



# CONGREGATION SHMA KOLEINU JOURNEY TO ISRAEL

LED BY RABBI SCOTT HAUSMAN-WEISS

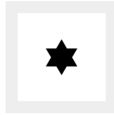
Mar 5, 2026 - Mar 15, 2026



DESTINATION  
**ISRAEL**



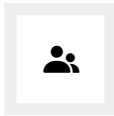
WHO'S GOING  
**OUR  
COMMUNITY**



TRIP TYPE  
**CONGREGATIONAL**



DURATION  
**11 DAYS**



GROUP SIZE  
**20+**



PRICE  
**FROM \$5,550**

PASSIONATE **JEWISH JOURNEYS**

EDUCATIONAL & EXPERIENTIAL JOURNEYS CREATED WITH YOU IN MIND.

NYC | TLV | PRG | JHB | J2ADVENTURES.COM

## REGISTRATION DATES

**JAN 27, 2025 - DEC 7, 2025**



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 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).

# YOUR JOURNEY

J<sup>2</sup> 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.

**Early Bird Discount:** Register & submit your \$500 deposit by Thursday May 1, 2025, and enjoy a \$150 discount!

- ♥ Heritage
- 🎨 Art & Culture
- 👤 Local Specialists
- 🏃 Active
- 🗨 Archaeology
- 🚶 Nature Walks
- 🍷 Food Tasting Tour
- 🗣 Current Affairs

# PROGRAM ITINERARY

## DAY 1

### SETTING OUT FROM HOUSTON

Thu. Mar 5, 2026

- Board your flight and embark on your journey of discovery and connection with the people, history, and culture of Israel!

 Overnight: Flight

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## DAY 2

### FIRST STEPS IN ISRAEL

Fri. Mar 6, 2026

- Arrive at Ben-Gurion International Airport and meet your J<sup>2</sup> Expert Educator, who will guide your family through this exciting journey of discovery, education, and inspiration.
- Drive to Jerusalem and stop at the Haas Promenade for a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem. Take part in a moment of blessing and appreciation - 'Shehecheyanu' blessing to celebrate your arrival to Israel.
- Check into your hotel, and take time to freshen up and prepare for Shabbat in Jerusalem.
- Welcome the Shabbat and celebrate your arrival in Israel with a communal Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a festive Shabbat meal (at the hotel or at a local restaurant).

 Overnight: Jerusalem     Meals: Dinner

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## DAY 3

### SEVENTY FACES OF JERUSALEM

Sat. Mar 7, 2026

- Breakfast at an Israeli hotel is an experience in itself. Start the day with a bounteous buffet.
- Tour through Jerusalem's Old City and Jewish Quarter, where you'll experience the center of Jewish life, history, and holiness.
- Visit Hurva Square, the hub of the modern-day Jewish Quarter, and stop at the sites connected with the centuries-old connection between the Jews and Zion including: the Biblical Broad Wall, the Roman Byzantine Cardo, and the Hurva Synagogue.
- Continue to the Kotel (Western Wall), widely considered Judaism's holiest site and the adjacent Ezrat Yisrael - the pluralistic prayer platform along the southern corner of the Western Wall. We'll discuss the wall's historical and contemporary importance and experience its unique atmosphere.
- Stop for lunch on own at one of the local eateries in the Christian Quarter.
- Discover multiple faiths in the Old City, including the Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher - sites venerated by Christians in connection with their traditions of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.
- Walk through the Old City to the rooftops to take in the view of the Temple Mount, the Mosques and Shrines of the Haram Al-Sharif, and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.
- Visit the newly redesigned Tower of David Museum and explore the city's history – from the time of Abraham to the end of the British

Mandate.

- Come together to celebrate Havdalah with a view of the Old City, as the sun sets and the city's ancient walls come to life with history and tradition.
- Return to your hotel.
- In the evening, immerse yourself in Jerusalem's vibrant nightlife, including shopping at Mamilla Mall or exploring the First Station and Ben Yehuda Pedestrian Mall.

 Overnight: Jerusalem    Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 4

### A DEAD SEA AND A LIVING DESERT

Sun. Mar 8, 2026

- Start the day with a scenic drive down to the Dead Sea Basin.
- Ride the cable car OR hike up the Snake Path to the top of Masada, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Learn about the heroic final stand of the Jewish rebels against the Roman Empire in 74 CE and take in the breathtaking desert views.
- Float effortlessly in the healing, mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea—an unforgettable and rejuvenating experience unlike anywhere else on Earth.
- Hike through Nahal David, part of the lush Ein Gedi Nature Reserve, where you can explore waterfalls, wildlife, and desert landscapes.
- Explore Bedouin culture at 'Genesis Land', as you ride camels into the stunning Judean Wilderness, followed by a traditional "Hafla" dinner and hospitality in a classic Bedouin tent.
- Return to Jerusalem.

🌙 Overnight: Jerusalem 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 5

### LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING AHEAD

Mon. Mar 9, 2026

- Visit Yad Vashem, the national memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, an essential emotional and educational experience. Your 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.
  - The Children's Memorial, commemorating the 1.5 million children lost during the Holocaust.
  - Memorial service where we will pay tribute to those who were lost. It will include the opportunity to talk about family members and loved ones who died during the Shoah.
- Take time to explore Jerusalem's lively Mahane Yehuda Market, where you'll immerse yourself in the vibrant sights, sounds, and scents of this dynamic hub. Wander through the colorful stalls and savor the flavors of the city's diverse and dynamic culinary scene.
- Tour the Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand) school in Jerusalem, part of a network of bilingual, multicultural educational institutions which aim to

show that Jewish and Arab communities can learn and live together.

- Explore the new National Library of Israel, which provides the opportunity to understand centuries of Jewish creativity through one of the world's most impressive collections of Jewish and Israel-related literature. In addition, the library staff is developing a national project dedicated to October 7.
- Drive through the Israeli “Capitol Hill”: along the Knesset – Israel’s Parliament and its famous Menorah, the Supreme Court building, the Prime Minister’s Office, the Israeli National Bank, and the Israel National Library.

 Overnight: Jerusalem    Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 6

### NORTHWARD BOUND

Tue. Mar 10, 2026

- Engage in a thought-provoking conversation with a leader from the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC) to explore the ongoing fight for religious pluralism, civil rights, and democracy in Israel’s complex social and political landscape.
- Following checkout from your Jerusalem hotel, our journey will continue to the north of the Israel.
- Take in the beautiful panoramic vistas of the Sea of Galilee, Golan Heights, and Mount Hermon from the top of Mount Arbel, offering one of the most scenic spots in the region.
- Explore the stunning Hula Valley on a family-friendly golf cart ride or bike along scenic trails. Spot migratory birds, including cranes and pelicans, and enjoy interactive exhibits.

- Journey to the charming town of Rosh Pina, one of the original First Aliyah settlements. Stroll its picturesque pedestrian boulevard and soak in the stories of early Zionist pioneers.
- Check into your Galilee hotel. Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

 Overnight: Upper Galilee     Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 7

### THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

Wed. Mar 11, 2026

- Take a nature hike through the lush trails of Tel Dan Nature Reserve, where crystal-clear streams, ancient ruins, and shaded forest paths come together in one of the Golan Heights' most serene and scenic landscapes.
- Stand at the edge of Israel's northern border with Lebanon for a powerful, firsthand perspective on the ongoing tensions with Hezbollah and the complex dynamics of this volatile region.
- Enjoy a wine tasting experience at Odem Mountain Winery, nestled in the northern Golan Heights. Sample a selection of their finest wines paired with a delicious wine and cheese appetizer.
- Gaze across the Golan and into Syria from the top of Mount Bental and gain powerful insights into Israel's geopolitical and security situation. Meet with a security expert to discuss the current state of affairs along Israel's northern borders with Lebanon and Syria.
- Experience the thrill of a Jeep tour through the Golan Heights, exploring rugged landscapes, ancient ruins, and stunning viewpoints. Take in the region's rich history, strategic significance, and vibrant nature, including lush valleys and volcanic rock formations.



- Return to the hotel and enjoy dinner.

🌙 Overnight: Upper Galilee    🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 8

### ALONG THE COAST

Thu. Mar 12, 2026

- Check out from your hotel and travel towards central Israel.
- Drive along the coast and back in time to Caesarea, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities during the Roman Period. Explore life 2,000 years ago with its ancient amphitheaters, palaces, and bathhouses.
- Meet with members of Brothers for Life, a nonprofit led by injured IDF veterans, and hear powerful firsthand stories about their recovery, resilience, and how they support fellow wounded soldiers through mentorship and community.
- Enjoy lunch on own at the Sarona Market, which was once a colony of Templars, German Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land, and is now a center of Tel Aviv cuisine.
- Stop at the Jaffa lookout for a panoramic introduction to Tel Aviv, followed by a tour of Jaffa's Flea Market - Shuk Hapishpeshim, where the bustling stalls, eclectic treasures, and rich history create a sensory adventure.
- Check into your Tel Aviv hotel.
- Meet with Yishai & Eyal Bresslauer-Koren - friends of the community.
- Relish a free evening to experience Tel Aviv's dynamic nightlife, whether it's relaxing on the serene beachfront, enjoying bustling cafes, or exploring trendy local spots.

 Overnight: Tel Aviv     Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 9

### THE ISRAEL-GAZA BORDER

Fri. Mar 13, 2026

- Travel south to the Gaza Envelope to contend with the events of October 7 and the Israel-Hamas War. Stop at a vantage point with your J<sup>2</sup> Expert Educator to get a sense of the timeline and geography.
- Walk through a kibbutz on Israel's border with the Gaza Strip and meet with a resident to hear firsthand about the October 7th attack, its aftermath, and the community's ongoing efforts to rebuild and recover.
- Continue to Sderot, the most populated town on the Israel-Gaza Border. Take time to have lunch on own and interact with local residents to get a sense of all that the town and its people have endured since October 7th.
- Visit the Nova Festival memorial site near Kibbutz Re'im to honor the lives lost in the October 7 attack. Join in a communal prayer to stand in solidarity with the community and help ensure their voices and legacy live on.
- Return to Tel Aviv and prepare for Shabbat.
- Welcome the Shabbat with Kabbalat Shabbat services at Kehillat Tefilat Ha'Adam - an Israeli Reform community.
- Enjoy a festive communal Shabbat dinner with local congregant , where you'll share a traditional meal and reflect on the memories created over the last week.

 Overnight: Tel Aviv     Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 10

### TEL AVIV - THE WHITE CITY

Sat. Mar 14, 2026

- Experience the dynamism of Jewish life at the 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.
- Walk along the Independence Trail in Tel Aviv and embark on a remarkable journey that begins with the founding of Tel Aviv in 1909 and ends with the establishment of Israel in 1948.
- Explore the streets of Florentine, Tel Aviv, to check out local murals and graffiti that are capturing people's response to recent events. Finish the tour with the new works of local artists entitled "Walls of Hope." Each new mural represents one of the children who was held hostage by the Hamas in Gaza.
- Enjoy free time in Tel Aviv to rest, walk along the beach, and pick up final presents before departure.
- Late checkout from your hotel and preparation for your departure.
- Pause at Hostages Square and reflect on the powerful history of Israel's relentless efforts to bring every hostage home. Discover the emotional stories of resilience and heroism, and gain a deeper understanding of how this site symbolizes the nation's unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of its people.
- Come together as a community to mark the end of Shabbat with a group Havdalah service and take time to reflect on your time in Israel.
- Celebrate the end of your journey in Israel with a festive private farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

- Travel to Ben-Gurion International Airport for your check-in and flight.

🌙 Overnight: Flight    🍽️ Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

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## DAY 11

### FLY SAFELY AND COME BACK SOON

Sun. Mar 15, 2026

- Return home, bringing with you the memories and deep connections made during this memorable experience.





# RATES & LODGING

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PARTICIPANTS	COST P/P IN DOUBLE ROOM	COST P/P IN SINGLE ROOM
<b>20+</b>	<b>\$5,550</b>	<b>\$7,215</b>

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## REGISTRATION OPEN

**Early Bird Discount:** Register & submit your \$500 deposit by Thursday May 1, 2025, and enjoy a \$150 discount!

### JERUSALEM: DAN PANORAMA

🌙 Nights: 4

🛏 Room Category: Deluxe

### UPPER GALILEE: PASTORAL KFAR BLUM HOTEL

🌙 Nights: 2

🛏 Room Category: Classic

### TEL AVIV: DAN PANORAMA

🌙 Nights: 2 +LCO

🛏 Room Category: Executive

# WHAT TO EXPECT

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## ◆ Included

- 8 nights' accommodations. Late check out on the day of departure is included.
  - 9 days of touring with a J<sup>2</sup> Expert Educator (guide), in a luxury, air-conditioned bus.
  - Daily breakfast and 6 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.
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## ⚙ 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).

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## 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.
- J<sup>2</sup> 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. J<sup>2</sup> Adventures reserves the right to adjust its terms of payment, including cancellation policies and initial deposits.

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## Terms

- Protect yourself from fraud by being cautious and vigilant when it comes to online theft. It is crucial to note that J<sup>2</sup> adventures will never send an email requesting you to transfer funds to a new account or to redirect a payment. We will never alter our account number or issue additional payment requests without first personally speaking to you and properly identifying ourselves. If you feel uncertain about any communication (scammers often impersonate legitimate companies via e-mail or by calling), halt and contact us directly through our toll-free number listed on our website to discuss any necessary payments. Refrain from responding to suspicious emails or clicking on links or attachments unless you are completely certain of their legitimacy. By following these guidelines and staying vigilant, you can significantly reduce your risk of becoming a victim of fraud.
- 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 J<sup>2</sup> Adventures.