

JOINT TCW-TCK

TanenbaumCHAT G10 ISRAEL TRIP

FEBRUARY 7 – 16, 2010

TanenbaumCHAT Israel is where it's at!

This year's price: – \$3,125 + \$175 = \$3,300 * /

Early Bird - \$3,075 + \$175 = \$3,250 *

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

By signing your Application Form you also sign that you have carefully read and understood the information contained in this document. Please read it carefully together with your son/daughter.

We are once again offering the G10 Israel Trip in FEBRUARY.

Going in February enables us to get off-season prices and the best deals despite this year's sharply rising costs. Before you do anything else – look at what a great time last year's group had by logging on to www.tanenbaumchat.org - click the 'School Life' pull-down menu/ 2009 Israel Trip.

To: OUR STUDENTS

The TanenbaumCHAT Israel Trip is likely to be the best and most enjoyable experience of your High School career, and something you will remember for years to come. You will explore Israel, make new friends, deepen existing friendships; see and be inspired by the land, the people, the stones, the views, the sun and the sea, and the Israel Experience you will share! In short, you should have the time of your life!

To: OUR PARENTS

The Israel Trip should be a wonderful experience for our parents as well. You have seen your children grow and mature in their first year at TanenbaumCHAT, benefiting in many ways from their TanenbaumCHAT experience. However, the Israel Trip -- with students away from their parents, meeting a new culture and experiencing a new type of independence -- is often a transition point.

We are pleased to announce that the Canada Israel Experience will be involved in the implementation of the TanenbaumCHAT Israel Trip February 2010. This year we have adjusted the trip itinerary and are taking reservations on the following basis: **We need a full bus for trip to be viable!**

- **THE FIRST PLACES GO TO THE FIRST FORTY-FOUR STUDENTS TO REGISTER (= one large bus).**
- **Applications received after 44 places will be wait-listed.**

So – it is VERY IMPORTANT that you get your reservation in NOW!!!!

Please take the time to write us a short note or call if there is any information that we should know in advance of the trip or during the trip that will help us in understanding and taking care of your child. This applies particularly to family, personal or medical information. We will ask all participants to file a full Medical Information form before the Trip departs.

We hope that we have given you the information you need. If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to call. **We want as many of our students as possible to join our Israel Trip, and we want our parents to send them with a good feeling!**

Looking forward to receiving your application --

Yours sincerely,

PAUL SHAVIV

TanenbaumCHAT - Director of Education

MICHAEL SOBERMAN

National Director - Canada Israel Experience

* SHOULD THERE BE AN INCREASE IN COSTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE SCHOOL / OR CANADA ISRAEL EXPERIENCE (DUE TO CURRENT FINANCIAL CONDITIONS, ESPECIALLY FUEL COSTS), THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO INCREASE THE COST OF THE TRIP BY UP TO 5%.

STAFFING

The trip will be accompanied by a TanenbaumCHAT Senior member of staff and other TanenbaumCHAT teachers. In addition, Israeli madrichim, tour guides and other staff as needed, will be joining the group in Israel. We will announce the accompanying staff in due course.

DOCUMENTATION

In addition to this document ('Essential Information'), you should have a copy of the APPLICATION FORM.

To enter Israel and re-enter Canada, every student must have a Canadian passport (or Landed Immigrant visa) **valid until at least September 1, 2010**. Students who are Israeli citizens require an Israeli passport in order to enter Israel. If your child does not have a Canadian passport, apply **now**. When you receive it, make two photocopies of pages 2-3; keep one, and send one in with your documentation. This is a precaution to ensure easy replacement if a passport is lost.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, WE ADVISE PARENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR OWN PASSPORTS ARE VALID DURING THE TIME OF THE TRIP.

After your Application is accepted, and closer to the time of the trip, you will be asked to supply a Medical Form, and proof of Medical Insurance.

Cancellation Insurance – We strongly recommend you purchase cancellation insurance. If student is unable to travel - Refunds will not be issued after November 20, 2009. (see Application Form – item 7.)

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A limited amount of financial assistance, up to 50% of the cost of the trip, may be available, depending on available funds. Parents are asked to contact Mr. Shaviv, in complete confidence at E: pshaviv@tanenbaumchat.org T: 905-292-4380. Cancellation policy applies on a pro-rata basis.

ADDRESS FOR RETURN OF DOCUMENTS:

Please return all documents to the TanenbaumCHAT School office (TCW or TCK), marking the envelope clearly "ISRAEL TRIP 2010"

THE ISRAEL TRIP 'UPDATE'

During the Trip, a daily 'progress report' will be posted on the school website, which will give you up to date information about where the Trip is, what they're doing, and how they are. You can view the 2009 Trip record at www.tanenbaumchat.org > School life > 2009 Israel Trip.

PROGRAMME:

Our programme is developed jointly by TanenbaumCHAT and the Canada Israel Experience. It aims to give students a really exciting 'length and breadth of Israel' tour, encompassing a very comprehensive variety of experiences and sites. A sample itinerary will follow, and the itinerary will be made available as it is developed. We will give you full information as we know it, but the programme is always subject to some change, even at the last minute. Parents will have up-to-the minute information via the website and blog.

SAFETY AND BEHAVIOUR CONTRACT

READ THIS SECTION VERY CAREFULLY

Application to the Trip signifies acceptance by both parents and students of the Safety and Behaviour Contract, which should be signed separately.

As we said at the beginning of this leaflet, the TanenbaumCHAT Israel Trip is likely to be the best and most enjoyable experience of your High School career. The school wants you to have a great time.

In order to achieve this, we have established the Safety and Behaviour Contract. Observing it will ensure that you, the group, and the trip leaders can go to Israel, enjoy yourselves, and return safely, without having harmed yourself or others. We will be a large group, far away from Toronto, and in surroundings that are unfamiliar to many of you. Your trip leaders and madrichim are responsible for you and need to know that they can rely on you. The rules reflect that.

GENERAL RULES FOR STUDENTS

1. You are expected to be responsible, co-operative, respectful of others, and respectful of property. You must carry out the instructions of the leaders promptly, fully and without argument and you are expected to comply with the laws of the State of Israel. The general rules of the TanenbaumCHAT School Handbook governing our expectations of students while participating in school events apply fully to this trip.
2. You must attend and participate in all group activities
3. You will be sent home to Toronto (or otherwise released into parental custody) if you:
 - breach or disregard security / safety precautions
 - leave the group without permission
 - hitch-hike or accept rides without the knowledge and approval of the trip leaders
 - consume or possess illegal drugs or drug-associated equipment
 - possess or consume alcohol or supply it to others
 - go swimming without permission
 - show by serious misbehaviour or anti-social behaviour on the trip that the Trip Leaders cannot rely on you to respect the Safety and Behaviour Contract

In these circumstances, there cannot be any refund for any unused portion of the trip and all costs incurred in sending a student home are the responsibility of the parents. Students sent home for behavioural reasons who have received financial assistance will be expected to reimburse their grant in full.

4. The school reserves the right to search students' belongings.
5. You must not bring with or have in your possession any pocket-knives or other offensive / dangerous items.
6. The use of all tobacco products is prohibited. Smoking is strictly prohibited on all activities.
7. Social relationships must not give offence to others by behaviour in public or by inappropriate sexual intimacy.
8. Leaders have the right to determine appropriate / inappropriate clothing and footwear for any purpose.
9. All accidents, injuries or illness must be reported immediately to a Trip Leader.
10. For health reasons, including particularly risk of infection, it is forbidden to have any ear- or body-piercing or tattoos carried out while on the trip.
11. Cell phones, iPods etc., must be turned off during programmes, and at any other time if requested by staff.

CONSEQUENCES

The Trip Leaders and the Madrichim will impose sanctions on pupils for misbehaviour. These may include suspension of privileges, temporary withdrawal from parts of the programme, imposition of duties, or other practical sanctions appropriate to the circumstances. We expect parents will support our staff, and we do not expect parents to make any representations during the trip on matters of day-to-day discipline. Trip Leaders will not enter into such discussions.

Students involved in serious disciplinary problems in the closing days of the trip will be dealt with at school upon their return.

COMMUNICATIONS

A daily 'progress report' will be posted, and will contain an out-of-hours telephone number to reach a staff member on-duty. If a pupil is to be sent home, or if there are other serious issues of behaviour, communication will only be through the TanenbaumCHAT Senior member of staff. Parents will be given information on how to reach them. In emergencies, parents will be contacted directly and quickly by any staff member.

In cases when a student on the trip needs to be told of an emergency (eg family illness or bereavement), parents are asked to contact the staff on duty in Toronto, who will contact the Trip Leaders in Israel. This will ensure that your child has support at difficult times. In such circumstances, please do not call your child directly.

Parents should not contact the Trip Leaders directly except where absolutely necessary.

SPENDING MONEY / PROVISION OF MONEY ON ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL

Spending Money

Israel is an expensive country, with costs at European levels (up to twice the costs in Canada for soft drinks, ice-creams, snacks etc; even more for cosmetics and other drug-store items.)

Based on experience, we are therefore suggesting that you allow your son/daughter

- CDN\$300.00 as basic spending money
- up to an additional CDN\$250.00 if you want your child to buy gifts or souvenirs or if you wish to allow your child to buy sandals, t-shirts, jewellery etc.

We do not expect any child to exceed these limits.

Calling cards are the easiest and least expensive ways of enabling your son/daughter to phone home.

The quickest and easiest way for students to access cash in Israel is with a Canadian debit or credit card which will enable them to draw NIS in Israel from ordinary bank accounts in Canada. This is a very convenient system, providing that:

- You check well before departure from your bank that the card system is accessible in Israel (most are)
- You ascertain exactly what instructions you need to follow to withdraw cash (eg from checking or savings account)
- Students are absolutely meticulous about preserving the confidentiality of their PIN #.

Provision of NIS (Israeli Shekels) on arrival, and pre-payment for gratuities

Every parent is required to pay CAN\$175.00 (included in the November 30, 2009 post-dated cheque). Immediately on arrival in Israel, every student will be given the equivalent of CAN\$100.00 in Israeli currency, which will save initial time and hassle. The additional \$75.00 will be used towards gratuities at the end of the trip for bus drivers, guides, etc.