



TRY – Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim



January 10, 2021

Tevet 26, 5781

Dear TRY Families,

I hope you are all doing well! The TRY team is looking forward to meeting you today, January 10, for our student and family webinar at 2:30 pm EST.

- If you haven't already registered for the call, please [click here](#).
- After registering, [click here to join the call](#).

### **Important Update: TRY Start Delayed Due to Travel Restrictions**

As you may have heard, Israel has entered a new and stricter phase of our latest lockdown. The planned final day of the lockdown is January 21. Accordingly, our contacts within the Ministry of Interior have advised us that it is best to **delay the start of the program by two weeks, officially starting TRY on February 8**. The local government office needs to be open with plenty of time to approve your individual visa applications before you take off. This is unfortunately not possible under the current circumstances. Additionally, under the current rules, only Israelis can enter Israel during the lockdown.

**We are confident that a two-week delay will give us time to get the visas approved and for travel restrictions to be eased.**

We know that this is disappointing news, but we are confident that this is the best way to safely and efficiently welcome you to Israel on this incredible journey. Currently around 1.8 million Israelis have been vaccinated, and Prime Minister Netanyahu is confident that the majority of Israelis will be inoculated by late spring. This is going to be a very exciting semester in Israel; it just will need to start a bit later than we had all hoped.

We are looking into the possibility of extending the program by about a week. If this extension is inconvenient for you (i.e., conflicts with camp dates), please email [Elinor](#). We will make a determination regarding the final date of the program within the next few days. As I wrote in my last email, we will **not** be starting classes online. Our teachers will work with all students upon arrival to make sure they stay on pace with their academic curricula.

We plan on holding a few orientation sessions/online meetings starting after January 21. We will send out a schedule and links to our incoming students as soon as they are set up. These meetings will help you get to know your *madrachim* (counselors) and start preparing for your TRY semester. The official start of academic classes will happen when you arrive here in Israel!

## Flight Logistics

- If you are flying on our group flight and booked your ticket through Ramah, we will automatically move your flight date to February 7, enabling you to land on February 8. We will be flying on United Airlines flight 90, departing at 8:25 pm on February 7 and landing at 1:25 PM on February 8. If you are flying on our group flight but did not reserve your tickets through Ramah Israel, please book yourself on the above flight.
- If you are flying out of a different city, please do your best to book on the alternative flights we've listed below. We would like to keep everyone together as best as possible.

### Flight from San Francisco (UA 954)

Depart: February 7 at 7:45 pm

Arrive: February 8 at 7:35 pm

### Flight from Toronto (AC 080)

Depart: February 7 at 9:50 pm

Arrive: February 8 at 3:15 pm

### Flight from JFK (Delta 234)

Depart: February 7 at 11:55 pm

Arrive: February 8 at 5:10 pm

We will discuss all of this on today's webinar, but I hope this helps you understand our plan moving forward.

With warm regards from Jerusalem,

Jonathan Madoff, Director  
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[www.try.ramah.org.il](http://www.try.ramah.org.il)

Useful links



Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim is a program of [Ramah Israel](#), a division of the [National Ramah Commission](#), which operates under the educational and religious supervision of [The Jewish Theological Seminary](#). Since 1962, Ramah Israel has provided substantive experiential education and meaningful Conservative Jewish living for North Americans in Israel in the spirit of the Ramah Camping Movement.

**Think Israel. Think Ramah.**

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