

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, the Land of Israel, spirituality, 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. 9 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 & Land

Theme: Sustainability and environmental stewardship according to Torah values.

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

Mitzvot: *Shemita*, *kilei ilan* (grafting), *bal tashchit* (avoiding wasteful destruction), *tza'ar ba'alei chayim* (preventing cruelty to animals).

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 *kilei zera'im*. Designed for ages 12 and up.

Levite City – Exhibit

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

Binocular Clips – Short Films

1. **Taking Responsibility for Nature:** Judaism and sustainability through *bal tashchit* — protecting trees and natural resources.
2. **Caring for Animals:** Exploring *tza'ar ba'alei chayim* 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 Beit She'an Valley and another from Binyamin. The film explores faith, agriculture, and Zionism through the framework of *Otzar Beit Din*.

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.

Timeline of Aliyah – Wall Exhibit

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

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.

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.