# Cheshire Israel Fellowship Trip

October 22-November 4, 2014

Draft Itinerary

*(As of Dec 4 - Subject to Change)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday October 22</strong></td>
<td>Departure from JFK on El Al 008 at 11:30pm.</td>
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| **Thursday October 23** | *Welcome to Israel!*  
  - Arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport at 3:55pm and transfer to Tel Aviv.  
  - Welcome Dinner in Tel Aviv’s Yemenite Quarter  
  - Check-in at our hotel and orientation.  
  **Overnight: Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv** |
| **Friday October 24** | *Tel Aviv and Old Jaffa*  
  - Visit Independence Hall, where David Ben Gurion declared the establishment of the State of Israel in May 1948.  
  - Continue to Old Jaffa for a walking tour.  
  - Examine the common roots and divergence of Judaism & Christianity in reference to the vision of St. Peter.  
  - Stroll through the weekly arts & crafts fair in the Nahalat Binyamin neighborhood.  
  - Eve: Join Congregation Kol Halev (“the voice of the heart”) for musical Sabbath service.  
  - Sabbath dinner with the congregation.  
  **Overnight: Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv** |
| **Saturday October 25** | *Sabbath in Tel Aviv*  
  - Optional Sabbath morning service or late morning to wander along the boardwalk by the Mediterranean  
  - Festive Sabbath lunch at hotel*  
  - Free time to explore Tel Aviv’s neighborhoods or art museum.  
  - Walking tour of Tel Aviv’s Neve Tzedek neighborhood and “havdala” separation ceremony by the sea to end the Jewish Sabbath  
  - Dinner together at a local restaurant  
  **Overnight: Metropolitan Hotel, Tel Aviv**  
  *Restaurants are open in Tel Aviv on the Sabbath and hotel meals are about $60, so we could make this meal optional, particularly if you opt instead of a group dinner. However then it may be harder to gather the group during the day for any programming.* |
| **Sunday October 26** | *Justice, Justice, You Shall Pursue*  
  - Volunteer hands-on with Leket, harvesting the gleanings of a field donated for supporting local soup as a contemporary expression of a Biblical tradition.  
  - Lunch stop (on own) en route  
  - Continue to the ancient Biblical city of Tel Sheva, where Abraham made his home.  
  - *Text study on Abraham and the texts from Genesis of “Get Up and Go to the Land which I will show you” and “The Judge of the Earth Won’t Do Justice”. (Why was it necessary for Abraham to leave his homeland in order to preach the tenets of ethical monotheism? How does the Abrahamic tradition of a just God revolutionize religious thinking?)*  
  - Continue to our hotel in Mitzpe Ramon, a town perched on the magnificent Ramon Crater. |
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| Monday, October 27 | Still, Small, Voice  
Join us for a magnificent sunrise hike, followed by mediation and prayer in the  
“Wilderness of Zin” (Central Negev Highlands) along the route of the Children of Israel.  
Why was the Torah was given in the desert? Happened to Elijah in when he fled to the  
desert to seek the presence of God? Why have deserts have played such an important part  
in the Revelation traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.  
Return to hotel for a remarkable breakfast.  
Continue to the Judean Dead Sea to float in the miraculously buoyant waters of the Dead  
Sea and the hotel’s spa facilities  
Lunch stop (on own) en route  
Dinner at hotel  
Optional night walk in the Judean desert.  
**Overnight: Isrotel Ganim Hotel, Ein Bokek** |
| Tuesday, October 28 | What Price Freedom?  
Ascend (by cable car) and explore the complex legacy of Masada, a monumental  
Herodian Palace which became the site of the last battle between Jewish fighters and the  
Romans after the Great Revolt (and is today one of the most popular sites in the world).  
Visit the Qasr El Yahud Baptismal site at the Jordan River, traditionally associated with  
John the Baptist and the entry of Joshua & the tribes of Israel into Canaan.  
Enter Jericho (in the Palestinian Authority) to meet Taysir “Tass” Abu Saada, a  
Palestinian fighter who became a devout Christian in Missouri, then returned to serve his  
people in Jericho as the founder of “Seeds of Hope”.  
Travel north through the Jordan River Valley to Kibbutz Hotel near the Sea of Galilee.  
Check-in and dinner at hotel  
**Overnight: Kibbutz Ginossar Guest House** |
| Wednesday, October 29 | Faith, Prophecy and Borders  
Explore the Ministry of Jesus in the area of the ancient Jewish fishing villages around the  
Sea of Galilee, including Capernaum, a thriving Jewish community during the days of the  
Second Temple in Jerusalem and where Jesus is said to have taught some of his first  
disciples, with its ancient synagogue and church concluding with time for contemplation  
and dialogue  
Visit the Mt. of Beatitude, site of the Sermon on the Mount. Discussion on “Faith and  
Works”  
Explore the Golan Heights and outlook into Syria. Briefing on the military history of the  
Golan Heights and its strategic significance.  
Meet IDF soldiers defending Israel’s northern border or meet an Israeli soldier who fought  
here in the Yom Kippur War.  
Dinner at hotel and processing time *(or dinner in Tiberias and boat ride on the Sea of  
Galilee).*  
**Overnight: Kibbutz Ginossar Guest House** |
| Thursday, October 30 | Cultural Mosaics in the Galilee  
In Nazarath meet local Israeli Arab Christians and learn about the complex identity issues  
they are facing as Arabs living as a minority amongst the Jewish majority in Israel and as  
Christians amongst the Muslim majority in Nazareth.  
Visit Zippori, birthplace of the Talmud and one of the great mixed cities of ancient Israel.  
Program with Dubi Hayyun, a Conservative Rabbi and Emir Sharif, an Ahmadi Imam  
who meet weekly to study religious texts together (in Haifa).  
**Overnight: Kibbutz Ginossar Guest House** |
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| Friday 10/31  | Continue to Jerusalem for check-in at hotel  
|               | Dinner and evening at leisure  
|               | **Overnight: Prima Kings, Jerusalem**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| **Jerusalem of Gold** |  
|               | Tuesday 10/31  
|               | • Outlook over Jerusalem from the Haas Promenade  
|               | • Visit the Biblical site of the City of David to view the latest excavations.  
|               | • Discussion on Political Morality in light of the story of David and Bathsheeba  
|               | • Participate hands-on at a Salvage Dig at the Mt. of Olives  
|               | • Visit the Machane Yehudah Open Air Market as residents prepare for the Sabbath, with Jewish, Christian and Muslim stall owners.  
|               | • Join throngs of Jerusalmites and visitors from all over the world welcoming the Sabbath at the Western Wall.  
|               | • Festive Sabbath dinner at hotel  
|               | • Group processing time  
|               | **Overnight: Prima Kings, Jerusalem**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Saturday 11/1 | **Shabbat in Jerusalem**  
|               | • Options: From the Four Corners of the Earth: “Shul hopping” to a variety of synagogues representing different ethnic and liturgical tradition  
|               | • OR Optional services at local synagogue OR late breakfast  
|               | • Visit to the Israel Museum- Dead Sea Scrolls and Holy Land Model (or Via Delarosa and the Christian Quarter)  
|               | • Optional lunch at the hotel  
|               | • Late afternoon session with Khaled Abu Toameh, an Israeli Arab journalist specializing on the Palestinian Authority and the Israel-Arab relationship.  
|               | • Havdalah (Separation) Service  
|               | • Evening: Musical program and free time to explore Jerusalem’s night life.  
|               | • Options for mass in English: Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Franciscan Chapel at 17:00, Notre Dame at 18:30, Pontifical Biblical Institute at 19:00  
|               | **Overnight: Prima Kings, Jerusalem**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Sunday 11/2   | • Options for mass in English: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer at 9:00, St. Andrew’s Presbyterian at 10:00  
|               | • Early morning visit to Robinson’s Arch and the Southern Wall of the Temple Mount to gain a better understanding of pilgrimage in ancient times.  
|               | • Travel to Bethlehem to meet Palestinians  
|               | • Visit the Church of the Nativity  
|               | • Continue to the Etzion Bloc to see first hand what a “settlement” is and to meet local Jewish residents.  
|               | • Return to Jerusalem for dinner and evening at leisure  
|               | **Overnight: Prima Kings, Jerusalem**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Monday 11/3   | **From Out of the Crucible**  
|               | • Learn and remember at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Center including the new historical museum, Avenue of the Righteous of the Nations and the Children’s Memorial.  
|               | • Meet Ethiopian families in their homes to hear first hand the saga of their modern-day “exodus”- OR visit two unique schools, one a Jewish-Arab partnership and the other a school operated by an urban kibbutz in one of Israel’s poorest neighborhoods that has turned into a magnet for Jerusalemites.  
|               | • Summary and Conclusion Session  
|               | • Farewell Dinner  
|               | • Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport for departing flight
| Tuesday November 4 | Departure on El Al 001 at 1:00am. Arrival JFK at 6:00am. |

- Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator
- All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.

*Subject to availability*

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