



Jewish Federation  
& Foundation  
OF ROCKLAND COUNTY

# Legacy Journey to Israel

October 17-24, 2018

operated by:

 **kenestours**

This journey is about Legacy...yours, mine, ours. It is about the ways in which we transmit important things to our children and grandchildren. It is about the things we say or do to ensure we leave a rich and meaningful Legacy...one that will live long after we are gone. We hope you will join us on an experience that will shape the Legacy you choose to leave...after learning about the Legacies of others.

## Day 1

### **All roads lead to Jerusalem.**

Arrive at the newly renovated Inbal hotel in Jerusalem and celebrate your community with a cocktail reception and welcome dinner.

## Day 2

### **Explore ancient and the modern times in Jerusalem.**

Choose your journey. First time visitors will have the opportunity to see the classic sites of Jerusalem, including the Old City, Tower of David, Western Wall and Mount Hertzl. Others may choose to learn about the security fence, a JDC initiative in an east Jerusalem neighborhood and the Israel Action Network's efforts with regard to Israeli-Palestinian peace talks throughout the years.

In the evening, everyone will enjoy the famed **Machane Yehuda market** as it comes to life, filled with vibrant restaurants, patronized by a colorful makeup of local Jerusalemites from all walks of life.

## Day 3

### **See the sides of Jerusalem that most don't see.**

Visit a Jerusalem-based innovation leader. Travel south to the Gush Etzion settlement bloc, the largest concentration of Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank).

Visit the community of Efrat, and learn about the nuances and challenges of life beyond the Green Line. Then, as the sun begins to set, head for the

Kotel for some private time at the Wall to usher in the spirit of Shabbat. Follow with by a spirited Kabbalat Shabbat service led by your community rabbis and a group Shabbat dinner.

## Day 4

### **Experience Shabbat in the center of three faiths.**

Attend morning services at a nearby synagogue and experience the peace of Shabbat. Or, embark on optional walking tours:

**Yemin Moshe.** The first Jewish neighborhood to be established in the modern-era outside the walls of the Old City. This picturesque area, founded by Moshe Montefiore in the 19th century, has seen its fair share of the tumultuous modern history of the city, as it lies on the seam between East and West.

**Old City.** Explore the Old City of Jerusalem on a special tour that will provide introspective exposure to many of this walled city's historical and cultural anchors, including a visit to the Western Wall (Kotel).

**Yehuda Amichai's Jerusalem.** Study the poetry of poet Yehuda Amichai with walk through the neighborhoods in which he lived and wrote. This walking tour combines text, poetry and sites, to get deep under the skin of the city. As you read his poems in the places in which they are set, you will gain a deeper understanding of the history of Jerusalem, the people of the City, and the life of Yehuda Amichai who is widely considered to be Israel's greatest modern poet.

### **Visit to HUC or Fuchsberg.**

**Afternoon learning session.** Come learn from your community rabbis.

As Shabbat ends, gather for **Seudat Shlishit** and **Havdalah** with the community. Later, relax or: See the **Night Spectacular** sound and light show at the **Tower of David Museum**, located in the Old City. Utilizing the dramatic backdrop of the Tower of David Citadel as a canvas, watch and hear this one of a kind

high-tech performance as it brings to life the ancient city of Jerusalem in all its historical periods and glory. Explore the famous **Western Wall Tunnels**, stretching under the homes of the Muslim Quarter and making their way along the entire length of the Temple Mount.

Experience an exhilarating **night bike ride** of Jerusalem. See the sights and sounds of both modern Jerusalem and the Old City after its residents have gone to sleep!

## Day 5

### **Israel YOUR Way.**

Pick your track for the day. Travel north to Rockland's Partnership city of **Kiryat Ata** where you will greet old friends and meet new ones; tour the ancient port city of Akko; visit the Tulip winery; and learn about co-existence at the Sindiyana of Galilee olive oil factory.

Alternatively, travel to the western Negev to the "Otef Azza" region where you will learn about the ways in which Israelis live within reach of the Gaza conflict. You will meet residents of the area; visit the **Black Arrow Monument** and the **Kerem Shalom border crossing** on the **Gaza-Israel-Egypt border**; learn about early Zionist settlements and the **Kibbutz** movement in the region at **Kibbutz Gvulot**; and end your day at the **Peace Wall** at **moshav Netiv Ha'Asara**.

All together in Tel Aviv, stroll through the newly renovated and refurbished German-Templar historical district of Sarona and enjoy the renowned Whisky Bar & Museum.

## Day 6

### **Where It All Began.**

After a good night's sleep at Tel Aviv's Hilton Hotel overlooking the Mediterranean, pick your track for the day.

First timers to Israel are encouraged to visit the famed **Ayalon Institute**, the bullet factory that gives a glimpse into a very unique Jewish legacy; **Independence Hall**, the site where David Ben Gurion proclaimed Israel's independence on May 14th, 1948 and gave the Jewish people a new legacy; and **Beit HaTfutzot (the Diaspora Museum)** where you will learn about the evolution of Jewish communities around the world.

Repeat visitors to Israel will enjoy a trip to the Levinsky Market for a food tour that explores the history of hummus and bourekas in ways you've never imagined; **Rothschild Boulevard**, with a special focus on economy/culture; and the **"State of Mind" Israel Innovation Center** with its highlights of Israeli achievements in entrepreneurship, innovation, and technology in a variety of industry segments.

Then, return to the Hilton Hotel to prepare to attend the Jewish Federations of North America's General Assembly.

## Day 7,8

### **Join the Jewish Federations of North America's General Assembly.**

For the first time in Tel Aviv! Communities from around the world will come together to deepen mutual understanding of one another – putting you at the epicenter of dialogue between Diaspora and Israeli Jews. Share coffee, conversation, and viewpoints with Israeli philanthropists, intellectuals, and activists. Hear from renowned religious, cultural, and political thought leaders from around the globe on topics that most impact our Jewish world.

Finish your journey with a group dinner and return home with a new appreciation and focus on Israel, your community and your own legacy!

### **Your costs:**

- About \$ 3000 per person, double occupancy
- About \$ 1000 single supplement
- \$ 350 non-refundable deposit

For more information, contact Gary Siepser at 845 362 4200 x 133 or [gsiepser@jewishrockland.org](mailto:gsiepser@jewishrockland.org)