



# MAKE ISRAEL YOURS

SUMMER 2022



Mach Hach BaAretz is Bnei Akiva's summer tour of Israel for teens completing the tenth grade. It is the largest and most popular program of its kind, with over 350 participants every summer. Mach Hach offers a wide range of diverse programs to match the varied interests of each individual.

In Bnei Akiva, love of Israel is not a slogan, but a passion. Mach Hach has led tours of Israel for over forty-five years, in good times and bad. Helping our participants develop an everlasting bond with Israel is at the forefront of our mission. This goal guides every aspect of our touring experience, from staffing to itinerary planning to program development.

Mach Hach is not just another tour of Israel, but an authentic Israel experience. Our alumni can attest that they "Lived Israel" for the summer. With new and innovative programs being added into our itinerary, this summer will be like no other!



One of the most outstanding features of Mach Hach is the relationships you will create with both friends and staff. Before the summer, groups of 35-43 campers are assigned to a bus. In this intimate setting, every camper can be fully appreciated and feel that they belong. Each group takes on a life of its own with a distinct personality and character. Mach Hach "buses" have reunions for years to come.

Each bus has its own itinerary, fine-tuned by its individual staff. Every bus has six staff members: a Rosh Bus (Head Counselor), a tour guide, a logistics coordinator and three counselors. Staff members serve as role models and develop meaningful connections with the participants. Our staff consists of a mix of Americans and Israelis, all of whom have ample camp experience.





Mach Hach has a deeply committed and experienced administrative staff running and overseeing the program. Our senior staff is “on the ground” in Israel and not running the program from overseas. They are in constant contact with the groups, visit them regularly throughout the summer and can be contacted by parents twenty-four hours a day.

Throughout the year and during the summer, we engage parents through a weekly newsletter, an active Facebook page and weekly videos produced by our staff. Through social media, we bring parents inside the Mach Hach experience!



**Rabbi Dan Katz** has been Director of Mach Hach BaAretz since 2012, bringing a new energy and vision to the program. Previously, he served for ten years as part of the administrative team at Camp Moshava (IO). Dan has been an active leader in Bnei Akiva, serving in the positions of Director of Bnei Akiva of New York and Rosh TVI. During the year he also serves as Director of Yeshivat Torah V'Avodah.



**Michal (Adler) Jacob** is our Assistant Director. During the year, she is a Mashgicha Ruchanit and Alumni Coordinator at Midreshet Torah V'Avodah. Previously, Michal taught at The Frisch School in New Jersey, and also served as a grade dean and led Israel guidance efforts. Michal grew up in Teaneck, NJ and made Aliyah to Modiin with her family in 2015. She is married to Ovi and they are the proud parents of five beautiful children.



**Michelle (Bokor) Kaplansky** is the Israel Programs Administrator for Bnei Akiva and a part of the Mach Hach administration for over fifteen years. During the year, she oversees the administrative needs of Yeshivat/Midreshet Torah V'Avodah, in addition to working on the preparations for Mach Hach. Previously, she served as Assistant Director of Camp Moshava, Wild Rose.



**Rabbi Shaul Feldman** is the Executive Director of Bnei Akiva of the US and Canada. Rabbi Feldman has spread Bnei Akiva through building a large network of Shlichim (Israeli emissaries), founding Moshava Ba'ir day camps and creating Yeshivat and Midreshet Torah Va'avoda, an innovative year in Israel program.

At the heart of the Mach Hach experience is the most robust and dynamic itinerary around. Every year we add new components to make sure it remains fresh and current. The itinerary includes the key historical sites, amazing hikes and pure fun. However, the Mach Hach itinerary offers so much more (to be detailed in the coming pages):



## PROGRAM OPTIONS

Choose between five different Adventure Track options.



## HIGHLIGHT EVENTS

Feel the power of over 350 Mach Hach campers joining together for these special events.



## CHESSED

Give back to the people of Israel with volunteer opportunities throughout the country.



## SPORTS

Enjoy inter-bus basketball games.



## ISRAEL ADVOCACY

Gain skills and techniques to advocate for Israel with a program designed by Stand With Us just for us.





# HIGHLIGHTS

Though it has the feel of a smaller program, Mach Hach offers the benefits of a larger one. Through various inter-bus programs, you will have the opportunity to make friends from across North America. Mach Hach combines the best of both worlds: the diversity and energy of a large program with the comfort and familiarity of a smaller one.



## OPENING NIGHT

There is no better way to start a summer in Israel than in the Old City by the Kotel. On the first night, we whisk away all our campers straight to the Old City. After dinner and introductions, we continue on to the Kotel for our opening program of the summer!

## SHABBAT MACH HACH

For one Shabbat during the summer, all buses join together for an incredible Shabbat of unity. Imagine the ruach and inspiration created by 350 friends joining for one energy-filled Shabbat. Special guests and programs make this Shabbat a highlight of the summer.

## BANQUET

The last night of the summer, we bring everyone together for an emotional closing program. After dinner, we have some special thank yous, a slideshow and cap it all off with a live concert. There is no better way to close the summer together!



# ADVENTURE WEEK

All Mach Hach Adventure groups enjoy a three day specialty track chosen before the summer. The specialty tracks include: Army, Chessed, Culturefest, Negev and Yam L'Yam. Mid-summer, all Mach Hach buses split up for their specialty week and join members of the other buses who chose the same Adventure option. More detailed descriptions are available on our website.



## ARMY

Your Mefakdim (sergeants) will give you the real feel of the IDF. Be prepared to be pushed to your limits in this thrilling army experience.



## CHESSSED

Each day focuses on a different type of Chessed: the needy, the sick, the physically and mentally handicapped and the elderly. Learn about yourself and give to others!



## CULTUREFEST

Experience all the sounds, tastes and sights that modern Israeli culture has to offer. See Israel through a totally new lens.



## NEGEV

Connect with the beauty and splendor of the Negev desert. Bond with your friends as you learn to survive in the wilderness.



## YAM L'YAM

Take part in one of Israel's most popular hikes, crossing the width of Israel from the Kinneret to the Mediterranean Sea and culminating with a thrilling five mile bike ride.



# ADVENTURE ITINERARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
		<b>JULY 5</b>  <b>Depart from USA</b>
<b>JULY 10</b> Nachal Gilabun Har Bental Aquakef  Overnight: Golan	<b>JULY 11</b> Nachal Hakkibutzim Camel Riding  Overnight: Bedouin Tent	<b>JULY 12</b> Massada Dead Sea Swimming Camel Riding Ein Gedi  Overnight: Massada
<b>JULY 17</b>  <b>Shiva Assar BeTammuz</b>	<b>JULY 18</b> Misgav Am Aryeh Hashoeg Kayaks  Overnight: Shlomi	<b>JULY 19</b> Nachal Betzet Acco Museum Rosh Hanikra Louis Promenade  Overnight: Shlomi
<b>JULY 24</b> Guvrin Caves Save a Child's Heart Basketball  Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>JULY 25</b>  <b>Adventure Week</b>	<b>JULY 26</b>  <b>Adventure Week</b>
<b>JULY 31</b> Tel Azeka Kfar Etzion Museum Biar Mud Caves Basketball  Overnight: Ein Tzurim	<b>AUGUST 1</b> Leket Volunteering Yafo Tour Carmel Market Blind Museum  Overnight: Ein Tzurim	<b>AUGUST 2</b> Stand With Us Independence Hall Kikar Rabin  Overnight: Ein Tzurim
<b>AUGUST 7</b>  <b>Tisha B'Av</b>	<b>AUGUST 8</b>  <b>Banquet</b> Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>AUGUST 9</b> Kotel Farewell Activities Depart Ben Gurion

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
<b>JULY 6</b> Arrive Ben Gurion Kotel Opening Ceremony  Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>JULY 7</b> Superpharm Shopping Har Hatzofim Nachal Elal  Overnight: Golan	<b>JULY 8</b> Tzfat Kever Rashbi Shabbat Shopping  Overnight: Golan	<b>JULY 9</b>  <b>Shabbat in Golan</b>
<b>JULY 13</b> Ein Ovdar Snorkeling Eilat Boardwalk  Overnight: Eilat	<b>JULY 14</b> Har Tzfachot Water Sports Yotveta  Overnight: Mitzpe Ramon	<b>JULY 15</b> Ramon Museum Kever Ben Gurion Shabbat Shopping  Overnight: Mitzpe Ramon	<b>JULY 16</b>  <b>Shabbat in Mitzpe Ramon</b>
<b>JULY 20</b> Har Arbel Teverya Swimming Teverya Boat Ride  Overnight: Shlomi	<b>JULY 21</b> Banias Kfar Kedem-Donkeys Basketball  Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>JULY 22</b>  <b>Free Weekend</b>	<b>JULY 23</b>  <b>Free Weekend</b>
<b>JULY 27</b>  <b>Adventure Week</b>	<b>JULY 28</b>  <b>Adventure Week</b> Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>JULY 29</b>  <b>Shabbat Mach Hach</b> Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>JULY 30</b>  <b>Shabbat Mach Hach</b>
<b>AUGUST 3</b> Yad Vashem Har Hertzl Pizza making for soldiers  Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>AUGUST 4</b> Aleh Volunteering Old City Tour Ir David Kotel Tunnels Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>AUGUST 5</b> Ammunition Hill Food Packaging Shabbat Shopping  Overnight: Jerusalem	<b>AUGUST 6</b>  <b>Shabbat in Jerusalem</b>
<b>AUGUST 10</b>  <b>Arrive in USA</b>			





# TEACHING VALUES

Core to all Bnei Akiva programs is our ability to enmesh an educational mission into everything we do. Intertwined into our summer experience are various learning experiences both formal and informal.

## **Tour Guide**

Every bus includes a tour guide who helps teach the history and significance of the sites we visit over the summer. It is not infrequent to see them walking with a Tanach in hand as we retrace the steps of our ancestors.

## **Shabbatot**

Shabbatot are full of ruach and infused with a special spirit that campers take home with them. In addition, each Shabbat has a different religious-Zionist theme in which we explore core issues of modern Israel through Beit Midrash sessions and group discussions.

## **Shiur**

The madrichim of each bus prepare and deliver daily shiurim that are both engaging and relevant to the life of a high schooler.

## **Guest Speakers**

Included in the itinerary are various speakers who share stories of Israel both from personal histories and through a Torah lens.

## **Mifgashim**

Every bus is scheduled to have a joint activity with a local Bnei Akiva chapter in Israel. The encounter allows each side to understand the other's life and culture.





# ITINERARY STOPSI

EILAT



ROSH  
HANIHRA



AQUA  
KEF



MASADA



EIN  
GEDI



HOTEL



HAR  
HERZL







## CONTACT US





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## YOU CAN FIND US ON THE WEB AT:

-  [www.machhach.org](http://www.machhach.org)
-  [MachHachBA](https://www.youtube.com/MachHachBA)
-  [machhachbaaretz](https://www.instagram.com/machhachbaaretz)
-  [MachHachBaAretz](https://www.facebook.com/MachHachBaAretz)

