



## KESHET

THE CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL TOURISM IN ISRAEL

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# Temple Emanu El Israel Family Adventure

## Connecting to the People and the Land of Israel

Led by Rabbi Steve Denker and Kate Milgrom  
June 28 – July 8, 2011

### Tentative Itinerary

(August 25, 2010 – subject to change or revision )

This Keshet itinerary, designed for the families of Emanu El, is driven by the desire to see and experience as much as possible in the short time we have together in Israel, while still leaving time to enjoy our families and friends and to reflect on the different experiences of the trip. We will in the process, strengthen our connection with Cleveland's sister city, Bet Shean, and gain an appreciation of the Jewish people's history in the land of Israel, not only since the founding of the modern state in 1948, but for the past 2000 years. Keshet family programs are staffed by superb and passionate Jewish educators for whom guiding is a pioneering dimension of Jewish education, together with counselors who work their magic on our children and youth in making the experience of visiting Israel both fun and educational. This combination allows parents, grandparents and children of different ages to enjoy an Israel experience that is uniquely inspirational.

#### **Tuesday June 28**

#### ***Departure***

Departure from Cleveland at noon on Delta 4247, connect at JFK to Delta 268 non-stop flight to Israel.

#### **Wednesday June 29**

#### ***Bruchim Ha'baim – welcome***

1:15 PM: Arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport. Opening program and light lunch at the ancient City of David (Ir David) and a “wake up” walk in a water tunnel that was dug by King Hezekiah 2700 years ago and is mentioned in the Bible

Buffet Dinner at the hotel

Overnight: Mt. Zion Hotel

**Thursday June 30*****Jerusalem of Gold, Jerusalem of Old***

Begin with an Emanu El shacharit service under Robinson's Arch, along the Western Wall and remains from Herod's Second Temple, built in the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE. Explore the excavations along the Southern Wall at the Davidson Center, including a virtual visit to Herod's Second Temple.

Lunch on your own in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City.

Jewish Quarter family scavenger hunt and activities followed by a tour of the impressive Western Wall tunnels, remnants of the massive retaining wall built by King Herod in approximately 30 BCE, towards the end of the Second Temple period.

Free evening in Jerusalem for dinner and to explore the nightlife of Ben Yehuda, Emek Refaim or the new Mamilla Mall

Overnight: Mt. Zion Hotel

**Friday July 1****From Holocaust to rebirth**

We will visit Yad Vashem, Israel's national Holocaust memorial for insights into the events that devastated European Jewry from 1933 to 1945. Included will be the new memorial museum and the Children's Memorial. (Younger children will visit the Biblical Zoo or the new Herzl museum, depending on ages)

Afternoon visit to the nearby communities of Gush Etzion, to explore the issues confronting Israel in her quest for peace. Parallel programming for children.

Return to Jerusalem to experience the frenzy of the Machane Yehuda outdoor farmers market as Jerusalemites prepare for Shabbat.

Emanu El Kabbalat Shabbat service (details to be announced). Dinner in the hotel or home hospitality, joining English speaking Jerusalemites for Friday night Shabbat dinner.

Oneg Shabbat speaker - prospects for peace.

Overnight: Mt. Zion Hotel

**Shabbat July 2*****Shabbat Shalom***

Opportunity to experience a variety of synagogue options in Jerusalem.

Lunch on your own.

Afternoon to swim in the pool at the hotel, stroll the neighborhood or simply relax.

Seudat shlishit picnic and Torah study with Rabbi Denker.

Free evening in Jerusalem.

Overnight: Mt. Zion Hotel

**Sunday July 3*****The past and the present speak to us***

Say goodbye to Jerusalem as we head south to participate in a "hands on" archaeological dig into the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE at Bet Guvrin.

Picnic lunch at Bet Guvrin

On our way to the Negev, we will meet with Ethiopian Jews through Cleveland supported Project PACT in Beersheva.

Continue to Kfar Nokedim Bedouin ranch to ride camels and have a Bedouin Hafla Dinner.

Sleep in a Bedouin tent (or a rustic cabin on the site). Early to bed as we prepare for tomorrows....

## **Monday July 4**

### *...sunrise ascent of Masada...*

via the relatively easy Roman Ramp on the western side of Herod's Judean Desert fortress, now a UNESCO World Heritage site. On US Independence Day, we will explore the complex issues of survival, both physical and spiritual, that Jews confronted after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70CE.

Descent by the snake path or cable car to breakfast in the Masada Youth Hostel.

Travel along the Dead Sea to swim in the Ein Gedi Reserve, a natural oasis – waterfall and pool in the middle of the desert.

Experience the amazing “you can't sink” properties of the waters of the Dead Sea.

Travel via the Jordan River Valley to Bet Shean, Cleveland's sister city. Dinner with community members or at the hostel.

Rest in the bus because after dinner we will see the new Sound and Light show at the Bet Shean National Park, one of the most extensively excavated examples of the Roman period in the land of Israel.

Overnight: Bet Shean

## **Tuesday July 5**

### *Valleys and Heights*

Program with P2K in Bet Shean, including a visit to Kibbutz Tirat Tzvi, home of David Denker, culminating with a swim and picnic at Ein Muda, a lovely natural spring.

Afternoon to explore and learn about the Golan Heights. We'll view the ancient site of Gamla and then see a moving audio-visual presentation about Gamla in the Golan Archaeological Museum in Katzrin.

In the Museum, we will also see one of the most dramatic pieces of evidence of thriving Jewish life in the Golan and Galil in the Talmudic period (2<sup>nd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> centuries). Visit the unique and quaint artists' colony at Anivim.

Dinner and overnight in Kibbutz Lavi Hotel, a lovely modern facility and our home for the last two nights. After dinner discussion with a kibbutz member about this unique and very idealistic lifestyle.

Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi hotel

## **Wednesday July 6**

### *The richness of the Galilee*

Visit the city of Safed, highest city in Israel, home of Jewish mysticism and gathering spot for many artists. Tour the ancient alleyways and synagogues and shop the in the artists along streets first built by Jews who returned to the land of Israel from Spain after the expulsion by Queen Isabella in 1492.

Continue to Israel's northern border to meet with and bring gifts of appreciation to some of the young men and women of the IDF on their outpost facing Lebanon.

Jordan River kayaking adventure.

Dinner and Klezmer music on the Dubrovin Farm, one of the original settlements in the Galilee at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Overnight: Kibbutz Lavi hotel

## **Thursday July 7**

### *Dispersion and return*

Optional early morning hike on the cliffs of the Arbel, along the caves that Jewish rebels hid out in during the Bar Kochba revolt of 135 CE. Return to the hotel for breakfast and to check out.

Visit the restored village of Tzipori – thriving Jewish town during Roman times and the period of the Mishna (2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> centuries). See some of the most beautiful ancient mosaics to have been discovered in Israel and explore the issues of Jewish survival 1600 years ago that we continue to confront in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Picnic lunch at Tzipori.

We culminate our program in Tel Aviv, Israel's “other” capital. Relive the dramatic events leading up to the birth of Israel at the multi-media Palmach Museum. Visit Kikar Rabin, site of the assassination of the late Prime Minister, for final ceremony.

Evaluation session at Independence Hall, where Israel Independence was declared by David Ben

Gurion on May 14, 1948.

Middle Eastern Farewell dinner in Tel Aviv.

Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for the return flight to Cleveland, Delta 153 via Atlanta departs at 11:35 PM. Arrival in Cleveland, 11:40 AM on Friday on Delta 5001.

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Program will also include these elements which can only confirmed at a later date:

- Mifgash (meeting) with Rabbi Stacey Blank, spiritual leader of Kehilat Darchei Noam, the Reform congregation of Ramat Hasharon
- Unique meeting with Janan Adawi, an Israeli Arab lawyer (graduate of the Hebrew University) who currently works in the criminal appellate division of the Justice Ministry
- Program with Bridges to the Future

Underlined Meals and all breakfasts will be included in the package price.

The trip will be staffed by a senior Keshet Israel Educator/Guide and a trained youth madricha.

Speakers are subject to final confirmation of schedules.

This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet.

