

Jewish National Fund
President's Society Pre-Mission:
Amsterdam Itinerary

November 2-6, 2016

Leadership

Ben Gutmann, *Mission Chair*

Professional Staff

Glen Schwartz, *National Executive Director Major Gifts*

Wednesday November 2 - Arrival

- 10:45am **Welcome to Amsterdam!** Upon arrival into the airport on Delta flight #9347, meet your group transfer to the luxurious **De L'Europe Hotel**, located in the heart of Amsterdam.
- 1:30pm Meet in the hotel lobby and depart for **Zaanse Schans**, a small town located just outside of Amsterdam. With its traditional houses, windmills, warehouses and workshops, the historic village of Zaanse Schans offers a preserved glimpse of what life was like in the Netherlands during the 18th and 19th centuries. Next, visit a local shoe shop, where we will watch a demonstration on how wooden shoes are made using the same techniques that were used hundreds of years ago.
- 4:30pm Embark on a leisurely **panoramic cruise** on a classic saloon wooden boat, taking in the beautiful views of the old center of Amsterdam. Hear fascinating stories about the city from your tour guide while enjoying drinks and light refreshments.
- 6:00pm This evening, enjoy a delicious opening dinner at the **Harbour Club**, which once served as an old wine terminal and has been transformed into a chic, top-notch restaurant.
- Overnight **De L'Europe Hotel**



Amsterdam



Zaanse Schans



Harbour Club Restaurant

Thursday November 3 – History, Art, & Culture

9:30am Following breakfast at the hotel, depart for a tour of the “**Waterland area**,” comprised of historic fishing villages and a picturesque open countryside built atop polders, which are low-lying tracts of land reclaimed from a body of water. Explore the harbor area with beautiful views overlooking the **Ijsselmeer**, a harbor town located in northern Holland. Stop by the local cafés, cheese shops, traditional fish stalls, and ubiquitous costume shops.

Spend the remainder of the morning visiting the surrounding **Jewish villages** as we learn about the rich Jewish history of the area. Begin with a visit to the well-known Jewish monuments in **Monnickendam**, a typical harbor town with a well-preserved and attractive historical center. Afterward, proceed to the former bustling fishing harbor of **Volendam**, which has transformed itself into a wonderful tourist destination filled with artists’ galleries and old-fashioned shops. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the local cafés in the area. Conclude in the village of **Katwoude**, a local cheese farm where we will see a cheese-making demonstration and enjoy a cheese tasting.

4:00pm Upon returning to Amsterdam, proceed to the world famous **Rijksmuseum**. During your guided tour, see the vast collections of Dutch art and history from the Middle Ages onwards, as well as prominent works from Europe and Asia.

7:00pm This evening, enjoy **dinner** at **The Five Flies Restaurant**, known for its classic Dutch dishes served in a maze of lavishly decorated dining rooms.

Overnight **De L’Europe Hotel**



“Waterland” area



Volendam



Rijksmuseum

Friday November 4 – Old City of Amsterdam

9:30am Following breakfast, depart the hotel for a guided walking tour through the **Old Centre of Amsterdam**, which will include visits to the Dam Square, Red Light District, Flower Market, and Canal Belt. Afterward, we will tour the fascinating **Anne Frank House**, **Van Gogh Museum**, and the magnificent **Portuguese Synagogue**, all the while learning about the Jewish significance of these important historical sites.

Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon with free time to walk around, shop, and grab lunch at one of the many local cafés or restaurants in the area.

3:30pm Return to the hotel with time to freshen up and relax.

7:00pm This evening, enjoy dinner at **Restaurant de Incanto**, a delicious Italian restaurant within walking distance from the hotel.

Overnight **De L'Europe Hotel**



Anne Frank House



Van Gogh Museum



Portuguese Synagogue

Saturday November 5 – Shabbat

- Morning** The morning will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat. Optional services will be offered at the local Ashkenazi Synagogue.
- 2:00pm** This afternoon, embark on a guided walking tour of the **Jewish Cultural Quarter** of Amsterdam, where Jewish life was once concentrated and now exhibits unique Jewish monuments and memorials. Walk around Amsterdam’s City Hall and see the statue of Spinoza. Visit the Rembrandt House, the local Flee Market, and the Jewish Resistance Memorial, as well as the Jewish Historical Museum. Additionally, see **Wertheim Park**, the oldest park in Amsterdam, named after Jewish banker and philanthropist A.C. Wertheim. Conclude with a visit to the **Jewish Theater**, the main memorial that honors Amsterdam’s Jewish community. Learn how this building, once a center for cultural life, was used by the Nazis as a main concentration and deportation point for Jews during World War II.
- 7:00pm** Enjoy a special **farewell dinner** at the renowned hotel restaurant called **Bord’Eau**, which showcases the core flavors of every ingredient by using only the highest quality products that compose true, pure and natural tastes.
- Overnight** **De L’Europe Hotel**



Jewish Historical Museum



Wertheim Park



Jewish Theater

Sunday November 6 – Departure to Israel

- Morning** Early this morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Israel!
- 11:35am** Group departure flight El Al #338.