

THE SYRACUSE JEWISH COMMUNITY • IS GOING TO ISRAEL • LED BY RABBI DANIEL FELLMAN,  
RABBI EVAN SHORE, RABBI ANDREW PEPPERSTONE, AND RABBI PAUL DRAZEN

THE SYRACUSE JEWISH COMMUNITY  
October 21 - November 1, 2018

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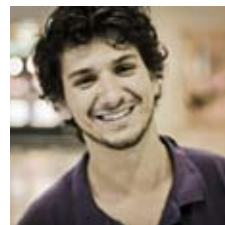
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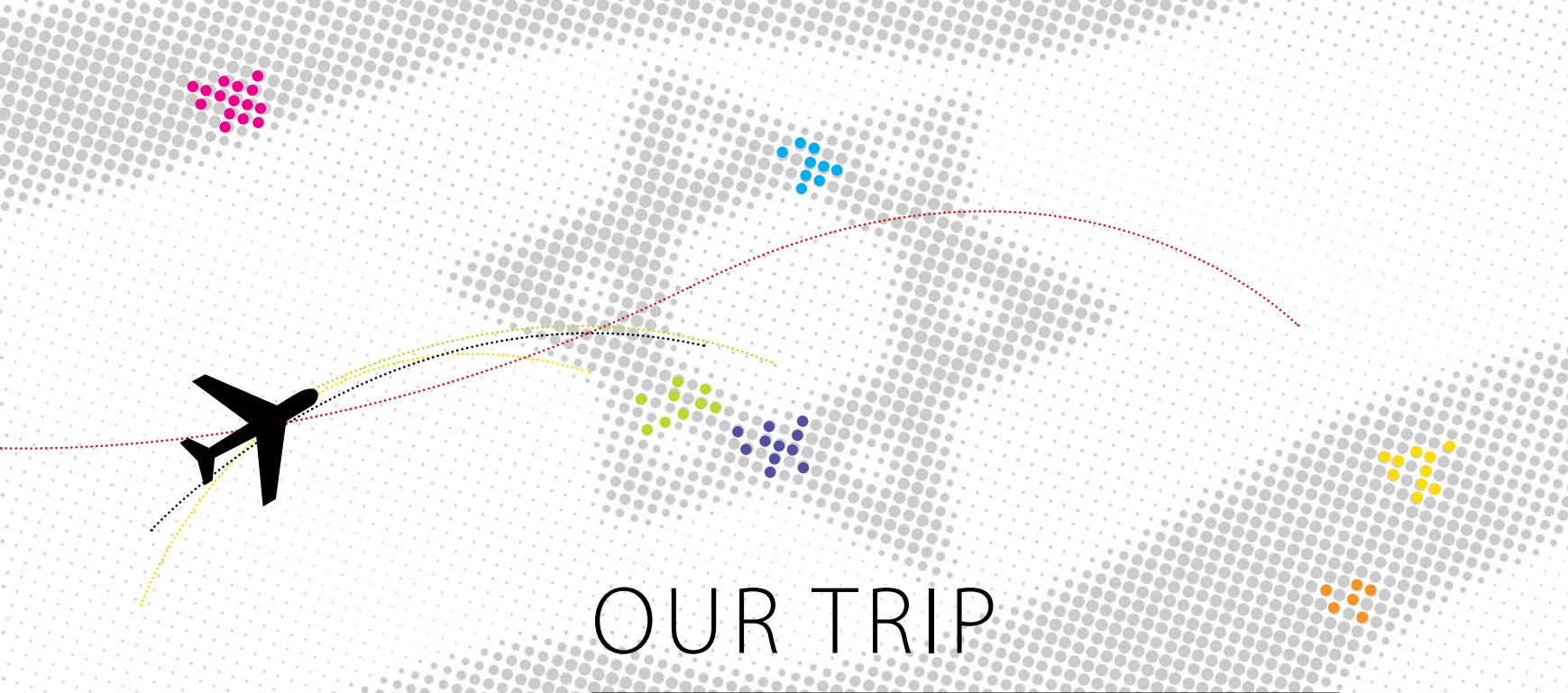


## **Your Tour Educator**

Every journey we offer is accompanied by a Tour Educator (TE) who brings your itinerary to life. Some of our TE's have decades of firsthand experience leading people to particular places.

Your TE will provide you with an authentic understanding of the locations you will visit, will introduce you to the locals, and will share his/her enthusiasm and passion for the local culture. The result is a journey that transforms your understanding of a place, connecting you to the people and places you encounter in a way that is palpable and unforgettable.

Our TE's are like no other: intelligent, knowledgeable, engaging and fun. They will become an indispensable part of your experience and some might just become lifetime friends.



# OUR TRIP

**OCTOBER 21 – NOVEMBER 1, 2018**

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FROM **\$3,349** LAND ONLY

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## **INCLUDES**

- 9 nights' accommodation at select hotels
- 9 days of touring in a luxury, air-conditioned buses with licensed, English speaking tour educators + walking tour on Shabbat
- 1 group transfer and assistance from/to the airport
- All site entrance fees and program fees as per itinerary
- Meals: daily breakfast, 3 lunches and 5 dinners
- Portage at the airport and hotels



הקרוסלה העברית והאשונה



**DAY ONE** ➤ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018  
**DEPARTURE**

- Depart the U.S.A.

Overnight: Flight

**DAY TWO** ➤ MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018  
**ARRIVAL**

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by our representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Enter the city of Tel Aviv, known as the “city that never sleeps,” with its centers of culture, recreation and national history, great beaches and fine stores.
- Check into the hotel.
- Mincha service.
- Enjoy a Middle-Eastern-style festive welcome dinner at Maganda, in Tel Aviv's Yemenite Quarter, with a varied menu of traditional salads and grilled meats.
- Israel 101 - our Journey - Opening remarks by your Rabbis and tour educators.
- Return to the hotel.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

**DAY THREE** ➤ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2018  
**TEL AVIV: THE FIRST HEBREW CITY**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- Grassroots View of Israeli Society: Dialogue with social scientist Raviv Schwartz. Or Former Mk Dov Lipman.

**1st Timers**

- Visit the Old City of Jaffa and ascend from the old port through the renovated alleyways to the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv at the place where it all began and then walk through the famous Jaffa Flea Market - “Shuk Hapishpishim”.
- Walking tour through colorful Neve Zedek, one of Tel Aviv's earliest neighborhoods. Today it is a cultural mecca, with many small boutiques and galleries, and the Suzanne Delal Dance and Theater Center.
- LaDa'at EthnicTasting Tour: walk through Tel Aviv's famous Levinsky Market, where you'll find a combination of foods and sweets from all over the Mediterranean and hear the unique stories of the individuals who sell them; lunch on own, if still hungry.
- Visit Independence Hall, where David Ben-Gurion proclaimed the State of Israel on May 14th, 1948.
- Stroll down Rothschild Boulevard to view examples of the intriguing Bauhaus-style architecture from the 1930s; the local proliferation of the style won Tel Aviv recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage site and the nickname of ‘the White City’.





## Returnees

- Walk through the museum at the Rabin Center, dedicated to the history of society and democracy in Israel. The life of the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin serves as a time-thread connecting the faces and events of modern Israeli history.
- Urban Culture Tours of Tel Aviv, Combining Street Art, Language & Graffiti: Join Guy Sharett, a local resident, to explore the urban culture of the city.
- Enjoy lunch on own at the Sarona Market. Through the smells, flavors and tastes of this renovated historical Templers town, explore the range of cuisine from local street food to fine dining by world renowned Israeli chefs.
- Start Up Nation: Explore the world of renowned Israeli inventions and creations at the State of Mind Innovation Center, followed by a dialogue with an up and coming start-up entrepreneur.

## All

- Visit the Nachalat Binyamin pedestrian mall, with its bi-weekly crafts fair and eateries. Alongside is the colorful Carmel open-air market and across the way Sheinkin Street, with its hip cafés and funky chic shopping.
- Return to the hotel.
- Mincha service.
- Free Evening and dinner on own in Tel Aviv for an opportunity to:
  - Meander through the Old City of Jaffa.
  - Stroll down Rothschild Boulevard, with its many cafés and bars.
  - Experience Tel Aviv Port, with its restaurants and clubs.
  - Explore the gentrified Neve Zedek
  - Saunter down the Tel Aviv Beach Promenade.

- Wander through the Tachana, Tel Aviv's renovated old train station, now a center of boutiques and good food, and one of Tel Aviv's blooming hot spots.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

## DAY FOUR ➤ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2018 A TAPESTRY OF ISRAEL

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- Check out of the hotel.
- Explore two thousand years of rich Jewish culture and community at Beit Hatefutsot (the Diaspora house) the Museum of the Jewish People and Culture; visit the newly opened synagogue exhibition and the "Heroes - Trailblazers of the Jewish People" hands-on activities.

## 1st Timers

- Guided visit to Caesarea, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities in the Roman Period. Visit the Herodian Theater and the excavations along the Mediterranean shore, concluding with a visit to the ruined 900-year-old Crusader town.
- Visit a Druze village in the Carmel Mountains for a window into the unique world of the Israeli Druze community, with home-hospitality lunch.
- From the top of Mount Carmel view the Baha'i Gardens and gold-domed Shrine of the Bab, one of the holiest sites of the Baha'i religion.



“Sabra, the Hebrew name for prickly pear cactus fruit, fruit of the nopale cactus, native to Mexico, now endemic in the Middle East.”

From Wikipedia





### Returnees

- Visit the Yemin Orde Youth Village, one of Israel's most innovative educational institutions, specializing in integrating new immigrant youth into Israeli society; dialogue with faculty and students.
- Guided visit to Zichron Ya'acov, one of the first communities established by the early Zionist pioneers, including a walk along the colorful Pedestrian Mall followed by lunch and wine tasting at a local winery.
- Guided visit to Beit She'arim, site of a 1,800-year-old Jewish necropolis and the graves of some of the most important codifiers of Jewish tradition declared an UNESCO site.

### All

- Drive to the hotel and check in.
- Mincha service.
- Dinner at the hotel.
- Kibbutz Ideology and Israeli Reality in the 21st Century: Meet with a second-generation kibbutz member.

Overnight: Kibbutz Hotel, Galilee

## **DAY FIVE** ▸ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2018 **SERENITY AND SECURITY ON THE GOLAN**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- Drive to the Upper Galilee and visit the Naot Shoe Factory, located in Kibbutz Naot Mordechai.

### 1st Timers

- Walk through the Tel Dan Nature Reserve, located on the largest tributary of the Jordan River, and explore the ruins of the great Biblical city of Dan.
- Take a Jeep tour off-road up the Golan Heights in the footsteps of Israeli soldiers and their battles in the Six-Day War. Enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.
- The panoramic views from Bental (overlooking the abandoned Syrian town of Kuneitra) give sharp insights into Israel's security situation on the Golan Heights, and the enormous challenges it faced in the 1973 Yom Kippur War, and the new threat from the north, ISIS.
- Lunch on your own in Katzrin, the 'Capital of the Golan'.
- Visit the award-winning Golan Heights Winery, located in Katzrin, which launched its first wines in 1984 and has since become world renowned; wine tasting is included.

### Returnees

- The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border: Field seminar on the northern border and dialogue with (Ret) Sarit Zehavi, a former senior intelligence officer. Including the Syrian and the Lebanese border.
- Visit the Katzrin Talmudic Village and explore its archaeological remains, including the partially reconstructed synagogue and homes from a thriving ancient Jewish community.
- Lunch on own in Katzrin, the 'Capital of the Golan'.
- Visit the Katzrin Olive-Oil Press for a glimpse into the world of olive oil and its role in the story of the Land of Israel.





All

- Mincha service.
- Visit an army base for a dialogue with officers and soldiers, followed by a community dinner on the base (pending confirmation).

Overnight: Kibbutz Hotel, Galilee

## **DAY SIX** ➤ **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018** **FROM MYSTICS TO DREAMERS IN THE GALILEE**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- Check out of the hotel, and drive to Tsfat, a center of Jewish mysticism for hundreds of years and a contemporary artists' colony, including:

1st Timers

- Guided visit to the Ari, Caro or Abuhav Synagogues, each with its great stories and mystical messages.
- A stroll through the quaint Artists' Colony, shop in the galleries and crafts shops and engage in dialogues with local artisans inspired by the messages of Kabbalah.
- A visit to the Tsfat Candle Factory Visitors' Center.
- Meet with artist, Sheva Chaya in her studio, for an interactive window into the world of Kabbalah, glass blowing and questions of identity and Judaism.

Returnees

- A guided visit through the Tsfat Cemetery, including the grave of the mystical master, Rabbi Isaac Luria - 'the Ari'.

- A visit to the Livnot uLehibanot work/study program, where participants from abroad study part of the day and spend the remainder of the day rebuilding the Old Quarter of Tsfat.
- Dialogue with David Friedman, a Tsfat artist inspired by Kabbalah.
- A stroll through the quaint Artists' Colony, shop in the galleries and crafts shops and engage in dialogues with local artisans inspired by the messages of Kabbalah.

All

- Lunch on own en route.
- Drive along the Trans-Israel Highway for a close-up view of the 'Security Barrier' along the seam zone between Israel and the Palestinian Territories.
- Welcome to Jerusalem - ?????? ?????: Enter the vibrant and colorful ancient city of Jerusalem, and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- Stop at the Haas Promenade for an overlook of the Old and New City of Jerusalem and to recite the traditional "shehechiyanu" blessing.
- Check into the hotel.
- Kabbalat Shabbat services at various local synagogues.
- Private Shabbat dinner at the hotel, with lone soldiers and former Syracuse community members who made Aliya to Israel.

Overnight: Jerusalem



## **DAY SEVEN** ▾ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018

### **SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Shabbat morning services at various local synagogues.
- Lunch at the hotel.
- Possible Shabbat walking tours:
- Walk to Ketef Hinnom where two tiny silver scrolls, inscribed with portions of the well-known Priestly Blessing of the Book of Numbers were found, containing what may be the oldest surviving texts from the Hebrew Bible.
- One Mountain, Three Religions: Mt. Zion and the Religious Challenge: Visit the traditional burial site of King David, a 1948-67 Temple Mount observation point, the Dormition Abbey, a mosque and the Room of the Last Supper.
- LaDa'at Hebrew Writers: Guided walk through the streets of Jerusalem, using the writings of Jerusalem's poets and authors, such as Yehuda Amichai, Y. Agnon and others.

#### **All**

- Mincha service.
- Ben Kodesh Lechol: Havdallah overlooking the Old City.
- Free time in the Mamilla pedestrian arcade, a very contemporary shopping area with a whiff of the past, located outside the Jaffa Gate of the Old City; dinner on own.
- The Night Spectacular at the Tower of David Museum: The walls of the Citadel serve as a stage for a night-time show - a celebration of sight and sound - that depicts the story of Jerusalem.

Overnight: Jerusalem

## **DAY EIGHT** ▾ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2018

### **THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- The Jerusalem Mosaic - Creating a Multicultural City: Dialogue with Tehila Friedman-Nahalon and Marik Shtern, Jerusalem activists.

#### **1st Timers**

- Explore the excavations at the City of David, the very core of ancient Jerusalem, view the Gihon Spring ; wade through the 2,700-year-old water tunnel of King Hezekiah (optional dry exit); OR walk through the recently opened Second Temple-period tunnel under the walls of the Old City, emerging in the Jerusalem Archaeological Park and explore the Davidson Center, Robinson's Arch and the Southern Wall steps where Jewish pilgrims entered the Temple Mount 2,000 years ago.
- Stop at the Kotel (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site and then walk through the Western Wall Tunnel, the underground continuation of the Western Wall alongside the Temple Mount.
- Lunch on own in the Jewish Quarter and continue with visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:
- A walk along the Rooftops of the Old City for a behind-the-scenes look at the various communities in Jerusalem and how they live alongside each other.
- The Cardo, the main street of Jerusalem in the 6th
- King Hezekiah's First Temple-period "Broad Wall".
- Hurva Square, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.





## Returnees

- Walking tour through the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, for visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:
  - The 2,000-year-old Herodian Mansions.
  - The Isaac Kaplan Old Yishuv Court Museum which captures the Jewish life in the Old City from the 1600's till 1948.
  - The four Sephardi synagogues, which reflect the richness and diversity of Diaspora Jewish traditions.
  - Visit the Karaite Synagogue and meet with representatives of the community. The Karaites recognize the Tanakh alone as its supreme legal authority in Jewish religious law and theology.
  - Stop at the Kotel (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.
- Lunch on own in the Old City and then continue with a visit to the Christian Quarter, including the Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and other Christian sites.

## All

- Return to the hotel.
- Mincha service.
- Dinner on own, perhaps on vibrant Emek Refaim Street, in Jerusalem's German Colony.

Overnight: Jerusalem

## DAY NINE ↘ MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2018 INTO THE DESERT

### 1st Timers

- Early breakfast at the hotel.
- Descend to the Dead Sea Basin.
- Ascend by cable-car or walk up the Snake Path to Masada, Herod's mountain palace and the site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defence and its current significance in modern Israel.
- Experience an astonishing sense of weightlessness as you float in the super-saline Dead Sea.
- Short hike to Nahal David, the freshwater spring and waterfalls in the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve, where David hid from King Saul.
- Lunch on own en route.
- Return to Jerusalem.

### Returnees

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- LaDa'at The Geopolitics of Jerusalem: Travel through the city of Jerusalem, exploring some of its political and diplomatic complexities - including the 'Security Barrier' - to gain a behind-the-headlines insight into current developments.
- Visit the Herodian, Herod's final resting place and fortress, carved out of a mountain, just south of the city of Jerusalem and explore the site where his tomb was finally discovered.



- Drive to Gush Etzion and visit the Kibbutz Kfar Etzion visitors' center for an explanation and audio-visual program about the heroic defence of the Etzion Bloc in the War of Independence.
- Lunch on your own.
- Creating A Joint Future For Palestinians And Israelis: Meet with Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, Ali Abu Awwad, Shaul Judelman who all live in the Bethlehem / Gush Etzion Area and founded the Roots coexistence project. The Roots project draws Israelis and Palestinians who, despite living next to each other, are separated by walls of fear- not just fear of each other, but even of the price of peace. Without building trust, the suspicions between these two communities will suffocate the political peace agreements.
- Return to Jerusalem.

#### All

- Extending Our Hands: Meet Navonel (Voni) Glick, CO-CEO of IsrAID, a non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to providing life-saving disaster relief and long term support.
- Mincha service.
- Stroll along the Ben-Yehuda Street and Nachalat Shiva pedestrian malls, joining the many Israelis out on the town, with dinner on own.

Overnight: Jerusalem

## DAY TEN ↘ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2018

### MEMORY & RENEWAL

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- The Memory of the Holocaust in Contemporary Israeli Society: Dialogue with Holocaust scholar, Rachel Korazim.
- Visit the Yad Vashem complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:

#### 1st Timers

- The Avenue of the Righteous
- The Historical Museum
- The Children's Memorial

#### Returnees

- The Art Museum
- The Holocaust Film Archive
- The Learning Center
- The Valley of the Communities

#### All

- A concluding Memorial Service
- Lunch at Yas Vashem.
- Visit the National Military Cemetery on Herzl to recall landmark events in modern Israeli history in which these soldiers gave their lives. Follow with a visit to the graves of Theodor Herzl, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres in the adjacent section for Leaders of the Nation.



- Tree planting at the Jerusalem Bird Observatory, and an insight into the urban wildlife of Jerusalem.
- Return to the hotel.
- Mincha service.
- Enjoy a night out with dinner on own at the Old Train Station Plaza, with its fashionable restaurants featuring local and international cuisine. On certain evenings one can enjoy street musicians, Israeli dancing and other attractions.

Overnight: Jerusalem

## **DAY ELEVEN** ➤ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2018 A MOSAIC OF JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early shaharit services.
- The Labyrinth of Israeli Politics: Dialogue with Reuven Hazan of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University.
- Check out of the hotel.
- Giving Back with Pantry Packers: Participate in Tikkun Olam by packing commodity food staples for Israel's poorest families; after a brief orientation session, don gloves, aprons and caps in order to fill bags of rice, beans and other commodities.
- Experience the sights, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the Machaneh Yehuda open-air market, with lunch on own.
- Visit the renewed and wonderfully creative Israel Museum, with its wide-ranging and eclectic collection, from Archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls, to Jewish Life and Art, European art, contemporary Israeli art and the open-air model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple period.
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport and check in for the departure flight to the USA.

Overnight: Flight

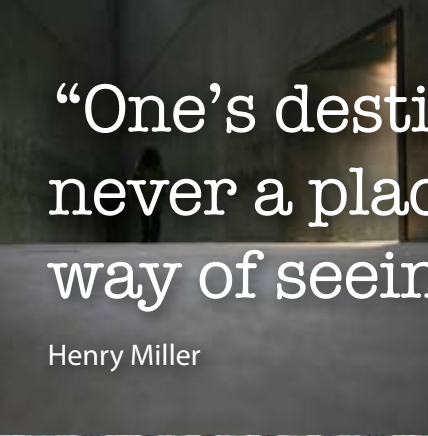
## **DAY TWELVE** ➤ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018 ARRIVAL

- Arrive in the USA.

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never a place, but a new  
way of seeing things.”

Henry Miller

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