

See Israel and the World the Federation Way



What makes a Federation mission the experience of a lifetime?

It's the fascinating places ... and especially the people.
The ones you travel with and the ones you meet.

When you travel on a Federation mission, you're guaranteed to get up close and personal – to meet people where they live – to experience distant lands in a way that will be both memorable and meaningful. And of course you will see, eat, shop, learn, and enjoy – all with a uniquely Jewish perspective.

At Federation, we are engaged in the work of *tikkun olam*, or repairing the world, mindful of the Jewish tradition that each person is an entire world. We strive to make a difference in a person's life, a family's potential, a community's spirit. On a Federation mission, you'll encounter individuals and entire communities who benefit from our services, our programs, and the compassion of our donors who make it all possible. Some of the people we've touched around the world have been changed forever, and after you hear their stories, your life too may be changed forever.

You will see the wonderful panorama of Jewish faces from the four corners of the earth – Russia, Ethiopia, Yemen, Morocco, India, Europe, Argentina, North America, Turkey, and more. This amazing diversity brings challenges, but also wonderful opportunities. Whichever mission you choose, you'll witness firsthand the extraordinary work of our overseas partners, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and The Jewish Agency.

A Federation mission is different things to different people. It can be about values, traditions, and history. Or it can be about fun, friendship, and renewed family bonds. Or any combination you choose.

We invite you to join us for a mission that fits your lifestyle, age, and interest. Explore, enjoy, and return with memories that will last a lifetime.

For more information about joining us, please contact the Federation Missions Department at (973) 929-3046 or missions@jfedgmw.org.

Inspiration Israel

Seeing Israel on a Federation mission makes you more than a tourist. You're a special guest. You'll enjoy the sights, sounds, foods, and fun of Israel, all from a bird's-eye view of the people who live there. Talk with immigrants, exchange ideas with university students, share a kibbutz meal, enjoy home hospitality, hear in-depth briefings from top officials and experts.

One mission may take you to extraordinary Jerusalem, vibrant Tel Aviv, and the majestic north. On another, you might climb Masada one day and float in the Dead Sea the next. Sample life on a kibbutz, take part in an archaeological dig, savor the diversity of Israel's landscapes and people. Wherever you go, you'll enjoy the unique culture of our homeland, discovering Israel's art, music, and dance. You'll explore Israel's past and present and see the remarkable strides that have been made.

Watching the sun set over a golden Jerusalem, strolling through the artists' quarter of Jaffa, eating spicy falafel. Encountering the enthusiasm of children, the questions of a teenager, the quiet dedication of a soldier, the serenity of a senior citizen, the thoughtful talk of an expert. Taking part in everyday life on a kibbutz, in a community center, in an Israeli home.

On a Federation mission you'll have the chance to visit our partnership communities, as well as other sites where you'll meet some of the people we help and hear them tell of the difference we've made in their lives. Visit some of the programs United Jewish Appeal (UJA) contributions make possible, like the Ethiopian absorption initiative in Rishon LeZion, religious pluralism projects in Ra'anana, the art project and expanded youth activities in Ofakim/Merhavim, or the safe room and children's play area at Kibbutz Erez.

Whatever Israel mission you choose, you will experience the warm hospitality of the people of Israel.



*Going to Israel
is not going abroad –
it's coming home.*

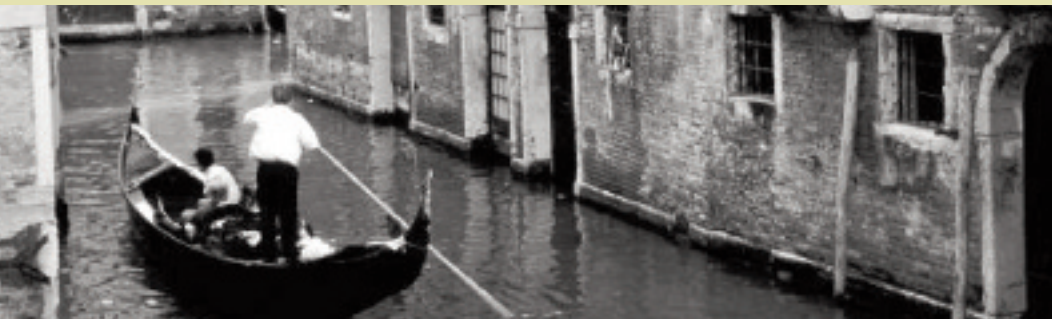
Revitalization Former Soviet Union

Whether you're tracing your roots, sightseeing, or exploring current Jewish life, you'll find a mission to the Former Soviet Union (FSU) a fascinating experience.

For more than 70 years, the Soviet Union carried out a ruthless campaign to destroy Jewish life. To survive, millions of Jews had to give up their heritage or practice their traditions in secret. Today, there is a reawakening of Jewish communal life despite the difficult economic situation that has caused severe hardships, especially for the elderly.

A popular mission destination is Cherkassy, Ukraine, a partnership community of Federation since 1996. You'll see how the Hesed Center is providing the local Jewish community with exciting opportunities, including a senior day center, computer classes, and Jewish holiday programming. You'll meet local volunteers and staff who are helping to develop and revitalize the Jewish community. Share the excitement of families who are discovering their Jewish heritage after decades of oppression as they celebrate life cycle events during your visit, including a community b'nai mitzvah.





Memories

There is nothing that stirs the soul and touches your heart like a Federation mission, where even the stones are steeped in the history and dreams of our people. On a Federation mission, you will connect with the struggles and achievements of Jews over the centuries – and even more, you will be immersed in the culture, creativity, and courage of contemporary Israel.

Each person's experience is unique and leads to a storehouse of memories that is especially yours.

One of the rewards of a mission is the opportunity to see the power of UJA at work. Another is the rare bond that develops among those who participate in a mission, often resulting in long-lasting friendships.

No other trip can provide the extraordinary feeling of belonging and purpose that you will discover on a Federation mission.

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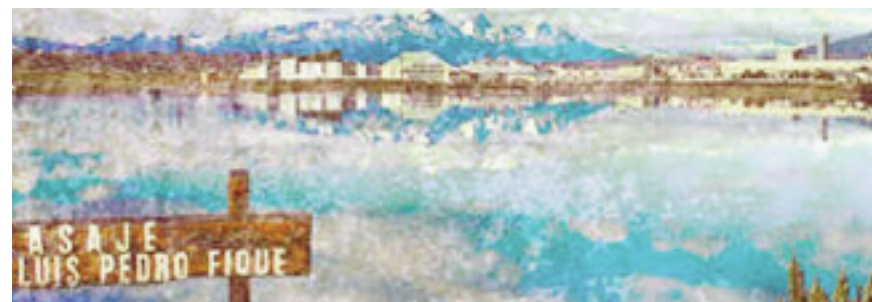


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Connections Argentina

Argentinean Jews have been working to recover from the collapse of the country's economy and revive their community. Your Federation mission will give you new insight into their situation, as you participate in briefings with the American and Israeli ambassadors to Argentina, hands-on social action (*besed*) projects with Argentineans, and a visit to our sister city of Tucuman. Find out more about our partnership with the Jews of Argentina. Aid encompasses a wide range of activities – emergency assistance, food and clothing packages, job training, subsidies for Jewish education, and the rebuilding of community organizations and institutions.

We also assist families who wish to go to Israel, step-by-step, from the initial planning through the building of new lives in Israel. If you also go on a mission to Israel, you might meet some of them in the Direct Absorption Project in Rishon LeZion, along with immigrants from Cherkassy.

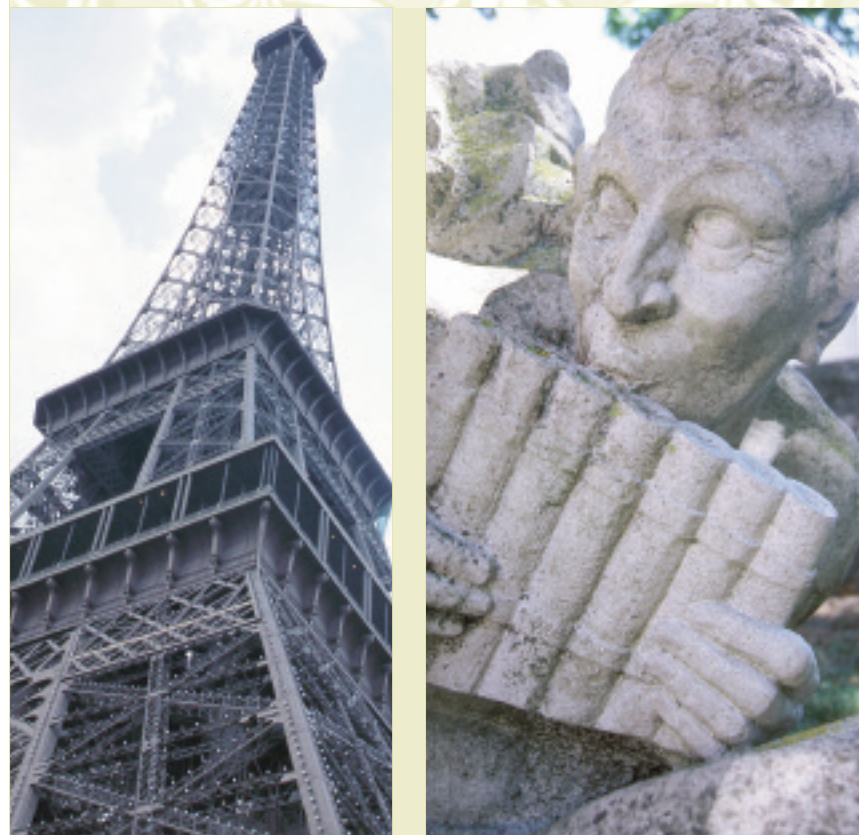


Sensations Europe

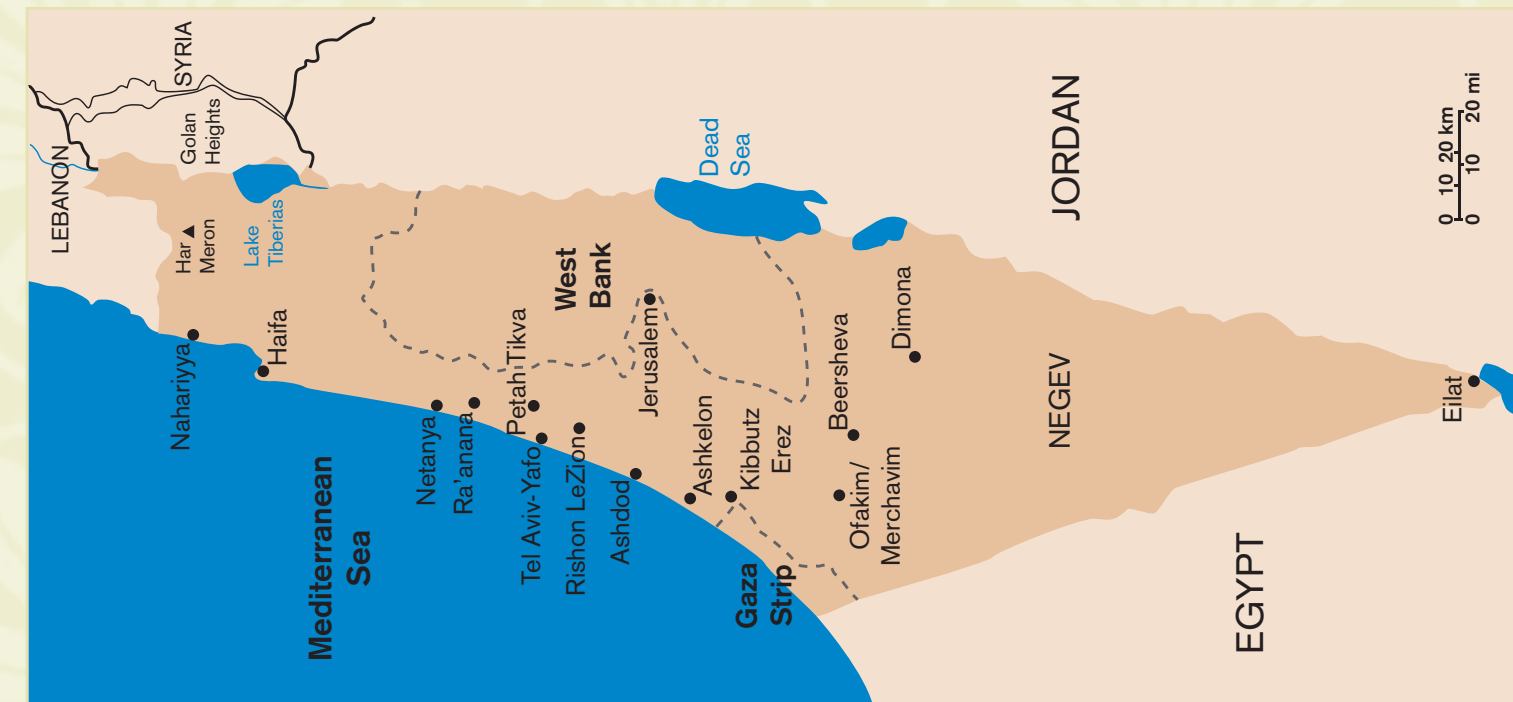
Wherever you go in Europe, you will touch the tapestry of Jewish history, as well as get acquainted with today's Jewish communities.

Mission destinations vary each year. You might go to Prague, home of the legendary golem; or Paris, the beautiful and turbulent center of French Jewry. Perhaps you will recall the romance and tragedy of Sephardic Jewry in Spain, or visit Turkey's exotic Istanbul, with its vibrant Jewish community.

Knowledgeable guides will evoke the stories behind the historic sites, while meetings with key figures in today's European Jewish communities will provide deeper understanding of their accomplishments and difficulties.



Israel



Jewish Federation of
Greater MetroWest NJ

Missions

Travel Opportunities for
Women, Professionals, Men,
Community/Family

Israel
Former Soviet Union
Argentina
Europe



Federation Serves Essex, Morris, Sussex,
Union, and parts of Somerset County