

Jewish National Fund

SUNSHINE MISSION

May 27 –
June 4, 2015

For Active Adults, 55+

Leadership

Dr. Melinda Wolf, *Mission Chair*

Hal Linden, *Mission Chair*

Professional Staff

Matthew Bernstein, *Chief Planned Giving Officer*

Judy Feig, *Executive Director, Planned Giving*

Itinerary Subject to Change



David Citadel Hotel

WEDNESDAY MAY 27 • ARRIVAL / JERUSALEM

Welcome to Israel! Upon our individual arrivals into Israel, meet your transfer driver and proceed to **Jerusalem**. Our mission will officially begin this evening with a **welcome dinner** at the David Citadel Hotel. Mission Chair **Hal Linden** will welcome us to the mission. Following a brief introduction and welcome, he will review the mission program for the coming days.

Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem



Yad Vashem

THURSDAY MAY 28 • JERUSALEM

Following a delicious Israeli breakfast at the hotel, we'll depart for 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.

After an emotional tour, we will have **lunch** at Yad Vashem. Afterward, we'll visit **Mt. Herzl** to see the gravesites of Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and other Israeli dignitaries.



Ammunition Hill

This afternoon, we will visit **Ammunition Hill**, site of the famous battle during the Six-Day War. During a tour of Ammunition Hill, follow in the footsteps of the soldiers who fought here. Watch the new "Seam-Line" multimedia show about the Six-Day War and reunification of Jerusalem before ending at JNF's Wall of Honor, which honors Jewish veterans from around the world.

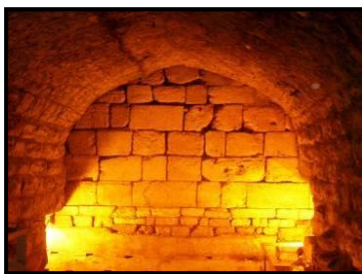
We will return to the hotel to rest, relax and freshen up before enjoying **dinner** at a local restaurant this evening. Hear from a special **guest speaker** for an update on the current social, political, and cultural climate in Israel.

Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem



Jerusalem

FRIDAY MAY 29 • ANCIENT JERUSALEM



Western Wall Tunnel

Following breakfast, we will depart the hotel for the **Old City** of Jerusalem. We will begin with an exciting tour through the **Western Wall Tunnels**, an incredible labyrinth of tunnels, arches and passageways that expose Jerusalem's rich history, archeology and topography.



Old City of Jerusalem

We will continue exploring ancient Jerusalem and the Four Quarters of the Old City before visiting the **Western Wall**, the last remaining wall that enclosed the Temple Mount in the Second Temple Period. Take a few minutes for prayer and contemplation before continuing to the **Southern Wall Excavations** to see the original steps that lead to the Temple Mount.

After a falafel lunch in the Old City, we will have some time to explore **Ben Yehuda Street**, Jerusalem's open-air pedestrian mall filled with cafes, outdoor shops and the sounds of musicians playing on the street.



Ben Yehuda Street

Later this afternoon, return to the hotel to rest and prepare for **Shabbat**. You have the option of visiting the **Kotel** for Kabbalat Shabbat before **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel this evening.

Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem

SATURDAY MAY 30 • SHABBAT

Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat. Consider one of these *optional* activities for the day:



Cable car ride to Masada



Dead Sea



Israel Museum

OPTION I: Participate in a day tour to **Masada and the Dead Sea.*** The tour departs the hotel in the morning and heads 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.

Afterward, descend the mountain to the depths of the Dead Sea for an opportunity to “float” in the buoyant waters and experience its therapeutic effects. Later this afternoon, return to Jerusalem. (*Additional cost. See registration form for details)

OPTION II: Visit the **Israel Museum** on your own via taxi. Explore the unique exhibitions, admire the multiple installations, and acquaint yourself with Israel’s largest cultural institution.

This evening, enjoy dinner on your own in one of Jerusalem’s many renowned restaurants.

Overnight, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem

SUNDAY MAY 31 • COASTAL ROUTE/WESTERN GALILEE



Atlit Illegal Immigration Camp

Following breakfast and hotel check-out, we will depart Jerusalem and drive north along the scenic coastal route. We will visit **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 during the British Mandate, Atlit imprisoned thousands of Jewish immigrants upon their arrival into Israel. The tour will include the restored Galina ship, a replica of a ship that carried 122,000 "illegal" immigrants in defiance of the British blockade to Israel.



Bouza Ice Cream

Afterward, enjoy lunch at a local café in the Western Galilee, where you will hear updates on the Go North Initiative from guest speaker **Michal Shiloah**, Chief Executive Officer of Western Galilee Now.

Continue to Tarshiha village to visit the **Bouza Ice Cream Parlor** for dessert. Founded as a partnership between an Arab Muslim and a Jewish kibbutznik couple, the ice cream parlor attracts a diverse clientele of Muslims, Christians and Jews from Israel and abroad. During a conversation with the restaurant's owners, understand how the ice cream parlor embodies peaceful coexistence and reflects the diverse and complex nature of Israeli society. Take a tour, meet the owners, and don't forget to try the delicious ice cream!



Beer from Malka Brewery

Next, we will visit **Kalderon MD**, a top quality glassware manufacturer of custom hand-made glass tableware and dinnerware. Take a tour of the facility and meet the owners and founders, Danny & Michal Kalderon, who have become leading innovators of uniquely artistic glassware collections.

Later this afternoon, proceed to the **Malka Brewery**, one of the first microbreweries in Israel. Join owner and founder, Assaf Lavi, for a demonstration of the beer making process and sample several of the beers produced at the brewery.



Dan Carmel Hotel

Afterward, we will arrive at the hotel to check-in with time to relax and rest. This evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel with **Nefesh B'Nefesh North American olim**, who will share their personal experiences making Aliyah to Israel.

Overnight, Dan Carmel Hotel, Haifa

MONDAY JUNE 1 • NORTHERN ISRAEL



Golan Heights

This morning, 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 region. Our tour begins 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 the soldiers who sacrificed their lives in some of the fiercest battles of the Yom Kippur War.

Afterward, enjoy **lunch** at a local restaurant overlooking the picturesque Kinneret. Hear from a leading water expert to learn about the current water crisis in Israel.

This afternoon, we will visit the **Kinneret**, Israel's main fresh water source, where we will see, first-hand, the true extent of Israel's water shortage. We'll learn about the current water crisis and hear 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.



Kinneret

Afterward, we'll take a leisurely **boat ride** on the Kinneret before we return to the hotel early this evening. Following **dinner** at the hotel, there will be an **optional visit to Haifa's German Colony**, the restored historic center of Haifa.

Overnight, Dan Carmel, Haifa



Baha'i Gardens

TUESDAY JUNE 2 • NORTH / TEL AVIV

This morning we will visit the port city of **Haifa**, also known as the “capital of the north” and the hub of Israel’s technology and research industries. We’ll tour the **Baha’i Hanging Gardens**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is described as the “eighth wonder of the world.”



Caesarea Port

Proceed to **Caesarea**, once the Roman capital of the region. Here, we will see the excavations of the Crusader’s city, the aqueduct and the amphitheater that has been restored as a concert venue.

Continue on to **Tel Aviv**, Israel’s cultural center and most cosmopolitan city. Enjoy lunch on your own and explore some of Tel Aviv’s best shopping areas. Stroll through the open-air **Carmel Market**, often called the heartbeat of Tel Aviv.



Carmel Market

Afterward, we will visit the **Rabin Museum**. Take a tour and learn about the history of the modern state of Israel and the legacy of the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

This evening, check into the Carlton Hotel for some time to rest and relax. This evening, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant with a special **guest speaker**.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3 • NEGEV



Sderot Indoor Recreation Center



Aleh Negev Rehabilitative Village



Be'er Sheva River Park



Abraham's Well

Before heading south to the **Negev** for the day, visit the **Ayalon Institute**, a secret bullet factory established by the Haganah in 1945. As the largest bullet factory during that time, it produced 2.25 million bullets from 1946 - 1948, completely in secret.

Afterward, head south to Sderot and visit 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. Meet with **Mayor Alon Davidi** and hear about the positive impact that the center has made on the community.

Continue to **Aleh Negev**, a state-of-the-art residential facility for people with severe cognitive and developmental disabilities. Tour the vicinity and see how JNF is landscaping the grounds, preparing infrastructure for new therapy buildings and housing, and building enhancements including a hydrotherapy pool and a therapeutic riding camp. Pending confirmation, meet with **Major General Doron Almog**, Chairman of Aleh Negev and former Commander of the IDF Southern Command. General Almog will share touching memories of his late son, Eran, who inspired his involvement with Aleh Negev.

Following **lunch** in the home of a local resident, we will proceed to **Be'er Sheva**, the capital of the Negev. Visit the **Be'er Sheva River Park**, the centerpiece of JNF's efforts to provide a renaissance for the city, and hear an overview and update on the project's amazing progress. We will see a few of the park's main attractions, such as the new **Abraham's Well Visitor Center**, which showcases the life of the patriarch Abraham.

Later this afternoon, we will begin the drive back to **Tel Aviv**. Tonight will be at leisure, providing us with the opportunity to explore Tel Aviv's nightlife at our own pace and enjoy dinner on our own at one of Tel Aviv's many restaurants.

Overnight, Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv



Independence Hall

THURSDAY JUNE 4 • TEL AVIV

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

Afterward, enjoy a walking tour of **Old Jaffa**, an 8000-year-old port city. We will walk through the winding alleyways, stop at the ancient ruins and explore the restored artist's quarter filled with galleries and boutiques. You will have time to wander, shop, and eat lunch on your own.



Jaffa

We will return to the hotel to pack, shower, and check out. Continue to JNF's **American Independence Park**, which serves as the central location for commemorating American support of the State of Israel.

This evening, enjoy a farewell **dinner** at a local restaurant in Tel Aviv before transferring to the airport for our return flights to the USA.

Overnight, En Route