



# 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 5, 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

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## DAY 2

### WELCOME TO ISRAEL

Tue. Jun 18, 2024

- Arrive at Ben-Gurion International Airport.
- Check into the hotel.
- Meet your J<sup>2</sup> 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

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## DAY 3

### LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

Wed. Jun 19, 2024

- Explore the City of David, the core of ancient Jerusalem.
- Start your visit to the Jewish Quarter at the Hurva Square, the center of modern-day life in the Jewish part of the Old City.
- Stop by the Cardo, the main street of Roman-controlled Jerusalem and its Byzantine-era columns.
- Visit 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 Azarat Israel, the pluralistic section of the Kotel (Western Wall).
- Enjoy a culinary tasting tour in the Old City.
- Dialogue with journalist-scholar and author Yossi Klein Halevi.
- Return to the hotel to rest and freshen up.
- Explore the Western Wall Tunnel in the evening.
- Dinner at a local farm-to-table restaurant.
- 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.

 Overnight: Jerusalem  Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## DAY 4

### OCTOBER 7

Thu. Jun 20, 2024

- Drive South.
- Visit Yad Mordechai to meet with community members to better understand what it means to live in the Gaza Envelope historically and today.
- Walk through Kfar Aza with resident Chen Kotler, who has been sharing her personal story of life here long before October 7.
- Drive to Ofakim and meet the survivors of October 7. While there, you will spend time at their new resilience center.
- Return to the hotel.

Overnight: Jerusalem Meals: Breakfast

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## 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.
- Volunteer at Food Rescuers. Help to prep food that is distributed to Israel's neediest communities in Jerusalem.
- 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

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## DAY 6

### SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

Sat. Jun 22, 2024

- Optional synagogue crawl led by Rabbi Strauss.
- Enjoy free time in Jerusalem.
- Take an afternoon stroll along the ramparts of Jerusalem's Old City.

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- 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

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## DAY 7

### SPIRITUALITY AND PIONEERING

Sun. Jun 23, 2024

- Check out of the hotel.
- 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: Take a guided tour 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

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## DAY 8

### THE WONDERS OF THE NORTH

Mon. Jun 24, 2024

- Meet with a research expert from the Alma Research and Education Center at an overlook of the border.
- Go for a jeep tour of the Lebanon border. (pending security situation)
- Mavrhatay – Ethiopian Experience is owned and operated by Yonie Skiba, who moved to Israel from Ethiopia when she was eight. She now lives in Kibbutz Evron in the Western Galilee. Outside of her house on the Kibbutz, she built an Ethiopian hut where she will meet with you and tell you the story of Ethiopian Jews.
- Raise your Glass to Inclusion: Kishor Winery is one of the Upper Galilee's blossoming new wineries and also an example of inclusion in action. It's located in a village for people with special needs and local residents with special needs play a full part in the winery. We'll learn more on a tasting tour.
- Return to Haifa for an evening at leisure.

🌙 Overnight: Haifa 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

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## 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 who are currently living in the North. Get a sense of their struggle and their hopes to return home.
- Volunteer with the local community as they rebuild after the events of October 7.
- Enter Tel Aviv and check into the hotel.
- Visit Hostages Square and express your solidarity with all of Israel and ask what I can do to help. (confirmation pending)

 Overnight: Tel Aviv    Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 10

### ALTNEULAND: DREAMS & REALITIES IN TEL AVIV

Wed. Jun 26, 2024

- Stop at the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv and to our journey in Israel.
- 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.
- Visit the Peres Peace Center, created by the late Shimon Peres, former Prime Minister and President of Israel.
- 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?

 Overnight: Tel Aviv    Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 11

### P FOR PEOPLEHOOD

Thu. Jun 27, 2024

- Join Professor Reuven Hazan of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University for an introduction into Israel's turbulent political scene.
- Due to a lack of workers, Israelis now volunteer to work in agriculture. Harvest fields in order to provide fresh produce for the country.
- Late checkout of the hotel and farewell dinner at a local restaurant.
- Group transfer to Ben-Gurion International Airport.

 Overnight: Flight    Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 12

### UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Fri. Jun 28, 2024

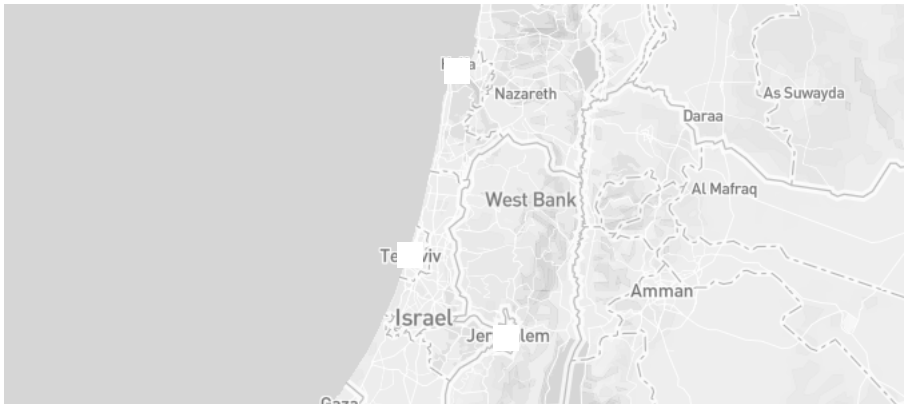
- Arrive in the US.

## 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.





# RATES & LODGING

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

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## REGISTRATION OPEN

If the program is cancelled by J<sup>2</sup>, 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 J<sup>2</sup> 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: [customercare@j2adventures.com](mailto:customercare@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](mailto: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.

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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,  
J<sup>2</sup> stands for equality, tolerance, pluralism, and true democracy.

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