



# FOOTSTEPS IN ISRAEL

# JERUSALEM

## BASES

### ***Agron Guest House***

Located in the heart of Jerusalem and part of Fuchsberg Center for Conservative Judaism, this is the home of *Nativ*, USCJ's gap year program, and all other USY and high school programs in Israel.

### ***Nes Harim***

The Jewish National Fund *Nes Harim* Field and Forest Education Center is located in the heart of a green forest. The compound is secure and fenced in, and located right next to the community of *Nes Harim*, which is a short drive from Jerusalem.

### ***The Rabin Guest House***

Located in *Givat Ram*, near the Hebrew University and the Israel Museum, the *Knesset* & other government buildings, this facility offers high-quality accommodations.



## SITES

### ***Kotel (The Western Wall of the Temple Mount)***

- USY trips will visit the *Kotel*, a place where all visitors, no matter their origin or religion, come to pray, on one of their first days in Jerusalem

### ***Ezrat Israel***

- This is the egalitarian prayer site located next to the Robinson arch at the *Kotel*

### ***Yemin Moshe / Mishkenot Sha'ananim***

- Built in the 19th century by Sir Moses Montefiore, it is the first of Jerusalem's neighborhoods built outside the Old City walls

## **David Citadel**

- The "Tower of David" (but built by King Herod), the David Citadel tower stands at the Western gate of the Old City (the Jaffa Gate) and is the centerpiece of a "living museum" depicting 3000 years of Jerusalem's history

## **Southern Wall Excavations**

- One of the most amazing sites in Jerusalem, you can see actual remnants of the Destruction of the Second Temple and the main entrance to the Temple itself here
- This site includes the "Davidson Center" visitor's center, with a multimedia presentation and artifacts from that period

## **Herodian Mansions**

- This museum preserves the discoveries made during excavations in the Jewish Quarter that reveal remains of magnificent buildings from the time of the Herodian dynasty period 37 B.C.E. until 70 C.E.

## **City of David**

- The original city of Jerusalem from the time of King David, the City of David lies south of the Temple Mount and is surrounded by hills on all sides
- The water source of First Temple Jerusalem, the Gihon Spring, lies here

## **Hezekiah's Tunnel**

- An underground channel found in Jerusalem, this tunnel was erected during the reign of King Hezekiah in the 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.E. One can walk through this channel, filled with water

## **Mount Herzl**

- The final resting place of Theodor Herzl, this site is home to Israel's deceased presidents and prime ministers, as well as many of Israel's founders and heroes
- Israel's main military cemetery is also located in the area around the mountain. It is a place that is generally venerated by modern Israelis, and is the focal point of commemorative and celebratory proceedings related to the State of Israel

## **Ammunition Hill**

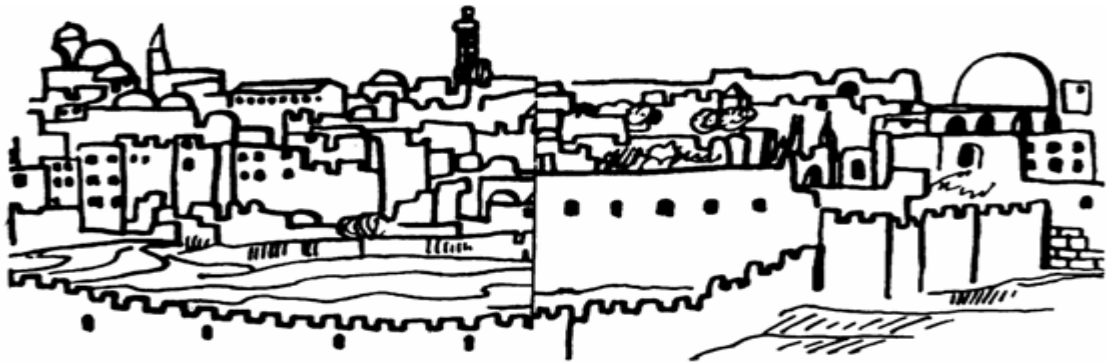
- Referred to in Hebrew at *Givat Hatachmoshet*, this was the site of fierce fighting during the 1967 Six Day War
- The victory here enabled Israeli troops to enter the Old City of Jerusalem. Visitors can walk along the extensive Jordanian bunkers and visit the museum of the Six-Day War

### **Har Hatzofim (Mt. Scopus)**

- This is the new campus of Hebrew University and an observation point of East Jerusalem

### **Promenade**

- The Haas “*Tayelet*,” provides a southern view of Jerusalem in all of its glory. The area is beautifully landscaped and includes many walking paths.
- From here Pilgrims can watch as the sunset turns the city to gold, *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*



### **Yad Lekashish (Lifeline for the Old)**

- An innovative center for the elderly of Jerusalem, it is filled with workshops and provides Golden Age citizens with a protected social environment for their creativity and handiwork

### **Tzedakah Projects**

- Pilgrims will perform various social action projects in Israel and learn first-hand about a variety of institutions supported by USY's *Tikun Olam* (Repair the World) program

### **Beit Guvrin**

- Dig for a day with “Archaeological Seminars” at the Second Temple town of *Maresha*. Pilgrims will visit this site and crawl in some of the ancient tunnels that were used by Jews to hide from the Romans

### **Knesset**

- This is Israel’s Parliament, which Pilgrims will visit to learn how the country’s democracy works



### ***Yad Vashem***

- This is Israel's national Holocaust Museum, which Pilgrims will visit in addition to spending time in the Children's Memorial and the Valley of the Destroyed Communities

### **Israel Museum**

- The Israel Museum is the largest cultural institution in the State of Israel and is ranked among the world's leading art and archaeology museums
- Among the highlights of the Museum are the Shrine of the Book, which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls—the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world, and the Model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple Period

### ***Latrun (The Armored Corps Commemorative Center)***

- Dedicated to the thousands of fallen tank corps soldiers who died in Israel's battles, *Latrun* includes:
  - The "Wall of the Fallen"
  - Audio-visual presentations
  - A tank exhibition

### ***Ayalon Weapons Factory***

- Located in *Rehovot*, this was made to fool the British into thinking it was a *kibbutz* during the British Mandate period, when in fact, it was a secret ammunitions factory set up by the Jewish underground

## **SPEAKERS**

**Rabbi Paul Freedman** is the Director of Israel Outreach at the Center for Conservative Judaism in Jerusalem, and was formerly the Director of USY until making *aliyah* in 1990.

He will visit with each of the Pilgrimage groups and teach a "Page of Talmud" about Eretz Yisrael.

**Danny Siegel** is a poet, lecturer and *Ziv Tzedaka* founder. He will serve as a teacher and as a guide during the stay in Jerusalem.

**Neil Lazarus** is an Israeli *hasbara* and communications consultant. He will facilitate a seminar about the Arab-Israeli conflict and give updates on Israel's current political situation.

# SOUTH-THE NEGEV

## BASES

### ***Chavat Hanokdim (Roded)***

Located between *Arad* and *Masada*, this base is a camel ranch built in Bedouin style. Here USYers will enjoy a *haflah* (feast), camel ride, and a night in a Bedouin tent.



### ***Eilat Youth Hostel***

*Eilat* is a resort town on the coast of the Red Sea. Accommodations in *Eilat* will be provided at a newly renovated youth hostel/guest house.

### ***Arad***

A modern city located in the North-Eastern Negev, *Arad* is on the mountain ridge approaching the Dead Sea. Pilgrimage is based at the *Arad Youth Hostel*, in walking distance of a shopping area.

### ***Kibbutz Ketora***

A modern *Kibbutz* based in the *Arava* region 30 miles north of *Eilat*, *Ketora* has a beautiful guesthouse and educational center, which focuses on coexistence and renewal in the desert

## SIGHTS

### ***Masada***

- The rock fortress built by Herod, *Masada* served as the Zealots' stronghold during their heroic, tragic battles against Rome
- Pilgrims will climb the Roman Ramp at sunrise, pray in the ancient synagogue and learn about *Masada's* glory and its destruction

### ***Ein Ovdar (Ovdar's water spring)***

- These miraculous, beautiful water springs are found in the midst of the desert and serve an important purpose in the desert's ecological structure

### ***Machtesh Crater***

- A moon-like scene, this crater has a unique earth formation that includes colored sands, minerals, plants and wild life

### **Coral Reef**

- Pilgrims will swim and snorkel at the coral reef of *Eilat*, enjoying some of the most beautiful fish and coral in the world

### **Yotvata**

- A kibbutz that made the desert flourish, *Yotvata* undoubtedly serves the best milk products in the world

### **Ein Gedi**

- A modern *kibbutz* on the edge of the Dead Sea, *Ein Gedi* is located near the ancient oasis known by the same name

### **Nahal David**

- Not far from *Ein Gedi*, this river is famous for its lush foliage and the ibex that inhabit the area
- A hardy climb leads to the mystical cave where King David is said to have hid from King Saul

### **Sde Boker**

- This place is the "dream come true" of David Ben Gurion, founding father of the State of Israel, who envisioned the "greening of the desert." Today it is a thriving kibbutz and a center for education and desert research
- Pilgrims will visit Ben Gurion's cabin and his grave

### **Dead Sea**

- Here at the lowest place in the world—1,200 feet below sea level—Pilgrims can swim, float, and cover themselves with the special and therapeutic mud

### **Outdoor Desert Experience**

- This 24 hour desert experience is located next to the Ramon Crater. Activities here include:
  - Rappelling (descending by rope from a cliff)
  - Navigating in the dark
  - Star gazing
  - Preparing meals
  - Sleeping outdoors
  - And more

# NORTH–THE GALIL

## BASES

### **Poria Youth Hostel**

This hostel is situated on top of Mt. Bariniki, near the city of *Tiberius*, overlooking the Sea of Galilee and the Golan Heights, and provides high-level accommodations.

### ***Beit Rutenberg, Haifa* (\*L'Takyan Olam group ONLY)**

Located in the *Achuza* neighborhood at the top of the Carmel mountain, evenings at this hostel can be spent on the grounds of *Beit Rutenberg* with view over *Haifa* and on the Baha'i gardens

## SITES AND PROGRAMS

### ***Haifa, Baha'i Gardens***

- These beautiful gardens are located at the world center of the Baha'i sect in the city of *Haifa*

### ***Haifa Panorama***

- Pilgrims will see amazing views as they stand at this vantage point overlooking the *Haifa Bay*

### **Druze Hospitality**

- The Druze, a unique Arab tribe with a secret religion, live in picturesque villages and serve in the Israeli armed forces. Pilgrims will be hosted at the *Usafia* village and enjoy a kosher Druze meal

### ***K'far Kedem***

- Just as in biblical times, Pilgrims will ride a donkey in the hills around the ancient city of *Tzipori*
- In the time of the *Mishnah*, this city was a center of learning and home to the *Sanhedrin* (the Jewish High Court)

### ***Golan Heights***

- While visiting the *Golan Heights*, most northern part of Israel, Pilgrims will become familiar with its history, its importance, and the conflict over returning it to Syria, while hiking and traveling through its breathtaking sights



### ***Tzfat (Safed)***

- The mystical city of *Tzfat* is the birth place of *Kabbalah*, and was the home of Rabbi Joseph Karo, author of the *Shulchan Aruch*.
- Today an impressive artists' colony can be found in this hilltop city

### ***Arbel Mountain***

- The cliff-side fortress of the northern Zealots during their battles with Rome, Pilgrims will follow *Arbel's* winding path, which the Romans had to climb in order to conquer it

### ***Mount Miron***

- The highest mountain in Israel pre-1967, *Miron's* short and beautiful hike includes observation points overlooking the Upper Galilee and *Tzfat*

### ***Nachal Snir***

- Here Pilgrims will take a water hike through a gorge that is one of the three major sources of water in Israel

### ***The Cemetery of the Kinneret***

- The graves of the poets Naomi Shemer and Rachel are located here on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, along with graves of Zionist founders A.D. Gordon, Moshe Hess, Berel Katzanelson, and Dov Borochoy

### ***Acco (Acre)***

- A port city on the Mediterranean which has had many rulers Acco includes:
  - Crusader halls
  - A famous mosque
  - A fort used by the British to imprison and execute Jewish freedom fighters are all part of the city's historic significance

### ***Rosh Hanikra***

- These are magnificent grottos formed by water hitting the sea-side cliffs for thousands of years

### ***Tveriah (Tiberias)***

- Pilgrims will explore the ancient and modern sides of this holy city, which sits on the shores of the Sea of Galilee

### ***Hof Hachelet (Blue Beach)***

- A water park in Tiberias, Blue Beach sits on the shores of the *Kinneret*

# TEL AVIV

## BASES

### *Mishkenot Ruth Daniel Guest House*

These high standard accommodations are in a perfect location. The guesthouse is close to the Mediterranean Sea and promenade, as well as to the ancient historical Yaffo.

### ***B'nai Dan (Guest House)***

*B'nai Dan* is situated in Northern *Tel Aviv* next to the *Yarkon River* and *Tel Aviv* Port shopping center.

## SITES AND PROGRAMS

### ***Kikar Rabin***

- Visit and hold a group memorial ceremony at the site of the assassination of Former Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin z”l

### **Hall of Independence**

- This is the site where Israel’s Declaration of Independence was signed by David Ben Gurion in 1948

### **Old Jaffa**

- Pilgrims will stroll through the quaint alleyways of Old Jaffa and bargain in its flea market

### **The *Tel Aviv* Olympic Experience**

- Experience the Olympic spirit of excellence, willpower, perseverance and an overwhelming ambition to achieve and reach ever faster, higher and stronger. The Olympic Experience, one of twelve Olympic museums in the world, boasts:
  - State-of-the-art high-tech imaging and illustrations
  - Audio-visual presentations
  - Holograms
  - Interactive screens
  - Hands-on trials
  - And more

### **Dialogue in the Dark**

- In complete darkness, blind individuals lead small groups of guests through a series of ordinary situations that are suddenly experienced extraordinarily, without eyesight
- Dialogue in the Dark is a platform for communication and a close exchange, provoking a change in perspectives

### **Start Up IL**

- Pilgrims will go on a scavenger hunt tracking technology that focus on Israeli innovations used by people around the world
- This experience will give Pilgrims a better understanding of how Israel is at the center of the global tech world