

SUTTON PLACE SYNAGOGUE SOLIDARITY MISSION TO ISRAEL



January 2025

Prepared by: J.J. Jonah

Itinerary

Please note that the itinerary is not final and is subject to change based on time, weather, security and other considerations.

DAY 1 - WELCOME TO ISRAEL!!! TRAVEL TO TEL AVIV (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION) Sunday, January 19 2025

- **Welcome to Israel!!!** Arrive at Ben Gurion where you will be met by the tour guide, transportation
- Meet with inspirational wounded IDF veterans through **Brothers for Life** at Beit Ha'Achim in **Kfar Truman**
- Transfer to Tel Aviv
- Check into Hotel- settle in and relax
- Dinner at hotel (included)- **orientation and presentation** of the trip- Rabbi Rachel Ain Rabbi Dave Levy and our tour guide- David Keren

Overnight: David Intercontinental Hotel - Tel Aviv

DAY 2 - VOLUNTEER AND REHABILITATION (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION) Monday, January 20 2025

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Travel to Raanana. Visit wounded soldiers in the **Beit Lowenstein Rehabilitation Center** in Raanana. Meet with some of the soldiers and hear their stories.
- Lunch on own en route
- Volunteer at **Leket** sorting fruit and vegetables for the needy.
- Meet with the **Brothers in Arms organization** - to hear about their anti- Government activity and also their amazing operation since October 7th.
- Meet with columnist **Yotam Zimri**- (pro government) to hear about the view of the political unrest in Israel and how they see the future
- Dinner on own

Overnight: David Intercontinental Hotel - Tel Aviv

DAY 3 - TEL AVIV- TO JERUSALEM (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION) Tuesday, January 21 2025

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Speaker: **Inbal Elberg from the Nitzanim** project who have been assisting the evacuees and the Kibbutzim since October 7th
- Check out and depart
- Explore the vibrancy of Jewish Life & peoplehood at the ultra-modern, interactive **ANU Museum**
- Visit **Hostage Square** (hopefully not relevant) - and hear some of the stories behind some of the people still held by Hamas.
- Lunch on own at Sarona Market
- Volunteer at **Soldiers Saves Lives**- a warehouse of donations - sorting and boxing OR with **Eran's Angels**
- Continue to Jerusalem
- Dinner (included) and visit to the **Jewish Agency** - meet with **Yizhar Hess** , the Vice Chairman of the World Zionist Organization.
- Check in to hotel and settle in

Overnight: Isrotel Orient Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 4 - VOLUNTEER- GAZA ENVELOPE (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

**Wednesday, January 22
2025**

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Early departure to Gaza envelope to **volunteer working in agriculture** PREFERABLY EIN HABSOR. The agricultural industry has been hurt the most since October 7th (depending on the weather)
- Boxed lunch (included). **OPTION** to donate a shwarma lunch to soldiers serving in the area
- **Visit one of the Kibbutzim in the Gaza Envelope**- to bear witness to the atrocities from October 7th. Meet with one of the residents and hear the story of the Kibbutz
- Stop at the **Nova Festival site** - and see the placing that marked the place of the Massacre that happened there
- Return to Jerusalem
- Dinner on own

Overnight: Isrotel Orient Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 5 - ISRAELI SOCIETY- JERUSALEM (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Thursday, January 23 2025

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Meet with **Harav Chaya Baker** at the hotel
- Visit the impressive and grand new premises of the **National Library of Israel** which hosts the world's largest collections of Hebrew and Judaica books and is the repository of many rare and unique manuscripts, books and artifacts
- Boxed lunch
- Meet with **Mechina students from Meitarim Lachish** to hear about their experience and their hopes for the upcoming years in the Army
- Visit **Nir Oz community** in their temporary residence in Kiryat Gat and hear from them the trauma they went through since October 7th
- Dinner on own in Jerusalem

Overnight: Isrotel Orient Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 6 - EMRACING THE STORIES FROM OCTOBER (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Friday, January 24 2025

- Shacharit at **Robinson's Arch**
- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Visit the **MDA Jerusalem** and hear about their important work and what they had to deal with on the 7th of October
- Encounter the leaders and heroes who are interred at the **Mount Herzl National Cemetery**- as well as the new graves since October 7th
- Lunch on own
- Prepare for Shabbat
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** together overlooking the Old City from Yemin Moshe
- Shabbat dinner at the hotel (included)

Overnight: Isrotel Orient Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 7 - SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM (GUIDE, NO TRANSPORTATION)

Saturday, January 25 2025

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Join Rabbi Rachel Ain at one of the **local synagogues in Jerusalem** for Shacharit
- Lunch at the hotel (included)
- Meet with Author **Danny Gordis** and hear his take on the current situation in Israel and the future of the Israeli society following the events of the past year
- Walking tour with guide- Enjoy walking through the beautiful **Yemin Moshe neighborhood** & Montefiore's Windmill **OR** Walk through the picturesque neighborhoods of **German Colony and Baqaa**
- Havdallah
- Dinner on own
- Watch the **Sound-&-Light Spectacular** screened on the walls of the **Tower of David**. (Show is outdoors. Please dress warmly & ensure to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start.)

Overnight: Isrotel Orient Hotel - Jerusalem

DAY 8 - HELPING AND ASSISTING- TO TEL AVIV (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION)

Sunday, January 26 2025

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel
- Check out and depart
- Morning session at the **Hartman Institute**- "Community VS individualism"- understanding the Israeli society today
- Lunch at the Machane Yehuda Market (on own)
- Explore the cobble-stoned **Nachlaot neighborhood**, where the old and new, the traditional and the funky, coexist in colorful glory. This area is a great example for the topic studied at Hartman
- Volunteer at **Pantry Packers** packaging food for the needy
- **Summary and reflection** with Rabbi Ain, Rabbi Levy and guide
- Final dinner in Jerusalem restaurant (included)
- Travel to **Ben Gurion Airport** for return flight to the US
- **NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM!!**

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