

Visitors' Center: Main Gallery Exhibits

The Main Gallery is divided into five thematic sections. Each explores a unique aspect of Jewish life and faith through the lens of the *mitzvot hateluyot ba'aretz*, the *mitzvot* tied to the Land of Israel. Together, they invite visitors to reflect on the deep connection between the Jewish People and spirituality, earth, the Land of Israel, society, and time.

People & Spirit

Theme: How we, as a nation, uphold our spiritual values — as individuals and as a collective.

Challenge: Building a society guided by spiritual ideals that rise above basic material needs.

The Importance of Supporting Scholars – Interactive Touch Puzzle

This screen touch puzzle highlights the essential role of exceptional individuals within the Jewish People — *kohanim*, Torah scholars, Hasidic masters, kabbalists, musicians, poets, authors, and artists.

Visitors complete the missing pieces for each group and then learn about their unique contributions.

Mitzvot: Supporting the *kohanim* and *levi'im* through *terumot* and *ma'aserot*.

Pilgrimage to Jerusalem – Animated Film

This short film depicts the pilgrimage to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem to bring *bikkurim* (first fruits). It emphasizes the ongoing need to infuse daily life with holiness through a living connection to Jerusalem.

Mitzvot: *Bikkurim* and *ma'aser sheni*

Duration: Approx. 5 minutes, four earphones available.

Orlah & Neta Revay – Exhibit

An illuminated tree display represents the first six years of a tree's growth, with each year lighting up as visitors approach, illustrating these *mitzvot* in action.

People & Earth

Theme: Sustainability and environmental stewardship according to Torah values.

Challenge: Enjoying the blessings of the land without exhausting its resources.

Mitzvot: *Shemitah*, *kilayim*, *kilei ilan*, *bal tashchit*, and *tza'ar ba'alei chayim*.

Levite City – Exhibit

A model illustrating Torah-based urban planning for Levite cities — centuries ahead of modern discussions about “green lungs” in urban areas.

Shemita Year Wheel – Game

Spin the wheel through six years of agricultural work and stop in time for the *shemita* year — a lesson in rest and renewal for the land.

A Lesson in Humility – Game

You are the mayor of a city and have many important decisions to make – and see what their consequences are. A game that addresses sustainability, balancing growth, environmental protection, and *kilayim*. Designed for ages 12 and up.

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Binocular Clips – Short Films

- **Taking Responsibility for Nature:** Judaism and sustainability through *bal tashchit* (avoiding wanton destruction) — protecting trees and natural resources.
- **Caring for Animals:** Exploring *tza'ar ba'alei chayim* (avoiding animal cruelty) and our ethical duty toward all living creatures.

People & Land

Theme: The enduring bond between the Jewish People and the Land of Israel.

Challenge: Settling and cultivating the land despite hardship.

Otzar Ha'aretz – Short Film

Two farmers share their *shemita* stories — one from the Jordan Valley and another from Binyamin. The film explores faith, agriculture, and Zionism through the framework of *Otzar Beit Din*.

The Mitzvah of Settling the Land – Touchscreen Book

An interactive, animated “book” with short stories celebrating the eternal bond between the Jewish People and their land: its produce, Torah, and beauty; the love for and return to the homeland.

People & Time

Theme: The longing for the Land of Israel throughout generations among Diaspora communities.

Challenge: Preserving the national connection to the land during centuries of exile.

Aliyah Timeline – Wall Exhibit

A historical journey tracing *aliyah* (immigration to Israel) from the Patriarchs to the founding of the State of Israel.

Longing for the Land of Israel from Around the World – Audio Exhibits

Each Diaspora community is represented through a visual display, a short text, and an accompanying audio clip that conveys their yearning for Zion.

- **Soviet Union:** Natan Sharansky recounts how he and Yosef Mendelevich celebrated Israel's Independence Day in the Gulag.
- **Ethiopia:** A firsthand account of the perilous journey from Ethiopia to Israel.
- **Spain:** A dialogue between Rabbi Yehuda HaLevi and the King of Khazar on the importance of living in Israel.
- **United States:** The story of a family who left behind comfort to make *aliyah* with Nefesh B'Nefesh.
- **Yemen:** The tale of a wave of *aliyah* inspired by a dream.

Halachic Chat – Interactive WhatsApp Exhibit

A simulated group chat exploring nine *halachic* topics related to land-dependent *mitzvot* — from *hafrashat challah* to *orlah* for passionfruit.

Select a topic and watch the conversation unfold with photos, audio, and video clips for an engaging learning experience.

People & Society

Theme: Building a society that values the wellbeing of all its members.

Challenge: Creating a compassionate, equitable community guided by the Torah.

Mitzvot: Social commandments tied to the land — *lekhet*, *shichechah*, *pe'ah*, *ma'aser ani*, *ma'aser sheni*, *shemitat kesafim*, and declaring *shemita* produce ownerless.

The Secret of the Scroll – Film

Teens from the future travel back to the era of *Megillat Rut* for a homework assignment on *matanot aniyim* (gifts for the poor), and see how they help form a just society.

Beit Ha'otzar – Film

What does a city dweller, a suburban couple, and farmers have in common? They are members of the *Beit Ha'otzar* fund that facilitates separating and giving *ma'aserot*. The film emphasizes the social dimensions of *ma'aser ani* for the poor and *ma'aser rishon* for the *Levi'im*.

Truly Rich – Audio Clip

The *shemita* year as seen through the eyes of a landowner — a time of sharing, rest, and renewed spirituality.

A New Start – Audio Clip

The *shemita* year from the perspective of a poor person – a story of renewed hope, sustenance, and freedom through loan remission.