

# Camp YTT - Handbook for Summer 2021-5781

BH

Dear Parents and Campers, shetichyu

We understand that this is a big undertaking for you. You had many choices where to send your daughter, we appreciate that you chose YTT.

You have our promise, OURS and the counselors, that we will work hard and do our best to make this the best experience ever, this is a life changing trip, and we are sooooo proud to be a part of it, and I know that together we will achieve our dream.

Please feel free to contact me by email [mswerdlov@gmail.com](mailto:mswerdlov@gmail.com) or at 347.228.2907, or Rabbi Mordechai Telsner at [admin@campytt.com](mailto:admin@campytt.com), if you have any questions or concerns. If I am not at home, leave a message and I will be happy to call back.

Looking forward to a great summer, and hoping that we are ALL going with Moshiach,

Miryam Swerdlov  
Shosh Rabinowitz  
Mordechai and Shuffi Telsner

☺EYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY!!!!!!

Please take a tall glass of something to drink, turn OFF the cell phone, and go through this booklet VERY CAREFULLY with your daughter. You will understand everything better, AND save money, you don't have to buy so many clothes. THE MORE YOU KNOW THE BETTER YOU WILL FEEL. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE PARENTS BE INFORMED AND PART OF THIS INCREDIBLE LIFE CHANGING ADVENTURE. YOU ARE OUR PARTNERS. We try to be transparent.. but you have to look through the glass to understand and to know and to partner.

WE R VERRRRRRRRRRRRRY EXCITED ABOUT OUR HEAD STAFF. They are: Shuffa Friedman and Yehudis Telsner. We have a third Israeli staff member, Etki Shemtov, who will also be taking care of all technicalities, changing money, finding Shabbos family if you don't have one, and in general being of help to the girls if anything is needed. We are also very lucky that Mrs. Shuffi Telsner (nee Swerdlov...) joins us for the entire summer. I CAN'T WAITTTTTTTTTT) How honest is THAT? Get used to it, that's how it is....

**OK, we begin:**

First of all: we r leaving IY"Y on Tuesday, July 13th at 11:45pm - (Delta 234) and returning to JFK, Monday, August 16th, at 12:58pm in the afternoon (Delta 47 from Amsterdam).

There will be a bus from the Swerdlov home. Please come to 484 Crown Street at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, on Tuesday July 13th. Please bring a sandwich and a drink, in addition to the plane food, never too much food when you are traveling...we will go to the Ohel first and then the Airport.

On the return, there will NOT be a bus, please pick your daughter up from the airport, we will update you via WhatsApp on the day of the return.

We will have a Camp YTT WhatsApp group and will be posting pictures and news, so the parents can all be part of the adventure and the growth. Please make sure you have signed up to the WhatsApp broadcast group. Please save 917-553-3155 in your cell phone contacts, and send a message "subscribe Camp YTT" with your name.

**Cell phones:** In the Ukraine, the girls will get a chance to use their smart phones etc., so they could communicate through WhatsApp – only on Friday afternoon. You could communicate with us by whatsapp, 347.228.2907. For cell phones in Israel, you will receive a separate email on how to order. NO IPHONES, ANDROID, ANY SMART PHONES etc., are allowed in Israel. We will keep them in the safe. The phones will be given back just for Shabbos off.

In Israel the rules for phones are as follows: ONLY 2 HOURS TWICE A WEEK, Sunday and Wednesday, and all day Erev Shabbos, from 9-11 at night, Israel time, corresponding to 2-4 in the U.S. (Sometimes

9:30 to 11:30, depending on where we are). At other times, the phones will be in the office. You can reach Mrs. Swerdlov 24/6 at 347.228.2907, or Rabbi Telsner at admin@campytt.com.

FORGIVE ME, IF A SMART PHONE WILL BE FOUND that was not handed in, IT WILL BE CONFISCATED. NOT RETURNED. PLEASE, PLEASE FOLLOW RULES. THIS IS STRICTLY ENFORCED. YOU MAY LOSE ALL the INFORMATION on the phone, since WE WILL NOT RETURN IT. TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.

## **ITINERARY**

### **WE LEAVE FOR ISRAEL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Our 'home base' in Israel will be in and near Yerushalayim. (two different places). Our daily schedule is: Davenning, Chitas, Shiur, Breakfast, TRRRRRRRRIP. We have great tour guides, there is a medic and a security guard with us, our bus is Air-conditioned, and I CAN'T WAITTTTT.

You are all asking (inside,,,) what time do we get uuuuuuuuuup? Well, that depends where we're going to that day. Usually, around 7:00. We usually return to home base, unless we are in the Negev, or the Upper Galil, and then we leave for 2 days, and take our 'rolly' with us.

### **Our Shabbosim(sos):**

First Shabbos – YERUSHALAYIM

Second Shabbos- July 23-24. Kfar Chabad

Third Shabbos- July 30-31 - OFF

Fourth Shabbos-CHEVROOOOOOOOOOOOOOOON!!!! With our Ovos and Imahos

Fifth Shabbos- Mezibush, with our Chssidische Ovos

About Shabbos off: It starts on Friday, after breakfast, and ends SUNDAY after lunch. Call your relatives and make arrangements. Then fill out your Shabbos Off form online. We will bring you to the major cities, and you will make travel arrangements from there. WE WILL HELP YOU, If you have no relatives, we will place you. The weekend ends Sunday early evening, we will all meet in Yerushalayim.

If you have no relatives or family friends to stay at, either Shabbos off or Shabbos Kfar Chabad, please let us know asap so that the Israeli counselor can start looking for nice families.

### **WE WILL HELP YOU ARRANGE THE TRANSPORTATION. DO NOT WORRY.**

This is the ONLY Shabbos the girls have off. Any other Shabbos they will not be allowed to leave camp. Please have this in mind if parents, grandparents are planning on being in Israel during camp.

Shabbos Kfar Chabad is July 23-24, please let us know if you have relatives/friends where you can stay for that Shabbos. And ask them if you can bring a friend. We eat together Friday night, and on Shabbos day we eat at the host family. We eat Sholosh Seudos /Melave Malka together. You also eat Sunday breakfast at the host family

We are including a camper list. Just so you know who is coming. Roommates will be chosen at random, we change it very often. So you get to know everyone in camp. There are usually 4 girls per room.

ROUTES TO ROOTS. We will be going to the Ukraine. We are honored to have Rabbi Mordechai Telsner as our Mashpia in residence.

We fly to Dnepro via Kiev. THE REBBE'S CITY. Reb Leivik was the Rov there for many years. We will go to the Shul where the Rebbe had his Bar-Mitzva, we will go to the kever of the Rebbe's brother, Reb Berl, to me that is one of the most moving places.

We will be staying at the magnificent Menorah Center, the BIGGEST CHABAD HOUSE IN THE WORLD!!!!!!!

Girls, the more you know, the more you will enjoy this journey. Do yourself a favor, look up Babi Yar, look up the Menora Center. GO FOR IT!!!!!!

PLEASE HAVE 3 Pens ready with your family's names. Make copies for the Ohel, the Alter Rebbe, and the Mittlerer Rebbe.

From Dnieper, we will board the busses to HADITCH, Der Alter Rebbe. SUCH AN INCREDIBLE ZCHUS. We will be there for the night. Next morning, we will go to Nyezjin, the Mittlerer Rebbe, and then at night to we will go to Zhitomir, a beautiful youth village, with great food....and from there to Reb Zushe and the Magid in Annipoli, (if the horse and buggy are around, we can get a ride....) DRUMROLL!!!!!! and for Shabbos we are with the Baal SHem Tov. I know, it sounds like a tale..but it is TRUE. .It is just beyond description! To do seder nigunim in the Baal Shem's shul!!!!!!!!!!!!!! To spend Shabbos in Mezibush, like straight out of the stories!!!!!! We then go to BARDITCHEV!!!!!!!!!! And from there to Kiev and Babi Yar, where thousands of Jews were killed in the Holocaust. We are the revenge, we r BH CHAY VEKAYOM!!

**About spending money:** we suggest around \$350. Or, a credit card. The tip money has to be in cash, please.

The weekend off is totally on the girls, including transportation. From experience, I feel that this is the amount needed. Please discuss with your family what kind of souvenirs to buy, otherwise, sometimes the girls spend money that is hard earned, on useless tchatchkes.

You can send a credit card, it is accepted everywhere, but I think that \$100 should be in cash, and of course the \$150 in tip money has to be in a separate envelope in cash.

What else do the girls need money for? Ice creams and nosh on the trip when we stop at the sites or at gas stations, and of course, my daily cheese cake.....(only kidding, of course, or am I?????????) (please remember shshshshshshs the \$150 tip money for the counselors.....). This has to be in cash, separate from your spending money.

Please bring ALL the money in dollars, or shekel. If dollars, it will be changed 3 times, \$100 at a time, All the other monies and passports will be kept in a locked safe.

**VERY IMPORTANT:**

Water packs, Camelbacks, or any other name. **YOU MUST HAVE A WATER PACK. PLEASE**

**RULES:**

About rules: Everyone hates them, BUT you can't live without them. They are verrrrrrrrrrrry important, and keeping the rules will make the difference between a GREAT summer, one you will never forget, a summer of growth and Ruchniyusdik achievement, or, as the Rebbe never said anything negative, I too will learn from that, and not end my sentence in a negative manner.

Please understand that in order to get EVERYTHING out of your summer, you must really pay attention to the following:

When you signed your contract, and we r including another one, so that you: a) refresh your memory, and b) in case you lost yours, you promised to abide by certain rules. I will personally make sure that ALL rules are abided by. Please go over all of these with your parents, make sure that NOTHING is packed in the suitcase that should not be there, (short socks, reading material that is not approved, iPods) and I am sorry to say, anything that is not approved, will be confiscated, So sorry for the 'bad' tone.

If you come late to davenning, sorry, you will not get your phone the next time it is given. If you do not come to talk to Ovinu sheBashamayim, you can't talk to imeinu sheBnew york...SORRY

I take the tznius rules very seriously. Even on days off and Shabbosim off. NECKS ARE CLOSED, NOT BOAT NECKS. Listen, if you can't do it, PLEASE DO NOT COME, SORRY. Better to be warned. Skirts ALWAYS covering knees, ALWAYS.

No form fitting tops. No bandage skirts. No tight skirts. THIS IS SERIOUS. If it is questionable, you can't wear it. Please, no long earrings, (BR rule, 1.5 inch) Makeup for Shabbos only, and of course NOT ON SHABBOS. Hair ALWAYS up.

We want a frum, shulchan oruch keeping, chassidish camp. REALLY, please, take this seriously. I do not want to sound negative, and I do not want to constantly remind you in camp. TOTAL TZNIUS, if you cannot do this, please.....you understand.

Three infractions of the above, means an early return home. REALLY. WARNED...SORRY.

Understand that we DO NOT WANT TO EVER carry this out, but we will if we have to. ITS' UP TO YOU.

There is a wonderful merit system. The counselors will be marking you all for good things, extra kindness, extra eidelkeit, extra ANYTHING, and you will go by cab to Yerushalayim for an evening out, just the girls that were 'caught' going above and beyond. See, we are not only telling you negative things, we can't waiiiiiiiiiit to give you extra outings to town, but remember, you MUST bring me back something.....(not kidding)...

**About laundry:** laundry will be done as follows:

GIVE IN LAUNDRY: July 22, 13 of Av

RECEIVE : July 26. PLEASE BE AWARE OF WHAT YOU NEED.

GIVE IN LAUNDRY: August 2

RECEIVE: August 8

PLEASE HAVE ENOUGH PETOOTIES TO ACCOMMODATE LAUNDRY SCHEDULE

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME or LABEL EVERY ITEM. You all have the same patooties and the same lotsa other stuffs, so PLEASE LABEL YOUR THINGS.

There will not be a possibility of dry cleaning.

The problem is jean skirts, we cannot wash them, so please think about this as you pack.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING TOO MUCH CLOTHING. FOLLOW THE LIST. This year, you will be getting 7 camp shirts.

Please have enough patooties (you will soon know what that means....) for 14 days. at least....

ABOUT PACKING: READ THIS VERY CAREFULLY: You are allowed ONE suitcase, 50 lbs. and one rolly-HAND LUGGAGE, You can also have a SMALL backpack. If there is overweight, you will have to pay, sorry. Airline rules.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. WE HAVE LIMITED ROOM FOR LUGGAGE, AND YOU DON'T NEED MORE THAN THE PACKING LIST SAYS. PLEASE DO NOT BRING EXTRA THINGS, YOU DO NOT NEED THEM.

Please go to the doctor and fill out the enclosed medical form.

Please use the link that was sent to buy travel health insurance. YOU MUST BRING A CREDIT CARD (NOT A COPY) WITH YOU THAT WILL BE HELD IN THE OFFICE AND USED ONLY IN CASE CH"V YOU HAVE TO SEE A DOCTOR.

**CHECK LIST: REMEMBER, A Chossid iz a mesudar.**

1. Filled out the online form for Shabbos off and Shabbos in Kfar Chabad.
2. Went to the Doctor. Filled out the Form. Send it to [admin@campytt.com](mailto:admin@campytt.com) or fax it to 212 681 9330 before July 1st.
3. Bought Travel Health Insurance (email confirmation to [admin@campytt.com](mailto:admin@campytt.com)).
4. Have the affidavit (<https://campytt.com/forms/>) signed by both parents and notarized with a copy of the birth certificate.
5. Have an actual credit card (not a copy), for Medical Emergencies only.
6. Signed the Contract, Parents signed the contract (email to [staff@campytt.com](mailto:staff@campytt.com)).
7. Ordered the cell phone.
8. Remember to include the tip money in my spending money. (separate envelope)
9. Take a PCR test less than 72 hours before the flight.
- 10. You will need to bring to the airport an actual printed copy of 1) signed and notarized affidavit with your birth certificate, 2) Negative PCR test, 3) Vaccination card**

THANK YOU