



September 2013 Information Packet



The entire Career Israel staff is very excited to meet you all in Jerusalem on August 28th, 2013!

Please read the information packet very carefully and note it is your responsibility to read all emails with relevant information.

Please email me at jordanab@israelexperience.org.il with any questions.

Thank you,
Jordana Bickel

Flights & Arrival to Israel



The program begins on Wednesday, **August 28th, 2013 at the Rabin Guest House located at 1 Nahman Avigad Street in Jerusalem.**

You can view the guest house here <http://www.iyha.org.il/eng/>.

To get to the Rabin Guest House from the airport you can take a shared taxi called a sheirut. These shared taxis leave constantly from the airport for Jerusalem and should take about an hour at 60-65 NIS/\$20-\$25. You just tell the driver to go to The Rabin Guest House located at 1 Nahman Avigad Street which is next to the Israel Museum and you will be dropped off there. You can call Jordana on her cell in Israel at 052-604-8251 if you get lost or will be arriving after 5pm.

If you want to make a reservation to stay there the night before the program you can call them at 972-2-594-5571. Please note that this will not be covered by Career Israel.

Registration will take place between 1pm until 5pm on August 28th. You must be there between 1-5pm. If you arrive after 5pm you will not be allowed to register. Please try to arrange for a flight that will get you to Israel on the 28th before 11am to allow yourself enough time to get to Jerusalem.

If you will be arriving early, please let us know where you will be staying in the interim period and a phone number where you can be reached during that time so that we can contact you if necessary. Likewise it is a good idea to utilize this time to meet with your internship placement; therefore it is important that you notify us of your early arrival. Please make sure to refer to the visa section of this document for further information regarding visas and flights.

****Please note that you must check-out of the apartments by 8 AM, January 30th.****

Program Payment

Half payment for the program is due on Monday, July 15, 2013 and your final payment is due on Thursday, August 15, 2013.

You can pay in one of the following methods:

- 1) Via credit card here - <http://fs11.formsite.com/IsraelExperience/CareerIsraeltuition/index.html>. You can email me to find out your exact balance due.
- 2) Via wire transfer to the following account: Israel Experience – Educational Tourism Services Ltd. Bank Leumi: Main Branch – Jerusalem Account: 901-631700/99, SWIFT number: TID-LUMIILITLV (Please write "Career Israel program" in the comments section, save a receipt of the transfer and email jordanab@israelexperience.org.il to confirm this method of payment) If you will be paying by wire transfer please first notify jordanab@israelexperience.org.il before doing so.
- 3) Via check made out to "**The Israel Experience Ltd.**" Checks made out to "Career Israel", "Masa" or any other name will not be accepted. **PLEASE NOTE ALL CHECKS CAN ONLY BE MAILED TO ISRAEL VIA FEDEX WITH A TRACKING NUMBER. MAILING A CHECK INTERNATIONALLY CAN GET EASILY LOST OR STOLEN**

If you are receiving a scholarship from an outside source (not Masa) you still must be paid in full and we will refund you if the funds arrive after August 15, 2013. Please note that the Israel mail system is not always reliable so we ask you to inform your scholarship organization to do a wire transfer rather than mail a check. If you can only mail a check it is best to have a tracking number.

You will not be able to check in at the orientation if payment has not been made in full by August 15, 2013. Please pay your outstanding balance on time to avoid unpleasantness at the orientation. No exceptions will be made in this policy.

Cancellation Fees

If you cancel your participation in the program **before August 28th**, you will only be refunded half of all payments, not including the application fee and deposit. If you cancel **after August 28th, 2013 while on the program** you will not be refunded any payments.

Deadlines

We would like to remind you of the following deadlines:

The deadline for handing in your medical forms signed by a doctor, and your health declaration, is July 15, 2013.

Please note you are only conditionally accepted until we receive your medical forms.

The rest of the supplementary documentation such as the letter of recommendation, transcript (can be unofficial), passport scan, 4 passport sized photos, and half payment are also due on July 15, 2013. Payment, in full, for the program, is due by **August 15, 2013. The 4 passport sized photos can be emailed to jordanab@israelexperience.org.il or mailed to The Israel Experience/Career Israel - Jordana Bickel - Kiryat Moriah - 3 Ha'askan Street - POB 92 - Jerusalem, Israel 91000.**

Visas

A newer policy that has affected some participants is that if you are coming with a round trip ticket, you will need a visa for the duration of your time on the program in advance, or else you will not be allowed on the plane. Therefore we suggest getting a multi-entry visa before coming to Israel. As a participant in a Masa program, you are eligible to receive a multi-entry visa for one year from the Israeli consulate in your home country, prior to your arrival in Israel. If you live near an Israeli consulate we encourage you to take advantage of this option and contact the consulate to receive the visa, as it can save you the nuisance of extending your visa while in Israel. If you will be doing this please email jordanab@israelexperience.org.il so we can send you an official Career Israel acceptance letter to bring with you. You will also need to bring the letter that you received from Masa notifying you that you have been awarded a Masa scholarship when you go to the Israeli consulate, your passport and flight information.

If you do not arrange a visa before arriving to Israel, in most cases you will be issued a three-month tourist visa automatically upon entry into Israel**. Please make sure to ask for a tourist visa and NOT a work visa when entering the country. The Career Israel staff will then assist you in renewing your visa in the middle of the program. You are required to have a passport from your home country that is valid for at least six months, as well as a return ticket to your home country in order to receive the visa. We make every effort to help you in this process; however we have no control over the policies of the Israeli Ministry of Interior. Participants from certain countries (such as the former Soviet Union, South Africa, and certain countries in South America) need to arrange their A2 Masa visas ahead of time in the Israeli embassy in their home country. **If you, or either of your parents, were born in Israel, or lived in Israel in the past, your situation may be different.** If this is applicable to you, please contact your local Israeli consulate to confirm there will not be any customs issues for you at the airport. **Please also confirm with your airline if it is permissible to enter the country without a visa or a one way ticket. Every airline has different rules and regulations.**

** The visas are issued by the Israeli Ministry of Interior. Occasionally they give participants one-month visas rather than the standard 3-month visas. If you are issued a one-month visa, or if you enter Israel more than two weeks before the program starts and need to renew your visa earlier than the other participants, you are responsible for doing so on your own. The Career Israel staff is happy to help guide you through this process, but can not guarantee service as it is not under our jurisdiction.

Masa & Other Paperwork

Those of you who have not yet submitted your Masa application, please do so as soon as possible. It takes time for Masa to process your application, and if you wait until the last minute to submit your request, you may not receive an answer before the program begins. If you have submitted your Masa forms, you should have received notification as to the amount that you have been awarded. Please apply at www.masaisrael.org.

You can apply for the regular scholarship of \$3000, the extra needs based scholarship of \$4500 or \$5000 (receipt of this amount is dependent upon your country of origin). If you are applying for the \$4500 scholarship you can apply as a dependent or independent. If you apply as a dependent you need to email me your financial providers 1040 tax forms from 2012. If you are applying as an independent you need email me 6 months of pay stubs, a notarized letter stating that you are financially independent and a copy of your rental/lease agreement.

If you are arriving from Eastern Europe or Russia you will need to email jordanab@israelexperience.org.il a copy of your A2 MASA visa in order to receive your MASA scholarship. In order to obtain this visa you need to visit a local Israeli consulate in your area. Please email me a scanned copy of your A2 Masa visa by July 15, 2013.

While Masa determines the amount that you are to receive before you begin the program, the actual transfer of your Masa scholarship funds is contingent on the following:

- a. Participation in the entire program (August 28, 2013 – January 30, 2014).
- b. Participation in all educational activities run by the program.
- c. Signing the Masa Appendix E that will be given to you at orientation on August 28.

Failure to comply with any of these conditions will result in the loss of your Masa scholarship.

In order to ensure your fulfillment of these requirements, you will be required to sign a document which will give Career Israel the right to charge the same amount of the Masa grant to your credit card (\$3,000/\$4,500/\$5,000). This is a security deposit, and will only be used should there be any room damages, violations of program policy, or leaving the program before January 30th, 2014. **Please make sure to bring a credit card or debit card on August 28, 2013 to fill out the form. If you do not have this card we will not be able you to check in for the program.**

Likewise, we would like to remind you that your acceptance to the program is conditional on the completion of your full application packet including: a medical form signed and stamped by a physician, a health declaration that you fill out online, e-signing the participant statement, 4 passport photos, a recommendation letter and a copy of your diploma/your college transcript.

Internship Placements

Please make every effort to be in constant contact with your internship advisor about your internship placement. The internship search process can take time, so it is important not to wait until the last minute. Due to the large number of participants on the upcoming session, internship placements will be filling up quickly and we encourage you to begin the process as soon as possible.

After you have a placement, and have spoken with your contact there, we will set up a "face to face" meeting with your placement during the first two weeks of the program. Please remember that your internship will not be finalized until you meet with your employer, so it is critical that you meet during the first two weeks of the program. Your placement coordinator will be in touch with you regarding your meeting. If you will be arriving in Israel before the program, please let your placement coordinator know so that she can arrange for you to meet with your employer before the program starts. You are scheduled to begin your internships on October 6, 2013.



Orientation Program

The Career Israel program begins with a 5-day orientation in Jerusalem. The orientation has several purposes: to get to know the other members of the group and the Career Israel staff, to deepen your knowledge of Israeli culture and society and to acquaint you with Israel's capitol city. The programming during these first few days is somewhat intense, since we try to utilize the time in which the entire group is together.



Ulpan

The Ulpan (Hebrew study program) for the September 2013 session of Career will be taking place in Tel Aviv. Participants whose permanent placement is in Tel Aviv will be able to move into their permanent apartments when the Ulpan begins. Participants who will be living in Jerusalem during the internship segment of the program will move with the entire group to Tel Aviv for the first month of the program and will move to Jerusalem once the internship segment of the program begins.

Ulpan classes will be conducted daily from 9:30 AM- 2:30 PM. Many levels will be offered in the Ulpan in order to meet the needs of all of the participants, from beginners to those with a strong background in the language. We will be conducting a short exam during the first week that will help us assign you to the appropriate level. It is very important that you attend all Hebrew classes and complete all assignments, as the better your Hebrew is, the more you will get out of your internship. Those who are completely fluent in Hebrew will discuss with the Ulpan director other options for Hebrew study. Please email jordanab@isralexperience.org.il if you are fluent in Hebrew. We encourage those of you who can to invest time in studying Hebrew even before you begin the program.

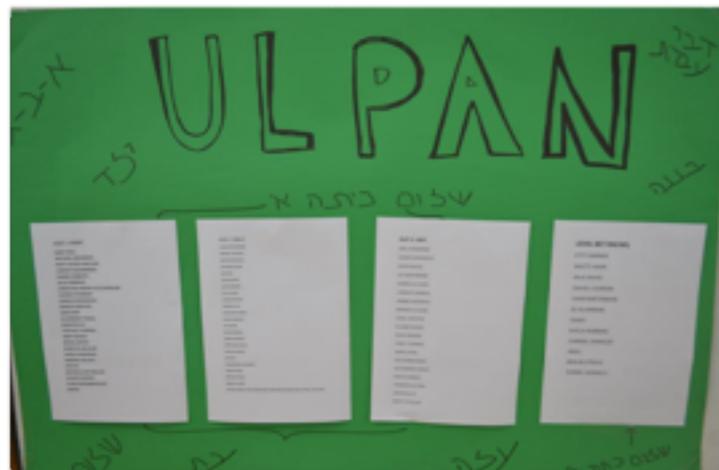
Two helpful sites for Hebrew study are;

1. [http://www.moia.gov.il/Moia_en/StudyingHebrew/LearningHebrew.htm?](http://www.moia.gov.il/Moia_en/StudyingHebrew/LearningHebrew.htm?SearchText)

SearchText

2. <http://overseas.huji.ac.il/academics.asp?cat=178&in=24>.

The more Hebrew you know prior to your arrival, the more you can gain from the Ulpan and the more internship opportunities you will have. Afternoons in the Ulpan segment will be dedicated to lectures, tours, and other supplementary educational programming. There will also be a three-day trip to the North of Israel. Though this month is intensive, we find that all of the educational components are integral which is why the programming is mandatory.



Educational Programming

After Orientation and Ulpan

During the internship portion of the program (October 6, 2013 – January 23, 2014), there will be several tours and seminars, including full weekend programs. See the itinerary below for details on the program. Every participant needs to attend all of the overnight trips and day trips (These are a highlight of the program and you will NOT want to miss these amazing trips!) You are required to notify your participant coordinator at least two weeks in advance if you cannot attend a specific trip – we will only allow this for specific reasons such as family members visiting Israel or health issues. The orientation, Ulpan and ending seminar are compulsory for all participants. **Missing more than one activity is cause for a monetary fine (this includes a day trip, seminar or overnight trip).** If you miss an additional activity due to a severe illness, you will be required to provide documentation regarding that illness.



Housing

The apartments in all locales are furnished with the basics such as beds, closets, essential electrical appliances (though no oven is provided), basic kitchen tools etc. Dishes and very basic cooking utensils (one pot, one pan, a few pieces of silverware etc.) are provided. Bedding, pillows, blankets and towels are **not provided**, and therefore we suggest that you either bring them with you from home, or prepare to purchase them in Israel. Twin-size sheets fit the beds.

If there are enough participants who keep Kosher, they will be placed in their own apartment. If not, then the participants who keep Kosher will be given Kosher dishes, and their roommates are expected to respect their needs. Laundry and cleaning services are not provided. There are several laundromats within close proximity to the accommodations in both locations. We would like to remind you that in Jerusalem, each participant has his or her own room, and in Tel Aviv you will have either 1, 2 or 3 roommates (see below for further information.) The accommodations are satisfactory, basic, dormitory-style units.

Please realize that standards in Israel are different and do not expect them to be similar to your accommodations at home or to a hotel. You can view pictures of the housing at www.careerisrael.com.

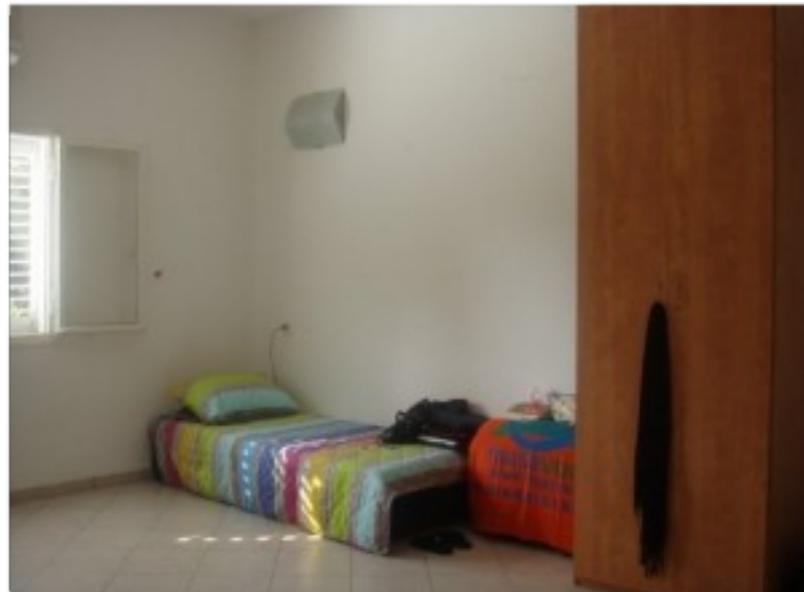


Tel Aviv Housing

The Tel Aviv housing is located at 37 King George St., in the heart of Tel Aviv, walking distance from the beach, Dizengoff Center and many other Tel Aviv attractions. The housing consists of apartments in a dorm-like setting. Apartments are divided into 2, 3 or 4 person units. Two person units are essentially two people to a studio apartment consisting of one room with its own bathroom and kitchenette. Three person units are larger versions of the two person unit, with three people sharing one large room. Quads (four person units) are two adjoining bedrooms and a common kitchenette and bathroom in between, with two people sleeping in each bedroom.

In all cases you will be sharing a room unless you have reserved and paid for a single room. The units in Tel Aviv are not uniform and vary in size and structure. You will be able to choose the person that you would like to room with, however we will be assigning the rooms randomly by raffle during the Jerusalem orientation. Therefore it is important that you realize that you may be assigned a room that is smaller than the room that other participants are assigned to. The number of windows and the general structure of the apartments also varies from room to room. The larger units are limited, so please prepare yourself to be in a smaller unit and enjoy the amazing location of all of the units, as **we will not be able to reassign any rooms after the raffle.**

The accommodations are basic dormitory style units in a incredible location!



Life in TLV

Where can I do laundry?

Dizi, 13 Ben Ami St.

"I swear by Dizi, laundromat/coffeehouse."
- Alex, Career Israel 14

Where can I get authentic Israeli food?

40 Geula St.

"Best Shakshuka in town!" -Marina, Career Israel 14

Where can I find a second hand book store?

87 Allenby St.

"Everything in ENGLISH!" -Lindsey, Career Israel 14

Where can I listen to music?

Barnash, 87 Bograshov St.

"Really good happy hour. Bar inside deli on Allenby is really cool. More of a lounge vibe, they play really good jazz old school hip hop and acid jazz. Good for a date or for a chill night out. - Brooke, Career Israel 13

Where should I go out?

Drink Point, 91 Dizengoff Street,

"Cheap drinks and shots, beer pong, shesh besh, good people, outdoors." - Ariel, Career Israel 14



Tips From
Past
Participants!

Jerusalem Housing

This housing option is located at the Student Village of the Hebrew University Mt. Scopus Campus. Each participant has his or her own room in a shared apartment that includes a kitchenette and a small common area. It is usually 4-5 people to an apartment. The housing is approximately a 40 minute bus ride from the center of town, with transportation frequently available.

Please note that the Jerusalem participants on the program are usually only 20-25% of the group and you may be living in an apartment with participants from different programs. If you will be living in Jerusalem for the internship segment of the program, you will be placed in temporary housing in Tel Aviv for the first month of the program (for orientation and Ulpan). During this month you will be living in shared rooms, either in the regular Career Israel Tel Aviv housing, or in a close-by hotel.



Life in JERUSALEM

Where can I get authentic Israeli food?

Rachmo, 5 HaEshkol St.

"Amazing hummus" -Rachel, Career Israel Summer

Where should I go out?

Kangaroo, 7 Ma'alot Nahalat Shiva St.

"An awesome spot for dates or just to hang/drink/smoke hookah. It's a bar lounge only open at night and outdoors only." -Brooke, Career Israel 13

Where should I go food shopping?

Machane Yehuda

"Cheap prices, fun atmosphere. Hey, you can munch on a falafel while you shop. Doesn't get more Israeli than that." -Sarah, Career Israel Summer

Where should I go to the movies?

Lev Smadar, 4 Loyd George St.

"It's a coffee shop/restaurant/movie theater with amazing indie-films."
-Lindsay Career Israel Summer

Where should I go to Shabbat dinner?

Jeff Seidel, jeffseidel.com

"He finds you a host family with a bunch of other people looking to experience Shabbat in the Holy City." -Jasper, Career Israel Summer



Tips From
Past
Participants!

Independent Housing

If you do not feel that the Career Israel housing meets your needs, or if you have your own housing in Israel, you can choose not to live in the housing offered by Career Israel. Should you choose to live in your own housing for the entire five months of the program, the cost of the program will be \$5525 minus your Masa scholarship. Should you choose to live in the Career Israel housing for the ulpan segment of the program and then move into your own housing for the internship segment of the program, the cost of the program will be \$5900 minus your Masa scholarship. Please note that if you choose this option you must arrive on your own, on time, to all ulpan studies and educational programming and that you must cover the cost of your own transportation to and from your housing to the ulpan or programming.

If you are interested in independent housing you must notify jordanab@isralexperience.org.il by July 15, 2013. If you notify us after that date we cannot guarantee that you will be able to receive the independent housing discount, and you will be required to pay the full amount of the Career Israel program.

In addition, if you sign up for independent housing and then change your mind after the July 15, 2013, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to provide you with Career Israel housing.

Free Weekends and Holidays

Host Families

Below is a general program itinerary we will be sending you a more detailed itinerary closer to the program. Please note that you will be in Israel during the high holidays. This is a great time to really experience the Jewish holidays in Israel. The entire country is on vacation and there are many fun activities to partake in throughout the country. Rosh Hashana will be from the evening of September 4 – 6, 2013 and Yom Kippur is the evening of September 13 until September 14, 2013. If you want to spend Rosh Hashana or Yom Kippur with a host family please email jordanab@israelexperience.org.il and we will arrange a family based on your preferences.

Most of the weekends in the program are free, as are all of the Jewish holidays that fall during the program. During free weekends you can visit family, tour Israel or just relax in your apartment. As long as you are within Israel proper and have your cell phone on so that we can reach you, you are free to do as you please on the weekend.

Please note these dates and trips are being arranged now. The final schedule will be announced at orientation. Every program and holiday will be explained to you in detail while on the program.

Career 15: **August 28, 2013 – January 30, 2014**

August 28 – September 1

Jerusalem orientation

September 1

Transfer to Tel Aviv

September 2- October 3

Ulpan

Afternoons: Gil Hoffman, Tel Aviv orientation tour, Salim Munier, volunteer options, Jaffa tour, Zichron tour, Hi-tech and minorities tour, Internship prep session

September 4-6

Rosh Hashana

September 13-14

Yom Kippur

September 18-19

Sukkot

September 19 - September 25

Hol Hamoed Sukkot

Late September

North Trip

September 25-26

Simchat Torah

October 3

Last day of Ulpan + transfer to Jerusalem

October 6

Start internships

Late October

Religion and the State

Mid-November

Dialogue Seminar in Ein Gedi

Early December

Haifa Day

Mid December

Sderot Trip Day

Late December

Negev Trip

January 16

Tu Bishvat Program

January 23

Last day of internship

January 26-27

Ending Seminar

January 26

Ending Ceremony

January 30

Program ends

Living Expenses

As you are aware, the cost of the program is \$7400 USD (\$4400 after the \$3000 Masa scholarship for most). During the Jerusalem orientation and on all trips, you will be living in hostels where you will receive three meals a day, and be provided with everything that you need. During the ulpan and internship segment of the program, you will be living on your own in an apartment.

All apartment expenses such as electricity, water, taxes etc. will be covered by the program. However, you will need to cover the cost of food and your own personal expenses. Again, meals and some additional services (such as cell phones) will not be provided. The amount of money you need to bring with you to the program depends on the lifestyle you lead while in Israel. We suggest that you budget \$400-\$600 a month for food and personal expenses throughout the program. **It is important to remember that Israel is not an inexpensive country, and therefore expenses in general are comparable to those in most Western countries.**



Medical Insurance

We will arrange for medical insurance for you from August 28, 2013 until the end of the program on January 30, 2014.

A reminder that the insurance does not cover the following:

- Pre-existing conditions **(if you have such a condition, please bring all necessary medications with you from home, and arrange for additional insurance from your home country.**
- Psychological or psychiatric treatment.
- Eye care
- Non-emergency dental care.
- Routine check-ups.
- Alcohol or drug related injuries.
- Travel insurance for your flight to Israel.
- Personal property of valuables.

If you will be arriving early in Israel and would like coverage prior to the start date of the program, please let us know and for approximately \$2 per day you can receive additional coverage. Please email jordanab@isralexperience.org.il if interested.

Please remember that if you are currently taking any medication, please make sure to bring with you five months worth of the medicine. You will not be able to ship the medicine to Israel and will not be able to fill a prescription from abroad here. Therefore it is imperative that you come prepared with all the medicine you need.

Health Insurance Policy

Harel Insurance Company welcomes you and is pleased that you have joined Harel's large family of insured's. During your stay in Israel and in the framework of the Israeli Experience educational programs, you will be insured in the framework of Medical Insurance in Israel provided by Harel Insurance Company. Upon the occurrence of a medical event, the insurance policy provides you an exceptionally wide safety net which includes inter alia, covers such as:

- Medical expenses during hospitalization in a hospital in Israel.
- Medical expenses not in the framework of hospitalization.
- Physician, expert physician, laboratory tests, imaging service, medications, emergency dental treatment, and more.

However, it is important to note that there are events or occurrences which are not covered by the policy, such as:

A medical condition existing prior to the date of commencement of the insurance, AIDS, periodic examinations, pregnancy, childbirth, infant clinic, use of drugs and/or alcohol, use of firearms, work accidents and/or road accidents, sports activities which are performed outside the framework of the Israeli Experience programs - and sports activities performed without a certified guide and/or during a free Saturday and/or free day and/or in regard to which, all the necessary steps to prevent an unnecessary risk were not taken. In any event, only the full insurance terms detailed in the policy shall bind the insurer.

Insured Card

When wishing to obtain medical services, the Insured Card in your possession containing your personal details, should be presented. This card is personal and non-transferable. All the medical services will be provided by means of the services array included in the arrangement with the insurer.

Extension of the Policy

In the event of your choosing to extend your stay in Israel after the end of the Israeli Experience Program and the insurance period lapses, you are able to approach us or the Israeli Experience in order to extend the policy. Extension of the policy is subject to authorization by the insurance company. For information and assistance in locating medical service providers Harel Center - 24 hours per day 1-800- 414-422

We wish you a pleasurable stay in Israel.

Harel Insurance Company

Tourists in Israel Division

ROMANIA

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Telephone and Internet

Since there will be several participants living in each apartment, it would be very difficult to determine the phone bill of each participant and therefore we do not provide landline phone service in the apartments. **You are required to have a cell phone while on the program for security reasons and must have a cell phone on the first day of the program during registration.**

Cell phones can be rented inexpensively through many companies. Many of our participants have rented phones and sim cards through Talk and Save and have been happy with their service; however each participant is free to rent a phone from whatever company he or she chooses.

Talk N Save also has sim cards for your iPhones. You can order a phone here - <https://www.talknsave.net/bundle1.aspx?linkid=8114>

There is very limited wireless internet access in the Career Israel apartments; however, it is limited access and difficulties do arise often, so please do not count on having access in your apartment. Many of you will have internet access in your internship placements. In addition, Israel is a wireless friendly country with hot spots in many coffee house and central locations.




talk_nsave
YOUR CELL PHONE COMPANY IN ISRAEL

Program Participants

The September session of the Career Israel program includes participants from all over the world including South Africa, Latin America, Australia and the former Soviet Union, North America, and Europe. All participants are university graduates ages 21-30. We are expecting between 90-100 participants in the September session. The participants will be divided into sub-groups of 40-45 participants each. A participant coordinator will be assigned to each group and he/she will be your main point-person throughout your experience in Israel.

If you would like to be placed in a group with a specific friend on the program, please let us know by e-mail at jordanab@israelexperience.org.il. Some of the programming will be common to the entire group, and in some cases the same programming will be conducted at different times for each group.



Packing List & Clothing

A packing list is below. We strongly suggest leaving valuables at home or insuring them as our insurance does not cover personal property. Israeli workplaces tend to be very casual. Shorts and sleeveless tops are not usually acceptable, but casual slacks and a shirt are sufficient in almost any workplace. For specific questions regarding the dress code at your internship placement, please contact your placement coordinator.

You should also bring comfortable walking shoes, water shoes and a backpack appropriate for hiking and touring. You will be here during a change of seasons so you should bring some clothes for very hot summer weather and for mild cold/rainy weather. It can be somewhat chilly at night in Tel Aviv from November – January and very cold in Jerusalem from December - January so pack accordingly.

Suggested Packing List

1. Shirts
2. shorts
3. pants
4. work clothes (nice slacks/skirt and shirt)
5. shower thongs
6. bathing suit
7. tons of underwear
8. socks
9. walking/hiking shoes
10. P.J.s
11. warm clothes (especially for Jerusalem)
12. good winter jacket
13. raincoat
14. umbrella
15. Shabbat/Holiday clothes (nice casual slacks/skirt and shirt)
16. clothes to go out on the town with friends

“The Basics”

1. Passport and copy
2. Ticket
3. Sunscreen (much more expensive in Israel)
4. Hat
5. Small flashlight
6. Bedding- sheets, blanket, pillow (can be purchased in Israel)
7. Towels (can be purchased in Israel)
8. Camera
9. Backpack for weekend trips
10. Sunglasses
11. Converter/Adapter
12. Batteries/Re-charger
13. Travel alarm clock
14. Ziplock Bags
15. Toiletries- Pepto-Bismol, Imodium, pain reliever, cold medicine for convenience. Contacts and deodorant are much more expensive. Otherwise toiletries are easy to find and of good quality. No need to lug unnecessary items even tampons and pads exist there.
16. Prescription medicine for the full 5 months (including birth control if needed) as our insurance does not cover pre-existing conditions.

Optional

1. Kippa/Tallit
2. Favorite Recipes
3. Prayer book especially for the high holidays (there are often not enough)
4. Laptop (at your own risk; in both Tel Aviv and Jerusalem there are places throughout the city with hot spots.)
5. I-Pod, music player
6. A book or two- participants will end up sharing between one another
7. Hebrew-English Dictionary though they are cheaper in Israel
8. Present for host family

Reminders:

1. You can bring 1 piece of luggage up to 23 kgs or 50 lbs as well as 2 carry-ons,
2. So pack accordingly.
3. We will be moving a bit in the beginning- so pack what you are able to carry and transport. Collapsible luggage such as internal frame backpacks and duffle bags work well to store under your bed to save room in your apartments.
4. Though this may seem obvious--you will thank yourself for packing lightly. You can always shop at the local market for clothes and remember to dress accordingly for cold and very hot weather.

Vacations & Time-Off Work

The internship segment of the program is less than four months, and in addition, you will miss some work days in order to attend the educational programming. Therefore it is extremely important that you do not take additional time off from your internship.

If you miss work due to an illness, please inform both your supervisor and the Career Israel participant coordinator and internship placement coordinator.

You are required to work **25-30 hours a week at a minimum.**



Leaving the Country

Some participants have expressed a desire to leave Israel for a short period during the program.

This will be allowed under the following conditions:

- You must first confirm with your participant coordinator and internship supervisor if the dates are permissible and receive confirmation from the registrar by signing a release form. We will need an email from your supervisor confirming to your vacation dates.
- You cannot be absent from the program for more than one week.
- You must make up the work days before you leave or upon your return.
- You may not miss more than 1 trip (day or overnight).
- You must make up the work days before you leave or upon your return.
- You may not travel to any countries for which the Israeli Foreign Ministry has a current security warning.

Failure to comply with these conditions is cause for dismissal from the program and loss of your Masa scholarship.

General Attitude

It is essential that all participants come on the program with a positive attitude, motivation to work at your internship placements and a willingness to be open and flexible. Israel is often run quite differently than your home countries and dealing with an unfamiliar culture can sometimes be frustrating. However, if you come with a willingness to be positive and to take initiative, your experience will be that much better. Your attitude not only reflects upon yourself but the program as a whole, so we ask that you are cognizant of this while at work and on all Career Israel programming.

We will also do all that we can to make your experience the best it can be. It is also important that you prepare to be proactive while on the program. The staff is here to give you tools to help you do things on your own, but not everything will be taken care of for you, unlike on Birthright or other short-term programs. While this is sometimes challenging, being proactive and doing things on your own will enhance your experience.



Additional Services

Career Israel will be offering some additional services to its participants. For more information about any of the services offered below please email jordanab@israelexperience.org.il.

a) **Continuation Ulpan:** For an additional fee, participants can take ulpan classes throughout the duration of their five month program. Classes are offered twice a week in the evenings in the Career Israel Tel Aviv housing. This is a great way to improve your Hebrew, and is highly recommended! This will be discussed in detail during orientation.

b) **GMAT/GRE Course and Exam:** Participants can take the GMAT/GRE course and exam in Israel while on the program! This is a great way to maximize your time in Israel and to prepare for grad school. The course cost is not included in the cost of the program, however it is over \$600 less-expensive than any GMAT or GRE prep course in the US.

c) **Gym Memberships:** Since our Tel Aviv housing is in the best location in the center of Tel Aviv there are many gyms available in the area. During the first few days in Tel Aviv we will take you on a tour of the neighborhood and show you a few of the gyms in the area. We can even get group discounts so make sure to ask your participant coordinator if you are interested in joining a gym.

Facebook Group

A Facebook group has been created for the September 2013 session of Career Israel. You can access the group by going to the following link: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/148788941945937/>

Meet the Program Staff!



Reut Tsohar, Director of the Career Israel program and the English Speaking Unit of the Long Term Programs Division, was born and raised in Jerusalem and served in the IDF as a social worker. Following her release from the army she lived in Budapest, Hungary for 4 years, where she was the coordinator of the Education Department of the Jewish Agency for Israel. In this position she was responsible for coordinating all Israel programs for the community including Birthright and Masa. She and her husband Tamir, a doctor, are the proud parents of Ma'ayan Ami, and Alma Adar.



Elana Glickman, Director of Placement Services, Registration and Development for the Career Israel program, was born and raised in New York. Since her aliyah eight years ago she has served as the coordinator of the OTZMA program and the coordinator of English speaking aliyah promotion programs for Tnuat Aliyah of the Jewish Agency for Israel. She holds a B.A. in psychology from Queens College and a Masters in Social Work with a specialization in community organizing from Hunter College School of Social Work. She and her husband Meir, a psychologist, are the proud parents of two children.



Rachel Sales, Director of Marketing for Career Israel, was born and raised in New York City. Rachel previously served as Director of Alumni and Public Relations for Masa Israel Journey in New York. Rachel holds a B.A. in English literature and an M.F.A. in creative writing from Columbia University. She previously spent time living in Kiryat Gat, Beer Sheva, and Kibbutz Yiftach, and is thrilled to now live in Tel Aviv with her husband, Ben.



Itzik Yehezkel, Career Israel Participant Coordinator, was born and raised in Israel. He is currently studying Jewish philosophy at Tel Aviv University. Since 2002 Itzik has been working with Diaspora Jews. He began his career in the Jewish world with Young Judeaa, leading youth groups in the States and Israel. In 2003 Itzik served as a counselor for Young Judea's year course gap program in Israel. Following that, Itzik worked for Merkaz Hamagshimim in Jerusalem for five years, helping olim {new immigrants} and lone soldiers of the IDF. His work there involved assisting olim to navigate the Israeli bureaucracy and helping to create social events for the residents. Itzik also works as a tour guide, leading Israeli and American groups all over Israel. In 2008, Itzik worked as the social coordinator of the Jewish Agency's Stagerim (internship) program.



Tess Sevelow, Career Israel Community Director, hails from Chicago, Illinois. After graduating from Illinois State University with a degree in social work, Tess worked at a prison for a year before deciding to give her long-time dream of living and working in Israel a shot. Through Career Israel 9, she lived and worked in Jerusalem. In 2010, Tess landed in Tel Aviv as a new citizen. Want more information about Career Israel? Email Tess at TessS@israelexperience.org.il.



Aviva Senser, Recruitment Coordinator Originally a Chicago girl, Aviva decided to pack her bags and move to Israel. She is a 2 time Career Israel Alum (participating in both the summer and 5 month programs). A true Spartan at heart, Aviva graduated from The School of Hospitality Business at Michigan State University with a B.A. in Business and Event Planning. Working for almost a year and half as a VIP travel consultant she knows Tel Aviv like that back of her hand and is often giving recommendations for restaurant, bars and fun things to do in Israel! Want more information about Career Israel? Email Aviva at AvivaSe@israelexperience.org.il.



Aryeh Solomon, Career Israel internship placement coordinator, was born and raised in Israel to American parents. After his army service as a commander in the paratroopers division, Aryeh studied education at Herzog College and taught in several schools. He also worked at various informal education programs including directing Yavneh Olami's summer internship program in Israel. Aryeh lives in Efrat with his wife and two children. He enjoys playing soccer and reading.



Maya Dinur, Career Israel Internship Placement Coordinator, was born in L.A and made Aliyah at age 5 to become tenth generation Israeli. She holds a BA in behavioral science from Bar Ilan University and a certification of "The Identity and Public Policy Program" of the Jewish Statesmanship Center for Strategic Planning. Maya participated in the StandWithUs Israel advocacy fellowship, was on the Israel Advocacy Delegation "Speak Up for Israel" to Sydney Australia, has brought many groups of diaspora Jewish students to Israel and was part of a Zionist Seminars delegation that ran Jewish studies camps at Masada College in Australia. Maya is a tour guide in Israel, selects future leaders for the Jewish Agency and developed educational material for Tzemach, an organization that focuses on Zionism, leadership and education.



Jordana Bickel, Career Israel Recruitment Manager and an internship placement coordinator for Career Israel. She graduated from Touro College in Manhattan with a degree in Marketing, and was a participant on the World Union Jewish Students in Israel program in 2010. She has interned for Us Weekly, and the admissions department of the Jewish Theological Seminary. After making aliyah in January 2011 she studied at Ulpan Etzion and is very excited to be fulfilling her dream of living in Israel!



Sarah Hindman, Marketing Associate for Israel Experience, Department of Long-Term Programs for English Speakers. Sarah was raised in Brookline, Massachusetts. After ditching Hebrew School and attending a Christian boarding school, Sarah packed her bags and moved to Los Angeles where she received a BA in Film Critical Studies from the University of Southern California Film School. Those magical ten days on Taglit-Birthright were enough to get her hooked and she immediately signed up with Career Israel upon her return. While on the program, Sarah lived in Tel Aviv and interned in Sderot at the Sderot Media Center where she created her very first film (and met her then to-be-husband!) Sarah became a proud Israeli citizen in 2011 and has since worked in the Jewish non-profit world and PPC marketing. Sarah now lives in Jerusalem with her husband, Itzik.



Mara Siedel, Career Israel Internship Coordinator, was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware. She graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in Sociology, and it was there she fell in love with college football and hiking in the mountains. She also went to Israel for the first time her sophomore year on the Taglit Birthright-Israel trip, but it wasn't until she studied abroad in Barcelona that her love affair with traveling began. After graduation, Mara started working for Hillel at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst bringing Jewish life to students on campus and staffing multiple Taglit Birthright-Israel trips and Alternative Spring Break trips. In September 2008, she herself was a participant on Career Israel, volunteering with refugees from Darfur. Mara loves to travel and has backpacked through India, Southeast Asia, Nepal, and Western Europe, but the most exciting move she has done to date would be making Aliyah in November of 2009. She currently lives in Tel Aviv.



September 2013



As always, feel free to contact us with any questions that you have about the program.

The entire Career Israel staff is so excited to meet you on August 28, 2013!!!