

2010 PIONEER ISRAEL EXPERIENCE INFORMATION

Dates, Rates and Travel Information:

- Program Dates - July 18th to August 8th
- Program Rates – TBD
- Program includes:
 - VIP airport greeting
 - Travel to and from JFK to Tel Aviv
 - Three kosher meals daily (18 days)
 - Triple 3-star hotels & kibbutz guest houses (16 nights) based on triple rooms
 - Professionally licensed guide educator (18 days)
 - Professionally licensed medic accompaniment (18 days)
 - Professionally licensed guard accompaniment (18 days)
 - Deluxe motor coach (18 days)
 - Entrance fees & activity costs according to sample itinerary
 - Local health insurance (does not cover pre-existing conditions)
 - Complimentary land costs & flights (from JFK) for two B'nai B'rith staffers
 - Shabbat program leaders (2 shabbatot)
 - Field support and logistical oversight from the Tlalim head office in Tel Aviv
- Transportation to/from New York JFK airport is not included in the overall cost of the trip.
- Scholarship and financial assistance is available through B'nai B'rith International/Beber camp and we are more than happy to connect you with many other sources of scholarship funding (Federations, Congregations etc)

Safety & Security

The 2010 Pioneer Israel Experience is committed to providing a safe & secure travel experience in Israel. Tlalim Tour's, Beber Camp's Israeli tour provider, has a well-deserved reputation for providing the highest level of safety and security to program participants for over three decades. Tlalim Tours has developed safety protocol that places the welfare of our participants above all other considerations. Parents will be able to contact Beber Camp staff on a 24x7 basis; and the Tlalim/Beber Camp Israel Experience website will regularly be updated with news and information about the program in Israel.

The following are the basic components of our approach to safety & security:

- Tlalim/Beber Camp strictly adheres to the Israel Ministry of Education's security policies regarding youth and student travel. Each group's itinerary is approved two weeks before the trip and re-approved each morning of the trip by a special "Situation Room" that is operated by the Israeli Defense Forces in partnership with Israel's Ministry of Education.
- Participants are given a comprehensive security and safety orientation immediately upon arrival in Israel. During this session, participants are taught all rules and regulations that govern their safety. They are also educated in how to protect themselves in the unlikely event that they are separated from the group. Each participant is given an orientation booklet that contains an emergency contact card with phone numbers of all Beber Camp staff and personnel who are available to the participants on a 24x7 basis.
- Each group is accompanied in Israel at all times by a licensed medic and guard as well as a professional guide who is licensed according to the highest logistical, security, and safety standards.

Each group is also accompanied by two US trained staff that are responsible for the health and well-being of each participant in their group. The busses each have emergency cell phones which enable contact with the groups on a 24x7 basis.

- Overnights are always spent in hotels and guest houses in the safest and most secure locations within the country.
- The program itineraries do NOT include travel to or through areas of the West Bank, Gaza, or East Jerusalem, other than the highly secure Jewish Quarter of the Old City.
- While the program does make visits to Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, our travel within the major cities is generally confined to closed areas with special protection (e.g. the Western Wall, Yad VaShem, etc.). We never travel in crowded public areas, and we always travel on our own private buses.
- While we make every effort to give participants space and time to explore on their own, there is no leaving the group without approved supervision.

The bottom line is that we maintain an iron-clad commitment to all matters of security. In fact, for better or worse, we find that most of our participants complete their experience in Israel without even being able to detect evidence of tension in the region. On that note, we would be happy to put you in touch directly with one of our P2I alumni if you are interested in getting a first-hand perspective.

SAMPLE ITINERARY

This sample itinerary is meant to give you a taste of the overall 2010 Pioneer Israel Experience. A formal itinerary, including a list of accommodations and phone numbers, will be sent to you within a month of your departure flight.

DAY 1: Take off

- Arrive at the departure airport early for ice breakers and introductions
- Take-off / Destination Israel
- Spend the night above the clouds en route to Israel

DAY 2: Welcome to Israel!

- Greeting at Ben Gurion Int'l Airport, travel North
 - Welcome ceremony overlooking the Sea of Galilee (Kinneret)
 - Formal program introductions
- Overnight: Galilee region

DAY 3: Golan

- Hike in Nachal El-Al
 - Check out Israel's neighbors from the Mt. Ben-Tel observation point
 - Meet with a local resident to learn about life in the Golan
 - Enjoy a bonfire under the stars of the Golan
- Overnight: Galilee region

DAY 4: Tzfat

- Hike through Nachal Amud
- Explore the ancient alleyways and corridors of mystical Tzfat

- Water hike through the Majrase Lagoon, swim in the Sea of Galilee (Kinneret)
 - Catch a view of Lebanon from the scenic Misgav Am overlook
- Overnight: Galilee region

DAY 5: Exploring the Galil

- Tour the Tzipori national park and archaeological site
 - Donkey riding and pita making in the village of Kfar Kedem
 - Kayaking and rafting on the Upper Jordan River
 - Return to hotel to prepare for Shabbat
 - Festive Shabbat dinner
 - Oneg Shabbat program
- Overnight: Galilee region

DAY 6: Shabbat in the North

- Shabbat morning program
 - The "Situation" in Israel, an open discussion
 - Sports & swimming at the hotel
 - Havdalah under the stars of the Galilee
 - Group evening out in Tiberias
- Overnight: Galilee region

DAY 7: Welcome to Jerusalem!

- Transfer to Jerusalem
 - Introduction and lunch on Mt. Scopus
 - Tour the ancient City of David (older than the Old City!)
 - Explore the Jewish Quarter of the Old City
 - Take time for personal reflection at the Western Wall (the Kotel)
- Overnight: Jerusalem Foothills

DAY 8: From Remembrance to Redemption

- Visit the newly renovated Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial
 - Help build Israel by planting a tree in Jerusalem's forest
 - Walk through the ancient cisterns & springs of Sataf
 - Evening discussion group: Israel and the Holocaust
- Overnight: Jerusalem Foothills

DAY 9: Modern Tel Aviv

- Drive to Tel Aviv, Israel's modern capital city
- Visit Israel's Independence Hall & Rabin Square
- Afternoon community service project
- Explore the Old Jaffa Port & the Artist's Colony
- Overnight: Jerusalem Foothills

DAY 10: Modern Jerusalem

- Explore West Jerusalem with a scavenger hunt through the city's neighborhoods
 - Lunch and shopping on Ben Yehuda Street in downtown Jerusalem
 - Learn about life in Jerusalem before and during the War of Independence at the Asirei Hamachtarot museum
 - Hike in the Masrek Nature Reserve
- Overnight: Jerusalem Foothills

DAY 11: The Beaches of Tel Aviv

- Transfer from Tel Aviv
 - Private tour and program at the Diaspora Museum
 - Relax on the beaches of the Mediterranean Sea
 - Begin the Home Hospitality Weekend
 - Host family weekend drop-off points in Tel Aviv & Jerusalem
- Overnight: Host Family Weekend or group Shabbat at Kibbutz

DAY 12: Host Family Weekend

NOTE: Participants without their own family in Israel are welcome to pair up with a friend who does; otherwise, participants will participate in P2I's Group Shabbat Experience at a kibbutz guest house.

DAY 13: Shabbat - Host Family Weekend**DAY 14: Desert Bound**

- Return from Home Hospitality Weekend
 - Swimming time at a kibbutz in the Jerusalem foothills
 - Crawl through the Hirbet Midras caves built by Bar Kochba in the 2nd century
 - Short hike on Tel Azeka, near where David fought Goliath
 - Feast "hafla style" in a Bedouin Tent and enjoy a bonfire under the stars of the desert
- Overnight: Mamshit Bedouin Encampment

DAY 15: Negev Experience

- Camel-ride through the desert
 - Get acquainted with the terrain during a short desert hike
 - Visit Ben Gurion's grave at Sde Boker
 - Rappel down into the Ramon Crater
 - Drive through the Negev Desert to Eilat
- Overnight: Eilat area

DAY 16: Exploring the Negev

- Sunrise hike to the top of Mt. Tsephachot
 - Relax, swim, & snorkel at the beach in Eilat
 - Shopping time on the Eilat Promenade
 - Night cruise on the Red Sea
- Overnight: Eilat area

DAY 17: Sunny & Tropical Israel

- Study desert agriculture & environmentalism at Kibbutz Ketura
- Swimming time
- Transfer to Dead Sea region
- Float on top of the Dead Sea!
- Overnight: Dead Sea region

DAY 18: Masada

- Pre-sunrise climb up Masada via the Snake Path
- Re-live the Masada legend on top of the ancient desert fortress
- Hike to the springs and desert waterfalls of the Ein Gedi nature reserve
- Transfer to Jerusalem
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 19: Jerusalem Prepares for Shabbat

- Learn about the Second Temple structure and complex at the Davidson Center
- Final community service project
- Jerusalem prepares for Shabbat at the Mahane Yehuda market
- Final visit to the Kotel for Kabbalat Shabbat
- Festive Shabbat dinner
- Oneg Shabbat
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 20: Shabbat in Jerusalem

- Shabbat in Jerusalem
- Jerusalem walking tour
- Sports & swimming at the hotel
- Havdala service under the stars of Jerusalem
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 21: Final Events & Farewell

- Visit the national military cemetery at Mt. Herzl
- Final concluding program
- Packing and farewell party
- Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY 22: Leaving Home, Going Home

- Drive to Ben Gurion to return to the USA