Israel Summer 2016

PROGRAM ITINERARY
subject to change

JCC Maccabi Israel

Teen Trip to Israel

June 30th – July 29th, 2016
JCC Maccabi Israel
June 30th – July 29th, 2016

Staff:
Tal Tzafrir – Israeli Tour Educator
Saul Moss – Israeli General Counselor
TBD – American Staff
TBD – American Staff
TBD – American Staff
TBD – Armed medic and security guard

Thursday, June 30: Departure
- Meet at Newark airport at 9:00am (LY Check in) and board to flight LY028 departing at 1:30pm to Tel Aviv

Friday, July 1: Arrival and Orientation
- Land in Tel Aviv at 7:00am and meet the Israeli JCC Maccabi Israel staff.
- Meet money changer (prepare envelopes in advance of $100 to be collected by staff).
- Head to Jerusalem; Shecheyanu ceremony from Haas Promenade
- Pizur lunch at Machne Yehuda Market
- Check in to hotel, relax and prepare for Shabbat
- Head to Kotel for Kabbalat Shabbat
- Walk back to hotel through Jerusalem’s beautiful and quiet streets.
- Shabbat dinner and song session
Overnight: Jerusalem Gate Hotel, Jerusalem

Shabbat, July 2: L'dor V' Dor – Shabbat in Jerusalem
- Breakfast at hotel
- Staff led program: Group orientation, ice-breakers and introduction to the program
- Lunch at hotel
- Free time at the pool
- Dinner at hotel
- Havdallah
- Guest speaker: Neil Lazarus – welcome to the Middle East, political update on where you just landed.
- Free evening on Ben Yehuda Street | Friends and family can come meet us
Overnight: Jerusalem Gate Hotel, Jerusalem
Sunday, July 3: **Continue exploring history**
- Breakfast at hotel and check out
- City of David. Tour where Jerusalem began 3,000 years ago. Water hike through Hezekiah’s tunnel, built 2,700 years ago to bring water from the Gihon Spring to the city during the Assyrian siege. Continue to the Davidson Center and southern excavations.
- Falafel Lunch
- Walking tour of the old city, explore the Jewish and Christian Quarters to get a glimpse of the complexity of Jerusalem through history.
- Head south, check in and dinner at hotel
- Evening program (and prepare overnight bag for tomorrow)

Overnight: **Sde Boker**

Monday, July 4: **Connecting to the Desert**
- Breakfast and check out
- Morning hike in Ein Ovdat
- Visit Paula and David Ben Gurion's grave, and discuss his vision and his special relationship with the Negev.
- Continue south
- Stop at the famous Kasui Sand Dunes for a great photo-op while rolling down the dunes.
- Check in and dinner at hotel
- Evening out in Eilat

Overnight: **Adi Hotel, Eilat**

Tuesday, July 5: **Eilat's southern borders and its strategic importance**
- Breakfast at hotel and check out
- Morning hike in Mt. Tzefachot, learn about the importance of the city of Eilat as the southernmost point in Israel, bordering with Jordan and Egypt.
- Snorkeling in the Red Sea at Coral beach
- Lunch at the beach
- Begin the drive to Kfar HaNokdim
- Ecology seminar, time to ride the camels
- Bedouin "Hafla" dinner – the Bedouins are famous for their hospitality and great food! Explore their very unique culture and food, learning how they adapt to Israeli society.
- Camp-style bonfire under the stars
- Evening program: Prepare for Masada

Overnight: **Kfar HaNokdim**
**Wednesday, July 6: L’Dor v’ Dor: Masada, a story of Jewish heroism, dilemmas and leadership**

- Early wake up (tea/coffee and snack).
- Masada – climb up via the Roman ramp, look over the Jordanian mountains and tour the sites that are a symbol of our people’s history.
- Descend via the snake path
- Breakfast at the Masada Youth Hostel
- Nachal David (Ein Gedi) – walk through the largest oasis in the Judean Desert, joining the ibex and the mountain goats as they search for water.
- Continue to the Dead Sea to float in its healing waters
- Check in and rest at guest house
- Free time at the pool
- Dinner
- Evening program

**Overnight: Masada guest house**

**Thursday, July 7: JMI Day - mifgashim**

- Breakfast and check out
- Head North
- Meet up with JCC Maccabi Israel groups – morning of activities on the shores of the Kinneret
- BBQ Lunch
- Afternoon volunteering project with JCC Maccabi Israel
- Continue to hotel, check in and dinner

**Overnight: Kibbutz Hukuk**

**Friday, July 8: Understanding the North**

- Kinneret Cemetery, learn about the pioneers who created this region
- Hike in the North – overlook of the beautiful North
- Continue to the Northern border with Lebanon
- Camp style Kabbalat Shabbat
- Shabbat Dinner
- Oneg Shabbat and song session

**Overnight: Kibbutz Hukuk**
Shabbat, July 9: **Shabbat on the shores of the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee)**
- Late wakeup and optional breakfast
- Shabbat activities: Israel Update
- Lunch at hotel
- Seudah Shlishit – staff led Shabbat Programs
- Sikkum HaShavua: summary of the week's events
- Dinner at hotel
- Havdallah
- Evening out in Tiberias

**Overnight: Kibbutz Hukuk**

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**Sunday, July 10: The Golan Heights: beauty and strategy**
- Breakfast at hotel (prepare laundry for pick-up)
- Head to the Golan Heights – get to see an overlook on Syria from Mt. Bental and learn about the strategic importance of this region. Hear about the dramatic story of the 1973 Yom Kippur war, as well as the current situation in war-torn Syria.
- Kayaks on the Jordan River – relax on the cool water
- Lunch in Kfar Blum and Ropes activity
- Afternoon hike
- Dinner at hotel
- Meet Ayelet Kaufman, a local film director who teaches about Israeli society through cinema

**Overnight: Kibbutz Hukuk**

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**Monday, July 11: Valley of Springs**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Drive to the region of Valley of Springs (Emek HaMa'ayanot) and Beit Shean
- Tour the area
- Water hike in Nachal Hakibbutzim
- Pizur lunch
- Visit Kibbutz Dgania Beit, learn about Kibbutz life and have fun in a chocolate making factory
- Head back to hotel
- Dinner at hotel
- Evening program (prepare overnight bag for tomorrow)

**Overnight: Kibbutz Hukuk**
Tuesday July 12: Tikkun Olam: service learning
- Breakfast and check out of hotel
- Volunteer with Pitchon Lev in Karmiel
- Continue to Tzfat for service learning seminar with Livnot u lehikanot
- Lunch at seminar
- Visit the mystical city of Tzfat, see the different synagogues and get a chance to wander the artist market
- Meet Avraham Lowental and learn about Kabbalah and the connection between Judaism and art
- Head to the Nachal Amud campsite, cook your own dinner
- Evening program under the stars
Overnight: Under the stars – Nachal Amud campsite

Wednesday, July 13: The Beautiful north
- Breakfast on campsite
- Morning hike in Nachal Amud and Rappeling outdoor experience
- Continue to Rosh HaNikra, see the gorgeous caves
- Lunch
- Free time on the beach
- Continue to Akko, tour the beautiful old city port
- Check in and dinner at hotel
- Evening program at guest house
Overnight: Shlomi Guest House

Thursday, July 14: Gvanim: diversity and complexity of the region
- Breakfast at guest house
- Co-existence seminar with Circus Galilee, learn about how the diverse population of the galilee come together in this initiative
- Continue to the Druze village of Osaphia to meet local residents and learn about their culture, including a traditional Druze meal.
- Head to Haifa to see an amazing city that is a symbol of cross cultures: the Bahai Gardens, Stella Maris Carmelite Monastery and the Ahmadiyya Mosque.
- Dinner at guest house
- Evening program
Overnight: Shlomi Guest House

Friday, July 15: Mifgashim (connections with Israeli teens)
- Breakfast and check out of hotel
- Head south to Caesarea
- Continue to Netanya
- Lunch on route
- Ice breakers with Israeli teens at local community center
- Meet host families
- Dinner with host families
Overnight: Home hospitality
Shabbat, July 16: **Shabbat with host families**
- Shabbat activities in host communities

**Overnight: Home hospitality**

Sunday, July 17: **Stories**
- Breakfast and say goodbye to host families
- Visit Tel Azeka and crawl in the Midras caves: the valley of the bible
- Continue to Neot Kdumim for a workshop on Judaism and leadership; sheep herding and cook your own biblical lunch
- Head to hotel, check in and dinner at hotel

**Overnight: Rabin hostel, Jerusalem**

Monday, July 18: **"a Jewish and Democratic state"**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Visit the Knesset – the Israeli Parliament and learn about the Jewish-Democratic definition of Israel and its challenges.
- Continue to the Supreme court and see the balance that this institution gives to the Parliament
- Lunch
- The Israel Museum – the largest cultural institutions in the State of Israel which is also ranked among the leading art and archaeology museums in the world. You will see the well-known Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest known biblical manuscripts in the world.
- Visit Beit HaLochem and volunteer with soldiers who were injured in the army
- Pizur dinner and free evening on Ben Yehuda | Friends and family can visit (pre-arranged)

**Overnight: Rabin hostel, Jerusalem**

Tuesday, July 19: **L'dor V’ Dor: Yad VaShem – understanding our past in order to create a future**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Prepare for Yad VaShem
- Visit Yad Vashem, the Central Holocaust Museum in Israel. Hear a story from a survivor and get a strong understanding of the importance of the State of Israel.
- Lunch
- Volunteer activity with Pantry Packers in Jerusalem; celebrate the ability to give back to the world.
- Hike and relax in the beautiful Jerusalem hills at the Sataf – process Yad VaShem
- Head to Natanya – reunite with Israeli friends and gala evening

**Overnight: Rabin hostel, Jerusalem**
Wednesday, July 20: **Complexity of life in Jerusalem**
- Breakfast at hotel and check out
- Prepare for Mt. Herzl – learn about the Michael Levine center for lone soldiers
- Visit Mt. Herzl - This is the site where many of the Nation's dignitaries are buried. This complex also is the home to the National Military ceremony where you will hear the story of Michael Levine and other fallen Israeli heroes.
- Picnic lunch in the Machne Yehuda fruit and vegetables market.
- Security fence tour in Jerusalem, overlook and understand the securities complexities and challenges of Israel's capital.
- Visit JVP – the Jerusalem media center to get a glimpse of innovation taking place in Jerusalem
- Head to hotel, check in and dinner
- Evening program: Neve Shalom; where are we?

**Overnight: Neve Shalom**

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Thursday, July 21: **Start-up Nation**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Head to Tel Aviv, meet Presentense: intro to Hi-tech and innovation in Israel
- Start-up nation tour in Tel Aviv
- Pizur Lunch
- Idea Slam: workshop on how to bring an idea into reality
- Lapid and IE Mega event – meet thousands of participants from all over the world!

**Overnight: Neve Shalom**

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Friday, July 22: **Tel Aviv, a city that never stops**
- Laundry day
- Breakfast at hotel
- Independence hall – visit the site where the state of Israel was declared. Learn about the complexity of the term "Democratic and Jewish State"
- South Tel Aviv – learn about the issue of immigration from Africa. Meet local residents as well as NGOs who are fighting for human rights for the immigrants.
- Visit the Nachalat Binyamin arts fair and Pizur lunch in the Carmel market.
- Head to hotel, check in and prepare for Shabbat
- Kabbalat Shabbat
- Shabbat Dinner
- Oneg Shabbat \ Song session

**Overnight: HaKfar HaYarok, Tel Aviv**
Shabbat, July 23: **Shabbat in Tel Aviv**
- Optional breakfast and late wake up
- Shabbat activities: Israel Update
- Lunch at hotel
- Seudah Shlishit – staff led Shabbat Programs
- Sikkum HaShavua: summary of the week's events
- Dinner at hotel
- Havdallah
- Evening out in the Tel Aviv port | Friends and family can visit (pre-arranged)

**Overnight:** **HaKfar HaYarok, Tel Aviv**

Sunday, July 24: **History and Ecology**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Visit the Chava V' Adam ecological farm for a workshop
- Packed lunch
- Continue to Beit Guvrin for an Archeological dig experience – learn how to identify different eras through your findings.
- Back to hotel for dinner
- Evening program

**Overnight:** **HaKfar HaYarok, Tel Aviv**

Monday, July 25: **Western Negev**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Drive to the Western Negev region, overview of Gaza from The Black Arrow
- Visit the JNF underground recreation center in Sderot
- Pizur lunch in Sderot
- Visit **Shvil HaSalat** and enjoy the products of hi-tech agriculture in the Negev.
- Head back to Tel Aviv
- Dinner at hotel
- Visit the Arab-Jewish theater in Jaffa.

**Overnight:** **HaKfar HaYarok, Tel Aviv**

Tuesday, July 26: **Modern day history**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Visit the Palmach Museum – follow Palmach characters through the time of the establishment of Israel
- Pizur lunch and street questionnaire in Tel Aviv
- Summary of the day at Rabin Square
- Dinner at hotel
- Evening program

**Overnight:** **HaKfar HaYarok, Tel Aviv**
Wednesday, July 27: **Tikun Olam: making this a better world**
- Breakfast at hotel
- Dialogue in the Dark – The Children’s museum in Holon
- Pizza lunch
- "Save a child’s heart" – meet a local NGO that provides open heart surgeries to children from all over the world (regardless of race, color or religion).
- Time at the beach in Palmachim
- Dinner at hotel
- Evening program: Summary of the program

**Overnight: HaKfar HaYarok, Tel Aviv**

Thursday, July 28: **Tying it all together**
- Breakfast at hotel and check out
- Guest Speaker–StandWithUs: how do we take all that we learned this summer and bring it back home to our community, later on to our college campuses
- Tour and final shopping in the Sarona market
- Pizur lunch
- Head to Jaffa
- Tour of Jaffa, Neve Tzedek and free time in the flea market
- Final summary session with JCC Maccabi Israel staff and circle time
- Festive final dinner
- Head to Ben Gurion Airport
- Depart on LY027, leaving Tel Aviv at 12:30am to EWR.

**Overnight: Over the Mediterranean**

Friday, July 29: **arrival**
- Flight lands at Newark airport at 5:40am

**Lehitra’ot – see you again!**
JCC Association is proud to present the JCC Maccabi Games™, JCC Maccabi ArtsFest™, and JCC Maccabi Israel™.

Connecting Jewish teens through sports, the arts, and travel.

JCC Association of North America

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