



Alyth's 2017 Trip to Israel
Your Choice from three Modules Between:
Wednesday 10th—Saturday 20th May 2017
Creativity, Politics and World Reform Judaism



Rabbi Mark Goldsmith and Rabbi Josh Levy invite you to come with them to Israel for a programme of learning, friendship, Jewish depth and seeing behind the curtain into new perspectives on Israel and the Diaspora.



Module 1: Judaism in Israel—Creativity and Challenge (Wed 10-Sun 14 May)



Module 2: Israel - Political and Peace Challenges (Sun 14 – Wed 17 May)



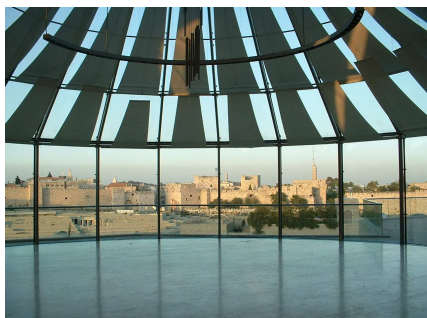
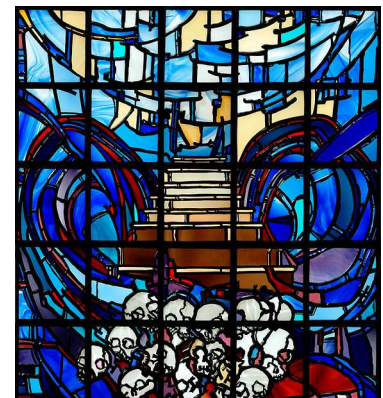
We will be staying in a 4* Kibbutz hotel near Jerusalem in comfortable accommodation with our own dedicated tour bus to take us to all of our learning opportunities.



Module 3: The World Union for Progressive Judaism Convention in Jerusalem (Wed 17– Sat 20 May)



We ask you to book by 1st February 2017 with full payment needed by 3rd March 2017. More information available by e-mailing Margaret Harris on m.e.harris@aston.ac.uk or phoning 07860 907779 or Juliette Overlander on mamajuliette@gmail.com or phoning 07968 034437.



Itinerary

Israel: Creativity, Politics and World Reform Judaism

This itinerary is subject to change—speakers, locations and sequence. Any activities which cannot take place due to circumstances beyond our control will be replaced by similar activities organised with our tour operator, Israel Experience.



Module 1: Judaism in Israel—Creativity and Challenge—Led by Rabbi Josh

Wednesday 10th May We meet at Ben Gurion Airport at 20:00 (Many participants will arrive on the EasyJet 12:30 flight (number 2085) from Luton which arrives at Ben Gurion at 19:30) and then travel on our dedicated tour bus to our accommodation at the Ye'arim Hotel in Ma'ale Hachamishah in the Jerusalem Hills. To see the hotel go to <http://eng.yearimhotel.com>

Thursday 11th May *Setting the Scene*

We begin our learning with a briefing from the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism in Jerusalem. We then visit the Kotel, Western Wall, in Jerusalem to experience the issues around egalitarian Judaism in what should be shared Jewish holy space, with staff of the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC). In the evening we enjoy a study session with Rabbi Josh and Israeli Rabbinic colleagues.

Friday 12th May *Judaism in Israeli Art and Music*

We travel to the studio of artist Ardyn Halter in Pardes Hanna to hear from Ardyn and other Israeli artists how they are bringing Jewish themes into today's Israeli art in many media. We spend the afternoon with Israeli musicians whose creativity brings Judaism into contemporary music in the Jewish State. We will bring in Shabbat with one of the most creative Jewish communities within the Israeli Reform Movement.



Saturday 13th May *How is Israel becoming the centre of new creative worship?*

After our own Shabbat morning service and Shabbat lunch we will travel to study with one of Israel's communities of worship creativity, who use music, prayer and modes of Jewish spirituality to create beautiful *tefillah* which influences contemporary prayer worldwide. As the sun goes down we will enjoy Havdallah overlooking Jerusalem followed by dinner in a nearby restaurant.



Sunday Morning 14th May *Creative ways of Learning and Challenging the Text*

This final morning of Module 1 begins with bespoke seminars at Hebrew Union College and Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem enabling us to experience how Jews in Israel study and grapple with our classical texts with teachers from these colleges of modern Jewish learning. We will then have time to enjoy West Jerusalem, its shopping and art galleries. We go back our hotel in the mid afternoon. If you are returning to London our bus can take you to Ben Gurion Airport.



Module 2: Israel—Political and Peace Challenges—Led by Rabbis Mark and Josh

Sunday Afternoon 14th May

If you are joining us for the first time we meet at Ben Gurion Airport at 15:00. (We recommend that you arrive on the EasyJet 07:15 flight (number 2083) from Luton which arrives at Ben Gurion at 14:15) and then travel on our dedicated tour bus to our accommodation at the Ye'arim Hotel.



Following an orientation with Rabbis Josh and Mark, we join together for dinner and follow that with a panel of Israeli speakers helping us to understand the current Israeli political and peace scene, from left to right and from settler to Palestinian perspectives.

Monday 15th May *The Challenges Facing Israeli Society*

We travel from the centre of Israel to the South and North. We will spend the morning in S'derot, right by the Gaza border, learning with Avi Dabush what it is to live as a Mizrahi Jew in this forever challenged Israeli city. We then travel north to Nazareth to visit the project of Mahapach-Taghrir which brings Israeli Arab and Israeli Jewish women together to build their education and skills as adults. Back in the hotel, at the end of this long day, we will have a briefing from the Israel Defence Force (IDF) about Israel's current peace challenges.

Tuesday 16th May *Multiple Perspectives on the West Bank*

Today's programme is challenging, in its content, because of the ongoing security situation and because we will need to walk in the towns and villages that we will be visiting. We will be offering an alternative programme including a visit to the Israeli Supreme Court for anyone who would prefer to opt out of the West Bank programme. Please speak to Rabbi Josh or Mark if you would like to know more.

We begin the day in Efrat, an Israeli settlement founded in 1983 south of Bethlehem, meeting with a civic leader of the town of 8,000 Jews and building our understanding of its residents and founders. We continue to Hebron, where we will be guided by two former IDF soldiers on behalf of "Breaking the Silence", meeting Palestinian and settler residents. We will continue to a Palestinian village in the South Hebron Hills and meet local people to understand the effect of Israel's occupation of the West Bank on their lives.

Wednesday 17th May *Making sense of it All*

The final day of our second module begins with a seminar at the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus led by Dr Michal Bar, Director of the Centre for the Study of Civil Society and Philanthropy on the nature of civil society and charities in Israel and how these impact Government policy making. After lunch we travel to the Knesset, Israel's parliament, where we will have the opportunity to meet with at least one Member of the Knesset to ask our questions about Israel's future and our role in it.

The bus then takes us on to the hotel for the World Union for Progressive Judaism Convention for those staying on or to Ben Gurion Airport in plenty of time to catch the Easy Jet 20:25 flight 2086 which arrives back in Luton at 23:50.

Module 3: The World Union for Progressive Judaism Convention—with Rabbi Mark

Wednesday Evening 17th May to Saturday 20th May

Alyth and the Movement for Reform Judaism are integral members of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. **Connections 2017** will bring you together with hundreds of Reform and Liberal Jews from five continents to help build our Judaism and to learn from each other. Expect fascinating seminars, inspiring *tefillah* (worship), involving workshops with a global perspective. Rabbi Mark Goldsmith will be on hand to help you make the most of it. For this module you need to book directly at www.wupj.org.il Early bird conference only price is \$650 up until January 15th 2017 with hotel rates from \$100 per night. Book direct with the World Union at www.wupj.org.il

What is included in the cost of Alyth's 2017 Trip to Israel?

- The cost of Module 1 and Module 2 is £1300 per person (not including flights). You can join us for one of these modules at a cost of £650.
- Four star accommodation in the Ye'arim Hotel is included and there is no single supplement
- All meals (breakfast, light lunch and dinner) are included
- Admission fees to all visited locations are included
- Transport from the stated time at Ben Gurion Airport to the stated return time to Ben Gurion Airport is all included
- Costs for teachers and tip for coach driver are all included
- Expert help from Israel Experience to ensure all works smoothly and securely is included.

What is not included in the cost of Alyth's 2017 Trip to Israel?

- The cost of flights to and from Ben Gurion Airport are not included. You will need to arrange your own flights. We are happy to help link you with others who are travelling on the same flight.
- You will need to arrange your own travel and medical insurance. This cost is not included.
- The cost of ice creams, gifts and alcoholic drinks if desired is not included!
- If you are going on to enjoy Module 3 at the WUPJ Connections Convention, this cost is paid separately through www.wupj.org.il



How much walking will be needed and when does the day begin?

We have our own bus throughout the trip which will take us right to the entrance of most venues. However we will be needing to walk a substantial amount on some days, especially in the West Bank, though we will always be considerate in ensuring there are rest stops. We expect to begin most days' activities around 9:00am.

I am ready to book for Alyth's 2017 Trip to Israel—what do I do?

Feel welcome to speak with Margaret or Juliette (numbers and e-mail addresses on the front page) or Rabbi Josh or Rabbi Mark with any questions.

By 1st February 2017 please return the form below to Bonnie Lemer, Community Secretary at Alyth together with your non-refundable deposit of £200.00 per person per module

By 3rd March 2017 we need your full payment of the remaining £450 .00 per person per module (making up therefore to the full cost of £650.00 or £1300.00—there are no additional costs for single occupancy)

Make sure that you have booked your flights and organised your travel insurance in plenty of time for the trip!

If you would love to join the trip but need some financial assistance to do so please speak in confidence to Rabbi Mark



Please Cut out and Return this form with your Deposit to Bonnie Lemer, Community Secretary, North Western Reform Synagogue, Alyth Gardens, London, NW11 7EN (Tel: 020-8457 8784)

Name/s:

Address/es:

Telephone Number:

E-Mail Address/es:

Please book me/us a place/s on the Alyth Trip to Israel. Please tick the Module or Modules you would like to join:

Module 1— Judaism in Israel Creativity and Challenge

Module 2— Israel's Political and Peace Challenges

I enclose a cheque* for a total of £..... Which is a non-refundable deposit of £200 per person per module. I understand that I will need to pay a further £450 per person per module by 3 March 2017.....

I require single room occupancy..... Or I require double room occupancy and will share with,.....

Dietary and accessibility needs of which the organisers should be aware if any:

Module 3— The WUPJ Connections Convention I am making contact direct with the World Union for Progressive Judaism to register for the convention and book my accommodation

** Please make cheques payable to NWRS and mark them on the back with "Israel Trip 2017" and your name.*