DAY #1 | MONDAY, JUNE 12

TAKING FLIGHT

- Depart from St. Louis at 10:15am on Air Canada #8984
- Arrive to Toronto at 1:17pm and transfer to Air Canada #80 departing at 4:35pm

DAY #2 | TUESDAY, JUNE 13

BRUCHIM HA-BA’IM – WELCOME TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL

- Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport at 10:00am
- Meet our Israeli staff team and travel to the Negev Desert
- Welcome to Israel! Shehecheyanu ceremony overlooking the Wadi Tzin desert canyon
- Check-in, orientation, and icebreakers at our desert accommodations

OVERNIGHT: Sde Boker Field School, Negev Desert

DAY #3 | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

PIONEERING AND ADAPTATION IN THE DESERT

- Experience the thrill of sandboarding down natural dunes and off-road jeeping in the Negev Desert
- **Salad Trail** – Experience the wonders of Israel's desert agriculture revolution (including lunch)
- **Sde Boker** – Visit David and Paula Ben Gurion's modest home and learn about the remarkable story of Israel's first Prime Minister and his unique vision for Israel's future in the desert
- Evening: Take part in preparing a traditional fresh-cooked "Poike Pot" meal in the desert
OVERNIGHT: Sde Boker Field School, Negev Desert

DAY #4 | THURSDAY, JUNE 15

BAMIDBAR – THRIVING IN THE DESERT

- Hike to the hidden desert pools at Ein Avdat
- Explore the world’s largest erosion crater at the Ramon Crater Visitor Center
- Pizur lunch in the desert community of Mitzpe Ramon
- Set-up camp for our desert wilderness experience (Harei Edom)
- BaMidbar – Learn how to survive and thrive in the desert as our ancestors did in the Red Mountains

OVERNIGHT: Camping in the Negev Desert

DAY #5 | FRIDAY, JUNE 16

EILAT AND THE RED SEA

- Wake up early to begin our pre-sunrise hike to the summit of Mt Zephachot overlooking the Red Sea
- Return to our camp for breakfast and wrap-up our BaMidbar experience
- Continue to the Red Sea – Discover underwater treasures snorkeling at Coral Beach (pizur lunch)
- Relaxed beach time and banana boating adventure in Eilat
- Break for ice cream at Yotvata, Israel’s famous desert dairy farm
- Check-in to our desert kibbutz accommodations and celebrate Shabbat with the kibbutz community

OVERNIGHT: Kibbutz Keturah Guest House, Arava Valley
DAY #6 | SATURDAY, JUNE 17

SHABBAT ON KIBBUTZ

- Morning: Staff-led Shabbat programming and group lunch at our accommodations
- Afternoon: Enjoy a relaxed Shabbat with pool, sports, and free time!
- Learn about the history of the kibbutz idea and discover how kibbutz farms prosper in the desert
- Afternoon: Enjoy a relaxed Shabbat with pool, sports, and free time!

Overnight: Ramat Rachel Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY #7 | SUNDAY, JUNE 18

THE ROAD TO JERUSALEM

- Depart from the Arava Valley and begin our ascent to Jerusalem
- Encounter with a Bedouin women's weaving cooperative in the desert village of Lakiya
- Dig-for-a-Day Archaeological Seminar at Beit Guvrin National Park + explore the Bell Cave
- Ascend to Jerusalem – Panoramic intro to the contours of Jerusalem at the Haas Promenade
- Check-in and dinner at our accommodations in Jerusalem
- Evening: Tower of David Night Spectacular sound and light show in the Old City

OVERNIGHT: Ramat Rachel Guest House, Jerusalem

DAY #8 | MONDAY, JUNE 19

FOUNDATIONS OF JEWISH HISTORY

- City of David Excavations - Discover the foundations of Jerusalem dating back to King David’s time
• **Hezekiah's Tunnel** – Cool off in the spring-fed underground aqueduct running below Jerusalem

• Enter the Old City at **Zion Gate** and explore the ancient corridors and rooftops of the **Jewish Quarter**

• Free time for shopping and pizur lunch in the Cardo area of the Jewish Quarter

• Reflections at the Kotel – **the Western Wall complex** – and explore layers of history deep under the Old City in the **Western Wall Tunnels**

• Dinner at our accommodations

• Evening: Speaker – The political situation in Israel, with guest speaker, **Eylon Levy**

OVERNIGHT: Ramat Rachel Guest House, Jerusalem

**DAY #9 | TUESDAY, JUNE 20**

**LOSS & RENEWAL**

St. Louis Israel Bound | Summer 2023 | By Authentic Israel

• Docent-led visit to the **Yad VaShem** World Holocaust Remembrance Center

• Processing time and picnic-style lunch at Jerusalem’s Mifletzet Park

• Afternoon: Volunteering project at **Pantry Packers** in Jerusalem

• Travel to the Judean Desert for **camel riding**, a **desert tent feast, bonfire**, and guide-led **stargazing** at Kfar Hanokdim encampment

OVERNIGHT: Kfar Hanokdim, Judean Desert

**DAY #10 | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21**

**MASADA AND THE DEAD SEA**

• Hike up the **Roman Ramp** to the summit of Masada
• Descend Masada via the cable cars (option to hike down the Snake Path) and stop for breakfast at IYHA Masada Guest House
• Travel to the lowest place on earth for effortless floating at the Dead Sea’s Ein Gedi beach
• Nature walk to the desert waterfalls of Nahal David in the Ein Gedi National Park
• Continue north to the Galilee via the Jordan Valley
• Check-in and dinner at our kibbutz-based accommodations

OVERNIGHT: Ohalo Guest House, Sea of Galilee

DAY #11 | THURSDAY, JUNE 22

PERSPECTIVES FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

• Get wet hiking down Nahal Jilaboun Canyon on the Golan Heights
• View Israel’s neighbors and navigate former IDF bunkers at the summit of Mt. Ben-Tal
• Encounter with the Druze culture and share a traditional lunch in the Golan village of Ein Kinya
• Tel Facher – Explore a former Syrian bunker complex on the Golan Heights overlooking the Galilee and learn about the story of master spy, Eli Cohen, and his contributions in the region
• Cool off with relaxed rafting or tubing down the upper Jordan River followed by a fresh-cooked pizza dinner

OVERNIGHT: Ohalo Guest House, Sea of Galilee

DAY #12 | FRIDAY, JUNE 23

MYSTICS OF THE GALILEE

• Morning: Raft-building team challenge on the Sea of Galilee
• **Ancient Tsfat** – Explore the historic center of Jewish mysticism in the Galilee highlands
• Free time for shopping and pizur lunch in the Tsfat artists' colony
• **Bake your own challah for Shabbat** in the 500-year old “Beit Hakahal” stone oven with Livnot U’Lhibanot in Tsfat
• Meet with inspirational Kabbalistic artist, **Sheva Chaya**
• Return to our accommodations and prepare for Shabbat
• **Kabbalat Shabbat, dinner and oneg on kibbutz**

OVERNIGHT: Ohalo Guest House, Sea of Galilee

**DAY #13 | SATURDAY, JUNE 24**

**SHABBAT ON KIBBUTZ**

• Morning: Staff-led Shabbat programming and group lunch at our accommodations
• Afternoon: Enjoy a relaxed Shabbat with pool, sports, and free time!
• Dinner at our accommodations followed by havdalah
• Evening: Group night out in Tiberias + ice cream

OVERNIGHT: Ohalo Guest House, Sea of Galilee

**DAY #14 | SUNDAY, JUNE 25**

**ADVENTURES IN THE WESTERN GALILEE**

• **Rappelling down Keshet Arch** - Hike to this soaring natural geological wonder in the Western Galilee and rappel down its face (packed lunch)
• Walking tour of the **Acco Seaport**, including a visit to the **Tunisian Synagogue**
• **Rosh Hanikrah** – Descend into the ocean-swept caves on Israel’s far northern border
• Afternoon: Start of P2G programming in Yokneam Meggodo (including dinner TBD)

OVERNIGHT: Plaza Hotel, Nof Galilee

DAY #15 | MONDAY, JUNE 26

ST. LOUIS + YOKNEAM-MEGGIDO = P2G

• Morning of P2G-organized programming in the Western Galilee, including lunch (organized by P2G)
  • Aqua Kef – Experience the thrill of Israel's floating water park on the Sea of Galilee
  • Evening: Cruise on the Sea of Galilee followed by a group dinner at Decks in Tiberias

OVERNIGHT: Plaza Hotel, Nof Galilee

DAY #16 | TUESDAY, JUNE 27

• Travel to Haifa, Israel's most diverse city, including visits to the Stella Maris Monastery, the Bahai Temple Gardens, and the Ahmeddiya Mosque (meet with Imam)
• Break for a hummus lunch (pizur) in Haifa's Wadi Nisnas neighborhood
• Afternoon: Surfing class and beach time at Atlit Beach
• Evening: Head south to central Israel and stop for pizur dinner in Modi'in
• Check-in to our accommodations in Neve Shalom, an integrated Jewish-Muslim-Christian village

OVERNIGHT: Neve Shalom Guest House, Central Israel

DAY #17 | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

THE SPIRIT OF TEL AVIV

• Arrive to Tel Aviv, Israel’s cultural and commercial capital
• Volunteer at the Jaffa Institute – An innovative charity dedicated to combating poverty
• Explore the ancient port city of Jaffa, and browse the Jaffa flea market (pizur lunch)

• Learn how Israel became the 'Startup Nation' at the Peres Center for Peace & Innovation in Jaffa

• Discover the complexity and beauty of Hebrew graffiti art in Florentine

• Independence Hall – Explore modern Israel's creation and its founding values (view from outside)

• Evening: Celebrate the richness of Jewish Ethiopian culture and take part in a culinary workshop and meal at the Battae Center in Tel Aviv

OVERNIGHT: Neve Shalom Guest House, Central Israel

DAY #18 | THURSDAY, JUNE 29

MODERN JEWISH SOVEREIGNTY THEN AND NOW

• Leket – Volunteering project harvesting for the hungry of Israel

• Machon Ayalon - Honor the bravery of the pioneers who helped establish modern Israel at this secret underground munitions facility (packed lunch on the way)

• Return to Jerusalem in the early afternoon

• Guided tour of the Knesset – Discover Israel's democratic system at its parliament building

• Speaker – Meet with an activist from Women of the Wall to learn about their pursuit of religious pluralism in Israeli society

• Evening: Pizur dinner and group night out at Ben Yehuda Street pedestrian mall

OVERNIGHT: Cesar Hotel, Jerusalem

DAY #19 | FRIDAY, JUNE 30

SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS
• **Roots Tent** – Travel to Gush Etzion in the West Bank and engage in a dialogue of perspectives with a Jewish Settler and a Palestinian Arab who both call the Land home

• **Geopolitical tour of Jerusalem** – The seam, the wall, and the future (guide-led, stopping in Gilo)

• A packed lunch is provided today en route

• **Mt. Herzl National Cemetery** – Honoring Israel’s national leaders and fallen soldiers

• Evening: Return to the Old City for a community *Kabbalat Shabbat experience at Robinson's Arch* (egalitarian area of Western Wall)

• Shabbat dinner is served at the hotel

OVERNIGHT: Cesar Hotel, Jerusalem

**DAY #20 | SATURDAY, JULY 1**

**SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM**

• Morning: Staff-led Shabbat programming and group lunch at our accommodations

• Walk to the *Israel Museum* to discover the Dead Sea Scrolls, Temple Model, and Israel’s most prized cultural and historic treasures

• Spend the rest of the afternoon playing sports and relaxing together at *Jerusalem's Saker Park*

• Afternoon pool time at the hotel

• Dinner at our accommodations followed by havdalah – celebrate the start of a new week

• Evening: Group night out at *Jerusalem's First Station*

OVERNIGHT: Cesar Hotel, Jerusalem

**DAY #21 | SUNDAY, JULY 2**

**LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**
• Late wake-up and packing time
• Speaker – Bringing Israel home with Gil Troy
• **Mahan Yehuda** – Experience Jerusalem’s colorful and iconic open-air marketplace + pizur lunch
• **Meet with students at Maale** – a film school devoted to exploring the intersection of Judaism and modern life
• Final shopportunity on Ben Yehuda Street
• Return to our accommodations to get refreshed and check-out
• **Tree planting ceremony**, final wrap-up session, and **celebration dinner at Neot Kedumim Park**

OVERNIGHT: Cesar Hotel, Jerusalem

**DAY #22 | MONDAY, JULY 3**

**SHALOM U’LHITRAOT**

• Depart Israel on Air Canada #81 at 11:45am
• Arrive to Toronto at 4:25pm and transfer to Air Canada #8987 departing at 8:45pm
• Arrive back to St. Louis at 9:52pm