots coexistence project. The Roots project draws Israelis and Palestinians who, despite living next to each other, are separated by walls of fear- not just fear of each other, but even of the price of peace. Without building trust, the suspicions between these two communities will suffocate the political peace agreements.
- Lunch on your own.
- 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



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Day Seven: Friday, December 28, 2018

### THE CHALLENGES OF THE LAND

- **Oneg Shabbat Learning Experience:** Join local scholars for intimate group learning sessions, including:
  - **The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict:** A dialogue with a leading journalist/scholar.
  - **Religious Pluralism & Freedom of Religion in Israel:** A panel discussion with some of Israel's Progressive leaders, led by Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove.
  - **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

Day Eight: Saturday, December 29, 2018

### SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

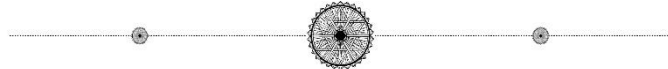
- Enjoy breakfast at your leisure at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning Services at local Jerusalem synagogues.



## PAS EVENT

### PAS COMMUNITY KIDDUSH LUNCHEON

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



**Teens only (no parents allowed!):**

- Walk to the **Old City**.
- 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.



## 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

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Enter the **Old City**; stop at **Ezrat Yisrael**, the pluralistic and egalitarian section of the Western Wall, for a dialogue on challenges and triumphs of religious pluralism in Israel.

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

- Explore the new excavations and findings at the **City of David**, the heart of ancient Jerusalem, the city of kings and prophets, where the books of the Bible were written.

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

- 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.

#### **All:**

- **Free time** to shop and for lunch on your own in the Jewish Quarter.
- Return to the hotel.
- Late check out.
- Visit **Ammunition Hill**, site of a Jordanian Police Academy until 1967 and one of the most crucial battle sites for the unification of Jerusalem during the Six-Day War. Tour the newly opened and moving museum, led by **Alon Wald**, son of Rami Wald, an IDF captain and a war hero who fell on the first day of fighting. At the outbreak of the war, Alon was only 10-months-old and since then he has spent much of his adult life trying to piece together the story of his father's bravery. The journey is what led him to give a voice to those who fell in the battle for Jerusalem and share their untold stories with visitors.
- **Farewell dinner** at **Ammunition Hill**.
- 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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