



CONGREGATION BETH YESHURUN SOLIDARITY MISSION TO ISRAEL

LED BY RABBI BRIAN STRAUSS & LISA STRAUSS

Jun 17, 2024 - Jun 28, 2024



DESTINATION
ISRAEL



WHO'S GOING
OUR COMMUNITY



TRIP TYPE
CONGREGATIONAL



DURATION
12 DAYS



GROUP SIZE
40+




PRICE
FROM \$5,990



REGISTRATION DATES













JAN 16, 2024 - MAY 6, 2024

 Program is tentative and subject to change. Connect with our Customer Care Team by calling: (888) 230-6008 Mon.-Thur. from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

YOUR JOURNEY

J2 crafts journeys of inspiration, education, and Jewish connections to Israel and worldwide. We are guided by a simple but powerful concept: No two trips are the same; each experience should be personal, meaningful, and backed by superb service. Travel is not just about the places you visit, but the connections you make along the way.

Coming to Israel today is a special act of solidarity and of Jewish peoplehood. Israel has never faced more challenging times. We hope that your solidarity mission is about encountering and understanding where the people of Israel stand – in our hurt, in our healing, and in our hope. The mission is about bringing comfort and being comforted. It is an act of empathy and a confirmation of shared memory and destiny. Above all, the solidarity mission is about what each one of us chooses to do to make a difference on the day that we return to our communities from Israel.

-  Archaeology
-  Current Affairs
-  Local Specialists
-  Social Justice
-  Active
-  Art & Culture
-  Food & Wine
-  Food Tasting Tour
-  Heritage
-  Home Hospitality
-  Jeep Tour
-  Nature Walks

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PROGRAM ITINERARY

DAY 1

ON OUR WAY

Mon. Jun 17, 2024

- Depart the US.

 Overnight: Flight

DAY 2

WELCOME TO ISRAEL

Tue. Jun 18, 2024

- Arrive at Ben-Gurion International Airport.
- Check into the hotel.
- Meet your J² Expert Educator who will accompany you on this journey of education and inspiration.
- Opening dinner at a local restaurant with guest Israeli journalist Haviv Rettig Gur, correspondent, and senior analyst for the Times of Israel.

 Overnight: Jerusalem  Meals: Dinner

DAY 3

LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

Wed. Jun 19, 2024

- Join Professor Reuven Hazan of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University for an introduction into Israel's turbulent political scene.
- Explore the City of David, the core of ancient Jerusalem. Following by:
 - A visit to the Kotel (Western Wall), widely considered Judaism's holiest site. We'll discuss the wall's historical and contemporary importance and experience its unique atmosphere.
 - Continue to Azarot Israel, the pluralistic section of the Kotel (Western Wall).
 - Visit the Jerusalem Archaeological Park, including the Davidson Center and Robinson's Arch.
 - The Hurva Square at the Jewish Quarter, the center of modern-day life in the Jewish part of the Old City.
 - The Cardo, the main street of Roman-controlled Jerusalem and its Byzantine-era columns.
 - Explore the Western Wall Tunnel, the underground continuation of the Kotel, and examine important archaeological discoveries that are revising our understanding of daily life in ancient Jerusalem.
- Return to the hotel to rest and freshen up.
- Eat dinner and learn about the Food Rescuers, who works to rescue and reuse food that is not being sold in the market. Meet their activists, and understand how food justice can work in the Israeli setting.
- Optional: Night visit to the Mahane Yehuda Shuk (open air market) at night with its bars and cafes, see the portraits of local personalities that have been painted on store shutters, and sample popular cocktails.

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🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4

OCTOBER 7

Thu. Jun 20, 2024

- Drive South.
- Walk through Kfar Aza with resident Chen Kotler, who has been sharing her personal story of life here long before October 7.
- Visit the Nova Festival site at Reim.
- In Sderot, meet the survivors of October 7th. While there, you will spend time at their new resilience center.
- Meet with K'her Albaz to discuss the unique place of Israeli Bedouins in the Israel-Hamas war and the pioneering social and educational efforts that are being made for the community.
- Return to the hotel.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5

MEMORY NEAR & FAR

Fri. Jun 21, 2024

- Visit Yad Vashem, the national memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, an essential emotional and educational experience. Your guided tour will include:
 - The Avenue of the Righteous, where trees symbolic of the renewal of life have been planted along with plaques honoring brave non-Jews who saved Jews during the Shoah.
 - The Historical Museum, a state-of-the-art interactive display reflecting decades of research and educational expertise. The story of the Holocaust, with an emphasis on individual victims, is told through survivor testimonies, original artifacts, and personal possessions saved from the ghettos and camps.
- Mount Herzl is Israel's central military cemetery and hosts the graves of the leaders of the nation. Over the last several months, the recently fallen have joined this sacred place. Visit Mount Herzl and contend with the human price paid by Israeli families and the country in the Israel-Hamas War.
- Return to the hotel to rest and prepare for Shabbat.
- Go to the Western Wall and join Jerusalem in welcoming the Sabbath with Kabbalat Shabbat services.
- Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

Sat. Jun 22, 2024

- Optional synagogue crawl led by Rabbi Strauss.
- Enjoy free time in Jerusalem.

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- Take an afternoon stroll along the ramparts of Jerusalem's Old City.
- Tour the Tower of David Museum and explore the city's history – from the time of Abraham to the end of the British Mandate over Palestine.
- Mark the end of Shabbat with a friends' circle Havdalah ceremony overlooking the Old City.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7

SPIRITUALITY AND PIONEERING

Sun. Jun 23, 2024

- Check out of the hotel.
- Meet Rinat Zfania at Shoham, for a meeting on rabbinical leadership in the course of October 7th.
- Drive to Haifa, Israel's largest port, which is also the city where the country's Jewish and Arab populations live most closely together. We'll explore multicultural, multi-faith Haifa including:
 - A Garden of Glory: Overlook from the top of Haifa at the top of the majestic Baha'i Gardens, one of the holiest sites of the Baha'i faith.
 - Does coexistence in Haifa still exist? Did the spring 2021 riots shatter dreams of different communities living harmoniously together? Tour with students from Leo Baeck School and talk about contemporary societal challenges and complexities, including a visit to Wadi Nisnas, a small Arab neighborhood in downtown Haifa populated by both Christians and Muslims.
- Check into the hotel, rest, and freshen up.
- The Druze of Israel: Visit a village on Mount Carmel for a glimpse into the lives of Israel's Druze community. We'll talk with a member of this minority group which, despite being famed for its contribution to the Israeli Defense Forces, remains largely unknown to many Israelis. We'll explore their background and beliefs, as we look at their complex but close relationship with the State of Israel. Then we'll enjoy the tastes of the Druze kitchen with a home hospitality dinner.

🌙 Overnight: Haifa 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8

THE WONDERS OF THE NORTH

Mon. Jun 24, 2024

- Explore Caesarea, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities during the Roman Period. Our visit will include:
 - Guided visit to the ancient city of Caesarea.
 - Explore its ancient theater, palace, and bathhouse.
 - Stop at the Ancient Roman Aqueduct, located on the pristine beaches of Caesarea.
- Visit Zichron Ya'acov, one of the first settlements created by the modern Zionist movement. Here, we'll:
 - Explore the lives of early Zionist settlers at the First Aliyah Museum.
 - Wander through Ramat HaNadiv (Heights of the Benefactor), a 3-mile nature park and garden. Hike through a section of Shvil Yisrael (the Israel Trail). (time permitting)

- Drive to Kfar Tikvah (Village of Hope) for wine tasting at the Tulip Winery, which employs people with special needs.
- Return to Haifa for an evening at leisure.

🌀 Overnight: Haifa 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

DAY 9

COMMUNITIES OF THE GALILLEE

Tue. Jun 25, 2024

- Check out of the hotel.
- Meet with Israelis who have been displaced from their homes in the Gaza Envelope/ northern border who are currently living in the hotel. Get a sense of their struggle and their hopes to return home.
- Join the volunteer organization Leket Israel to sort and pack rescued produce for distribution to those affected by the current situation.
- Drive to the Tel Aviv Art Museum and engage with activists and families advocating for the return of hostages.
- Connect with the families of those who were taken hostage, listening to their stories, and understanding the daily efforts they are undertaking to secure the safe return of their loved ones. Participate in the daily prayer with the conservative movement.
- Check into the hotel.

🌀 Overnight: Tel Aviv 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

DAY 10

ALTNEULAND: DREAMS & REALITIES IN TEL AVIV

Wed. Jun 26, 2024

- Stop at the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv and the continuing of our journey in Israel.
- Explore the Old City of Jaffa, including the flea market – Shuk Hapishpishim.
- Take a tasting tour through Shuk Hapishpishim – the Jaffa Flea Market.
- Walk through the Florentine neighborhood of Tel Aviv, known for its street art, to explore the installation "Wall of Hope" created in response to October 7.
- J² Salon Talk: The "Z" Word - The Many Faces of Zionism. Zionism aspired to be the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, and in the 20th century achieved and even surpassed many of its initial goals. But given Israel's current challenges and realities, how relevant is Zionism today?
- Tour the Milk & Honey Whisky Distillery, Israel's only whisky distillery.
- Experience the dynamism of Jewish life at the newly-opened ANU Museum of the Jewish People, dedicated to telling their story and representing their diversity, highlighting the creative works and cultural riches of a variety of communities in different periods of history until the present day.

🌀 Overnight: Tel Aviv 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 11

P FOR PEOPLEHOOD

Thu. Jun 27, 2024

- Visit the Magen David Adom HQ in Ramle with the opportunity to participate in a blood drive.
- Meet with members of Brothers for Life, a non-profit organization, created and run by injured Israeli veterans, which gives critical and immediate help to other injured Israeli combat veterans who sacrificed their lives for the safety of the Jewish people.
- Meet with Yehuda Lopian, who was born in New York and raised in Jerusalem by Dati Leumi parents who valued open-minded inquiry. His love for Israel and the US Jewish community ultimately brought him into politics where he managed four political campaigns before serving as political advisor for MK Yoaz Handel. For the past year, Yehuda has been the community manager at the Peace of Mind program, which supports post-traumatic troops units taking them to a week of fun and therapy in Jewish communities in the US. Yehuda served in the IDF in the tank corps and as a commander for shoulders with criminal records and recently completed 120 days of service in Gaza and plans to return shortly.
- Late checkout of the hotel and farewell dinner at a local restaurant.
- Group transfer to Ben-Gurion International Airport.

🌙 Overnight: Flight 🍽️ Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 12

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Fri. Jun 28, 2024

- Arrive in the US.

THE EXPERT



YISHAY SHAVIT

Yishay was born on a kibbutz in Northern Israel. In 2000, he moved to Jerusalem, fell in love with the city, and hasn't looked back. Yishay, a history and hiking lover, was first introduced to the world of guiding at the age of 15, in his youth movement. After serving in the IDF, he started guiding in various museums, the Knesset (Israel's parliament), and the Supreme Court. In 2007 he received a formal guiding education. The areas of his expertise are history, politics, and theology connected to Jerusalem. Yishay holds a bachelor's degree in History and a master's degree in Jewish History from Hebrew University, focusing on Indian Jewry and contemporary Jewry. Yishay speaks fluent Hebrew and English and a little bit of Hindi. When not guiding, he enjoys spending time with his wife Noa and their two sons – Yotam and Assaf.



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RATES & LODGING

PARTICIPANTS	COST P/P IN DOUBLE ROOM	COST P/P IN SINGLE ROOM
40+	\$5,990	\$8,410

REGISTRATION CLOSED

If the program is cancelled by J², either due to lack of participants or due to the security situation in Israel, the deposit is refundable.

JERUSALEM: THE INBAL

🕒 Nights: 5

🏠 Room Category: Deluxe New City View

HAIFA: DAN CARMEL

🕒 Nights: 2

🏠 Room Category: Deluxe Bay View

TEL AVIV: DAN TEL AVIV HOTEL

🕒 Nights: 2 +LCO

🏠 Room Category: Executive



WHAT TO EXPECT

🌟 Included

- 9 nights' accommodations. Late check out on the day of departure is included.
- 10 days of touring with a tour educator (guide), 9 days of touring in a luxury, air-conditioned bus.
- Daily breakfast, 1 lunch & 5 dinners.
- The J² adventures App available on the App Store & on Google Play (active 7 days before your departure and throughout your trip).
- Water on the bus.
- Porterage at the hotels.
- All site entrance fees & program fees as per your final program.

⚙️ Excluded

- Credit card fees.
- Flights to & from Israel.
- COVID related expenses, including tests.
- Evening transportation when dinner is not included.
- Amendments to the program: In the event that any sites, programs or meals etc. are added to the program, an additional fee may be required.
- Personal extras: Items of personal nature such as laundry, wines, mineral water, beverages, coffee, tea, food other than the table d'hotel menu, passport and visa fees, insurance, and foreign port taxes, unless otherwise specified.
- Gratuities: Recommend guidelines for tipping are provided in the terms section.
- US and foreign airport taxes, Q fuel surcharge and border taxes when applicable.
- Value Added Tax is currently not applicable to tourists visiting Israel. Should the law change, you will be notified accordingly, and VAT will be added to your final invoice.
- Peace of Mind Travel Protection Program (POM).

✍️ The small print

- Please review our terms & conditions (T&C's) or request that we send you our full T&C's. Until you do that, here is the small print, and other stuff you may want to know:
- Validity | All prices quoted are based on exchange rates as of the proposal date and are subject to change without notice. Rates are per person and are based on shared twin room occupancy.
- How to Make a Reservation | The quickest way to make a reservation is to register online or contact us by email. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and American Express credit cards. A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required in order to complete the registration process.
- For any assistance with this registration process or other trip-related queries, please email Customer Care: customer-care@j2adventures.com.
- Payments | The balance of your payment is due 90 days before your trip begins, or as specified in your invoice. You will receive an email reminder 2 weeks before this date. Various payment options are available as follows:
- Credit card | We accept Visa, Mastercard and American Express. Please check with your credit card provider regarding international processing fees. We are unable to process payments of over \$1,000 over the phone. Please submit payment online via a credit card or by wiring funds via your bank.
- Domestic bank wire transfer | Payment should be wired in the same currency that is listed on your invoice. Please add the name of your group or invoice number as a reference and forward a copy of the transfer receipt by email. The bank transfer should clearly state the beneficiary's name on the wire transfer.



- Please use the following information: Citizens Bank: 1 Citizens Drive, Riverside, RI 02915 Routing number: 021313103 (Domestic only) ACH: 036076150 SWIFT Code: CTZIUS33 (International only)
- Beneficiary Instructions: For the benefit of J² Adventures. Account number: 1001858331
- J² Adventures reserves the right to automatically cancel your reservation on that date and it may be subject to reconfirmation should the final payment not be received.
- Cancellation Policy | All cancellations need to be made in writing. The cancellation fee depends on the date when we receive written notification of your request to cancel your booking. Please note that the deposit is non-refundable.
- Cancellation fees | Cancellations made 90 or more days prior to departure incur the loss of the deposit. Cancellations made 89 to 46 days prior to departure incur the loss of 50% of the full trip cost. Cancellations made 45 days or less prior to the departure incur the loss of 100% of the full trip cost.
- Cancellation fees may also include: Hotel or supplier cancellation fees. J² Adventures reserves the right to adjust its terms of payment, including cancellation policies and initial deposits.

Terms

- Mobility: Solidarity missions are specifically strenuous, and our visits include places that are inaccessible to people who may have mobility challenges. You should be in good health and able to walk reasonable distances, often over unpaved and uneven surfaces. PLEASE NOTE: In some cases you may need to run to a shelter, if you have questions regarding this matter please speak to a J² representative.
- Protect your investment for \$495 p/p: Should you cancel your trip up to 5 days before your departure for any reason, our POM program offers you a trip refund. Call 888-230-6008 or e-mail: customercare@j2adventures.com.
- Please click [here](#) to view our full terms (T&C's). These T&C's apply to all reservations created within J² Adventures.

DISCOVER NEW WORLDS.

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A family vacation to Israel. An adventure of a lifetime traveling with friends to Morocco. A trip to Poland or Portugal with your community. What do these trips have in common? No matter where you go, you will come back with a fresh perspective and appreciation of the place you visited as well as a heightened awareness of your identity as part of the global Jewish community.



START EXPLORING >

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Just like you we're concerned for the future. And like you,
J² stands for equality, tolerance, pluralism, and true democracy.

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