

Jewish National Fund

# Young Professionals Mission:

For Singles Ages 30 – 45

July 12 – 18, 2015

## Leadership

Eve Breier, *Mission Chair*

## Professional Staff

Stephen Bach, *Chief Administration Officer*

*Itinerary is Subject to Change.*



Tel Aviv



Yoga on the Beach



Dan Panorama pool



Rabin Square



Nightlife

## SUNDAY JULY 12 • ARRIVAL

Welcome to Israel! Upon individual arrivals into Israel, meet your transfer driver and proceed to **Tel Aviv**, Israel's cultural center and most cosmopolitan city. After checking into the Dan Panorama Hotel (official check-in time is 2:00pm), take some time to unwind after the long flight. Stop by the JNF Hospitality desk in the hotel lobby to meet JNF Professional Stephen Bach and Mission Chair Eve Breier.

This evening, enjoy an opening **cocktail reception** and **dinner** at a local restaurant. Hear from a special **guest speaker** for an update on the current social, political, and cultural climate in Israel.

**Overnight, Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv**

## MONDAY JULY 13 • TEL AVIV

Early this morning, everyone is invited to join an **optional yoga class** on the beach. Spend the remainder of the morning at leisure; choose to relax on the beach, grab breakfast, or lay out by the hotel swimming pool.

This afternoon, take a **walking tour** through Tel Aviv. Begin on **Rothschild Boulevard** to see some excellent examples of Bauhaus architecture. The central portion of Tel Aviv, known as the "**The White City**" contains the largest group of buildings in the world built in the Bauhaus style and has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO. Proceed to **Rabin Square**, the place of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. Continue along Tel Aviv's main streets and see the colorful shops and bustling sidewalk cafes. Stop in **Neve Tzedek**, one of Tel Aviv's oldest neighborhoods, which is now one of the trendiest areas of the city. Continue to some of some of Tel Aviv's best shopping areas. Start in the open-air **Carmel Market** before continuing to Tel Aviv's own Soho on **Sheinkin Street**, one of Tel Aviv's most popular streets filled with indie and designer shops, boutiques and sidewalk cafes.

This evening, enjoy **dinner** at a trendy restaurant on the beach. Following dinner, join the group at one of Tel Aviv's hottest **clubs** and experience the city's famous nightlife scene.

**Overnight, Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv**

## TUESDAY JULY 14 • NEGEV/MITZPE RAMON



Sderot Playground



Nir Am Reservoir



Aleh Negev Rehabilitative Village



Be'er Sheva River Park



Desert region of Mitzpe Ramon

Following breakfast, check out of the hotel and head south to **Sderot**. Visit the **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.

Continue on to the **Nir Am Reservoir**, located on the Gaza border. Hear an update on the current security situation in Gaza and its bordering communities from this historical overlook.

Afterward, enjoy a tour of **Aleh Negev-Nahalat Eran**, 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.

Continue to Be'er Sheva, the capital of the Negev. During lunch, meet **Mayor Ruvik Danilovich**, who will discuss the current challenges facing Be'er Sheva and share his vision for the future of the city.

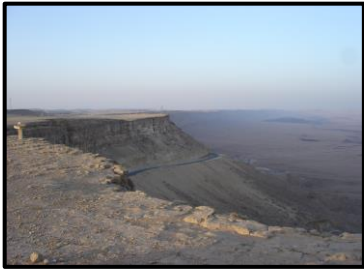
This afternoon, visit **Be'er Sheva River Park**, the centerpiece of JNF's efforts to provide a renaissance for the city and to turn the Negev into an attractive place for a new generation of Israelis to call home. Learn how this innovative urban renewal project is becoming an anchor for tourism and commerce and transforming Be'er Sheva into a green, vibrant and modern city.

Continue driving south toward Mitzpe Ramon. En route, stop in **Sde Boker**, former home of David Ben Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister and visionary for developing the Negev. Afterward, take an exciting jeep ride along the ancient Nabatean spice route and take in the scenic views.

Tonight, enjoy a **Bedouin style dinner** with Bedouin entrepreneur **Sami el-Karnaw**. Later this evening, enjoy a special **star gazing** activity under the night sky of Mitzpe Ramon, also known as nature's planetarium.

**Overnight, Ramon Suites, Mitzpe Ramon**

## WEDNESDAY JULY 15 • SOUTH/JERUSALEM



Ramon Crater

Following breakfast and hotel checkout, stop at the **Ramon Crater**, a unique geological phenomenon similar to a crater that can only be found in the Negev. See the colorful landscapes and hidden treasures within the largest Maktesh in the world.



Central Arava community

Afterward, begin the drive to Jerusalem, making several stops along the way. Pending confirmation, visit the **Ramon Air Force Base** for an exclusive tour with IDF soldiers, who will share what life is like serving in the IDF.

Continue to the **Central Arava** to see, first-hand, how JNF is transforming the region and revolutionizing the land and lives of the people who live there. Visit the **Central Arava Visitor Center**, which serves as a tourism anchor for the region. Gain insight into the complex challenges and obstacles facing the region, hear updates on JNF's work to attract new residents and visitors and see the progress being made in the Arava.



Jerusalem

Enjoy **lunch** at a local restaurant in the area before proceeding to **Jerusalem** for the evening.

Upon arrival into the holy city, participate in a **Shehecheyanu ceremony** before checking into the hotel.

This evening, enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant.

**Overnight, Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem**



## THURSDAY JULY 16 • JERUSALEM



9/11 Living Memorial

After breakfast at the hotel, visit the **Jerusalem Firefighters Visitor Center**. Ranked among the best firefighting and rescue services in the world, Israeli firefighters are often the unsung heroes of Israel. After a tour, meet several firefighters who will share their personal experiences and then give an exciting demonstration of their unique skills.



Old City of Jerusalem

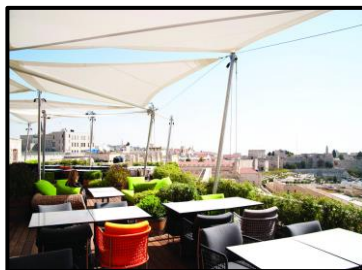
Proceed to the **9/11 Living Memorial**, built in memory of the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Designed by award winning Israeli artist Eliezer Weishoff, the memorial depicts the World Trade Center and Pentagon through sculpture and landscape architecture. It is the only place outside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

Afterward, take a tour of **Ammunition Hill**, site of the famous Six-Day War battle. Walk through the battleground and bunkers on a tour that follows the footsteps of the soldiers who fought here. See the new “Seam-Line” multimedia show about the Six-Day War and the reunification of Jerusalem. End at JNF’s Wall of Honor, honoring Jewish veterans from around the world.



Western Wall Tunnels

Following lunch on your own, head to Jerusalem’s **Old City** for a walking tour. After entering through the Jaffa Gate, head directly to the **Western Wall**, the last remaining wall that enclosed the Temple Mount in the Second Temple Period. Continue to the **Southern Wall Excavations** and see the original steps that lead to the Temple Mount. Afterward, take a walk down the **Cardo**, the main street in Jerusalem 2000 years ago.



Mamilla Hotel rooftop

This evening, enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant in Jerusalem. Pending confirmation, **Rachel Azaira**, Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem, will join as a special **guest speaker**. Afterward, take an exciting **night tour** through the **Western Wall Tunnels**, an incredible labyrinth of tunnels, arches and passageways that expose Jerusalem’s rich history, archeology and topography.

The remainder of the evening will be at leisure. Consider a stroll down **Mahene Yehuda Street**, Jerusalem’s open-air pedestrian mall, or head to the **Mamilla Hotel** rooftop bar for a scenic view of the city.

Overnight, **Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem**

## FRIDAY JULY 17 • JERUSALEM



Yad Vashem



Mahane Yehuda Market



Kabbalat Shabbat at the Kotel

Today begins with an emotional visit to **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum & Memorial**. Yad Vashem tells the story of the Holocaust from a uniquely Jewish perspective using original artifacts, survivor testimonies & personal possessions.

After this emotional visit, head to the colorful **Mahane Yehuda Market**. Meet the lively vendors, who will captivate you with their personal stories while you taste their Israeli grown vegetables, spices, freshly baked breads, cheeses and more.

Later this afternoon, return to the hotel to prepare for Shabbat. Early this evening, head to the **Kotel** for Kabbalat Shabbat with Israelis. Tonight, enjoy a **farewell Shabbat dinner** at the hotel. Pending confirmation, hear from special guest speaker **Ambassador Gideon Meir**, Deputy Director General for Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Formerly the Israeli Ambassador to Italy, he also worked as Consul and Administration Officer for the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C. and was a member of the negotiating team that drafted Israel's peace treaty with Egypt.

**Overnight, Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem**

## SATURDAY JULY 18 • SHABBAT



Shabbat Shalom!



Masada



Dead Sea

Today is at leisure in honor of Shabbat. Consider attending optional Shabbat services, relaxing at the hotel, or taking the optional day trip to Masada and the Dead Sea\*

The **optional day trip to Masada and the Dead Sea** will depart the hotel in the morning and 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. Later this afternoon, return to Jerusalem.

This evening, transfer to the airport for return flights to the USA.

### Overnight, En Route

\*Additional cost, not included in price