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**The Keshet Bar/Bat Mitzvah Families**

***Israel Adventure Tour***

*June 17-27, 2024*

***Buckle your seatbelt – Keshet invites you on a journey of exploration in Israel and of our own inner spiritual and Jewish lives. During this 10-day trip we will explore the length and breadth of Eretz Yisrael. We will come to know the topography and the history of this fascinating land. In the course of exploring Israel’s centrality to Judaism and Jewish History, we will also help Bar and Bat Mitzvah families explore their own connection to the story of this place, to consider the passions this small piece of territory evokes, and to discover for themselves the meaning of walking in the footsteps of our ancestors.***

***Our itinerary is driven by two desires: 1. We want to see and experience as much as possible in the short time we have together in Israel, while still leaving time to enjoy our families and make new friends; 2. We want to choreograph a meaningful experience for young people who are becoming sons and daughters of mitzvah. This Bar/Bat Mitzvah tour will take you to places that tourists never see along with each family going on a special adventure of their own tailor-made mitzvah project. Get ready for the ride of a lifetime!***

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| **Monday, June 17:** | ***bruchim haba’im – welcome!*** |

* Rendez-vous in the hotel lobby
* Start the tour where Israel got its official start – outside of **Independence Hall**; opening ceremony and ice breakers!
* Then walk along the Independence Trail to **Neve Tzedek** – Tel Aviv’s first neighborhood – for a glance at the founding of Hebrew culture
* Welcome dinner at a local restaurant

***Overnight:*** *Tel Aviv*

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| **Tuesday, June 18:** | ***in the beginning…*** |

* In the interactive **Palmach Museum**, follow the lives of ten heroic young men and women fighting to jumpstart the Jewish State
* Peruse the alleyways, meet the artisans and see the street performers at the renowned **Nachalat Binyamin Arts and Crafts Fair** and the adjacent **Carmel Market**
* Site visit to **Save A Child's Heart** whose mission is to improve the quality of pediatric cardiac care for children from developing countries who suffer from heart disease and who cannot get adequate medical care in their home countries. **Run Activities and play with children that are waiting for or recovering from surgery**
* Free evening to enjoy the beach and explore Tel Aviv on your own

***Overnight:*** *Tel Aviv*

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| **Wednesday, June 19:** | ***going down!*** |

* Enter the subterranean munitions factory where Jews produced bullets literally under the noses of the ruling British at the **Ayalon Institute**
* Participate in an actual **archeological dig** at the **Beit Guvrin National Park**
* Travel into the Judean Desert to a Bedouin Village; ride a **camel**, learn about the Bedouin people and experience their renowned hospitality over a ‘hafla’ dinner
* Camp out in a Bedouin “succah” (or a country cabin if you prefer)

***Overnight:*** *Kfar Hanokdim Bedouin Village*

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| **Thursday, June 20:** | ***what price freedom?*** |

* Early morning ascent of Herod’s mountain fortress of **Masada** via the Roman Ramp; catch the breathtaking sunrise, then hear one of the most dramatic stories in Jewish history
* Light breakfast in the Masada Visitors Center
* Hike the waterfall trail at the **Ein Gedi National Park**
* **Float in the Dead Sea**
* Upon seeing Jerusalem for the first time, say the *shehecheyanu* blessing and drink a *l’chaim* on **Mount Scopus**
* Check into the hotel, followed by a free evening in town

***Overnight:*** *Jerusalem*

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| **Friday, June 21:** | ***this year in jerusalem!*** |

* Begin our exploration of the Jewish “love affair” with Jerusalem from the **Haas Promenade** with its magnificent views and powerful Biblical, historical and contemporary narratives
* Enter the **City of David** (the original Jerusalem of King David and First Temple times) for a guided visit with Bible in hand; then descend Warren's shaft a slosh through the water tunnel that King Hezakiya dug to save Jerusalem from the Assyrians 2,700 years ago
* Lunch and shopping time in the Jewish Quarter and the Cardo
* Return to your hotel to rest up and prepare for Shabbat
* Shabbat **candle lighting with song** at the hotel
* In the evening, join the thousands of Israelis and Jews from around the world as they bring in the **Shabbat at the Western Wall**
* Festive Shabbat dinner at the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Jerusalem*

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| **Saturday, June 22:** | ***Shabbat Shalom*** |

* Free morning to attend local synagogue service and/or explore Jerusalem on your own
* In the afternoon, take a walking tour of **Mishekenot Sha’ananim and Yemin Moshe** – two of the first neighborhoods of Jerusalem outside of the Old City walls
* Group **havdallah**
* Free evening

***Overnight:*** *Jerusalem*

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| **Sunday, June 23:** | ***from holocaust to redemption*** |

* Learn and remember at the **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum**
* Imagine just how impressive King Herod’s Temple Project must have been at the **Western Wall Tunnels**
* Take a culinary tour of the renowned **Machane Yehuda Market**; then participate in a cooking workshop followed by dining on the results!

***Overnight:*** *Jerusalem*

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| **Monday, June 24:** | ***mazal tov!*** |

* **B’nai Mitzvah** service at Ezrat Yisrael – the pluralistic section of the Western Wall
* Head north
* **Rafting** in the “mighty” Jordan River
* Check into your hotel
* Celebratory dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Galilee*

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| **Tuesday, June 25:** | ***Golan 360o*** |

* Hike along one of the three main tributaries into the Jordan River and see the biblical archaeology at the **Tel Dan National Park**
* From **Mount Bental**, peer into Syria; recapture the heroic stories of the Yom Kippur War and get an update as to what is happening in Syria today
* Get your hands dirty at a **chocolate making workshop** at the boutique DeKarina Chocolate Factory
* **Ride jeeps** in the upper Galilee for some fabulous views
* Dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Galilee*

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| **Wednesday, June 26:** | ***mystics and mountains*** |

* Visit the special synagogues and charming art galleries of the mystical town of **Tzfat;** learn about how the Jews of 16th century Safed helped shape Judaism as we know it today through the development Kabbalah
* Meet a **Kabbalistic artist** and hear how he incorporates his studies into his artwork
* **Meet soldiers in action**; exchange gifts and contemplate Israel’s security on the shoulders of teenagers
* Dinner in the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Galilee*

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| **Thursday, June 27:** | ***wrapping it up*** |

* See the incredible ruins of King Herod’s ancient port city of **Caesarea**, once the capital of Israel during the Roman and Byzantine Periods
* Enter the home of Agere, an **Ethiopian immigrant**; over a traditional *injera* lunch, hear the incredible story of her journey “home” to Israel
* Meet with **Ofer Eden**, who, as a 19-year-old paratrooper, lost his right arm and the use of his left arm, but went on to become a successful entrepreneur, mountain-biker and kayaker
* Final discussion
* Farewell dinner in a local restaurant
* Continue to the airport for your flight home
* Start planning your next trip to Israel!
* Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation.
* Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator.
* All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.
* This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet

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**Keshet Educational Journeys**

PO Box 8540 Jerusalem 91084 Israel

Phone: 972-2-671-3518 | Fax: 972-2-671-3624

keshet@keshetisrael.co.il | www.keshetisrael.co.il