

# Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta Yom Haazmaut Journey to Israel 2023



TEL AVIV

**DAY 01** MON | APR 17

ARRIVAL:  
AT BEN GURION AIRPORT

- Drive to Tel Aviv through the Ayalon Valley  
**MISSION ARRIVAL CEREMONY** at the Jaffa Overlook, (weather permitting) with introductions music and light refreshments.
- Check in to the Hotel  
**MISSION EVENT** Early Mission dinner at the hotel, followed by special program for Yom Hashoa, with survivors, their children and grandchildren.

OVERNIGHT: TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV

**DAY 02** TUE | APR 18

TEL AVIV:  
THE FIRST HEBREW CITY – ISRAEL'S GLOBAL CITY – YOM HASHOA

- Breakfast at hotel.
- *The Meaning of the Holocaust in contemporary Israel*, with scholar Rachel Korazim.
- Stand for the Yom Hashoa Memorial siren on the streets of Tel Aviv.

**TRACKS** lunch on own for all tracks

## FIRST TIMERS

Walk through the newly re-gentrified neighborhood of **Neve Zedek**, a precursor of Tel Aviv, to Rothschild Blvd and the UNESCO World Heritage White City collection of Bauhaus architecture, continue to The Street Art Tells the Story, with a **Graffiti Art** walking tour following the contemporary story of Tel Aviv through Street Art and conclude with a guided visit to the **Palmach Museum** or **Rabin Museum**.

## OUTDOORS

**Israel Trail** | Hike along the Israel Trail in the **Elah Valley**, including visits to **Tel Aziakah** and **Tel Qaifah**, with Spelunking through Judean Lowlands caves and concluding with Wine Tasting at the **Elah Winery**.

## SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS

The Song of Many Voices: Secular Israel's Search for Spirituality, begin the day at **Beit Tefilla Yisraeli**, the liberal community that

ISRAEL WILL CHANGE YOU. WE PROMISE.

meets at the Tel Aviv Port for a weekly Kabbalat Shabbat, followed by *Amen and Amanut*: **Art and Spirituality**: a walking tour in Tel Aviv with an artist to discover the spiritual dimension of Tel Aviv's streets, concluding with *Meditation in the Ben Shemen Forest*.

## CULINARY

*Israel in a Pita: An Interactive Culinary Show*, with leading **Culinary Journalist Hagit Evron** and **Chef Yossi Elad**, former chef at the Palamor and Machneyuda restaurants, followed by an afternoon culinary walk through the Balkan ethnic **Levinsky Food Market**.

## TIKUN OLAM – ETHIOPIAN ISRAELIS

Drive to **Kiryat Gat** for a full day program in conjunction with the **Atachlit Farm**, both learning about Ethiopian Israeli culture and volunteering in a choice of community projects.

## MODERN ISRAEL TECH

Visit one of Israel's most significant **Hi Tech and Innovation** areas, Rothschild Blvd, including visits to **Start Up** and **Global Hi Tech** companies and **VC's** and an analysis of Israel's start up market at the **Peres Center for Innovation and Peace**.

## GEOPOLITICS

Drive to the **Gaza Strip** for a full day exploring the geopolitical realities in the area, including a view of the Gaza Strip and a military briefing, a visit to a border kibbutz and **Sderot**, with both conversations and presentations on daily realities and hopes for the future.

## LEISURELY PACE – LATE DEPARTURE

Morning visit to the **New Diaspora Museum** followed by a leisurely lunch on **Rothschild Blvd** and return to the hotel.

- Return to Tel Aviv

**MISSION EVENT** *Israel at 2023: A Snapshot* — **Festive Dinner** at the hotel with a leading personality (@2023)(journalist, military, diplomatic, academic). Today's possibilities would include: **David Horovitz**, editor of the **Times of Israel**, **Aluf Ben**, editor Ha'aretz, **Yossi Klein Halevi**, of the Shalom Hartman Institute, **Ilana Dayan**, **TV 12**, **Sima Shien**, former senior Mossad official, or a similar personality.

- Optional evening walks to Rothschild Blvd., Neve Zedek, the Tachana and Old Jaffa.

## OVERNIGHT: TEL AVIV

- Early morning pre breakfast **Bike Ride** or **Run** along the Tel Aviv Promenade.
- Breakfast at the hotel.

## TRACKS *lunch on own for all tracks*

### FIRST TIMERS

Guided visit through the remains of the Roman city of **Caesarea**, followed by a visit to the **Druze Village** of **Isfiyah** for home

hospitality Lunch and conclude with a drive to the Upper Galilee and a visit to the mystical city of **Safed**, including a visit with a **Kabbalistic Artist**.

## OUTDOORS

Drive to Beit Oren in the **Carmel Mountains** for an opportunity to **Rappel** down the Beit Oren Cliff and continue to the Druze village of Isfiyah for **Israel Trail II**: Hike down through the **Yagur Trail** to Kibbutz Yagur, concluding with a drive to the Upper Galilee.

## SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS

Drive to **Zichron Yaakov**, for River of Light, a ceremony of healing with spiritual vocal artist, **Netanel Goldberg**, followed by a visit to **Zippori** with educator **Moti Zeira**, to engage in text study exploring Jewish spiritual leadership in ancient Zippori, concluding with Meditation in the Zippori Forest.

## CULINARY

Visit the **Halbrecht Farm** in Bitan Aharon near Netanya, an organic farm which has become one of Israel's leaders in garden to table agriculture continuing to **Haifa** and the **Talpiot Market** for a guided multi-sensory tasting tour through the market.

## TIKUN OLAM – HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND SECOND GENERATION

Special project with **Holocaust Survivors** and **Second Generation** in the **Yokneam-Megiddo** Atlanta **P2K** region, for an understanding of the complex realities facing survivors and the second generation, including home visits and interaction with survivors.

## MODERN ISRAEL TECH

Drive to **Haifa** for a special program at the **Technion**, including lab visits and conversations with faculty and students, followed by a visit to one or two successful **Tech Companies** in the Haifa area that evolved from technology developed at the Technion.

## GEOPOLITICS

Full day program exploring **Israel's Borders** with the Palestinians, beginning with an introduction at the **Interdisciplinary Center** in Herzelia, followed by a guided drive along the **Seam Zone Barrier**, with stops along the way for conversations with local residents and overviews.

## LEISURELY PACE – LATE DEPARTURE

Drive to **Zichron Yaakov** for an opportunity to stroll down the pedestrian mall, with its quaint shops and cafes and continue to the Atlanta **P2K** region and visit the **Tulip Winery** in **Kfar Tikva**, for wine tasting and an opportunity to engage with employees who are residents in this pioneering community for adults with developmental and emotional disabilities.

- Drive to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley or the Trans-Israel Highway.
- Arrive in Jerusalem.

**MISSION** *Shehechianu* overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem.

Check in to hotel followed by free time and dinner on your own in Jerusalem.

Optional visits to the Jerusalem Night Spectacular and the Western Wall Tunnels.

## OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.

## TRACKS *lunch on own for all tracks*

### FIRST TIMERS

Enter the **Old City** of Jerusalem for a full day walking tour of the Old City, including the market **Rooftops**, the **Jewish Quarter**, the **Kotel**, the **Davidson Archaeological Park** and the **Southern Wall Excavations**.

### OUTDOORS

**Israel Trail II** Jerusalem section from **Ein Kobi** to the **Kennedy Memorial** and **Khirbet Saadim** and on to the Jerusalem “Spring Trail,” with teenagers from the Israeli scouts, or the Society for Protection of Nature in Israel.

### SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS

*The Israeli Search for Spirituality*, with **Rabbi Avraham Leader** of the *Leader Minyan*, continue to Beit Haam in central Jerusalem for a full movement workshop exploring the world of creative movement and Jewish tradition, in conjunction with the **Vertigo Dance Company**, concluding the day with a **Spiritual Photo Safari** through the streets of Jerusalem.

### CULINARY

Morning excursion into the **Machane Yehuda Market** with one of Jerusalem’s leading food personalities beginning with a tour of his/her favorite stalls and continuing with a snack buying extravaganza using a map and Machane Yehuda Shuk Bite Cards, continue to the Judean Hills for a Wine Tasting excursion in what is known as **Provence de Israel**.

### TIKUN OLAM – ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL

Full day with three organizations dedicated to inclusion – **Etgarim**, an organization which empowers people with physical challenges through outdoor activities, **Shalva**, the Israel Association for the Care and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities and **Adraba**, a branch of the Israeli Masorti (Conservative) Movement, which creates inclusive frameworks for religious ceremonies and study.

### MODERN ISRAEL TECH

Begin the day at the headquarters of **PICO or Jerusalem Venture Partners**, for an introduction to Jerusalem’s tech scene and continue with a visit **Mobileye**, the autonomous car leader, followed by a visit to one of the **JDC** supported projects which bring members of the Ultra-Orthodox community into the Hi Tech community. Conclude the day at **Siftech** – Jerusalem’s first real accelerator Hub.

Begin the day with an introduction to the *Geopolitics of Jerusalem @2023*, followed by a full day exploring Jerusalem and environs, including **Har Homa** for a look toward Bethlehem, a drive around the **Jerusalem Envelope Fence** with designer, **Col. Danny Terza**, **Pisgat Zeev**, the **Desert Shade** lookout toward the Judean Desert, including dialogues and meetings along the way.

### LEISURELY PACE – LATE DEPARTURE

Leisurely walk through the **Talbiah-Rehavia** neighborhoods, with both the symbols of Israeli sovereignty (the Prime Minister and the President’s residences and centers of culture and creativity (the Jerusalem Theater and the Hansen House), followed by an optional visit to the **Old City**.

- Return to hotel.
- Dinner on your own and free evening in Jerusalem.
- Thursday night Options, **Night Bike Ride Graffiti Art** at the closed **Machane Yehudah Market**, **Magic Lantern Tour of the Old City**, **Western Wall Tunnels**, **Night Spectacular at David's Tower**

## OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM

## DAY 05

FRI | APR 21

## JERUSALEM: EVERY WHICH WAY JERUSALEM II

- Breakfast at the hotel.

### TRACKS *lunch on own for all tracks*

#### FIRST TIMERS– YAD VASHEM

Guided visit through the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations, the Historical Museum, concluding with the Children's Memorial.

#### RETURNEES– YAD VASHEM

Special programs at the Yad Vashem, possibilities include: **The Art Museum**, the **Archive**, the **Holocaust Education School**, the **Restoration Lab**.

#### OUTDOORS

Ascend to the top of the **Mount of Olives** for an introduction to Jerusalem, followed by a hike down the mountain into the **Kidron Valley** and walk around the Old City into the Hinom Valley, entering the Old City through Jaffa Gate and concluding with an off the beaten track Old City tour.

#### SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS

Creating a New Kabbalat Shabbat, with **Ayeka**, followed by an **Exercise in Hitbodedut** – individual and communal meditation in the **Jerusalem Forest**.

#### CULINARY

Drive to **Moshav Tal Shachar** in the Gezer region for a cheese making workshop at the **Shvil Halzim** cheese farm.

#### TIKUN OLAM – RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

Full morning program in conjunction with the **Israeli Reform** and **Conservative Movements**, exploring their triumphs and successes over the past 25 years.

#### MODERN ISRAEL TECH

Visit the **Mass Challenge** and meet with new entrepreneurs and mentors involved in this unique match-up program between investors and entrepreneurs.

## GEOPOLITICS

Visit the **Etzion Settlement Block** south of Jerusalem and meet the Israelis and Palestinians of **Shorashim - Judhur** (Roots), a grassroots project which brings together Palestinians and Jewish settlers.

## LEISURELY PACE – LATE DEPARTURE

Visit the **Israel Museum**.

- Visit the **Machane Yehudah** Open Air Market as Jerusalemites prepare for Shabbat, with lunch on your own.
- **Optional** guided walk around the neighborhoods of Jerusalem as the city prepares for Shabbat.
- Free time for rest, relaxation and personal exploration.
- Community Kabbalat Shabbat at one of the following locations: **Davidson Archaeological Park, Blaustein Hall, David's Tower**
- Festive **Shabbat Dinner** at the Hotel or the Blaustein Hall. Possibilities for Dinner: Guests (one or two per table) **Lone Soldiers** and **Mechina** participants (1 per table), **New immigrants** from Atlanta, Atlanta youth on **Masa** year and **Onward** programs. Possible Speakers (for entire group), Avraham Infeld, Natan Sharansky, Tova Hartman, Gil Troy
- Late night optional walk into Meah Shearim for **Hasidic Tish**

## OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM

## DAY 06 SAT | APR 22

## JERUSALEM: SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Optional Shabbat services.
- Optional guided walk through some of Jerusalem's neighborhoods, visiting various synagogues of differing traditions, concluding at the **Ades Synagogue** (Syrian) in Nachlaot.
- Optional Shabbat morning walk to **Mount Zion**, the Hill of Three Religions, with poetry and Midrash.
- **Shabbat Lunch** on own (*arrangements to eat at the hotel can be made*)

### SHABBAT TOURING OPTIONS *the number of tracks will be determined by the number guides (bus groups)*

1. **Full day Masada and Dead Sea**
2. **Agnon in Jerusalem** – Walk through the streets of Central Jerusalem, using the writings of Shmuel Yosef Agnon, Israel's first Nobel Laureate as a guide
3. **The Poet and the Windmill** - Guided walk through Yemin Moshe with the poetry of Yehudah Amichai.
4. **A Historic Weave of Jerusalem** – Walk through the Valley of Hinnom, using the Bible as guide to the top of Mount Zion and continuing to the Jewish Quarter
5. **The New Israel Museum**

**DAY 07** SUN | APR 23**JERUSALEM:  
MIX AND MATCH TRACKS**

6. **The German Colony of Jerusalem** - Walk through the German Colony, built by the German Templars in the late 1800s's, with their unique buildings and stories that have become part of Jerusalem's lore
  7. **Jerusalem: A City of Many Traditions** - Return to the Old City for a tour of Mount Zion, walk along the Ramparts and free time in the Old City Market – The Shuk
  8. **Christian Jerusalem** - Guided visit through the Christian Quarter, including part of the Via Delorosa and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.
  9. Free time for rest and relaxation.
- Havdalah overlooking the Old City, followed by dinner on your own and free time in Jerusalem.

**OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast at the hotel **Masada**: Masada and the Dead Sea.
- **Bike Around Jerusalem**: 25 mile Bike Ride around Jerusalem.
- **The Judean Lowlands**: The Ayalon Institute and Neot Kedumim, with tree planting.
- **The Israel Museum**: VIP guided visit through the Israel Museum, followed by Ein Kerem artists' colony.
- **Wine Tasting**: Wine tasting at leading wineries in the Judean Hills.
- **What's new in the Old City**: Full day walking tour through new sites in the Old City.
- **The Geopolitics of Jerusalem**: Guided drive around Jerusalem exploring the boundaries and bridges between Jews and Arabs//Orthodox and Secular Israelis.
- **Kol HaOt** – Mapping the journey with artists Rabbi Matt Berkowitz and David Moss
- Free time for rest, relaxation, and personal exploration.
- Wrap up conversations by **TRACK**.

**MISSION EVENT Festive Farewell Dinner at a location to be determined.** Possibilities include Zedikias Cave, The Jerusalem Forrest, Ein Yael, The Rockefeller Museum, The Israel Museum and new sites that might be open in 2023

- Depart for Ben Gurion Airport for return flight to the United States or return to the hotel for overnight and GA the following day.

**OVERNIGHT: JERUSALEM/FLIGHT**

Questions? Contact Barry Swartz at [bswartz@conexx.org](mailto:bswartz@conexx.org) or 404-843-9462



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TO REGISTER