

The background of the entire poster is a photograph of three students from behind, standing on a dirt path and looking out over a lush, green, hilly landscape under a clear blue sky. The student in the center is wearing a white t-shirt and a backpack, while the two students on either side are wearing darker clothing. The path leads into the distance, flanked by dense trees and shrubs.

MAKE ISRAEL YOURS

SUMMER 2025



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 450 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 fifty 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 roughly 40 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, active Facebook and Instagram pages 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, developing a reputation in the field for his experience, professionalism, and dedication. Dan has been an active leader in Bnei Akiva, having previously served on the administrative team of Moshava (IO), and as 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.



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 six different Adventure Track options.



HIGHLIGHT EVENTS

Feel the power of over 450 Mach Hach campers joining together for these special events.



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.



CHESSSED

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



HIGHLIGHT EVENTS

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 CEREMONY

There is no better way to start a summer in Israel than in the Old City by the Kotel. 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 450 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 participants enjoy a four day specialty track chosen before the summer. The specialty tracks include: Army, Chessed, Culturefest, Negev, Sports 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.



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.



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!



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



Take part in basketball, flag football, krav maga and surfing, as you concurrently learn about Israel's sporting history.



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
JULY 6 Depart from USA	JULY 7 Arrive Ben Gurion Ice Breakers Overnight: Jerusalem	JULY 8 Superpharm Shopping Har Hatzofim Kotel Opening Ceremony Overnight: Jerusalem
JULY 13 Shiva Assar B'Tammuz	JULY 14 Chatzbani Misgav Am Kayaks Overnight: Teverya	JULY 15 Nachal Elal Banias Kfar Kedem-Donkeys Overnight: Teverya
JULY 20 Yafo Tour Carmel Market Camel Riding Overnight: Bedouin Tent	JULY 21 Massada Dead Sea Swimming Ein Gedi Overnight Mitzpe Ramon	JULY 22 Ramon Museum Kever Ben Gurion Ein Ovdar Overnight: Eilat
JULY 27 Tel Azeka Guvrin Caves Basketball Overnight: Jerusalem	JULY 28 Adventure Week	JULY 29 Adventure Week
AUGUST 3 Tisha B'Av	AUGUST 4 Yad Vashem Har Hertzl Basketball Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 5 Old City Tour Ir David Kotel Tunnels Ben Yehuda Overnight: Jerusalem
AUGUST 10 Gush Katif Museum Leket Volunteering Basketball	AUGUST 11 Banquet Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 12 Kotel Farewell Activities Depart Ben Gurion

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
JULY 9 Drive North Nachal Hakkibutzim Chocolate Factory Overnight: Teverya	JULY 10 Nachal Gilabun Har Bental Aquakef Overnight: Teverya	JULY 11 Ein Tina Talmudic Experience Shabbat Shopping Overnight: Teverya	JULY 12 Shabbat in Teverya
JULY 16 Har Arbel Teverya Swimming Teverya Boat Ride Overnight: Haifa	JULY 17 Nachal Betzet Acco Museum Rosh Hanikra Louis Promenade Overnight: Haifa	JULY 18 Tzfai Nachal Amud Kever Rashbi Shabbat Shopping Overnight: Haifa	JULY 19 Shabbat in Haifa
JULY 23 Har Tzfachot Water Sports Snorkeling Eilat Promenade Overnight: Eilat	JULY 24 Machane Yehuda Aleh Volunteering Shabbat Shopping Overnight: Jerusalem	JULY 25 Free Weekend	JULY 26 Free Weekend
JULY 30 Adventure Week	JULY 31 Adventure Week Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 1 Shabbat Mach Hach Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 2 Shabbat Mach Hach
AUGUST 6 Ammunition Hill Save a Child's Heart Blind Museum Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 7 Stand With Us Independence Hall Kikar Rabin Food Packaging Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 8 Kfar Etzion Museum Biar Mud Caves Shabbat Shopping Overnight: Jerusalem	AUGUST 9 Shabbat in Jerusalem
AUGUST 13 Arrival in USA			



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.



ITINERARY STOPS!

MASADA

**EIN
GEDI**

KOTEL

**AQUA
KEF**

EILAT

**ROSH
HANIKRA**

**HAR
HERZL**



CONTACT US





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

