



LGBTQ Mission to Israel June 6-13, 2019

www.jewishfederations.org/LGBTQmission

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019 - JERUSALEM



WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

Kick off the mission as we march together through Jerusalem with the March for Pride and Tolerance followed by a festive cocktail reception and dinner to get to know your fellow mission participants.

OVERNIGHT: Mamilla Hotel, Jerusalem

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2019 - JERUSALEM

Visit Israel's national Holocaust museum, [Yad Vashem](#), for a special program examining the Shoah through an LGBTQ lens. Learn about the unique issues, motives, and circumstances behind the persecution of LGBTQ individuals under the Third Reich.

Explore Jerusalem leading into Shabbat. Walk through [Machane Yehuda](#), Jerusalem's bustling marketplace, shop in the Mamilla Mall or walk through Ben Yehuda Street.



Welcome Shabbat at the [Southern Wall of the Ancient Temple](#). Take time for meditation at the Kotel.

Festive Shabbat dinner on the Mamilla Hotel Rooftop overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem

OVERNIGHT: Mamilla Hotel, Jerusalem

Itinerary is tentative and subject to change.



SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019 - JERUSALEM

Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat. Consider attending optional Shabbat services at a local synagogue or participate in one of the following optional activities:

- I. **Excursion to [Masada & the Dead Sea](#)** (*pre-registration required*)
Ascend Masada via cable car. Atop a lone rock cliff at the western end of the Judean Desert lays **Masada**, King Herod's private fortress, combining natural beauty and deep meaning. Then descend to the **Dead Sea** for lunch and a swim in waters at 1,300 feet below sea level, the lowest point on earth.
- II. **Visit to the [West Bank](#)** (*pre-registration required*)
Tour Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus Christ. Visit the Church of the Nativity and explore the fruit and spice market. Visit Ramallah and meet the leadership of Zimam, a grassroots movements of moderates committed to non-violence and dedicated to fighting extremism and take a tour of downtown Ramallah.
- III. **Guided Walking tour of the [Old City of Jerusalem](#)** including major Christian sites.



Celebrate Shavuot with a special and unique **Tikun Layil Shavuot**. Meet with leaders of the [Jerusalem Open House](#) for Pride and Tolerance, a leading organization of LGBTQ people and their allies. Take part in an interactive dance workshop with the [c.a.t.a.m.o.n - Dance Group](#) and dance late into the night.

OVERNIGHT: Mamilla Hotel, Jerusalem

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019 - JERUSALEM

Enjoy a morning at leisure following a late night of fun and learning. Some optional morning activities include:

- I. A visit to the [Israel Museum](#)
Take a special guided tour of Israel's National Museum which houses the [Dead Sea Scrolls](#), featuring the most extensive holdings of biblical and Holy Land archaeology in the world.



Itinerary is tentative and subject to change.



II. Guided Walking tour of the Old City of Jerusalem including major Christian sites.

Gather together for lunch with an exclusive speaker.



Spend the afternoon with members of the LGBTQ community and have an opportunity for intimate conversation.

Participate in a special Havdalah ceremony before enjoying a night on the town in Jerusalem.

OVERNIGHT: Mamilla Hotel, Jerusalem

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019 – TEL AVIV

Depart Jerusalem and travel to the South of Israel along [Gaza](#)'s border. Hear from a Senior Israeli Defense Forces Officer and learn about the current security climate on the border of Gaza and how it affects Israeli citizens in the region.

Continue south and meet with recipients of JFNA's partner agencies, the [American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee](#) and the Jewish Agency for Israel. Learn how Federation dollars support Israeli communities throughout Israel's periphery.

Head to [Tel Aviv](#), a bustling Mediterranean metropolis and the center of Israel's LGBTQ culture

Enjoy a free evening in Tel Aviv

OVERNIGHT: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv



Itinerary is tentative and subject to change.



TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019 – TEL AVIV

Choose your own adventure; pick one of three track options:

- I. **First Timers Track:** Explore the vibrant coastal city of Tel Aviv together, including the old port of Jaffa and the Bauhaus-inspired new city of Tel Aviv. One memorable sight is [Independence Hall](#) on Rothschild Blvd, where David Ben Gurion declared Israel's independence in 1948.
- II. **Start-Up Nation:** Meet **Ed Frank**, CEO of [Axis Innovation](#), and several other young Israeli high-tech start-up company **CEOs**. Hear about their innovative work in fields such as cyber security, Internet Of Things (IOT) and Financial Technology (Fintech). Gain inside access to Israel's young innovators and understand why Israel has earned the title of "Startup Nation."
- III. Begin at the [Sommer Gallery for Contemporary Art](#) to meet world-renowned photographer, **Adi Nes**. Next, meet artist **Sigalit Landau** at her private studio to hear more about her fascinating process and artistic perspective. Following a falafel lunch, take a VIP tour of the [Tel Aviv Museum of Art](#), one of the world's leading cultural institutions.



Take a deep dive into the LGBTQ community in Tel Aviv.



Visit the LGBTQ Center in Gan Meir and learn about the important work of [the Aguda](#), the primary human rights organization in Israel that promotes the welfare and rights of the LGBTQ community.

Hear from the leadership of [Israel Gay Youth \(IGY\)](#), the only professional organization in Israel dedicated to serving and all LGBTQ youth. IGY's goal is to empower LGBTQ youth and young adults to lead the gay community in social change by creating a more tolerant society.

Visit [Bet D'ror](#), a unique center for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender adolescents who have been rejected and alienated because of their sexual orientation. D'ror is a temporary shelter providing basic home conditions for nine adolescents for up to six months.

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Evening cocktail reception with invited guests from the LGBTQ community

OVERNIGHT: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019 – TEL AVIV

Travel to Northern Israel as you discover all four corners of Israel.

Learn how JFNA partner agencies the [American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee](#) and the [Jewish Agency](#) not only care for Jewish communities but also work closely with Israeli Arab and Druze communities.

Enjoy a wine reception and dinner event overlooking the beautiful Mediterranean with a special guest speaker

OVERNIGHT: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019

Visit the [Yitzhak Rabin Center](#), a living and active memorial to the life and values important to former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin – democracy, tolerance, social responsibility and peace – and a place where the lessons of the past are applied through education Israel's future generations.



Closing program and lunch at the Rabin Center followed by a special opportunity to reflect on the past week traveling through Israel. That's followed by free time to shop and explore Tel Aviv and then a festive farewell Pride Party at [Port 15](#) in Old Jaffa.

Optional Tel Aviv Pride extensions available with A Wider Bridge

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