

Na'aleh 2017
June 27-August 8, 2017

Program by: Keshet: The Center for Educational Tourism in Israel
(rev February 7, 2017)

**** NOTE:** There will be a series of weekly sessions lasting about an hour each where we will raise serious questions/dilemmas facing the state of Israel and/or the Jewish people. Possible topics include:

- 1-separation of Religion and State
- 2-military service/national service for all citizens
- 3-settlements
- 4-Jewish pluralism
- 5-Jewish democracy
- 6-refugees

Each session will be facilitated by the staff and will have additional reading material. They are not intended to answer the questions, more to give an opportunity to broaden one's education on each issue and to express an opinion. This series will prepare all of the naaleh students for to more effectively engage with these issues as they arise in different ways throughout the program.**

UNIT I: Avot - For Out of Zion Goes Forth Torah: The Religious Revolution

Abraham, King David and Isaiah were central figures in our Biblical tradition. In their own way, each is represented as a religious revolutionary: Abraham introduced the concept of justice as a religious imperative, the story of David highlights a concept of political morality that was radically different from its own period, and Isaiah insisted on the centrality of social justice. We will begin our journey together exploring these "religious revolutions" in the environment where they took place and asking ourselves how to create something new.

Tuesday, June 27: Departure

- Depart from Boston

Wednesday, June 28: Bruchim HaBa'im

- Arrive in Israel. Meet your staff at Ben Gurion Airport.
- Ascend to Jerusalem for the Opening Program at **Mt. Scopus** outlook over Jerusalem.
- Check-in and dinner at the hostel.
- "Meet the madrichim"
- Eve: Visit the Kotel
- **Overnight:** Montefiore Hotel, Jerusalem

Thursday, June 29: This Year in Jerusalem

- Shacharit at Haas Promenade-Jerusalem Outlook.
- Discuss Akedat Yitzhak, the epitome of the "Religious Revolution" that will become Judaism.
- Descend to the **City of David** to view the latest excavations and what many leading archeologists believe to be King David's palace.

- Discuss the role of religious and political leaders in ancient Jewish history and today, focusing on the role of the Prophets and the Jewish revolution in political morality. **Text Studies:** 2 Samuel 11-12 (David and BatSheva, David and Nathan), Isaiah 1, Jeremiah 38 (in the pit).
- Wade through **Hezekiah's tunnel**, which was built 2,700 years ago to protect Jerusalem's water supply from invading armies.
- Lunch in the City of David.
- Technical Orientation with Kayla.
- Eve: Taste of Jerusalem nightlife at the Tachana Rishona or Shuk Machane Yehuda
- **Overnight:** Montefiore Hotel, Jerusalem

Friday, June 30:

Bayit Sheni: The Grandeur of Second Temple Jerusalem

- Tefilot at Robinson's Arch
- Visit the **Davidson Center** and Explore **Robinson's Arch** and the **Southern Wall excavations** to gain a better understanding of the magnificence and grandeur of Herod's Second Temple Jerusalem.
- Explore the **Jewish Quarter**
- Meet **Rabbi Susan Silverman** and learn about **Women at the Wall**.
- Family Groups
- RELESH
- Kabbalat Shabbat overlooking the Kotel followed by Ma'ariv at the Kotel
- **Overnight:** Montefiore Hotel, Jerusalem

Shabbat, July 1:

Shabbat in Jerusalem (Parshat Hukat)

- Shabbat tefilot at local synagogues
- Kiddush at **Moreshet Israel** with **Rabbi Adam Frank**: "Vision for the Conservative Movement"
- Shabbat Lunch
- Rest
- "Concentric Circles" Program
- Explore questions of Religion & State with Rabbi Aharon Leibowitz- Founder and Director of Hashgacha Pratit (Alternative Kashrut certification).
- Seudah Shlishit picnic & Parsha Players
- Eve: Dinner and free time at **Malcha Mall** or **Ben Yehuda St.**
- **Overnight:** Montefiore Hotel, Jerusalem

UNIT II: The Struggle for Sovereignty and its Responsibilities

In this unit, we will follow the path of history and explore the history of the Land of Israel as the Jewish People become a minority in their own land. We will learn about other communities both in history and modern times that are in Israel and the region.

Sunday, July 2:

Sovereignty

- Tefilot
- Travel to the coast and visit **Caesarea**, seeing a rich Roman town and imagining what it meant for the Jewish experience in such a place. We will discuss the tensions of the dominant Roman culture with the local Jewish population, and the story of Rebi Akiva.

- Visit to the **Ruttenberg Water Works** along the Jordan river
- Introduction to the history of kibbutz at **Kibbutz Degania**.
- Continue to the **Sachne Pools** at the foot of Mt. Gilboa
- Evening in Beit Shean or Kibbutz Tirat Zvi

Monday, July 10: Building and Protecting a Nation

- Tefilot
- Visit Kibbutz Tirat Zvi to experience some of the work on a functioning kibbutz.
- Meet and work with young, motivated idealists working in the spirit of the Pioneers at **Hashomer HaHadash**.
- Discover new agri-tech on Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu with a tour of **Bio-Bee**.
- Evening in Beit Shean or Kibbutz Tirat Zvi

Tuesday, July 11: Knesset and IDF (17th of Tammuz)

- Tefilot
- Travel South to Jerusalem.
- Tour the **Kenesset** and learn about the foundations of Israeli politics, the Israeli political system and to meet a current Member of Kenesset.
- Program on Military Ethics in the IDF.
- Break-fast
- Eve: Mid Program Summary (written)
- **Overnight:** Neve Ilan Guest House

Wednesday, July 12: Army Day I

- Tefilot
- Meetings with current IDF soldiers in elite units, young men and women a few years older than Na'aleh participants but in a very different stage of life.
- Begin Army Simulation Days
- **Overnight:** Bivouac/Camping in the Jerusalem Forest

Thursday, July 13: Army Day II

- Continue the Army program with **field exercises and navigation, etc.**
- **Overnight:** Bivouac/Camping in the Jerusalem Forest

Friday, July 14: Army Program Conclusion--Free Shabbat

- Challenge yourself in a **Dawn Stretcher March** as a culmination of the Army program.
- Participate in a special **Tanach Ceremony** to close the Army program.
- Closing summary and reflection with Mifakdim (commanders)
- Tefilot
- Showers and dispersal to family/friends for free Shabbat
- **Overnight:** Free Shabbat

Shabbat, July 15: Free Shabbat-Parshat Pinchas

- Shabbat with family/friends
- **Overnight:** Free Shabbat

UNIT IV: Building a Country

In this unit, we will explore the First Hebrew City of Tel Aviv, which sprung out of Jaffa, and learn about the history of Tel Aviv, the War of Independence, and some of the current challenges, needs and responsibilities of the Modern State to take care of all residents--including non-Jews--as well as the environment as an element of a sovereign power. We will also be exposed to the heart of Israeli Culture and Art in the "White City."

Sunday, July 16: First Hebrew City

- Pickup from free weekend
- Begin our exploration of Tel Aviv with a view from the 42nd floor of **Azrieli Towers**, one of the tallest buildings in Israel.
- Experience the new **Taglit "Initiators" Museum** to see the innovative world of Tel Aviv and Israel.
- Get a taste of the Middle East with "**Shuk Bites**" lunch in the **Old Jaffa Flea Market**.
- Tour Neve Tzedek, the first neighborhood of Tel Aviv.
- Explore the ancient city of **Jaffa** and the difficult conditions at the end of the 20th Century.
- Eve: Kumsitz on the Beach
- **Overnight:** Jaffa Youth Hostel

Monday, July 17: Tashach-1948

- Tefilot
- Meet **Zippy Porath**, and American who was a student in Jerusalem when the War of Independence broke out, and then volunteered to join the Haganah to fight.
- Join a "virtual "Palmach Unit" at the multi-media **Palmach Museum** and learn about the challenges facing those who fought during the War of Independence.
- Visit **Machon Ayalon**, a clandestine bullet factory that was a key element for the success of the IDF in the War of Independence.
- Go the "**Bayit HaPatuach**" in Ramle, an Arab built house, whose original residents returned in 1967 and in collaboration with the current Jewish owners turned it into a center of teaching about the Palestinian *Nakba* and coexistence.
- Eve: Experience the fun of Israeli folk-dancing through a unique **Rikudei Am** Program that teaches about the different dances, their origins and how they are reflective of nuances in different communities and time-periods in Israeli history.
- **Overnight:** Jaffa Youth Hostel

Tuesday, July 18: Tikkun Olam: Altruism in Action

- Tefilot
- Volunteer at **Leket**, making a difference for people suffering from hunger in Israel today.

- Volunteer hands-on at the Jaffa Institute, which provides a variety of social services to the less fortunate residents of Tel Aviv-Jaffa.
- Experience the generosity of **Save A Child's Heart**, where Israelis are saving the lives of children from all over the world in need of heart surgery.
- Discover the Children's Museum in Holon with an interactive "**Blind Museum**" to see how Israel is rising to the challenges of Special Needs.
- Sunset bike ride
- Eve: Meeting with IGY (Israeli Gay Youth) for a discussion on the LGBT community in Israel.
- **Overnight:** Jaffa Youth Hostel

Wednesday, July 19: Culture

- Tefilot
- Visit the **Tel Museum of Art** and taste the unique brand of Israeli Art
- Tour studios of young current artists in Tel Aviv.
- Meet with **Professor Justin Cammy**, director of Jewish Studies at Smith College for an important framing of the current socio-political reality in Israel.
- Tour South Tel Aviv and learn the story of the Refugees and Asylum seekers.
- Visit **Bina: The Secular Yeshiva** and hear how a group of non-religious Jews commit themselves to the study of Jewish texts and how that study motivates them to care for the local population in need, particularly the refugees.
- Unwind on the Beach in Tel Aviv.
- **Overnight:** Jaffa Youth Hostel

Thursday, July 20: Security

- Tefilot
- Travel East to **Beit Aryeh** to understand the topography and begin to explore the ramifications of the Security Barrier and the Role of Judea and Samaria.
- Continue to **Sderot**, the city next to the Gaza Strip which experienced terrible bombardment from Gaza.
- Tour **Netiv Ha'asara** and learn about life next to Gaza.
- Travel into the Negev to the Beduin city of **Rahat** and learn about the challenges and needs of the Beduin community.
- Travel south along the **Arava** valley to **Kibbutz Ketura**, a traditional kibbutz founded by North Americans after the Yom Kippur War. Experience the communal lifestyle, religious diversity and ecological awareness of this unique community.
- Eve: Learn about the **Arava Institute**, the premier environmental studies and research program in the Middle East, where Jordanians, Palestinians, Israelis, and students from around the world focus on solving today's most pressing environmental challenges.
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Keturah

Friday, July 21: Jewel of Red Sea

- Tefilot
- Enjoy **Snorkeling at Hof Almog**
- Lunch at Ice Mall
- Participate in **Top 94 adventure activities**

- Prepare for Shabbat
- **RELESH** followed by **Kabbalat Shabbat** services with the egalitarian kibbutz minyan, with an option for separate Ma'ariv.
- Candle lighting
- Kabbalat Shabbat with kibbutz minyan
- Enjoy a festive Shabbat dinner in the communal dining room with the kibbutz members, followed by an **Oneg Shabbat** activity.
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Keturah

Shabbat, July 22:

Desert Shabbat-Parshat Matot-Masei

- Participate in **Shabbat morning services** with the Kibbutz minyan or Na'aleh group.
- Kibbutz program
- Shabbat Lunch in the kibbutz dining room followed by free time.
- Rest time
- Parsha Players
- Tour the **kibbutz algae farm and solar fields** to learn about the creative ways in which the kibbutz is harnessing the natural resources of the desert.
- Seudah Shlishit
- Havdalah
- Evening: Enjoy a **pool party with karaoke** after Shabbat.
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ketura Guest House

Unit V: The Negev and the Negev Adventure

In this unit we will learn about the unique challenges and opportunities presented by the Negev Desert, both in early Zionist history and today. We will also challenge ourselves with the multi-day Negev Adventure where we will sleep out and hike through the desert, learning about the nature and exploring our own community and developing self-awareness. We will study texts about the desert and participate in group dynamic activities.

Sunday, July 23:

Making the Desert Bloom (in more than one way!)

- Tefilot
- Learn about the unique challenges facing the environment at the **Lotan Ecology** Program
- Discover the unique geological features of '*machtesh*' and learn about Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon z"l, at the **Mitzpe Ramon Visitor's Center**
- Meet **Moshik Wolf**, founder of "**Asher Ruach Bo**" **Mechina** for youth at risk and learn about his vision for giving youth a chance to build themselves and their world into a better place.
- Begin **Negev Adventure**: Spend the next few days exploring the natural beauty of the desert, strengthening group dynamics through trust games, while also venturing inwards and developing self-awareness.
- **Overnight:** Negev camping

Monday, July 24:

Negev Adventure/Rosh Hodesh Av

- Tefilot

- Continue the **Negev Adventure**: Through experiential activities, explore the significance of the Jewish people emerging from the desert in the story of Abraham and *yetziat mitzrayim*.
- Study classic texts to explore why the Torah was given in the desert, why the desert is described as “hefker,” and what Elijah meant by *Kol Demah Dakah* (a still, small voice).
- **Overnight**: Negev camping

Tuesday, July 25: Negev Adventure

- Tefilot
- Continue our **Negev Adventure** with more hiking and group exercises.
- Over the course of the day, we will explore themes of national and individual dependence and independence in the context of the manna from heaven which sustained the Israelites throughout their wandering.
- Learn to recognize different flora and fauna indigenous to the Negev, as well as navigation and survival skills.
- **Overnight**: Negev camping

Wednesday, July 26: Back to Civilization

- Tefilot
- Conclude the Negev Adventure experience with a **dawn hike** and desert meditation exercise.
- Visit the graves of David and Paula Ben Gurion in **Sde Boker**, overlooking the Wilderness of Zin, where the Children of Israel wandered in the desert after the Exodus from Egypt. Discuss Ben Gurion’s vision to make the desert bloom from ideological and environmental perspectives, and analyze different models of leadership through a comparison of Moshe and Ben Gurion.
- Ascend to Jerusalem
- Check-in and rest
- Begin **Creative Processing Activity**
- Dinner
- Eve: Take a dip at **Ein Lavan** in preparation for ascending to the Temple Mount tomorrow morning.
- **Overnight**: Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

UNIT VI: Jerusalem and the Complexity of Jewish History, Jewish Present and the Jewish Future

In this unit, we will be based in Jerusalem and experience the complexity of the overlap of many different issues and questions here in the capital. We will begin by going deeper into the different communities and religions that share Jerusalem. We will explore the current reality and learn about the Separation Barrier. We will visit Gush Etzion to understand more about “Settlements”, including a memorial ceremony in honor of Ezra Shwartz z”l. We will meet with Jewish Settlers and Palestinians fighting for peace and reconciliation. A visit to Yad Vashem and erev tisha b’av with challenge us with the Shoah and questions of “how do learn from this past into our collective present?” Our Tisha B’Av experience will be contextualized, understanding how this city has not been a stranger to conflict in the past.

Thursday, July 27: Jerusalem Mosaic

- Tefilot

- Visit the **Temple Mount** and learn about the history and a religious dimension to the historical and current tensions in the city.
- Tour the **Christian Quarter** and the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, learning both the ancient and modern Christian story in Jerusalem.
- Visit the beautiful **Belz Synagogue** and learn about the Haredi and Hasidic communities in Jerusalem.
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Friday, July 28: Jerusalem-The Eye of the Storm

- Tefilot
- Visit **Har Herzl**, Israel's National Military Cemetery and learn about the difficult price of Independence.
- Experience the Political topography of Jerusalem with a tour of the Separation Barrier and the meeting places of Arab and Jewish neighborhoods of Jerusalem.
- Travel to host moshav and meet the host families.
- Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat dinner with hosts
- **Overnight:** Home Hospitality Moshav

Shabbat, July 29: Parshat Devarim

- Shabbat tefilot with hosts
- Join the local teens on the moshav for **Kiddush** and a discussion about Teen Jewish identity in the Diaspora and in Israel.
- Return to your hosts for Shabbat lunch.
- Seudah Shlishit picnic and discussion with teens.
- Havdallah.
- Eve Activity with teens
- **Overnight:** Home Hospitality Moshav

Sunday, July 30: Gush Etzion: Politics and Settlements

- Farewell to hosts
- Visit **Gush Etzion** to learn about the history and current reality of the "settlements".
- Experience the new **Kfar Etzion** audio/visual historical presentation.
- Participate in a moving ceremony at the Ezra Schwarz z"l memorial, and meet the family of Rav Yaakov Don, z"l.
- Lunch at Yitzhak's in Efrat.
- Encounter with "Shorashim"-Coexistence program with Ali Abu Awad and Rav Shlesinger
- Check-in
- Eve: Family Groups
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Monday, July 31: Yad Vashem and Erev Tisha B'Av

- Tefilot
- Visit **Yad Vashem**.

- Learn the story of the Ethiopian Aliya firsthand from the community in Maale Adumim.
- Rest and preparation for Tisha B'Av
- Seudat Mafseket
- Eve: Aicha at Tayellet
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Tuesday, August 1: Tisha B'Av

- Tefilot & Kinnot
- Meet former MK, Rabbi Dov Lipman and discuss sinat hinam and the role of dissent in the public discourse in Israeli politics.
- Hear the personal story of Palestinian Peace Activist-Issem Sa'ad who fled Gaza and the Hamas and now lives in Ramallah.
- "Palestinian Political Culture" with Arab-Israeli journalist Khaled Abu Toameh
- Israeli Film
- Rest time
- Study and preparation time for the "Crossfire" Seminar tomorrow.
- Break-fast dinner
- Eve: Family Groups
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Wednesday, August 2: Solutions to the Conflict??

- Tefilot
- Participate in a "**Crossfire**" Seminar where we will meet with, and challenge, representatives of the Israeli political Left, Center and Right.
- Meet Hasbara professionals for an update about College Campus life and BDS.
- Learn about activists that are building bridges of coexistence in Jerusalem between Arab and Jewish teens. Hear from Yakir Englander and his powerful story to come to **Kids4Peace**.
- Travel to Judean Desert
- Masada Prep
- 21:00 LIGHTS OUT!!!
- **Overnight:** Arad

Thursday, August 3: What Do We Live For?

- Coffee & Cake
- Ascend **Masada** by Roman Ramp in time for sunrise, shacharit & exploration
- Breakfast at visitor's center
- Float in the **Dead Sea**.
- Hike through the beautiful springs of **Ein Gedi**.
- Return to Jerusalem for shopping, check-in & Kriah
- Rest/pool time
- Dinner at hostel
- Eve: Introduction to Personal Projects.
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

UNIT VII: Personal Projects and Taking it Home

On this year's Na'ale, we are instituting a new idea of Personal Projects. This will give the participants an opportunity to work creatively on processing their own personal journey through Israel for the duration of the summer. We will have local arts-educators facilitate the creative process for the participants and they will work individually, while supporting each other, towards a goal of personal project presentations on Sunday and Monday as part of the climax of the program.

Friday, August 4: Personal Project

- Tefilot
- Workshops with local arts educators as the group begins to work on their personal projects.
- RELESH & Snack
- Kabbalat Shabbat (early at Tachana, or at Kotel if up to walking)
- Shabbat dinner
- Family Groups-Reflections on Summer
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Shabbat, August 5: Shabbat Jerusalem-Parshat V'etchanan

- Shabbat tefilot
- Parsha Players
- Shabbat Lunch
- Commercials Activity
- "Facets of Israeli Society" with Helen G
- Seudah Shlishit dinner
- Havdalah
- Eve: Free time at Malcha Mall or Ben Yehuda St.
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Sunday, August 6: Personal Projects II

- Tefilot
- Continue working on Personal Projects with time to collaborate.
- Eve: Beginning of Presentations
- **Overnight:** Kibbutz Ramat Rachel Guesthouse, Jerusalem

Monday, August 7: Closings and Bashana Haba'ah

- Tefilot
- Finish Personal Presentations
- Packing and donate clothes
- Yad L' Kashish-Lifeline of the Elderly, workshops and gift shop
- Shopping time and lunch in Rova/Cardo
- Written evals
- Kotel visit-summary discussion, aerogrammes
- Farewell Banquet
- 20:30 Transfer to airport for departing flight

Tuesday, August 8:

L'hitraot!

- Departure on El Al