

Leadership

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Tour Guide

Tom Bar Dov

SUNDAY DECEMBER 25 • ARRIVAL

Welcome to Israel! Upon arrival into Ben Gurion airport, join with the rest of the group for light refreshments before departing south and checking into our overnight accommodations.

Evening

Our journey will officially commence with an **opening dinner** followed by a group **orientation**, where you will hear an overview of the trip and goals for the coming days. Afterward, engage in a celebratory Hannukah party.

Overnight, Kibbutz Urim

MONDAY DECEMBER 26 • NORTHERN NEGEV

Morning

Enjoy a buffet-style Israeli breakfast.

Depart for the Bedouin town of **Hura** and spend the morning at **Project Wadi Attir**, a progressive model for community-based agriculture that combines Bedouin aspirations and values with sustainability principles, modern-day science, and cutting edge technologies. Additionally, meet with representatives from **Desert Star**, an initiative that aims to provide mentoring and guidance to local Bedouin students with leadership potential and an interest in social engagement. Hear an introduction and engage in an ice-breaker activity.

Afternoon

Get your hands dirty with members of Desert Star and Wadi Attir while developing the new Welcome Center; split into three groups and either flower beds, build picnic benches, or irrigate the gardens. Afterward, hear from **Janice Perry**, local animal therapist, who will discuss how animal therapy has significantly helped members of the community.

Enjoy **lunch** at the Authentic Restaurant, known for its diverse Mediterranean cuisine.

Spend the afternoon with **HaShomer HaChadash**, a volunteer organization dedicated to safeguarding the land and upholding the Zionist ideals on which the State of Israel was found. Participate in an agricultural volunteering activity before engaging in a fire discussion to hear how HaShomer has helped with fire relief in Israel.

Evening

After a hard day's work, enjoy a **bonfire** and **poike dinner** of tasty beef stew prepared by HaShomer volunteers.

Overnight, Kibbutz Urim

TUESDAY DECEMBER 27 • NORTHERN NEGEV

Morning

Following breakfast, depart for **Aleh Negev-Nahalat Eran**, a one-of-a-kind rehabilitative village that provides high-level medical services and unparalleled care to children with severe cognitive and physical disabilities.

Upon arrival, take a tour through the beautifully landscaped grounds that were strategically constructed to positively stimulate the senses using natural herbs and flower gardens and see the various therapeutic services offered here. Afterward, partake in a brief art activity and create Hannukah cards with the special needs kids being treated at the village.

Afternoon

Depart for **Be'er Sheva**, the capital of the Negev. Upon arrival, tour the **Be'er Sheva River Park**, the centerpiece of JNF's efforts to create a renaissance for the city. Hear how this urban renewal project has served as an anchor of tourism and recreation. See the Pipes Bridge, a pedestrian and cycling bridge that links to the Old City of Be'er Sheva, and the 12,000-seat amphitheater—now the largest in Israel. Afterward, enjoy a **falafel lunch** on site.

Spend the remainder of the afternoon at **Earth's Promise**, a community that works to find sustainable solutions for local residents and disadvantaged Ethiopians using urban agriculture and economic development. Hear an introduction from **Co-Director Adam Ganson**, who will share his personal story of moving to Israel and his work with Earth's Promise.

Afterward, we will split into four groups and partake in one of the following hands-on projects: Refitting greenhouses, urbanizing farms, and building stands for the gardens.

Unwind with a fun **beer tasting** at the Homebrew Cooperative Brewery. Meet with local entrepreneurs in the brewing industry and learn about their work within the community.

Evening

Enjoy **dinner** at the new **Lauder Employment Center** with **Gabe Axler, Director of Educational Tourism at Tor HaMidbar**. Hear about how this JNF partner organization supports the growth of social businesses in the region and its success in generating promising socioeconomic and entrepreneurial opportunities. Additionally, hear from **Aharon Ariel Lavi, Chief Development Officer of MAKOM**, an educational organization that consults local leaders by creating content that embraces the vibrant complexity of Israel.

End the day with **group reflection**.

Overnight, Kibbutz Urim

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28 • LIFE ON THE BORDER

Morning

Following breakfast this morning, depart for your day in **Halutza**, a region established by 21st pioneers who were forced from their homes after the 2005 disengagement from Gaza.

Upon arrival, hear an overview about the community's significance and development before splitting into groups to work on enhancing the exterior walls of the new state-of-the-art **Medical Center** in Bnei Netzarim, which will provide much-needed medical care and health services to local residents. Turn the benches into mosaics and plant a tree in the soil with your own hands, contributing to JNF's ongoing afforestation efforts to Israel.

Afternoon

Take a break for **lunch** at the local Yeshiva with Halutza residents.

Resume volunteering and either complete the work that you started or diversify your experience and switch to one of the other projects.

Depart for the **Sderot Indoor Recreation Center**, a JNF signature project that has provided a much-needed sense of normalcy to residents and children living in the hard-hit town of Sderot, located less than one mile from Gaza. Meet with local residents and children, who will share their stories of how the center has impacted the community and their lives.

Evening

Enjoy **dinner** at the Kibbutz before proceeding to a private room for a recap and **group reflection** of the last few days.

Overnight, Kibbutz Urim



Halutza



Halutza Medical Center



Sderot Indoor Playground

THURSDAY DECEMBER 29 • CENTRAL

Morning Following breakfast and check-out, depart north for **Jerusalem**, Israel's capital city and one of the holiest places in the world.

Arrive at the **Lahav Forest** and serve as a "Forester" for the morning. Alongside with KKL representatives, work to clear underbrushes, prune trees, and prepare fire breaks and forest paths.

Afternoon Proceed to **Ammunition Hill**, site of the most pivotal battle of the Six-Day War. Enjoy **lunch** before touring the battlegrounds and bunkers to follow in the footsteps of the soldiers who fought here. Learn about the historical significance of the area and the reunification of Jerusalem with **Yoel Rosby, JNF-Ammunition Hill Liaison**. End at JNF's **Wall of Honor**, which commemorates Jewish veterans from around the world.

Later this afternoon, embark on a walking tour of the **Old City**. Explore the **Jewish & Christian Quarters** in all of their history and wonder and visit the holy **Western Wall**, where Jews from around the world gather for prayer and silent contemplation. Afterward, stroll down **Ben Yehuda Street**, Jerusalem's open-air pedestrian mall filled with cafés, shops and the sounds of musicians playing their instruments on the street. Take the time to wander and explore on your own.

Evening Depart for **Tel Aviv**, Israel's most cosmopolitan city, and check into the Metropolitan Hotel.

Meet in a private room at the hotel to assemble **Hannukah packages** for the elderly. Afterward, enjoy the remainder of the evening and dinner at leisure, exploring Tel Aviv's exciting night life and culinary scene at your own pace.

Overnight, Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv



Gush Etzion Visitor Center



Western Wall



Tel Aviv

FRIDAY DECEMBER 30 • TEL AVIV

Itinerary is Subject to Change.

Morning Following a delicious buffet-style breakfast at the hotel, spend the morning on a special Hannukah day trip as you explore the Maccabee Caves and Graves in the JNF-KKL Ben Shemen Forest with **JNFuture-TLV**, our partner chapter in Tel Aviv that engages and empowers young leaders in Israel. Afterward, enjoy lunch on own.

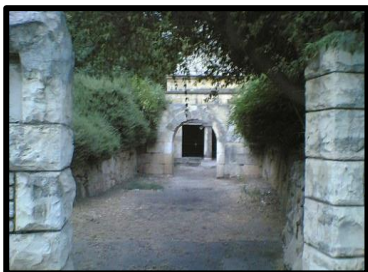
Afternoon End the day with a funky **street graffiti tour** through Tel Aviv's Florentine neighborhood. See the fascinating street art unique to Israeli culture and discuss the concept of vandalism versus art.

Proceed back to the hotel to prepare for **Shabbat**.

Evening Mark the beginning of Shabbat with a symbolic candle lighting and Kabbalat Shabbat ceremony.

Enjoy a special "**White City**" **Shabbat** with other young leaders from JNFuture-Tel Aviv and the local community. White City Shabbat is a way for young professionals to network and celebrate the Sabbath in an intimate setting. Enjoy a family-style **dinner** with dozens of new olim and native Israeli's alike and hear remarks from your **Chair, Simon Schwartz**.

Overnight, Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv



Maccabee Caves



Nachalat Binyamin Fair



Street Graffiti in Tel Aviv

SATURDAY DECEMBER 31 • SHABBAT / NYE

Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat. Optional Shabbat services will be offered for those who wish to attend.

Itinerary is Subject to Change.

Afternoon

Partake in a **text study session** before having **Shabbat lunch** at the hotel.

Spend the remainder of the afternoon relaxing or consider joining an optional walking tour through Tel Aviv's **White City** to see some excellent examples of the famous German-inspired Bauhaus architecture. Stroll down **Rothschild Boulevard**, an iconic cultural and commercial center of Tel Aviv, and hear about the city's history.

Re-join as a group for our **closing session** to reflect on your experiences over the past week, and ways to stay connected to JNF once back in the states.

Evening

As the sun sets, mark the end of Shabbat by participating in the ritual of **Havdalah**; a service infused with songs, prayers, and meaning.

Enjoy dinner on your own this evening before ringing in the New Year at a festive JNFuture **NYE party** in Tel Aviv.

Overnight, Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv

SUNDAY JANUARY 1 • DEPARTURE

Morning

Enjoy your final breakfast together as a group.

6:30AM

Check-out of the hotel. A group transfer will be offered to Ben Gurion Airport for those returning back to the U.S.



Bauhaus architecture



Havdalah



Happy New Years!