

PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

2018 CONGREGATIONAL TRIP TO ISRAEL

TRACK III TEEN FAMILY TRACK

DECEMBER 22-31, 2018



Park Avenue
Synagogue

**ISRAEL AT 70
& PAS AT 136**

ITINERARY

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.
- 8:00 p.m. Meet next to the da’at hospitality desk at the hotel.
- 8:15 p.m. Depart 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

Day Three: Monday, December 24, 2018

FOUNDATIONS OF A CITY AND A STATE

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Check out of the hotel.
- *Bring down your luggage to the grand ballroom of the hotel starting 6:30am and until 8:15am; breakfast will be served starting 7:00am.*



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**.



- 9:20 a.m. Depart 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.
- 10:00 & 11:00 a.m. **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 own en route.

Day Three: Monday, December 24, 2018

FOUNDATIONS OF A CITY AND A STATE

- Arrive to **Haifa**; 3:00 p.m. 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.
- 5:00 p.m. ***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**, concluding with **dinner**.
- Drive to the Upper Galilee and check into your hotel.
- **After program teen hangout** with PAS staff, in the lobby.

Overnight: Hagoshrim Hotel, Kibbutz Hagoshrim, Upper Galilee

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 own in the Upper Galilee.
- 1:00 p.m. 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.
- 5:00 p.m. Enjoy **Buza ice cream**. 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 Sasa.

Day Four: Tuesday, December 25, 2018

NATURE AND SECURITY IN THE NORTH

- Dinner at the hotel.

8:30 p.m. **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 **Lt. Col (Res.) Sarit Zehavi** who served for 15 years in the Israeli Defense Forces, specializing in Military Intelligence with the IDF Research & Analysis section and within the IDF Northern Command.

8:30 p.m. **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

Day Five: Wednesday, December 26, 2018

A MOSAIC OF ISRAELI SOCIETY

- *Optional Minyan.*
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:30 a.m. Check out and drive to Kibbutz Hanaton; en route discuss the ever-changing nature of kibbutz life today.

Teens:

- 10:00 a.m. **Meitav Hanoar – The Best of Our Youth:** Dialogue with members of the pre-Army academy (*mechina*) in **Hannaton**.

Adults:

- 10:00 a.m. 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:

- 12:00 p.m. **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 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.

Day Five: Wednesday, December 26, 2018

A MOSAIC OF ISRAELI SOCIETY



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,
Enjoy the best of Israeli music and cuisine!



- **After program teen hangout** with PAS staff, in the lobby.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem

Day Six: Thursday, December 27, 2018

CREATING MEMORIES

Option #1:

- Early breakfast at the hotel.
- 7:00 a.m. Descend to the **Dead Sea basin**.
- **Ascend by cable car to Masada**.
- 9:00 a.m. **Bnei Mitzvah Ceremony** atop Masada.
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Walk 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 shops.
- Lunch on own.

Option # 2:

- *Optional Minyan*.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 9:00 a.m. **PAS DOES TIKKUN OLAM** Interactive visit to **Yad LaKashish**, a multifaceted sheltered workshop for senior citizens and people with disabilities. Meet the employees in their workshops and take the opportunity to visit the shop that proudly presents their beautiful wares.
- 11:00 a.m. 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**.

Day Six: Thursday, December 27, 2018

CREATING MEMORIES

All:

- 3:00 p.m. 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:

- 7:30 p.m. **Parents' Night Out!** Enjoy a delicious **private dinner** at **Medita**, a perfect combination of a modern bistro restaurant and a classic Mediterranean cuisine.

Teens:

- **Dinner** and free time on **Ben-Yehuda Street**, joining the many Israelis out on the town.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem

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:***
 - 10:00 a.m. ***A Taste of the IDF:*** Special **boot camp training** at **Caliber 3**, a leading counter terror & security training academy in Israel.
 - ***Option # 2:***
 - 10:30 a.m. Ride the longest **zipline** in Israel at ‘Eretz Ha’ayalim’ (Deer Land).
 - ***All:***
 - **Lunch** en route.
 - ***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.
 - Return to Jerusalem.
 - Return to your hotel; time to relax and prepare for Shabbat.
 - 4:03 p.m. Shabbat candle-lighting at the hotel.
 - 4:30 p.m. Depart the hotel and walk to the YMCA across the street.

Day Seven: Friday, December 28, 2018

THE CHALLENGES OF THE LAND



PAS EVENT

EREV SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

Welcome Shabbat with **Kabbalat Shabbat** services led by PAS clergy 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



- 8:00 p.m. **"Israel Unplugged"** – After a week of touring and a festive Shabbat dinner, we are all invited to sessions where Track Staff Leaders will interview their Israeli friends (thought leaders, artists, activists, visionaries and more) about the hot topics of the day and about what inspires them about this modern-day miracle in the Middle East.

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.
- 11:30 a.m. **Parashat HaShavua** with Rabbi Ethan Witkovsky - Engage in study of the morning's Torah portion, at the hotel.



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.

All:

- 4:45 p.m. Depart the hotel and walk to the YMCA across the street.

Day Eight: Saturday, December 29, 2018

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM



COMMUNAL MOMENT

CONCERT: HAVDALLAH ACROSS THE WORLD

at the **Jerusalem International YMCA Auditorium**

Our Shabbat in Jerusalem will be concluded by an uplifting Havdallah experience, featuring music from diverse Jewish traditions. Cantors Azi Schwartz and Rachel Brook, with Music Director Colin Fowler, will host an all-star lineup of soloists. We will share in the sanctity of Shabbat with legendary singer, Shuli Nathan, esteemed oud player Elias Haddoub, and prominent actress Galit Giat, who is currently starring at Habima National theatre. We are honored to be joined by these artists, who represent the Jewish diaspora and best in Israeli culture. An outstanding instrumental ensemble and some unforgettable surprises await as the music moves you and your spirit rises. The event will take place in the breathtaking concert hall of the Jerusalem YMCA, located in the heart of the new city, built in 1934 to promote peace and tolerance.

Much like the Havdalah service itself, which leaves the lasting taste, scent, and sound of Shabbat as we depart from holiness to profane, this Havdalah event will do the same as we conclude our visit to Israel. Rabbi Cosgrove's remarks, the ceremony and the concert will leave a lasting and profound memory of the evening, encapsulating the entire trip.



- Dinner on own.
- **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.
- **After program teen hangout** with PAS staff, in the lobby.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem

Day Nine: Sunday, December 30, 2018

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- *Bring down your luggage to the hotel lobby starting 6:30am and until 8am; breakfast will be served starting 7:00am.*
- 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:

- 10:00 a.m. 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 6th 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 own in the Jewish Quarter.
- Return to the hotel.
- Late check out.
- 4:30 p.m. 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, including a dialogue with 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.
- 6:00 p.m. **Farewell dinner at Ammunition Hill.**

Day Nine: Sunday, December 30, 2018

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- 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.

PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE STAFF

Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove

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Willow Becker

Hayden Becker

Susan Cantor

Halle Chasen

Carly Chasen

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Brian Schreiber	Danielle Zuckerman
Lori Schreiber	Jacob Zuckerman
Sam Schreiber	Lily Zuckerman
Zach Schreiber	

HOTELS

HILTON

Independence Park

Tel Aviv

Tel: 972 3 520 2222

KIBBUTZ HAGOSHRIM

Upper Galilee

Tel: 972 4 681 6000

DAVID CITADEL

7 King David Street

Jerusalem

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NOTES

Da'at has joined hands with **Soapbox**, an organization that redistributes unused hotel toiletries to individuals and families in need. Throughout your hotel stays in Israel, collect any unused, unopened toiletries in the canvas bag you'll receive from your tour educator. At your last check-out, hand the bag to your tour educator and we'll take care of the rest – it's that easy.

M i t z v a h a c c o m p l i s h e d !





TRAVEL AT PAS



telling the story
of Israel and the
Jewish World.