

Shiloh Dig 2027

1. What Is Included in the Dig Package

The package includes:

- **Double or triple occupancy**
 - Single rooms are limited and available by request only.
 - Single-room surcharge: **TBD per night**
- **3 meals per day**
 - Lunch is included **on Dig days**
 - Lunch is **not included on weekends** during the Dig season
 - Lunch **is included during the Pre-Dig Tour**
- **Transportation by bus** to and from the excavation site
- **Evening educational classes**

Not Included

Participants are responsible for:

- Flights to and from Israel
- Transportation between the airport and hotel
- Optional weekend tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel/medical insurance
- Any additional hotel nights or early check-in
- Single-room surcharge, if applicable

ABR does not arrange group flights. Participants arrange their own flights in order to find the best available airfare. Students may want to check [StudentUniverse](#) for discounts.

2. Cost & Payment

Deposit

- **\$500 per person**
- Due on a **first-come, first-served basis**
- It is strongly recommended that you submit your deposit immediately after completing online registration to secure your place.

Final Payment

- **Full payment is due March 31, 2027.**

- Some participants may be asked to bring **\$400 cash** to Israel as part of their final payment.
- This amount will be deducted from the participant's total balance.

Why \$400 Cash?

ABR uses cash for many expenses in Israel. Having some participants bring their final payment in cash:

- Reduces the need to transport large amounts of cash internationally
- Avoids difficulties with check-cashing in Israel

3. Optional Weekend Tours

Several optional weekend trips may be offered during the Dig, depending on local conditions.

Estimated Cost

\$70–\$85 per person per day

This includes:

- Bus/van transportation
- Driver tip
- Lunch
- Park/entrance fees

Payment

- **Paid in cash while in Israel**
- **Not paid in advance**

Dates

- May 23
- May 30
- June 6
- June 13

Destinations: TBD

4. 2027 Dig Schedule

Pre-Dig Tour

Saturday, May 8

- Pre-Dig Tour participants check into hotel

Sunday, May 9 – Saturday, May 15

- Pre-Dig Tour

Sunday, May 16

- Pre-Dig Tour participants not staying for the Dig check out in the morning
- Supervisors organize work areas at Shiloh
- Volunteers are welcome to help
- Dig volunteers arriving that day check into the hotel in the afternoon
- Early check-in may be possible for an additional cost, subject to availability
- **5:30 PM — Dig Orientation**

Dig Week 1

Monday, May 17 – Friday, May 21

- Dig at Shiloh

Saturday, May 22

- Check out of hotel in the morning
- Free day

Sunday, May 23

- Optional weekend tour
- Estimated cost: \$70–\$85

Dig Week 2

Monday, May 24 – Friday, May 28

- Dig at Shiloh

Saturday, May 29

- Check out of hotel in the morning
- Free day

Sunday, May 30

- Optional weekend tour
- Estimated cost: \$70–\$85

Dig Week 3

Monday, May 31 – Friday, June 4

- Dig at Shiloh

Saturday, June 5

- Check out of hotel in the morning
- Free day

Sunday, June 6

- Optional weekend tour
- Estimated cost: \$70–\$85

Dig Week 4

Monday, June 7 – Thursday, June 10

- Dig at Shiloh
- **Shavuot begins at sundown Thursday**

Friday, June 11

- **NO DIGGING**
- Free day
- Shavuot ends at nightfall

Saturday, June 12

- Check out of hotel in the morning
- Free day

Sunday, June 13

- Optional weekend tour
- Estimated cost: \$70–\$85

Dig Week 5

Monday, June 14 – Friday, June 18

- Conservation and excavation at Shiloh

Saturday, June 19

- Check out of hotel in the morning

Overall Dig Dates

May 17 – June 18, 2027

5. Travel Arrangements

Participants are responsible for arranging their own:

- International flights
- Airport transportation
- Transportation after arriving in Israel
- Transportation back to the airport

Flights

ABR does not arrange group flights.

Participants should book their own flights to find the best price and schedule.

6. Passport Requirements

Your passport must:

- Be valid for **at least 6 months beyond your departure date from Israel**
- Be valid for your entire trip

If you plan to remain in Israel after the Dig, your passport must be valid for **6 months beyond your final departure from Israel.**

Recommended

Before traveling:

- Make a photocopy of your passport
- Keep a photo of your passport on your phone
- Store the copy separately from your actual passport

This can help if your passport is lost.

Visa

U.S. citizens staying fewer than 90 days generally do not need a traditional visa.

Travelers with other passports or different travel plans should check the Israeli government's requirements.

7. ETA-IL Travel Authorization

Israel requires travelers from visa-exempt countries, including the United States, to obtain an **ETA-IL electronic travel authorization** before traveling.

The application is completed online.

Cost: Approximately **NIS 25**

Official application website:

[Israel ETA-IL Application](#)

Travel requirements can change, so participants should verify the current requirements before departure.

8. Insurance Requirements

Participants should plan for **three types of coverage**:

1. Travel Insurance

Required to cover situations such as:

- Family emergencies
- Illness
- Trip interruption/cancellation
- Other unexpected travel issues

ABR cannot guarantee reimbursement of money already paid for the trip.

Important: Make sure your policy covers travel in the **West Bank**, where Shiloh is located.

2. Medical Insurance

All travelers must have medical insurance for the trip.

This should cover:

- Doctor visits
- Hospitalization
- Ambulance transportation
- Illness
- Injury

Participants should:

- Document all medications
- Carry emergency medical information

- Have family and doctor emergency contact information available

3. Medical Evacuation Insurance

Strongly recommended because medical evacuation to the United States can potentially cost **more than \$100,000** without insurance.

ABR references [Yonder Travel Insurance](#) as one option.

9. Airport Transportation

From Ben Gurion Airport to Jerusalem

The **Sheroot/Nesher communal van service previously used by travelers is no longer operating.**

Participants will need to arrange their own transportation.

Private Taxi

- Approximately **\$125 USD**

Public Transportation

Trains, buses, and light rail **do not operate during Shabbat**, from Friday evening through Saturday evening.

Cost-Saving Option

Participants are encouraged to coordinate with other volunteers and potentially share a taxi.

The Shiloh Dig Facebook group can be used to connect with other participants:

[Shiloh Dig Team Facebook Group](#)

10. Hotel

Ambassador Hotel Jerusalem

Address:

Sheikh Jarrah, Nablus Road 5
Jerusalem, Israel

Phone: +972-2-5412222

[Ambassador Jerusalem Hotel](#)

Important

Do **not** contact the hotel directly to make reservations for the Dig.

All arrangements should go through ABR.

11. Laundry

Participants have two primary options:

Option 1 — Wash Clothes Yourself

- Wash clothes in the sink or bathtub
- Hang clothes to dry on the balcony when available
- Israeli detergent is recommended because U.S. detergent may not work well with the local water

Option 2 — Laundry Service

- Laundry service is located directly across from the hotel
- Drop clothes off after work
- Pick them up the following day after work

12. Tax Deductibility

Money paid toward the Shiloh excavation is **not considered a donation to ABR**.

However, because participants are providing volunteer work for a nonprofit ministry, some expenses related to that volunteer work **may be tax deductible**.

Not Included

Touring expenses are not considered volunteer-work expenses.

Documentation

- ABR can provide a receipt
- Request the receipt in **January following the Dig**
- Receipts are no longer automatically sent

Consult a qualified tax professional to determine what expenses may be deductible.