

RA RETIRED RABBIS ISRAEL SEMINAR

October 2026

Prepared by: David Abraham



Itinerary

Please note that the itinerary is not final and is subject to change based on time, weather, security and other considerations.

DAY 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION (GUIDE, NO Monday, October 19 2026 TRANSPORTATION)

- **12:00 pm:** Welcome!!!! Meet at the Inbal Hotel or at the Knesset Museum
- Opening lunch at the Knesset Museum
- Visit the new interactive **Knesset Museum** to understand the political system and the processes that the Israel Parliament goes through to create a government alongside **Yizhar Hess**, Vice Chairman of the WZO and former CEO of Masorti Israel. Includes lunch at the museum
- Travel to **Fuchsberg Center** & hear from journalist **Matti Friedman** about the current political situation in Israel
- **5:45 pm:** Opening dinner at a Jerusalem restaurant

DAY 2 - LIMMUD AND OLD CITY (GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION) Tuesday, October 20 2026

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel (for those staying at the hotel)
- **8:30 am:** Meet at the Inbal Hotel and travel to **Ezrat Yisrael** for Shacharit
- Walk in the footsteps of Prophets & Kings in the **City of David** & visit the recently opened **Pilgrim's road** that was used by the Jews coming into the City to Ascend to the City and Temple Mount
- Travel to the **Begin Center**
- After enjoying lunch (included) hear from **David Horowitz**, founding editor of the **Times of Israel**, about the current landscape in Israel
- Study session with **Rachel Korazim**
- Return to hotel
- Casual, fun dinner at **Bardak Pizza**, where the names of the pizzas are named after Jerusalem neighborhoods and the beers are all Israeli made
- Optional: Enjoy an exciting local **cultural event** (TBD)

DAY 3 - NEGEV & BEER SHEVA (GUIDE, Wednesday, October 21 TRANSPORTATION) 2026

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel (for those staying at the hotel)
- Travel to the **Negev region**
- Visit the **JNF Be'er Sheva River Park** - a former garbage dump that has been turned into a green oasis and hear from Environmentalist & former MK **Alon Tal**
- Lunch hosted by the **Masorti community in Beer Sheva**, including a Limmud session
- Learn from an expert from **Ben Gurion University** about the south developing into a hub for growth in the country, specifically focusing on **AI and its ethics**
- Return to Jerusalem for dinner on own

DAY 4 - SCHECHTER INSTITUTE - FINAL DAY (GUIDE, Thursday, October 22 2026 TRANSPORTATION)

- Full Israeli breakfast at hotel (for those staying at the hotel)
- Check out of hotel
- Travel to the **Schechter Institute**
- **Morning Limmud** together with scholars from the **Schechter Institute**, including:
- **Rabbi Prof. David Golinkin** Texts and Responsa Related to our Current Situation (and relevance one week before Israeli elections).
- **Rabbi Chaya Rowen Baker** How can we build a pluralistic society? Insights from Massekhet Hagigah
- **Rabbi Matt Berkowitz** The Art of Zionist Thought and Israeli Identity
- **Prof. Ed Greenstein** A Close Reading of Job Chapter 3
- Lunch at Schechter institute (included)
- Visit the impressive and grand new premises of the **National Library of Israel** which hosts the world's largest collections of Hebrew and Judaica books and is the repository of many rare and unique manuscripts, books and artifacts
- Finish the day paying tribute to the IDF heroes who are interred at the **Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery**- hear some of the recent stories of the heroes from October 7th, including meeting with a family of someone who recently fell (TBC)
- Final dinner in Jerusalem (included) • **Next year in Jerusalem!**

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