

Join Rabbi Bennett Greenspon on Temple Beth Emet's



Adventure "A Trip For All Ages"

Dear Friends

We are pleased to announce two Israel Mission opportunities for the coming New Year. Please note that these groups will go this year only if we have a sufficient enrollment and that the pricing for them is contingent upon the number of travelers and when we have an indication of your interest.

Our March Mission is designed for those adults who have been previously been to Israel. We will be doing things that are generally not done on a regular tour. We also will be meeting to determine what we, as a group, would like to add or change with regard to the itinerary. We hope to leave on March 7 which will get us to Jerusalem in time to celebrate Purim.

Our June Mission is a trip for Families of All Ages. We will do a myriad of activities that will be of interest to kids as well as seniors. It is a perfect way to celebrate a Bar or Bat Mitzvah or to just get familiar with this wonderful country. We will be leaving Sunday June 10.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in either of these trips. We want to ensure our space and we want to lock in the best rates we can.

ITC TOURS

TEMPLE BETH EMET/COOPER CITY ISRAEL TOUR with Rabbi Bennett Greenspon

March 7-18, 2012

“Mitzvot in Israel”

Wednesday, 7 March – USA Departure

Thursday, 8 March – *When You Come Into the Land (Deut. 26:1)*

- Morning or midday arrival (ideally) in **Israel**, to be met and assisted at Ben Gurion Airport by your ITC representative (*today’s program depends on arrival time*)
- Ascent to Jerusalem
- Enjoy a **Purim Megilla reading** together with a Jerusalem Reform congregation
- Hotel check-in and **welcome dinner**
- Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel, Jerusalem

Friday, 9 March – *Purim in Jerusalem*

- Deliver *mishloah manot* packages to Jerusalem children in a hospital or similar
- Bus tour of a Jerusalem neighborhood as costumed residents celebrate **Purim**
- Special tour of **Yad Vashem** with a museum docent
- Prepare for Shabbat
- **Welcome Shabbat** at a choice of neighborhood synagogues (suggestions, walking instructions to be provided)
- **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel
- Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel, Jerusalem

Shabbat, 10 March – *Shabbat in Jerusalem (no guide or bus today)*

Parashat Ki Tissa

- Shabbat services at HUC (if available) or at Har-El
- Visit the **Tower of David Museum** for a wonderful presentation of the history of the city and a rooftop overview
- **Havdalah** with Rabbi Greenspon
- Free evening in Jerusalem
- Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel, Jerusalem

Sunday, 11 March – *Israel Issues* (no guide or bus today)

- Tour East Jerusalem with the staff of **B'Tzelem** and learn about some of the challenges facing its Arab residents
- Visit the **Menahem Begin Heritage Center** for a highly moving and informative presentation on the life of this inspiring leader
- Special tour of the **Israel Museum** with a museum docent
- Free evening in Jerusalem
- Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, 12 March – *Jerusalem Then and Now*

- Visit the site of the ancient fortress of **Herodian**, built by Herod and used by Jewish fighting forces throughout the ages; also the site of an ancient synagogue and King Herod's newly discovered tomb
- Enjoy a tour of the special community of Tekoa and **home hospitality** for lunch with a Tekoa family
- Take part in a mitzvah project at **Yad Eliezer** and learn about the wonderful work they do with Israel's needy (if available)
- Take a special "chef's tour" of colorful, bustling **Machaneh Yehuda** open-air market and then take part in a **cooking workshop** as we prepare and enjoy dinner together **OR** dinner at a restaurant in Neve Shalom
- Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, 13 March – *The Mediterranean Coast*

- Depart for Israel's north
- Meet a member of Israel's **Druze community** in Issufia, hear about their fierce patriotism and enjoy their warm hospitality
- In **Atlit** walk through the detention camp that held Holocaust refugees denied entry into Eretz Yisrael by the British; see the incredible, newly arrived "illegal immigration" boat with its wonderful high-tech laser presentation about heroic pre-State immigration
- Tour the extremely moving **Holocaust memorial exhibit** at Kibbutz Lochamei Haghettaot, where the story of the Holocaust is masterfully told for people of all ages through the voices of children
- Hotel check-in and dinner
- Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Hotel

Wednesday, 14 March – *Layers of History*

- Walk through the **Hula Valley Nature Reserve**, through which millions of migratory birds pass and other species roam; experience the **Ophoria Multi-Media Experience**, connecting birds, water, and the Israeli landscape
- Visit the moving **Dubrovin Farm**, a re-construction of a pioneering Jewish family farm, founded in the early 20th century
- Enjoy a tour and tasting at the **Dalton Winery**
- Tour the synagogues, courtyards, and art galleries of the mystical city of **Tzefat**
- Take part in a **mitzvah project** in Tzefat

- Free time for shopping and dinner (on one's own) in Tzefat
- Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Hotel

Thursday, 15 March – *The Israeli Human Tapestry*

- Visit the fascinating cultural museum of Kfar Kama, home to Israel's **Circassian community**; learn about their unique customs and traditions and taste some of their special snacks
- Meet with the **Samaritan community** in Holon and learn about their ancient religion (if available)
- Take part in the mitzvah of "*leket*" as you volunteer harvesting crops to be distributed to the needy
- Evening: Enjoy dinner at Café Kapish, served by **deaf waiters** who will teach you sign language during your meal, followed by **Na Laga'at**, a unique play performed by actors who are both deaf and blind
- Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv

Friday, 16 March – *Foundations of the Modern State (no guide or bus today)*

- Visit the new **Rabin Center** for a high-tech presentation on the history of the State of Israel and the life of this special leader (museum guide)
- At the **Lechi Museum**, learn of the achievements of this pre-State fighting force
- Visit the **Museum of the Diaspora** for a special encounter with Jewish communities around the world and throughout the ages (with museum docent)
- **Welcome Shabbat** at Beit Daniel
- **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel
- Overnight: Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv

Shabbat, 17 March – *Shabbat in Tel Aviv (no guide or bus today)*

Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei; Parah

- Shabbat services at a choice of synagogues
- Explore the **Tel Aviv art scene** by visiting one or more of the following or exploring some of the city's many art galleries: Rubin Museum, Beit Bialik, Tel Aviv Museum of Art
- Return to the hotel for final packing
- **Farewell dinner** at Maganda (Yemenite)
- Depart for the airport

Sunday, 18 March – *A Temporary Departure*

- Arrive in USA
- Begin planning your **next Israel trip** with Rabbi Greenspon and ITC Tours!

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All of this is Included in Your Tour

- Deluxe accommodation, as per your itinerary
- Touring and entrance fees, as per your itinerary
- Meeting & assistance by your ITC representative within the arrivals terminal at Ben Gurion Airport
- One of Israel's finest English-speaking licensed tour educators (guides), to be with you for the duration of the tour and give insight into this beautiful, spiritual land
- Deluxe air-conditioned, comfortable modern motor coach, featuring large panoramic windows, reclining seats, and foot rests
- Professional, safety conscious bus driver
- Professional ITC education director, to ensure an extraordinary Israel experience
- Professional ITC tour manager
- Snack upon arrival in Israel
- Hostess at Jerusalem hotel, based on a minimum of 25 travelers
- Hotel suite upgrade for tour leader (subject to availability)
- Informative full-color Israel sourcebook - adults' and children's versions
- Hotel taxes and portorage
- Hotel dining room and airport portorage tips
- Daily buffet breakfasts, six weekday dinners, two Shabbat dinners, and one weekday lunch, as per itinerary

Not Included in Package

- Visa & border fees
- Items of a purely personal nature
- Private rooms for group meetings/meals at the hotel, unless specified in this offer
- Tips (\$110 per person)*
- Insurance

* Please note that this amount covers a basic recommended *minimum* tip for the guide, bus driver, and meal service staff at restaurants for the number of days the group will be in Israel. Travelers should feel free to add to this amount when in Israel, if they are so moved.

Important Information For All Travelers:

Please be aware that you may not fly to a foreign country if your passport has fewer than 6 months remaining. **Be sure that your passport, and those of all members of your traveling group, has an expiration date that is at least six months later than your day of departure.** If this is not the case, please take immediate steps to renew your passport!

Your Friends at ITC

ITC TOURS

TEMPLE BETH EMET/COOPER CITY ISRAEL TOUR with Rabbi Bennett Greenspon

June 10-20, 2012

A Trip for all Ages

Sunday, 10 June – USA Departure

- Overnight flight to Israel

Monday, 11 June – *When You Come Into the Land* (Deut. 26:1)

- Morning or midday arrival (ideally) at **Ben Gurion Airport**, to be met and assisted by your ITC representative (*today's program depends on arrival time*)
- Climb down into the amazing underground, pre-State bullet factory built by the Haganah under the noses of the British at the **Ayalon Institute**
- Explore the pathways, art galleries, and market stalls of **Old Jaffa**, once the gateway to Eretz Yisrael
- Hotel check-in, rest, and welcome dinner
- Overnight: Herods Hotel, Tel Aviv

Tuesday, 12 June – *Foundations of the Modern State*

- Climb down into the amazing underground, pre-State bullet factory built by the Haganah under the noses of the British at the **Ayalon Institute**
- At **Independence Hall**, relive Ben Gurion's moving declaration of the State
- Browse through unique craft items in **Nachalat Binyamin's** colorful, open-air market, and see modern Tel Aviv in action
- Enjoy an impressive presentation of the amazing achievements of the Palmach at the new multi-media **Palmach Museum** (age 6 and over only; if available)
- Take part in the mitzvah of "*leket*," as you harvest crops to be distributed to the poor with **Leket Israel**, formerly known as Table to Table
- Evening option: Enjoy dinner at Café Kapish in Old Jaffa, served by **deaf waiters** who will teach you sign language during your meal, followed by **Na Laga'at**, a unique play performed by actors who are both deaf and blind (*advance registration required; not included in tour price*)
- Overnight: Herods Hotel, Tel Aviv

Wednesday, 13 June – *In the Footsteps of Sages*

- Depart for Israel's north

- Walk through the fascinating, underground Roman water system that once fed ancient Caesaria at **Alona Park** near Binyamina (strap-on water shoes needed; small towel optional)
- Go back to the time of the Mishnah with hands-on activities, including a donkey ride and mishnaic lunch in a tent, at **Kfar Kedem**
- Explore the magnificently excavated mishnaic-period city of **Tzippori**; discover ancient beauty and evidence of a community in which Jews and Romans coexisted peacefully
- Hotel check-in and dinner
- Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Guest House, Tiberias

Thursday, 14 June – *The Golan Heights*

- Travel to the **Golan Heights** by jeep, off the beaten track, and stop to gaze down over the Galilee as the Syrians once did
- Enjoy a tour, tasting, and a chocolate-making workshop at the delicious **chocolate factory** at Kibbutz Ein Zivan, run by immigrants from Argentina
- Ascend to the peak of **Har Bental**, where you can enter army bunkers and take in a panoramic view at the crossroads of three countries; discuss the significance of the Golan Height in today's geo-political reality
- Learn about the history of the Golan Heights and the valiant story of **Gamla**, called the "Masada of the North," at the lovely **Golan Antiquities Museum**
- Free evening on the Tiberias promenade
- Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi Guest House, Tiberias

Friday, 15 June – *In the Footsteps of Mystics*

- Tour the synagogues, courtyards, and art galleries of the mystical city of **Tzefat**
- Meet with a **Tzefat kabbalistic artist** in his gallery to explore Jewish mysticism through the prism of his creations
- Travel south for the ascent to **Jerusalem**
- Gaze upon the Old City of Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade**, standing where Abraham stood at the dawn of Jewish history; take in the breathtaking view
- Hotel check-in to prepare for **Shabbat**
- Welcome Shabbat at a scenic overlook or at a synagogue of your choice (*suggestions, directions to be provided*)
- Festive **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel
- Overnight: Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

Shabbat, 16 June – *Shabbat in Jerusalem* ***Parashat Shelah***

- Day and evening **at leisure** in Jerusalem
- Overnight: Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

Sunday, 17 June – *Jerusalem of Old*

- In the **Kotel Tunnels**, walk underground alongside the Western Wall's massive foundation stones
- Explore the **Southern Wall Excavations**, including a virtual, computerized "walk" through the Temple Mount at the **Davidson Center**
- Tour **David's City**, the most ancient section of Jerusalem, built by King David, including recent excavations and the new 3-D presentation (if available)
- Free evening in Jerusalem

- Overnight: Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, 18 June – *Those Who Sacrificed*

- Visit **Yad Eliezer** to learn of the important work of this tzedaka organization
- Take in a truly enjoyable multi-media presentation about the life of the Father of Modern Zionism at the **Herzl Museum** (if available)
- Visit the newly-opened state-of-the art Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Children’s Memorial at **Yad Vashem** (age 12 and up only)
- Evening: Attend **The Night Spectacular**, the fabulous new sound and light show at the **Tower of David Museum**
- Overnight: Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, 19 June – *Freedom Fighters or Fanatics?*

- Early departure to ascend **Masada** by cable car; tour this impressive excavation and discuss the terrible dilemma faced by its Jewish population during Roman times
- Spend some time today at a Dead Sea resort hotel, enjoying its **spa** facilities, lunch, and the amazing **Dead Sea**
- Optional afternoon excursion: Enjoy a walk through the beautiful **Ein Gedi** Nature Reserve to the waterfall and review the biblical story of kings David and Saul “on site” (included in tour price)
- Return to Jerusalem for final packing
- **Farewell dinner** at Olive and Fish (meat)
- Depart for Ben Gurion Airport (those leaving Israel tonight)

Wednesday, 20 June – *A Temporary Departure*

- Arrive in USA
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- Hostess at Jerusalem hotel, based on a minimum of 25 travelers
- Hotel suite upgrade for tour leader (subject to availability)
- Informative full-color Israel sourcebook - adults' and children's versions
- Hotel taxes and portorage
- Hotel dining room and airport portorage tips
- Daily buffet breakfasts, three weekday dinners, Dead Sea lunch, and Shabbat dinner, as per itinerary

Not Included in Package

- Visa & border fees
- Items of a purely personal nature
- Private rooms for group meetings/meals at the hotel, unless specified in this offer
- Tips (\$145 per person for main tour)*
- Insurance

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