

Summer exchange program - Havaya International

23/7-6/8 2017 Israel- Netherlands

Havaya International is 2 weeks-long life-changing opportunity to travel like a local in both Israel and around the Netherlands, while making a positive difference in our global community. Made up of 10-15 Dutch teens and 10-15 Israeli teens 14-16 years old, Havayaniks will spend a week traveling throughout Israel (23-30/7/17) with local Israelis teens from Ramat Hasharon, Shoham, Kochav Yair and other communities and a week traveling in the Netherlands (30/7-6/8/17) with their Israeli counterparts. The Havaya Program just finished its 9th year. During this time we have had over 270 tenth, eleventh and twelfth graders participate in the program.

Havaya exchange program goals are:

1. Develop Leadership

One of the goals of the program is development of leadership skills and self-confidence in our participants. Everyone is a leader in their own way. Havaya gives teens the chance to explore their leadership abilities through a variety of training opportunities including outdoor survival training, community service projects, and guided group discussion about political, social, and religious topics.

2. Jewish Experience

Connect to Judaism by visiting historical Jewish sites throughout Israel as our staff guides the group in active conversations and Jewish learning, along with participating in Tikkun Olam projects and learn about the State of Israel and its history. We believe in exposure to education and allow our teens to create their own views about Judaism and how they choose to connect to it. Havaya is a pluralistic program.

3. Tikkun Olam

The Jewish teen years are important building blocks in connecting youth to the values of the Jewish Community. Amongst these values is Tikkun Olam, the sacred responsibility of our community to make the world a better place. Havaya provides teens with a variety of community service experiences through the course of the trip.

4. Am Echad/ Jewish Peoplehood

Havaya exchange program is aimed to be an experiences forge a lifelong bond to Israel and the Jewish people. With Havaya, participants get the incredible chance to see Israel through the eyes of local teens, not just as tourists, but as friends of Israelis, while getting the same opportunity to show Israeli teens how they live. The goal is that our newly created relationships with our Israeli peers will encourage us to look inward towards our own Jewish identities and challenge our own core beliefs.

Havaya exchanged program is aimed for:

Havaya participants are Jewish teens 14-16 years old who are open-minded, energetic and excited. Leaders in their communities, Havayaniks will have a focus on social justice and tolerance. Havayniks are selected based on interviews and recommendations.

Who are the Israeli teens?

The Israeli teens are equally amazing and hail from the towns of Ramat HaSharon, Kochav Yair, Shoham and others. The teens come from solid middle class- upper class Israeli families. Many of the teens are very active in extra-curricular activities including: art classes, music, technology, tzofim (Israel scouts), etc. The majority of the teens who participate in our programs are more secular in nature, but some are traditional. Very few that consider to be "dati".

Teens choose to participate in our youth and teen programs for the following reasons: Looking for a youth group experience, Interested in exploring what it is to be a "leader", Socialization.

The Israeli participants will also be 14-16 years old.

Havaya program:

in Israel will be focusing on ISRAEL- HISTORY, TOURS & VOLUNTEERING: We'll be visiting in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Masada, the Dead Sea and more, as well as exploring the progressive Judaism movement in Israel, volunteering and celebrating the Shabbat together while experiencing the Jewish life in Israel.

During the week we'll spent in the Netherlands together with the Israeli teens we will introduce them the Jewish life in the Netherlands as well as visiting in touristic sites like: Anne Frank house, Canal tour, visiting in Chesses market and more. We will also conduct a volunteering experience in the Netherlands

The Dutch group would arrive in Israel on Sunday, July 23, both groups would return to the Netherlands on Sunday, July 30 and the Israeli group would return home on Sunday, August 6.

Where do Havayaniks stay?

Havayaniks will stay at hosted families of the teens that participate in the program.

How do Havayniks travel while they are in Israel? A private, modern, air conditioned bus with a professional driver is used for travel in Israel.

What are your safety precautions? What if there is political violence?

The safety and well-being of our Havaya participants is the highest priority. Matters of security always take precedence over all other concerns. In conjunction with the Israeli Security Forces, the group will be escorted by trained Israeli security officials as well as Medics, offering the highest level of security.

Staff

Our competitive hiring process ensures the leaders we select have extraordinary character and vast experience. We take pride in the quality leadership and positive role modeling that our staff provides.

The staff reflects the pluralistic values of Havaya. Dutch madrichim (staff) are at least 21 years old, have been to Israel before and have experience working with youth in informal and formal settings.

Israeli counselors are graduates of the IDF (Israeli Army) and have experience working with youth. Our Israeli staff includes your guides that are licensed through the ministry of tourism and/or other accredited schools. All staff members will be trained in CPR and First Aid. Leading the trip will be the Jong LJG Netzer Shaliacha- Tal Branitzky and other Dutch counselors/educators.

How much does Havaya cost?

Cost: 1,000 euro Includes roundtrip airfare, all accommodations, meals, activities, community service projects and more. Please contact Jong LJG Netzer Shaliacha- Tal Branitzky jongerenwerker@ljk.nl for more information

Get excited! It is going to be the summer of a lifetime ☺