



☞ CHABAD OF FIVE TOWNS' ISRAEL EXPERIENCE ☞

**Monday, August 18 – Thursday, August 28 • Av 17 – Av 27, 5768**

Day 1 Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>

**WELCOME TO ISRAEL**

- Touchdown at **Ben Gurion International Airport**.
- After clearing passport control a **VIPIsRAEL representative will be waiting to welcome you** at the door of your plane as you exit the plane. You will be transported quickly through the airport, pass immigration at the flight crew counter where passport control is efficiently expedited and continue to facilitate luggage identification and handling; & escort you through customs.
- **Ascend to Jerusalem &** Check into your hotel to freshen up and relax; enjoy pizza at your hotel and head out to explore Jerusalem.
- Descend to tour of the archeological discoveries excavated in the **Western Wall Tunnels**. Inside, a most interesting model shows the different dwelling periods and history of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Stand on the site believed to be the nearest spot to the "Holy of Holies".
- Enjoy a **Welcome Dinner** with your guide and Rabbi Wolowik at your hotel.
- **Overnight: Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Deluxe Rooms**

Day 2 Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>

- After breakfast, Participate in a 'hands-on' historical experience, we will sift through **Archeological excavations at Emek Tzurim**.
- Tour the Jewish quarter that was reconstructed after the city was unified at the conclusion of the 6 Day War of 1967. A special point of interest in the restored Jewish quarters the "Cardo," meaning the "Heart" of this ancient Byzantine City.
- See the **Herodian Mansions at the Wohl Archeological Museum**, which preserves the extraordinary discoveries made during excavations carried out between 1969 and 1983, which revealed remains of magnificent buildings from the time of the Herodian dynasty period 37 B.C.E. till 70 C.E.
- Next view the excavated ruins of a "**Burnt House**," home to Kathros, High Priest mentioned in the Talmud from the Second Temple period. These burned ruins remained undisturbed until they were uncovered in the 1970's.
- A special tour the amazing **City of King David**: Begin with a breathtaking observation overlooking Biblical Jerusalem and observe 3,800 years of history dating back in time to the days of Abraham, when the first foundations of the city were laid.
- The journey quickly heads underground to some of the **newest archeological excavations** at the site. Here, while exploring the recently excavated fortresses and passageways, you will **relive King David's conquest of the Jebusite city** as described in the 2nd Book of Samuel.
- End with a refreshing water hike in Hezekiyahu's tunnel in Ir David – the City of David. (Bring a small flashlight and water shoes!)
- Visit the new **Yad Vashem Museum**, which was completed in the spring of 2005 a memorial to the six million innocent victims of the Holocaust.



## Chabad's Solidarity Mission

AUGUST 18 - 28

### RESERVATIONS

- Located on **Har Hazikaron**, the Mount of Remembrance, in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a vast, sprawling complex of tree-studded walkways leading to museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures and memorials.
- Enjoy dinner at one of Jerusalem's wonderful restaurants. VIP Israel will provide a comprehensive list of choice dining places.
- **Overnight: Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Deluxe Rooms**

### Day 3 Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>

- After breakfast depart to the **Dead Sea** area traveling south through the Judean Wilderness.
- Arrive at **Masada** - Ascend the cliff top fortress by cable car, or for the more daring, ascend the snake path just as the Jews did thousands of years ago.
- Explore the ancient remains of the fortifications, **King Herod's** palace, storerooms and baths.
- Continue along the **Dead Sea**, the lowest point on earth, and a rich source of minerals for export.
- Take a **swim or 'float'** & let the buoyant waters support you as you relax on your back and think of nothing else but the sea and the salt all around you!
- Enjoy **Packed Lunch** by the Dead Sea.
- Take in the beauty of the natural Ein Gedi Waterfall; take a light hike along a waterfall oasis, whose beauty exudes vibrant hues of green, red, blue and yellow, a small slice of heaven.
- The oldest ruins found in Ein Gedi are from fourth millennium BCE, when people in Eretz Israel first began to use copper. During the Byzantine period, the Jewish residents of the area built an **ornate synagogue here in Ein Gedi**.
- Toward the afternoon, visit '**Eretz Beresheit**' / **Genesis Land**; to enjoy a **camel tour & traditional desert dinner**.
- **Overnight: Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Deluxe Rooms**

### Day 4 Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

- After breakfast, depart in an armored vehicle and then stop for *Tebillim* and supplication at the very special site of **Rachel's Tomb**. (Pending military approval)
- Onto the holy city of **Chevron**, visit *Ma'arat Hamachpela* where our patriarchs and matriarchs are buried: Avraham, Yitzchok, Yaacov and their wives. Tradition also holds this to be the burial place of 'Adam & Eve.'
- Meet some of the very special families who live in this special neighborhood & **Rabbi Danni Cohen** the Chabad Rabbi of Chevron.

### WELCOME SHABBAT AT THE KOTEL (WESTERN WALL)

As the sun sets preparations will be made for welcoming the **Shabbat**

- Upon reaching the steps leading down to the **Kotel**, look around and notice people from all corners of the world converging together with one purpose in mind; to welcome the **Shabbat** at the holiest place on earth for Judaism. Singing and dancing with true **Chabad** spirit.
- Enjoy **Shabbat Dinner** with a true Chabad spirit at hotel, L'Chaim!
- **Overnight: Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Deluxe Rooms**



### Day 5 Shabbat, August 23<sup>rd</sup>

- After a light breakfast, walk to the **Great Synagogue** for davening or to a synagogue of your choice.
- Return to your hotel for a **Chabad spirited Shabbat lunch, L'Chaim!**
- Spend the afternoon at leisure or enjoy a **unique walking tour of Jerusalem's Old City**.
- As **Shabbat** expires, participate in a moving **Havdallah** service with Rabbi Wolowik in the hotel
- After Shabbat, enjoy shopping and dinner at Jerusalem's Ben Yehuda outdoor mall, where the young Jerusalem comes to life.
- **Overnight: Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Deluxe Rooms**

### Day 6 Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup>

- After breakfast, check out of your hotel and visit **Ayalon Institute Museum**, situated north of the city of *Rehovot*. This was the first clandestine bullet production factory operated by members of the *Hatzofim Aleph*, *Palmach*, and *Habonim* pioneer groups during the British Mandate rule. After viewing an audio-visual presentation, we will discover the secret entrance to the underground bullet factory, which was so successfully disguised from the British!
- Onward to the **Children's Museum** in Cholon
- Visit **Kfar Chabad** and be inspired by the Israeli **replica of "770"**. Head over to the local **pizza shop** for a slice. Visit the **Main Yeshiva** and see hundreds of students learning Torah.
- Next, visit the spectacular "**Palmach Museum**". Through a modern multi-media presentation, view the history of the **Palmach** from 1941 to the **War of Independence** and the establishment of the **State of Israel**.
- Enjoy **Dinner at the hotel**.
- **Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, Tiberius**

### Day 7 Monday August 25<sup>th</sup>

- After breakfast depart to **Mount Meron**, the second highest mountain in Israel and largest nature reserve in the Galilee. Hike to the peak for an amazing view, perfect for sunsets. This mountain is also the resting place of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, author of the Zohar, a fundamental kabalistic work.
- We will visit **Tzfat's** restored Old City including the artists' colony. **Tzfat** has much to offer in the way of art galleries, gift-shops and restaurants found tucked away amongst the winding, cobblestone streets and take a dip in the famous **Mikveh of the Ari z"l** in the mystical city.
- Stop by **Tzfat's famous candle shop** and visit art and sculpture galleries.
- See the **unique synagogues** such as the Ari Sephardi, Ari Ashkenazi, Ari Beit Midrash, Caro Synagogue, Abuhav synagogue (built in 1490) and many more of the local Chassidim.
- Explore the **HaMeiri house**, which contains a complex of rooms and artifacts from over the last 200 years of Tzfat inhabitants.
- **The Meiri Dairy** lays claim to being the first dairy in Israel, enjoy a tour of this unique museum and cheese production institution and enjoy a selection of sample tasting at the end!
- **Enjoy Dinner, Farbrengen and evening of events** led by your tour guide and Rabbi Wolowik at **Ascent of Tzfat with Live Klezmer Music & entertainment**.
- **Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, Tiberius**



### Day 8 Tuesday August 26<sup>th</sup>

- After breakfast head and go **Jeeping** and view the observation point on **Mount Bental**, an abandoned Israeli bunker overlooking the entire **Golan Heights**. From here you can see the mountains of the **Galilee** and **Lebanon**, and eastward into Syria.
- Here also lies the **Valley of Tears**, where one of the bloodiest battles of the Yom Kippur War was fought.
- Ascend the **Golan Heights**, where you will have the very special privilege of being the guest of an **Armored Brigade** at their **IDF base**. This is an exclusive VIP experience!
- Next go **kayaking in Kfar Blum**. Glide down the Jordan and Hatzbani River on a curving route through green riverbanks. Partake in other activities on site.
- Enjoy an **evening cruise** on the Kineret and arrive at the shore for a dinner at **Decks Restaurant**.
- **Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, Tiberius**

### Day 9 Wednesday August 27<sup>th</sup>

- After breakfast visit the **Keshet Caves**. On a clear day, take in the beautiful view of Mediterranean Coastline and the famous tower of Haifa University.
- Optional Rappelling Supplement available.
- Next visit **Rosh Hanikrah**, the northernmost point on the Mediterranean shore of Israel, where a chalk mountain range meets the sea.
- Ride from the mountain top down to sea level via **cable car** to explore the Grotto's formed over thousands of years-truly a wonder of creation.
- Lunch at **Ushpizin Restaurant** in Acco
- Further along the coastline, visit the **ancient city of Acco (Acre)** 14 miles above Haifa, once known as the Crusaders capital of the north. This city is almost 4,000 years old.
- Walk on the city walls & **Ramparts** to the harbor, then through the colorful markets to visit the huge, cool yet spooky **Subterranean Crusader Halls**.
- Explore gates, towers, tunnels, and secret passageways and next explore the notorious **Acco Prison** that was built by the Turks and later used by the British to imprison **Jewish underground fighters** during their struggle against British rule.
- Optional horseback riding along the beach.
- Enjoy dinner at one of Tel Aviv's restaurants before your departure.
- **Departure Flight**.
- **For those staying extra time in Israel, continue on to Jerusalem.**



TRIP FEES & DETAILS

ADULTS:

\$2,500.00 based on double occupancy
\$3,430.00 based on single occupancy

CHILDREN, AGES 2-11:

\$2,420 2-11 years not in parents rm. (min 2)
\$1,530 2-11 years in parents room
FREE Children under 2 years

\*please note the Sheraton allows 1 child per room + crib with 2 parents; Kibbutz Lavi allows 2 children per room

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

5 nights in the Sheraton Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem
3 nights in the Kibbutz Lavi Hotel

9 - Days; 8 - Nights;
8 - Breakfasts; 9 - Dinners; 1-luncheon

Meetings with residents of settlements, English speaking guide; All admissions as outlined in the itinerary; Luxury air - conditioned bus; Transfers to and from the airport for the group\*.

\*If you are arriving or leaving at a different time VIP can arrange transportation at an additional cost.

NOT INCLUDED

Airfare to and from Israel; \*Tips for Guide, Driver and Luggage; Most Lunches, laundry, beverages and food not on the regular menu, personal items, phone calls, etc. airport taxes and fees.

SUGGESTED GRATUITIES

Bus Driver - \$3.00 per person per day
Guide - \$6.00 per person per day

AIRFARE

Chabad will not be coordinating airfare. Please make the necessary arrangements with your travel agent.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PAYMENT

A \$200 non-refundable deposit is required to confirm the reservation. The complete balance is due prior to June 15th. Checks should be made payable to Chabad of the Five Towns. Credit cards will not be accepted as payment.

HOTELS

Hotel rooms will be provided in accordance with the itinerary. All rooms are standard twin bedded rooms with private bath or shower. Room assignments are made by the local hotel management on run of the house basis. Location, size and view may vary.

PASSPORTS and VISAS

Passengers are responsible for ensuring that they have the proper travel documents.

TAXES

All local taxes are included in the cost, except those assessed by airport authorities and border crossings.

INSURANCE

It is strongly recommended that travelers purchase full insurance. VIP Tours does not provide insurance. Travel insurance is the responsibility of the traveler.

LIABILITY

Changes can be made in the itinerary due to circumstances beyond our control. We hereby expressly waive any claim for accidents, injuries, delays or any other loss that any of our customers incur as a result of any service provided on your trip. In no event shall the liability of VIP Tours exceed the amount actually paid.



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**CHABAD'S SOLIDARITY MISSION**  
**AUGUST 18 - 28**

**ITINERARY**

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**FAMILY RESERVATION & INFORMATION**

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First Name	Last Name
Zip	State
City	Address
Cell	Phone (Work)
E-mail	Phone (Home)
	Fax

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**FAMILY MEMBERS JOINING ON THIS MISSION**

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Name (as it appears on Passport)	Birthday	Age at time of Travel	Passport Number	Expiration Date
Name (as it appears on Passport)	Birthday	Age at time of Travel	Passport Number	Expiration Date
Name (as it appears on Passport)	Birthday	Age at time of Travel	Passport Number	Expiration Date
Name (as it appears on Passport)	Birthday	Age at time of Travel	Passport Number	Expiration Date
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Name (as it appears on Passport)	Birthday	Age at time of Travel	Passport Number	Expiration Date

#: \_\_\_ Adults (Double) \_\_\_ Adults (Single) \_\_\_ Adults (triple) \_\_\_ Child with parents \_\_\_ Children in separate room

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

VIPIsrael LLC., (hereinafter called the Tour Operator), acts only as an agent for the various companies, owners or contractors providing the means of transportation, accommodation and other services. The Tour Operator shall not be in any way liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in any vehicle, or through the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger/s, or of any hotel proprietor, personnel or servant otherwise in connection therewith. The right is reserved by the Tour Operator in the event it becomes necessary, to withdraw any tour announced in this program, or make alterations to the itineraries as may be found desirable or appropriate for carrying out the tours. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable in the Tour Operator's discretion to alter the arrangements or itineraries for the passenger/s comfort or welfare or for any reason whatsoever, such alterations may be made without penalty to the Tour Operator. The Tour Operator reserves the right to change any hotel/s listed with another of a similar category, if circumstances necessitate. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passenger/s. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of any group at any time.

Please Sign Agreeing to Contract Terms \_\_\_\_\_ Please Date Here \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return to Chabad of the Five Towns, 74 Maple Ave, Cedarhurst NY 11516