



*Announcing a unique opportunity
for lovers of Jewish books and Jewish libraries:*

**“THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK IN THE LAND OF THE BOOK: A SPECIAL MISSION CURATED BY
THE LIBRARY OF THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NOVEMBER 5-11, 2014”**

Join Prof. David Kraemer, Librarian of JTS and Professor of Talmud and Rabbinics, and Naomi Steinberger, Director of Library Services at The Library, for an unprecedented tour of Jewish books and Jewish libraries, in the land where it all began.

Scheduled to coincide with an international conference of Jewish Libraries and collections convened by the National Library of Israel, this trip will make possible a series of unparalleled opportunities:

- A unique tour of rare items in the collections of the National Library of Israel, including manuscripts, rare printed books, maps, and more
- A reception with senior staff of the National Library, along with curators of major Judaica collections from around the world
- A specially guided tour of the Shrine of the Book (home of the Dead Sea Scrolls), with historical insight offered by Prof. Kraemer and local experts
- A visit to Qumran, the site of the discovery of the oldest known Jewish library
- A visit to Chaim Nachman Bialik’s personal library, preserved at his home in Tel Aviv
- A tour of the Schocken Library, JTS’s historically significant and architecturally distinguished Jerusalem library, with the opportunity to view its unique treasures
- A guided tour of the Yad Vashem archives and its digitization lab
- Visits to exceptional galleries of contemporary Israeli art in Tel Aviv
- Visits to private collections of rare Judaica, including those of William Gross, one of the most significant collectors in Israel

In seven days/six nights (5 in Jerusalem, 1 in Tel Aviv), participants will discover the phenomenal richness of Jewish books and documents, as they preserve and enhance Jewish culture. Both heart and mind will be engaged, ensuring an unforgettable experience.

The cost of the trip—\$4500 (\$800 single occupancy supplement; \$1000 of total is tax deductible)—includes first-class hotels, ground transportation, guidance, and most meals. Participants are responsible for their own flights to and from Israel. Space is strictly limited, so please register as soon as possible, and no later than the deadline of July 15.

We hope you will join us for this unprecedented journey. If you have any questions, please call Dr. David Kraemer at 212-678-8075 or email at dakraemer@jtsa.edu. To hold your place on the trip, please call Hector Guzman at the same number.

Transport, hotels, meals, and other arrangements in Israel are handled by Keshet: The Center for Educational Tourism in Israel.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 5—Afternoon: Check into Mount Zion Hotel, Jerusalem (deluxe rooms). Evening: Gather at hotel for transport to the National Library (Givat Ram Campus of Hebrew University) for reception with representatives of the National Library.

Thursday, November 6—Breakfast at hotel. Morning: guided tour of rare collections at the National Library. Introduction of plans for the new National Library. Meet and greet with leaders of significant Judaica collections from around the world. After lunch: The Schocken Library (JTS's library in Jerusalem). Tour of rare items in the Library's collection and of the historical building in which they are housed. Transport to Yad Vashem and tour of its archives. Dinner together, evening free.

Friday, November 7—Breakfast at hotel. Bus to campus of the Israel Museum for guided tour of The Shrine of the Book and outstanding manuscripts in the Museum's collection. Return to hotel for preparation for the Sabbath. Festive Sabbath evening meal at the hotel. Study session with David Kraemer on the Dead Sea Scrolls and theories pertaining to the nature and significance of the Qumran library.

Saturday, November 8—Breakfast at hotel. Synagogue options nearby. Study session with David Kraemer on the first Jewish library, AKA the Tanakh (the Hebrew Bible). After lunch: optional walking tour of the Old City, "Jaffa Gate to the Jewish Quarter." Evening out on the town.

Sunday, November 9—Early breakfast at the hotel, early departure for Qumran. Guided tour of the site, accompanied by text study with David Kraemer. Return to Jerusalem for tour of National Archive. Dinner, followed by visit to private collection.

Monday, November 10—Check-out of hotel. Bus to Tel Aviv. Tour of Bialik House and H.N. Bialik's personal working library. Following lunch, we will visit the Rubin Museum, devoted to the paintings of the early Zionist painter, Reuven Rubin, and the Blumental Music Library. Check-in to the Carlton Hotel and dinner. Evening program: visit to the personal collection of rare Judaica of Bill Gross.

Tuesday, November 11—Breakfast and check-out. Visit to Ben Gurion House and the library of Israel's "founding father." Transfer to airport. Recommended for those staying on: gallery district of Tel-Aviv.

This schedule is meant to exemplify the structure and sequence of the tour. All details are subject to change.