

Jewish National Fund

SUNSHINE MISSION

April 21 – 30, 2013

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King David Hotel

Sunday April 21 • Arrival

Welcome to Israel! Upon our arrivals into Israel, meet your driver and transfer to the hotel in **Jerusalem**. This evening, our mission will officially begin in a private room at the hotel. Following a brief introduction and welcome, our guide will provide us with an overview of the mission program for the coming days. As we begin to get to know each other, we'll enjoy a delicious **welcome dinner** at the hotel.

Overnight, King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Itinerary Subject to Change

Monday April 22 • Ancient Jerusalem



Old City of Jerusalem

Following a delicious Israeli breakfast at the hotel, we'll meet our guide and depart for the **Old City** of Jerusalem. We will begin with a driving tour to explore ancient Jerusalem followed by a visit to the **Western Wall**, the last remaining wall that enclosed the Temple Mount in the Second Temple Period. We'll hear the soft sounds of prayer and contemplation before we continue to the **Southern Wall Excavations** to see the original steps that lead to the Temple Mount.



Mt. Herzl

Following **lunch**, we will proceed to **Mt. Herzl** for a brief visit to the gravesites of Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and other Israeli dignitaries.

Later this afternoon, we'll take a stroll down the **Cardo**, the main street in Jerusalem 2000 years ago. We'll have some time for **shopping** in the local galleries and shops before returning to the hotel.

This evening, we will head to the **Tower of David**, to see the **Light and Sound Show**, a cutting edge pyrotechnics show that unfolds with a blaze of images that tell the story of Jerusalem's rich history.



Light & Sound Show

The remainder of the evening will be at leisure. Consider a stroll along **Mamilla Avenue**, designed by world-renowned Israeli architect Moshe Safdie, who made sure to retain the unique character of ancient Jerusalem while offering one of the best shopping experiences in the city. Acting as a bridge between modern and ancient, the avenue is lined with 19th century buildings, street performers, restaurants, cafes and many designer boutiques, and is often referred to the Fifth Avenue or Champs-Elysees of Jerusalem.

Or, consider a walk down **Ben Yehuda Street**, Jerusalem's open-air pedestrian mall filled with cafes, stalls with funky jewelry and the sounds of musicians playing their instruments on the street.

Enjoy dinner on your own at one of many Jerusalem restaurants.

Overnight, King David Hotel, Jerusalem



Ben Yehuda Street

Tuesday April 23 • Jerusalem



Yad Vashem

Following breakfast at the hotel, we will begin today with a solemn visit to **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.



Ammunition Hill

After this emotional visit, we'll enjoy lunch before continuing to **Ammunition Hill**, site of the famous Six-Day War battle. A representative will lead us on a tour that follows the footsteps of the soldiers who fought here. We will 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.



Jerusalem

Later this afternoon, we'll return to the hotel with some time to rest, relax and rejuvenate after a long day. This evening, we will enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant in Jerusalem. We will hear from a special **guest speaker**, who will discuss the current social, cultural, economic and political climate in Israel at this time. We'll also have an opportunity to ask questions and engage in a lively discussion about the current issues making the headlines.

Overnight, King David, Jerusalem

Wednesday April 24 • Jerusalem / North



Israel Museum

Following breakfast at the hotel and check out, we will visit the newly renovated **Israel Museum**, one of the leading art and archeology museums in the world. During our tour, we will stop at the Shrine of the Book to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world. We will also see the new Holy Land Model, a miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the Second Temple Period.



Planting a Tree

From here we will proceed to **Neot Kedumim**, an eco-tourism site and “living museum” that recreates the physical setting of the Bible in all its depth and detail. Following a tour, we’ll continue to the **Harvey Hertz - JNF Ceremonial Tree Planting Center**, which serves as JNF’s primary planting center in Israel. Here, we will each have the opportunity to **plant a tree** and contribute to JNF’s ongoing afforestation efforts in Israel.

Following a **picnic lunch**, we will begin the drive north along the scenic coastal route. En route, we’ll stop in **Caesarea**, once the Roman capital of the region. See the excavations of the Crusader’s city, the aqueduct and the amphitheater that has been restored as a concert venue.



Caesarea Port

We will continue to the port city of **Haifa**, also known as the “capital of the north” and as the hub of Israel’s technology and research industries. This evening we will enjoy **dinner** at the hotel.

Overnight, Dan Carmel, Haifa

Thursday April 25 • Northern Israel



Kinneret

This morning, we will depart the hotel and head to the **Kinneret**, Israel's main source of fresh water. Upon our arrival, we will be able to see, first-hand, the true extent of Israel's water shortage. We will meet with a **water expert**, who will provide us with an overview of the current water crisis and explain how JNF is utilizing the most up-to-date water conservation and harvesting techniques to help preserve, recycle and develop Israel's water resources over the long term.



Golan Heights

Afterward, we will explore the **Golan Heights**, one of Israel's most beautiful and strategic regions. As we follow in the footsteps of Israel's IDF Soldiers and their battles during the Six Day War, we'll gain insight into the complexities of the Golan region.

We will begin in at **Mitzpe Gadot**, a former Syrian base and site of particularly harsh battles during the 1967 war. As we walk through an old army bunker, we will see what life was like for soldiers manning the outpost.



Bunker at Mitzpe Gadot

We'll proceed to **Mt. Bental**, one of Israel's most strategic observation points, overlooking Syria, and then continue through the "Valley of Tears" to the **Oz 77 Memorial**, named after 76 soldiers who sacrificed their lives in some of the fiercest battles of the Yom Kippur War.

Following **lunch** at a local restaurant, we will visit the magnificent **Hula Valley**, one of the world's preeminent bird sanctuaries. Millions of birds stop in the Hula Valley during their seasonal migration between Europe and Africa. During a special **golf-cart tour** along the migration route, we hope to see some of the millions of birds that migrate here each year.



Hula Valley

This evening we will enjoy **dinner** in Haifa.

Overnight, Dan Carmel, Haifa

Friday April 26 • Northern Israel/ Tel Aviv

After breakfast and checking out of the hotel, we will begin the day with a visit to the **Bahia Hanging Gardens**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is described as the “eighth wonder of the world.”



Baha'i Gardens

We will continue to **Atlit Illegal Immigration Camp**, which JNF helped restore in partnership with the Society for the Preservation of Israel's Heritage Sites (SPIHS). Converted into a detention camp by the British Mandate, Atlit imprisoned thousands of Jewish immigrants upon arriving into Israel. After a tour, we will continue to the restored Galina ship, a replica of a ship that carried 122,000 “illegal” immigrants in defiance of the British blockade to Israel.



Atlit Illegal Immigration Camp

From here we will proceed to the **Ein Hod Artist Colony**, a quaint artist's village filled with galleries, museums and restaurants. We will also see the new **JNF Park** being built here.

We'll then head to a nearby **Druze village**, located high on the slopes of Mt. Carmel. Following an authentic **Druze lunch** in the home of a Druze family, we will take a stroll through the bustling village and become immersed in the rich and unique culture of the Druze people.

Afterward, we will continue toward **Tel Aviv**, Israel's most metropolitan city. This evening, we will enjoy **Shabbat dinner** at our hotel.

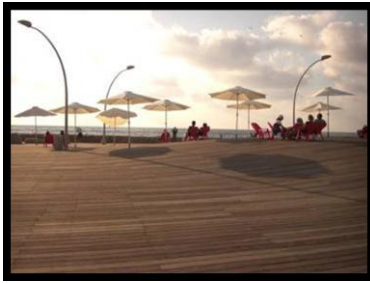


Carlton Hotel

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Saturday April 27 • Shabbat

Today will be at leisure in honor of **Shabbat**. Optional Shabbat services will be offered at the hotel.



Tel Aviv Port

Consider a stroll along Tel Aviv's **beach**, situated along the sparkling waters of the Mediterranean. Later this afternoon, sit at an outdoor café on the Tel Aviv Promenade and watch as Israelis and tourists come together for some festive folk dancing.

Or, consider participating in an **optional day tour to Masada and the Dead Sea**. The optional tour will depart the hotel in the morning and head south along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth. Continue to Masada for a cable car ride to the top of the Herodian Palace Complex. Visit the ancient fortress where the Zealots made their last stand against the Romans and see the remains of the walls, palaces, synagogues, water cisterns, mosaic floors and roman baths. During the tour, hear the heroic story of the Jewish fighters.



Cable car ride to Masada

Afterward, descend the mountain to the depths of **Dead Sea** for an opportunity to “float” in the buoyant waters and experience its therapeutic effects. Later this afternoon, return to **Tel Aviv**.



Dead Sea

This evening is at leisure. Enjoy dinner on your own in one of Tel Aviv's many restaurants.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Sunday April 28 • Tel Aviv

We will begin our day with a tour of the famous **Palmach Museum**. We will walk through a state-of-the-art multimedia experience that allows a glimpse into the fight for Israeli independence and the development of the renowned Israeli army.



Independence Hall

Afterward, we will visit **Independence Hall** to see where David Ben Gurion announced the independence of the State of Israel.



Carmel Market

Following **lunch** at a local restaurant, we'll have the afternoon to explore Tel Aviv and take advantage of some of Tel Aviv's best shopping areas. Start at **Nahalat Binyamin**, the famous pedestrian street filled with musicians, handmade jewelry and artifacts. Continue to Tel Aviv's own Soho on **Shenkin Street**, the lively and colorful street especially known for its unique shops, café life and youthful ambiance before ending at the open-air **Carmel Market**.



Tel Aviv

This evening will be at leisure.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Monday April 29 • Negev: A Vision for the Future



Sderot Indoor Recreation Center

This morning we will drive south to the **Negev**. Our first visit will be JNF's **Sderot Indoor Recreation Center**, the largest indoor playground in Israel. This fortified facility provides Sderot's youth with a safe, secure place to have fun and simply be children. We will meet with **Sderot residents** to understand how the indoor playground has enriched their lives.



Aleh Negev Rehabilitative Village

We will then visit **Aleh Negev**, a state-of-the-art residential facility for people with severe cognitive and developmental disabilities. During a tour of the facility we will see where JNF is landscaping Aleh Negev's grounds, preparing infrastructure for new therapy buildings and housing, and building enhancements including a hydrotherapy pool and a therapeutic riding camp.

Following **lunch** in the home of a local resident, we will head to the new community of **Givot Bar**. In partnership with the OR Movement, JNF has played an integral role in Givot Bar's growth, helping to create a desirable community that offers a quality of life not available in Israel's crowded center. During a tour of the community, meet with several **Givot Bar residents** who will share their experiences forging new lives in the Negev and discuss what life is like as a true modern day pioneer.



Be'er Sheva River Park

From here we will proceed to **Be'er Sheva**, the capital of the Negev. We will visit the **Be'er Sheva River Park Project**, a massive water, environment and economic development project that serves as the centerpiece of JNF's efforts to revitalize the entire city of Be'er Sheva. **Itai Freeman**, Director of the Be'er Sheva River Park, will update us on recent progress and discuss plans for continued development.



New home in Givot Bar

Later this afternoon we will return to Tel Aviv. This evening we will enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant in Tel Aviv.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Tuesday April 30 • Tel Aviv



Neve Tzedek

Following breakfast, we'll join our guide for a tour of Tel Aviv's **neighborhoods**. We'll start with a stroll down **Rothschild Boulevard** to see some excellent examples of Bauhaus architecture, which was all but destroyed in the bombing of Germany during WWII. We will then proceed to **Rabin Square**, the place of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, before the final stop in **Neve Tzedek**, the first neighborhood of Tel Aviv, built in 1909.

After lunch, we'll head to **Old Jaffa**, an 8000-year-old port city. We'll take a walk through the winding alleyways, stop at the ancient ruins and explore the restored artist's quarter filled with galleries and boutiques.



Jaffa

This evening we will enjoy a **farewell dinner** before transferring to the airport for our return flights to the USA.

Overnight, En Route