

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 I 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 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*.

ISRAEL WILL CHANGE YOU. WE PROMISE.

CULINARY

Guided walk through the Biblical landscape, exploring some of the Biblical roots of Israel's culinary traditions, followed by a biblical culinary workshop with grains and oil, with lunch and an opportunity to create your own biblical breads and oils.

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 border 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.

ARTS & CULTURE

Introduction to the world of Israeli Art at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, with a curator of Israeli Art. Drive to Southern Tel Aviv for a guided walk through the Kiryat Melacha Quarter, a center of street art, galleries, and creativity, and conclude the day at the Nahum Guttman Museum in Neve Zedek for a unique glimpse into the art and life story of one of Israel's seminal artists, Nahum Guttman.

LEISURELY PACE – LATE DEPARTURE

Morning visit to the New Anu Musuem, which tells the story of the Jewish People using technology, creativity and most importantly, personal stories of Jews throughout the generations, 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).

- 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 with lunch on your own and continue to Yokneam.

OUTDOORS

Israel Trail II - Drive to the Carmel Mountains for an overlook from the Carmel Mountain Fire Memorial and continue to the Druze village of Isfiyah for a hike along the Israel Trail down through the Yagur Trail to Kibbutz Yagur.

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, and continue to Yokneam.

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. Concluding in Yokneam

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 Yokneam.

ARTS & CULTURE

My Art as a Window into Israel and Memory, with photographic artist, Adi Nes. Continue to the artistic village of Ein Hod, with specially designed small group visits with local artists followed by a musical experience with spiritual artist Netanel Goldberg, continue to Yokneam

Special Atlanta – Yokneam Partnership Program with a CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S 75 BIRTHDAY and home hospitality dinner with local residents.

- Late evening drive to 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 Ili 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 *leading spiritual teacher* 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

The Old City and it's Foods, a guided exploration through Old City of Jerusalem, exploring the multitude of traditions found in the Old City Market, with tastings and baking demonstrations, followed by a walk out of the Old City into West Jerusalem for a glimpse at the unique world of Jerusalem Humous joints, with humous making and tasting. Conclude the day with a visit to the picturesque neighborhood of Ein Kerem, with the women and foods of Niflaot Ein Kerem.

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.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Begin the day Leket ..., an umbrella organization for Jewish and Israeli organizations who help people all over the world, the state of the art underground Marcus Magen David Adom Blood Bank and the IDF Home Front Command search and rescue unit, whose members travel the world to help those in need.

TRADITION & INSPIRATION

Dig deep into some of the spiritual roots of the Jewish People while traveling to Northern Israel for visits to the graves of great rabbis while studying their teachings, culminating with a half day in the mystical city of Safed

TORAH SCHOLARS

Explore the land with Jewish text in hand, while learning from some of Israel's leading Zionist Torah scholars, with both on site text and site experiences and traditional Beit Midrash environments, with scholars such as Rabbi Seth and Rabbanit Michelle Cohen

TO BE STEWARDS OF THE LAND

Promoting Sustainable Living through the lens of Jewish Values

The Tour will explore Israel's approach to sustainability ensuring a healthy and productive environment for all residents and the world, while engaging with Israeli innovation in agriculture, water, energy, recycling and food technology and meeting the individuals and groups practicing and promoting significant change in Israel and beyond.

ISRAEL WITH NEW EYES: LIFE AND ART OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Journey through the diverse neighborhoods of Jerusalem to experience the "real" Israel, discovering the vibrant people, arts, and cultures. Join the Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning as we travel by light rail, stopping along the line to see, hear, and taste unique aspects of Orthodox, Christian, Arab, and secular neighborhoods.

- 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

- 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.

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, with Rappelling, entering the Old City through Ja_a Gate and concluding with an o_ 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

Israeli Food Tech – Meet with one of Israel's synthetic meat producers and then depart for the Izza Haziza Farm in the Judean Lowlands and take part in a goat cheese making workshop, while hearing about the explosive growth of cheese farms and farm to table ventures in Israel in the past decade. Conclude the day with wine tasting at the Elah Valley Winery in Kibbutz Netiv HaLamed Heh.

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

Special program with Start Up Jerusalem, exploring the massive growth in innovation and tech creativity that has taken place in Jerusalem in recent years, including a glimpse into Jerusalem's new Innovation Quarter at the entrance to the city.

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



- 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
 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

FIRST TIMERS

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OUTDOORS

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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.

- Depart for the Judean Lowlands to the Ofaim Farm for a conversation and tasting with Hedia Ofaim, one of Israel’s leading Farm (Seed) to Table entrepreneurs.
- Stop at the award-winning Elah Winery for wine tasting and a glimpse into the land of David and Goliath.

TIKUUN OLAM

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.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Delve into the world of those who do for others, both in Israel and abroad, with representatives of OLAM

TORAH SCHOLARS

Explore the land with Jewish text in hand, while learning from some of Israel’s leading Zionist Torah scholars, with both on site text and site experiences and traditional Beit Midrash environments, with scholars such as Rabbi Seth and Rabbanit Michelle Cohen Farber, Rabbi David Stav, Rabbi Yaakov Nagen, Rabbanit Esti Rosenberg, and more.

TRADITION & INSPIRATION

Spend the day in the Holy city of Jerusalem - beginning with a short, guided introduction to our connection to Jerusalem, continuing with real Yeshiva study time, a visit to David's Citadel and concluding with a visit to Shaare Zedek hospital for a special seminar on Judaism and medical ethics.

TO BE STEWARDS OF THE LAND

Promoting Sustainable Living through the lens of Jewish Values

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MISSION EVENT Festive Farewell Dinner at a location to be determined. Possibilities include Zedekiah's 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 or 404-843-9462