

# Habonim Dror Israel Tour 2023



## Who Are We?

Habonim Dror is Socialist, Zionist and a culturally Jewish Youth movement that has been educating about and supporting the building of the State of Israel for over 90 years.



As a socialist movement, we emphasise the values of equality and inclusivity on Tour. This value is established through the formation of kvutzot (groups) throughout the trip which act as a home away from home.

Habonim Dror also believes strongly in the establishment and continuity of Israel and seeks to help our participants find their own Zionist identity throughout Tour.

On Tour you will travel the entire country, participating in amazing activities such as kayaking down the Jordan River, swimming in the Kinneret, sleeping in a Bedouin tent experience, and floating in the Dead Sea!

You will delve deep into your Jewish heritage with a trip to the Kotel, a morning climb-up Masada to see the sun rise and a visit to Yad Vashem. Don't think we've forgotten Tel Aviv Beach, the markets or the water hikes either! Additionally, Tour with Habonim Dror has several unique elements. You will have the chance to meet up with Habonim Dror groups from across the world, volunteer in Israeli society, spend a weekend with just your kvutza on a kibbutz and take part in a leadership weekend.

Habonim Dror Israel Tour is run under the auspices of UJIA Israel Experience and is organised through them. Each tour group will be led by two senior madrichimot (leaders), who have undergone a specific training process and bring a wealth of experience within the movement.

The group will be accompanied by two Israeli madrichimot who provide a deeper understanding about Israeli culture.

Israel Tour is just the beginning of an exciting journey with Habonim Dror. Meet people from all around the country and create lifelong memories.

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*The Journey to becoming a  
motivating and inspiring leader  
starts here...*

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## Participants' Reviews

"My Israel tour with Habonim was an unforgettable experience. Tour allowed me to create lifelong friendships with people from different cities, as well as enabling me to develop my knowledge on the history of Israel & the Jewish people, through touring historic & scenic sights.

Habonim showed me the importance of community building and how to be selfless but more significantly made me grow as an individual by realising what is important in life and to not take things for granted. My madrichim were amazing and very inspiring, so I wish to carry on with Habonim and become a leader." **LILY C, Liverpool**

"I started in Habo Dror 4 years ago for one reason - to meet the people I would be going on Israel tour within 4 years' time. Best decision I made. Those weeks were the most surreal, breath-taking, enjoyable, and educational weeks of my life so far.

There's too many words to describe the experience. I learnt about the history and past of the holy land, learnt about my Jewish identity more, and understood what it meant to be Jewish. I've made so many new friends, created so many memories that will never ever be forgotten and inside jokes that'll forever make me laugh." **RACHEL M, Glasgow**

"Going on tour with Habo is a decision I'll never regret. Having been attending their summer camps for four (4) previous years, I really expected the best experience in Israel - and that's exactly what I got.

The madrichim were absolutely wonderful, as were the chanichim, and I made many friends for life along the way. My Kvutzah formed an unbreakable bond as we travelled the country, sharing snacks, kuppah, and life stories together in a comfortable and friendly environment. And as for the experiences, I can safely say that we saw everything Israel had to offer in the best way possible!

If given the option, I would happily go again, and highly recommend the life-changing and eye-opening experience to anybody thinking of going on tour." **JOSH Y, London**

## A Parent's Review

"A huge thank you to the madrichim and organisers of this year's Israel trip. My son had an amazing time, learnt so much, made so many good friends. It really was the trip of a lifetime. all brilliantly organised with great communication from Habo Dror throughout.

"One very tired but VERY happy daughter who has had the best summer ever! A huge, huge thank you for everything and for all the photos... it has been amazing to follow the journey."



## Ultimate Group Experience



Tour with Habonim Dror is a group experience like no other. Each kvutzah (group) runs their own kuppah (kitty) system, encouraging and enabling them to communicate together to make shared decisions and enhance group bonding and mutual respect.

The 'give what you can, take what you need' policy helps to create an inclusive atmosphere whilst teaching about equality and social consciousness. The kvutzah acts as a family so each Chanichol can feel safe to explore Israel as an individual, and as part of the wider group. The Kvutzah and Kuppah create an inclusive environment characterised by mutual trust and respect. This encourages and enables open discussion, shared decision making and enhances group bonding.

## Social Action

Habonim Dror places a huge emphasis on affecting real change in Israeli society. As such, our programme includes working with underprivileged children or refugees alongside other projects which make an impact on society. Volunteering in Israel allows participants to really connect with the country and understand how, as Jews, we can do more to help society, especially in Israel.

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*“Kuppah really helped us to understand each other’s needs and the value of money.”*

*“Volunteering in Israel was amazing - spending time with the refugees was so much fun and I really felt like we were giving something back.”*

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Habonim Dror Tour offers unique, comprehensive leadership training whilst in Israel. We bring in special educators to run a Hadracha (leadership) weekend which will start the preparation for becoming a leader.

The participants will receive their chultzah (movement shirt) as a symbol of them graduating from chanichol to madrichol. This, along with continued training upon returning back to the UK, creates a group of newly qualified madrichimot (leaders) who can lead and take part in a huge range of activities in their respective communities at home.

These include frequent activities for Years 4-10, Summer Machanot, Reunion Weekends and Day Schemes all over the UK.

Habonim Dror utilises its rich history with Israel and deep connection to Judaism to inform its educational content on tour. It does so through an exploratory and informal approach. It is an

**“WE LEARNT SO MUCH ABOUT BECOMING GOOD LEADERS, I CAN’T WAIT TO LEAD SUMMER CAMP NEXT YEAR!”**

experience that poses questions to every participant about their beliefs and provides them with a safe environment to find answers. It allows them to shape their identity on a moral and Jewish level through the educational rationale woven into the whole tour experience. The education we

provide is not merely facts and figures, it is about discovering answers for yourself through an active and experimental approach.

This ensures not only that the participants return home with a better knowledge of Israel and Judaism, but also with a deeper insight into who they are and want to be.





## Tour Dates, Prices & Deadlines

### Which Age Group should apply for Israel Tour?

Israel Tour is for all in English school Year 11 and Scottish school Year S4

### Israel Tour Dates

From **Sunday, 9th July to the Sunday, 30th July 2023\***.

*\* dates subject to change*

**Early Bird Israel Tour Price: £4,199**

**After 3<sup>rd</sup> January: £4,299**

**Price includes:** flights (UK-Israel return), accommodation, tours and hikes, madrichimot, tour guides, transport, food, entrance fees, basic medical, travel and baggage insurance. (Regarding insurance, please note it is the responsibility of the applicant to address any additional insurance needs for pre-existing conditions or anything not otherwise covered.)

### Deposit and Full Payment Deadline

A **£500 deposit** is required with the initial application form.

The **balance of the Full Payment** must be received by Habonim Dror **no later than Wednesday, 26 April 2023.**

### Financial Assistance

The UJIA and Habonim Dror are committed to financial inclusion to ensure that all young people in the British Jewish community can participate in the Israel Tour programme.

Financial assistance, in the form of bursaries and payments by instalment, may be available through Habonim Dror and UJIA in partnership to provide support to applicants who cannot meet the full cost of the programme.

If you are in a financial situation where you are unable to afford the full cost of the programme, please tick the appropriate box on the Initial Application Form and you will be sent a link to the online Financial Assistance Form. Habonim Dror and the UJIA Bursary Fund will assist individuals to the best of its ability and limits of available funding based on a means-tested process. Habonim Dror and the UJIA Bursary Fund Committee guarantee complete confidentiality throughout the process.

### Financial Assistance Online Application Deadline

Applications for financial assistance must be completed by **Monday, 30th January 2023.**



## Kuppah Principle (Group Kitty)

*Suggested Amount: £150*

**Please do not send your child with spending money.** Habonim Dror has a unique group kitty system (kuppah) as a means of realising our belief in equality.

The kuppah system is run by the group, for the group with guidance from the madrichim (leaders). This encourages shared decisions, group bonding, mutual respect, trust and ultimately a more profound friendship. The money is spent on everything that isn't covered by the programme. This includes, for example, all 'merchandise' that the participants design themselves, money to spend in markets etc., extra snacks and drinks, their movement shirts (chultzot), and replacing lost water bottles.

**Kuppah must be paid before Tour.** The principle of 'give what you can' will remain intact; financial circumstances will be taken into account by the bursary committee.

**Suggested Amount: £150**

## How to Apply for Israel Tour

### Online Applications

**Registration opens Thursday, 7th December 2022 at 5 P.M.**

All applications for Israel Tour must be done online. The link to the application can be found on our website - [www.habodror.org.uk](http://www.habodror.org.uk).

On receipt of the online initial application form by Habonim Dror and minimum deposit of £500, you will receive an email which will contain:

- The applicant's unique link to their Full Application (Form II).
- Health Form and Letter.
- 'Important Information and Terms and Conditions' booklet.
- Other information concerning your Israel Tour.

### Application Completion Deadline

All Full Applications (Form II) and medical forms should be completed and received by no later than **Monday, 27th February 2023**.





## The Small Print

### Obligations, responsibilities & requirements of all participants

- Completed GP and application form.
- To attend interviews.
- To attend orientation.
- To attend follow-up activity.

### Security

The safety, security and wellbeing of the participants is, and always has been, our primary concern.

Habonim Dror Israel Tour is planned according to the security directives of the relevant security authorities in Israel, who check all the itineraries regularly and advise on any changes which need to be made.

### Cancellation Information

- If a Participant or Parent/Guardian (if applicant is under 18) wishes to cancel their place on a Programme he or she must contact Habonim Dror formally in writing.
- Any Participant or Parent/Guardian (if applicant is under 18) who cancels **after** the Deposit Payment Deadline will be entitled to a refund according to the following schedule:
  - 61 days or longer prior to departure date: 100% of monies paid less deposit and the Administration Fee;
  - From 31-60 days prior to departure date: 50% of monies paid less deposit and the Administration Fee;
  - From 15-30 days prior to departure date: 20% of monies paid less deposit and the Administration Fee;
  - From 1-14 days prior to departure date: no monies refunded.
- The **Administration Fee** is **£150**.

### Tour Organiser and Conditions of Travel

UJIA Israel Experience is organised by the Jewish Agency for Israel and supported by the UJIA. Israel Tours are not ATOL protected. Bursaries are provided by the UJIA and Habonim Dror in partnership.

Please note that at any time up until departure, the cost of an additional fuel surcharge and airport tax may be applied by the airline. UJIA Israel Experience will have to pass any increased charges on to the participants and their families, as per their Terms and Conditions.

Ideally all participants should travel both ways on the group flight. However, **requests for flight deviations** will be considered if received by Habonim Dror **no later than Thursday, 30th March 2023**.

## Contact & Partnership Details



### Further information

If you have any further queries or questions, please contact Gideon on: 020 8209 2111 or email [gideon@habodror.org.uk](mailto:gideon@habodror.org.uk).

Supporting documentation can also be found on the Habonim Dror UK website, at [www.habodror.org.uk](http://www.habodror.org.uk).

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