

Jewish National Fund

# QUEEN OF SHEBA WOMEN FOR ISRAEL MISSION

March 15 – 22, 2015

## Leadership

Vivian Grossman, *Co-Chair*

Nina Paul, *Co-Chair*

Helene Blumenfeld, *Co-Chair*

## Professional Staff

Sharon David, *Director, National Affinity Groups*

Talia Tzour, *Director, Major Donors, KKL*

*Itinerary is Subject to Change.*



Tel Aviv

## SUNDAY MARCH 15 • ARRIVAL / TEL AVIV

Welcome to Israel! Upon arrival, transfer to the Carlton Hotel in Tel Aviv. At 7:30 pm, enjoy a special **welcome dinner** at Blue Sky restaurant by Chef Meir Adoni, located on the rooftop of the hotel. After a warm welcome from the mission chairs, hear an overview of the upcoming days and learn more about JNF's Women for Israel group.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv



Yoga on the Beach

## MONDAY MARCH 16 • TEL AVIV

Early this morning, everyone is invited to join **optional yoga class** on the beach. Following breakfast, participate in a **special workshop** that will provide an introduction to the mission and the women on the trip.

Depart the hotel for the **Alexander Muss High School in Israel (AMHSI)**, the only non-denominational, pluralistic, accredited academic program in Israel for English speaking North American High School students. Following a tour, meet school administrators several students, who will share their experiences from the program. Join them at the new AMHSI Ben-Dor Radio Station for a special activity.



AMHSI students

Afterward, enjoy **lunch** at a local restaurant in Tel Aviv. Hear from top Israeli reporter, investigative journalist and anchorwoman **Ilana Dayan**, who will provide an update on the current social, political and cultural issues shaping Israel.



Jaffa

This afternoon, enjoy a **walking tour through Old Jaffa**, an 8000-year-old port city. Walk through the winding alleyways, stop at the ancient ruins and explore the restored artist's quarter. Continue to the **Ilana Goor Museum**, an ever-changing, living exhibition that houses over 500 works of art by Ilana Goor and other celebrated artists. See how ancient history and modern art combine during a tour of the museum, which fashion designer Donna Karan includes as one of her "favorite inspirations in Israel."



Ilana Goor Museum

This evening, join one of Israel's top **chefs** for a **private dinner** featuring several of the chef's signature dishes. Pending confirmation, hear from **Maayan Cohen**, CEO of Hello Doctor. She will share her experiences as a female entrepreneur in the male-dominated tech start-up industry.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

*Itinerary is Subject to Change.*

## TUESDAY MARCH 17 • COASTAL ROUTE



Ein Hod

Following breakfast and hotel checkout, begin the drive north along the scenic coastal route. Along the way, stop in the village of **Ein Hod**, a picturesque artists' colony that was rebuilt following the 2010 forest fires that devastated the Carmel Region. Take a tour through the artist colony, meet local artists and visit several galleries. Afterward, see the new Ein Hod Memorial Park, which serves as a reminder of the destruction wrought by the fire and also as a symbol of the area's rebirth.



Tulip Winery

Enjoy lunch and a wine tasting at the nearby **Tulip Winery**, a boutique winery that produces delicious wine, while at the same time contributing to the community in a unique way. Meet the owners, who will share their philosophy about employing the community's special needs residents in an effort to help the disabled community develop and realize their potential.



Wine tasting and lunch

Afterward, continue to an ecological farm in Emek HaShalom to learn about **LOTEM - Making Nature Accessible**, the leading organization in Israel that offers nature activities to people with special needs, as well as to risk youth and women. Several women who have benefited from LOTEM's services will share their personal stories and experiences.



View from Mitzpe Hayamim

Pending confirmation, visit a nearby **IDF Base** for an exclusive tour and the opportunity to meet female IDF soldiers.

Proceed north to the luxurious **Mitzpe Hayamim Hotel & Spa**. This evening, enjoy **dinner** at the hotel, consisting of organic Israeli food made at Mitzpe Hayamim's own organic farm.

**Overnight, Mitzpe Hayamim Hotel & Spa, Rosh Pinah**



Akko

## WEDNESDAY MARCH 18 • NORTHERN ISRAEL

Begin today in **Akko**, an underground crusader city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Akko has a fascinating history, with a rare blend of east and west, ancient history and a unique meeting place of art and religion, as well as contemporary living cultures and communities. Take a tour through the Old City and explore the gates, towers, tunnels and secret passageways of this ancient city. Check out the Crusader Fortress, stroll through the shuk and witness the impressive remains built by the Hospitaller Order of Knights in the 12th and 13th centuries. See the famous Akko Prison, built by the Turks and later used by the British to imprison members of the underground. During the visit, learn more about JNF's Go North plan to develop and revitalize Akko and other areas in Israel's northern region.



Women's Panel

Afterward, hear from a **diverse panel of Bedouin, Jewish-Israeli and Arab-Israeli women**, both secular and religious, who will discuss their unique perspectives on a female's role in modern Israel. Participate in a conversation about the many complexities and intricacies of femininity in today's world.

Proceed to the nearby **Alto Dairy**, a boutique dairy known for their magnificent goat cheeses using both traditional and modern methods. Taste some of the dairy's famous cheeses and enjoy a delicious **lunch** prepared from locally sourced ingredients.

Later this afternoon, return to the hotel with time to rest, relax in the hotel's tranquil atmosphere, take a dip in the pool or indulge in an optional **treatment at the hotel spa** (*\*additional cost. Not included in mission price*).

Enjoy **dinner** at the hotel this evening.



Spa Treatment

**Overnight, Mitzpe Hayamim Hotel & Spa, Rosh Pinah**

## THURSDAY MARCH 19 • NORTH/ JERUSALEM



Safed

Following breakfast and hotel check-out, depart the hotel for the mystical city of **Safed**. Stroll through the alleys of this ancient city and learn about the origins of Kabbalah, the Rabbis that lived here and the artist community that remains. Meet a local **Kabbalah expert** for an interactive Kabbalah experience and overview.



Jeep ride

Afterward, continue to the **artist quarter** along Gallery Street for some time to shop and explore the local galleries. Pending confirmation, meet **Mayor Ilan Shohat**.

Following **lunch** at a local restaurant, take an exciting **jeep ride** through the Galilee on a **treasure hunt** to follow the footsteps of Israel's female pioneers. Explore the Galilee with maps, bible, and a little help from the guide. This "off the beaten track" experience will include stops at local businesses/places like wineries, bakeries, spice farms, and historical and archaeological sites - each with its own fascinating story.



Belly Dancing Lesson

Continue south to **Jerusalem** and check into the David Citadel Hotel. Upon arrival into Jerusalem, participate in a traditional **Shehechyanu ceremony**.

This evening, enjoy an authentic **Moroccan dinner** at Darna restaurant, located in the heart of Jerusalem. Pending confirmation, hear from **MK Pnina Tamanu-Shata**, the first Ethiopian-born woman to hold a Knesset seat (TBC).



Jerusalem

Afterward, let loose and have some fun during a private **belly dancing lesson** with a professional instructor!

**Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem**

## FRIDAY MARCH 20 • JERUSALEM



Yad Vashem

Early this morning, participate in an **optional walking tour** through Jerusalem and experience the bustling energy of the city as local Jerusalemites prepare for Shabbat.

Following breakfast, choose one of the following options:

### OPTION I: YAD VASHEM

Take a solemn tour of **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum & Memorial**. A sprawling complex of tree-studded walkways leading to museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, and memorials, Yad Vashem tells the story of the Holocaust from a uniquely Jewish perspective, emphasizing the experiences of victims through original artifacts, survivor testimonies & personal possessions. Meet with a **Holocaust survivor**, who will share her story.



Western Wall Tunnel

### OPTION II: WESTERN WALL TUNNEL TOUR

Take a tour through the **Western Wall Tunnels**, an incredible labyrinth of tunnels, arches and passageways that expose Jerusalem's rich history, archeology and topography.



Mahane Yehuda Market

Afterward, unwind with some free time to explore **Mahane Yehuda Market** with local Jerusalemites in their weekly tradition of shopping for Shabbat in the bustling market. Alternatively, opt for a stroll down **Ben Yehuda Street**, Jerusalem's open-air pedestrian mall filled with cafes, stalls with funky jewelry and crafts and musicians playing their instruments on the street.



Jerusalem

Later this afternoon, return to the hotel to prepare for Shabbat. Early this evening, participate in a special **Kabbalat Shabbat activity**. Afterward, enjoy a special **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel **together** with a group of **lone soldiers**. During the meal, they will share their personal experiences leaving their family, friends, loved ones and homes in order to serve the State of Israel in the IDF. Pending confirmation, Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem, **Rachel Azaira**, will join as a special **guest speaker**.

**Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem**

## SATURDAY MARCH 21 • SHABBAT



Masada



Dead Sea



Sculpture at the Israel Museum



Mamilla Avenue

Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat. Optional Shabbat services will be offered at the hotel. Consider participating in one of the following **optional tours**:

### OPTION I: Masada & Dead Sea\*

After a morning departure from the hotel, the **optional tour** will drive via the Judean Hills along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest place on Earth. Continue to **Masada**, the mountain fortress built by King Herod, where the Zealots made their last stand against the Romans. Learn about the history story of the Jewish fighters before a cable car ride (or a hike) to the top of the Herodian Palace Complex. Tour the remains of the walls, palaces, synagogues, water cisterns, mosaic floors and Roman baths.

Descend the mountain to the depths of **Dead Sea**. Take a swim in the buoyant waters of the Dead Sea or simply relax at the beach. Return to **Jerusalem** early this evening. Along the way, view the Qumran caves, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. (*\*Additional cost. Not included in mission price*).

### OPTION II: Israel Museum\*\*

This afternoon, take a taxi from the hotel to the newly renovated **Israel Museum**, one of the leading art and archeology museums in the world. During a tour, stop at the Shrine of the Book to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world. Don't forget to see the new Holy Land Model, a miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the Second Temple Period. (*\*\*transportation and entrance fee not included*)

This evening will be at leisure, providing an opportunity to enjoy Jerusalem's nightlife and restaurant scene at your own pace. Consider a walk along **Mamilla Avenue**, designed by world-renowned Israeli architect, Moshe Safdie and lined with 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings, street performers, restaurants and many designer boutiques, and is often referred to the Fifth Avenue or Champs-Elysees of Jerusalem.

**Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem**

## SUNDAY MARCH 22 • JERUSALEM



Ammunition Hill Trenches

This morning, visit **Ammunition Hill**, site of the famous and fierce battle of the Six-Day War. After a **light lunch**, follow the footsteps of soldiers who fought here on a tour through the battleground. See the new “Seam-Line” multimedia show about the Six-Day War and reunification of Jerusalem. The tour will conclude at JNF’s **Wall of Honor**, honoring Jewish veterans from around the world. Pending confirmation, meet bereaved mother, **Miriam Peretz**, who lost two of her sons when they were serving in the IDF (TBC).

Continue to the **9/11 Living Memorial**, built in memory of the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Designed by award winning Israeli artist Eliezer Weischoff, the memorial depicts the World Trade Center and Pentagon through sculpture and landscape architecture. It is the only place outside of New York that recognizes the names of the people who were killed on 9/11 as well as their countries of origin.



9/11 Living Memorial

Afterward, continue to **American Independence Park**, which serves as the central location for commemorating American support of the State of Israel. Following a **picnic lunch**, see the Sapphire Wall and participate in a special dedication ceremony honoring recent gifts to JNF.

This afternoon, head to the **Nefesh B’Nefesh Headquarters** in Givat Shaul. Meet with school administrators to learn more about their programs that provide olim with employment resources, housing and government absorption assistance and the community based guidance and support to make each individual’s Aliyah as successful as possible. Following a tour, several meet a diverse group of **new olim** will share their personal experiences making Aliyah to Israel.



Nefesh B’Nefesh Headquarters

Afterward, participate in a closing **workshop** before enjoying a **farewell dinner** at a local restaurant. Following dinner, transfer to the airport for return flights to the USA.

**Overnight, En Route**