



Project TEN

International Community Development
By The Jewish Agency For Israel

MITZPE RAMON



ABOUT

Project TEN is an international development program that operates volunteer centers in developing areas. We bring together young Jewish adults from all over the world, to a program that combines volunteer work with local communities and service-learning in the fields of international development, culture, identity, and Jewish activism.



ISRAEL MITZPE RAMON

The TEN Center opened in 2019 in the Mitzpe Ramon Artist Quarter. Mitzpe Ramon is a small town atop the Ramon Crater, Israel's largest national park, in the Negev desert. We partner with MASA, Tlalim Next and World Zionist Organization (WZO).

The region is inhabited by diverse population groups. It provides a unique opportunity for young adults to encounter communities they would not have otherwise met, in a landscape where one cannot remain indifferent to nature and the environment. The center is located at the town's charming art district overlooking the peaceful views of the desert.

OUR ACTIVITY

The volunteers at Mitzpe Ramon divide their time between the children and youth of Mitzpe Ramon and between the Bedouin community where they teach English. Daily activities create a place for coexistence, and the development of equal opportunities among disadvantaged populations. The Center works in collaboration with the Israel Nature and Parks Authority and promotes desert nature conservation initiatives, alongside developing projects in the field of Ecological Tourism.

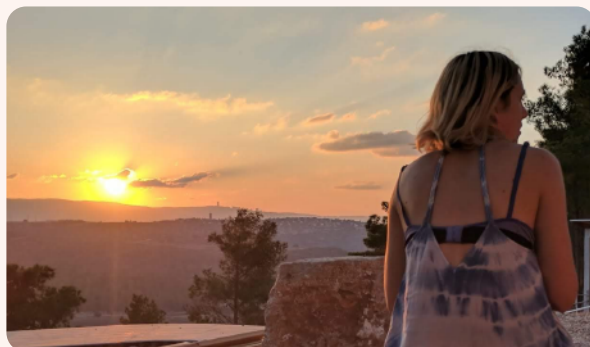
Volunteers operate community gardens for the benefit of the town's residents. Alongside community activities, group life and learning takes place. The process of building the group is a structured and accompanying process, and includes group meetings and discussions and personal guidance. In addition to volunteering, one day a week is devoted to group study of Israeli current affairs, Jewish texts and philosophy and professional learning that provides tools for work in the field.

WHO WE ARE

Young people ages 18-30 from Israel and the Diaspora volunteer at the TEN Mitzpe Ramon Center. Participants will engage in an intense community building and life changing experience which includes volunteering, learning and traveling.

WHAT WE DO

We volunteer daily in one of our projects. All projects work in full collaboration with local nonprofits and organizations and include: Teaching English in schools in Mitzpe Ramon and in the Bedouin villages surrounding it, working and developing desert agriculture projects, working with Bedouin entrepreneurs in the field of tourism, working with the local tourism department and Maintaining our own group garden.



VOLUNTEERS EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

Studying is a big part of Project TEN Mitzpe Ramon. Our curriculum focuses on three main topics: Israel, Judaism and Group/Community building. We discuss the history of the state of Israel while discussing modern day dilemmas and Israeli culture as well as Jewish identity, getting acquainted with the world of Jewish texts and relationships between Jewish diaspora and Israel. We focus on Group dynamics, life in the center, creating meaningful relationships and personal growth. We make sure our participants have 32 academic hours of Hebrew lessons during the cohort. Every second weekend the participants stay for a group Shabbat where a 'Kabbalat Shabbat' is held with a festive Shabbat meal, Beit Midrash sessions are being taught and the volunteers enjoy some quality time as a group. Of course, we celebrate Jewish and Israeli holidays together at the Center.

Once a month, we go on a trip in order to get to know more deeply the area in which we live and the State of Israel. During the trips we delve deeper into local dilemmas and issues, and during the routes, we mainly enjoy the landscapes of our country. Community life takes up a significant part of the program and in the daily life: Conversation circles, group activities, communal meals and cooking.



FULL COHORTS (5 months)

Experience a multicultural Israel while volunteering, traveling, learning, sharing and growing as a group and as individuals.

Cost: \$4,500 (airfare not included)

- Spring Cohort
- Fall Cohort

*This program is highly subsidized by MASA. Check to see if you qualify!

SUMMER PROGRAM

Volunteers will split their time between both Israeli centers, Kibbutz Harduf and Mitzpe Ramon.

Cost: \$1,000 (airfare not included)

For more details on dates and other centers check out our website.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

The participants will live in the touristy part of town amongst cafés and galleries. Our compound is divided into rooms. The participants will share rooms with up to 3-4 roommates, with a communal vegetarian kitchen and living room. We also have shared toilets and showers, a class room for gathering, WIFI and a washing machine.

