

## **JCC Maccabi Israel: Delegation Flight Information**

### **General Information**

Flights to Israel will depart on July 5th from your city of origin and arrive in Tel Aviv on July 6th. All flights will be purchased by JCC Association and are included in the program cost for athletes. Return flights for athletes and coaches/chaperones staying for the full duration of the program are the night of July 25th or in the morning on July 26<sup>th</sup> and return flights for coaches/chaperones leaving after the Games portion of the program and before the tour will be late night on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> / morning of Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Allocation Process**

JCC Association is coordinating the purchasing and distribution of flights with our travel company partner, Traveland. Traveland has secured contracts with a variety of airlines leaving all pertinent cities for our delegations. When delegation numbers are clearer at the close of Israel registration on January 31st, we will assign delegations to flights. We will do our best to allocate the most convenient flight for your delegation. Please note that most delegations will be flying on indirect itineraries with a connecting flight either in continental North America or Europe. Please set and manage expectations with participant families accordingly.

After allocation you will have your flight info (subject to change), including:

- Departure airport
- Airline
- Flight #
- Flight times

### **Athlete Deviation**

If a teen wants to arrive in Israel early or stay after the program, they may alter their travel from the group flights – this is called a deviation. Deviation from the group flights must be coordinated directly through Traveland by the family. A deviation fee of \$100 and any price difference in ticket cost will be paid by the family directly to Traveland, not JCC Association. A Google Form to submit for deviation will be made available and shared by JCC Association with delegation heads after registration closes and will be open until February 15, 2023. We ask that delegation heads share the form with families when it becomes available.

### **Coach / Chaperone Deviation**

Coaches and chaperones who are not staying the full length of the program will be assigned a return flight for late night of Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> or morning of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Coaches and chaperones may choose to extend their trip in Israel for personal travel. If they choose to do so, they must coordinate their deviation with the travel company and pay the deviation fee as well as any difference in flight costs.

## **Key Dates for Delegation Heads to know**

1/31/2023: Israel Registration closed. Flights assigned and deviation form goes live shortly after.

2/15/2023: Families submit deviation request form to Traveland

5/2/2023: Delegation heads submit passenger names for ticketing to Traveland

6/2/2023: Ticketing complete

7/5/2023: Departure flight to Israel

7/25/2023 or 7/26/2023: Return flight to USA/Canada

## **Contacting Traveland**

Traveland has set up a unique email and phone number specifically for JCC Maccabi which will go live on 1/3/2023.

Email: [Maccabi@Traveland.net](mailto:Maccabi@Traveland.net)

Phone: 1-800-246-0563

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## **Q: Can we choose the flight or airline our delegation flies?**

A: No. JCCA is working with Traveland to secure flights. We are securing group travel contracts on many airlines including United, American, El Al, Lot, Lufthansa, Virgin Atlantic, British Airways and others. This is a complex project as we are responsible for ensuring ticket availability for 1000+ people in a 12-hour window from across North America. We will do our best to allocate the most convenient flight for your delegation. Please note that most delegations will be flying on indirect itineraries with a connecting flight either in continental North America or Europe. Please set and manage expectations with participant families accordingly.

## **Q: Can teens book their own travel to Israel?**

A: The price of the registration includes round-trip airfare for the delegation. If a teen chooses to fly separately from the group beyond a deviation, they are responsible for the cost of the flights and will not receive a discount on the registration fees for the program.

## **Q: What are the passport requirements for travel to Israel?**

A: All travelers must have a passport that is valid for 6 months after the return date to the US or Canada

## **Q: Does my whole delegation need to take the group flight?**

A: No, but if they don't take the group flight or request a deviation their flight expenses will be out of pocket, with no discount on the registration fee.

## **Q: What if a teen in my delegation wants to stay in Israel after the program?**

A: A teen can deviate from the group flight and stay in Israel after the program. The teens family can coordinate with Traveland by filling out the deviation form by February 15.

**Q: What if a teen in my delegation will already be in Israel when the program begins?**

A: That's great! If they are planning on flying back with the delegation, they can deviate from the first leg of the trip with the help of Traveland, by filling out the deviation form. They can meet up with the group on July 6th at the Airport or in Haifa.

**Q: How do I coordinate a teen deviation with Traveland?**

A: Have the teen and their family fill out the Deviation Form, available on January 31st, before it closes on February 15<sup>th</sup>. JCC Association will share the form with delegation heads when it's made available, and we ask that delegations heads pass the form along to families.

**Q: How many bags can be brought with me to Israel?**

A: Everyone on the itinerary gets one checked bag included. Accommodations will be made for athletes that have additional sports related equipment (tennis, baseball, ice hockey) to have an additional checked bag. Carry bags will depend on airline policy.

**Q: When is the last day my delegation can change numbers?**

A: January 31 is the close of Israel registration. At that point, you should know how big your delegation will be and how many coaches and chaperones are coming with you to Israel. We will have a small amount of flexibility to change flight contract numbers by March 1, but we ask that by Jan 31 you know your numbers within a 10% range. If you need to add participants after January 31 you will be able to request additional spots with JCC Association on a case-by-case basis and we will do our best to accommodate.

**Q: What if a coach wants to stay in Israel but is not staffing the program?**

A: Coaches who are not staying for the rest of the program but who want to continue their travels can coordinate with Traveland using the Deviation Form. They must pay the deviation fee and any difference in flight cost must be paid to Traveland.

**Q: Do we need to coordinate transportation to and from the airport (in the US/Canada)?**

A: Yes, you will need to coordinate transportation to the airport. You can coordinate a bus if your delegation is big enough or have parents carpool to the airport. We will endeavor to assign you departure from an airport as convenient as possible and no more than 3 hours driving distance from your JCC.

**Q: How do we get in touch with Traveland?**

A: 1-800-246-0563 or email [Maccabi@traveland.net](mailto:Maccabi@traveland.net)

**Q: When will we know what flights we are on?**

A: We will share preliminary flight information with delegations (subject to change) in early February, shortly after initial Israel registration closes on January 31st.