



Charleston Jewish Federation Mission to Israel

Optional Shabbat Weekend: October 12-13, 2018

Mission Begins: October 14-21, 2018

Friday and Saturday, October 12th -13th

While the trip officially begins on Sunday, we are pleased to offer a special Shabbat experience for those that arrive early. Shabbat dinner on Friday will be offered, and the option for an excursion to Masada (an ancient fortress with important significance in Jewish and Israeli history) and then on to the Dead Sea to enjoy lunch and relax at a Dead Sea Spa.

Accommodations: King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Sunday, October 14th

Our mission will officially begin with an orientation to Jerusalem, The City of Gold. This day will feature an underground tour of the Western Wall Tunnels, lunch in the private dining room at the Knesset (Israeli parliament) with a guided tour and special guests, and an afternoon at the Israel Museum including a visit to the Shrine of the Book (Dead Sea Scrolls)

Accommodations: King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, October 15th

We will begin to explore the high-tech side of Israel with a visit to Hadassah Hospital's Incubator Program and the Cleveland Clinic to see world-renown medical innovations. The afternoon will include a guided visit to Yad Vashem (Israel's Holocaust Museum) with a private ceremony at the Children's Memorial, and visit to Mt. Herzl (the site of Israel's National Cemetery) and other important historical sites.

Accommodations: King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, October 16th

This morning we will return to the Old City for a special tour of the City of David, including the Jewish Quarter and some free time for shopping and meeting up with friends. In the afternoon we will drive to Tel Aviv to enjoy a free evening to discover and dine on your own.

Accommodations: Hilton, Tel Aviv

Wednesday, October 17th

Tours of Tel Aviv will include Neve Tzedek (Tel Aviv's first Jewish neighborhood outside of the ancient Jaffo port), graffiti tour to hear about the "situation" literally from the writing on the wall, and a talk about the "Start Up Nation" with an entrepreneur. We will also visit the Palmach Museum (the pre-State of Israel army that became the Israel Defense Forces) and the Hall of Independence where Israel was declared a Jewish state in 1948. In the evening we will enjoy dinner and a cultural performance.

Accommodations: Hilton, Tel Aviv



Thursday, October 18th

We will travel to the Zichron Yaakov area, which is within our Partnership 2Gether region, Hadera-Eiron. Over these next few days we will be doing a combination of tours including the Aaronsohn House (commemorates the World War 1 Jewish espionage network; the amazing story of the first Jewish underground). We will have lunch with the Druze community and learn about their way of life and Israeli identity. This evening there will be option to use the fabulous spa facilities in the late afternoon/evening followed by a wine-tasting dinner in Israel's finest wine region.

Overnight: Hotel Elma, Zichron Ya'akov

Friday, October 19th

We will start the day with a cemetery tour with Moti Zeira (renowned expert in the experiences of the pioneers) by the Kinneret. This will be followed by a border tour where the Syrian and Jordan borders meet with Israel to learn about Israel's role in the Syrian conflict in terms of its medical and humanitarian assistance. We will also see projects of JFNA's partner, the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) focusing on co-existence in this area before spending Shabbat dinner with our friends from our Partnership region in Hadera-Eiron.

Overnight: Hotel Elma, Zichron Ya'akov

Saturday, October 20th

We will visit Tzipori National Park (beautiful mosaics from the Roman and Byzantine periods) for a tour with the director of the park, participate in a study session in the burial caves of the Beit Sha'arim National Park (an off-the-beaten path site sacred to Kabala) with HaMidrasha (one of the organizations that CJF has funded that promotes Jewish identity among Israelis).

We will also experience Shabbat together in a relaxing environment joined by Israeli friends and the additional Southeastern U.S. communities that make up our consortium for Partnership 2Gether. As a Charleston group, we will have a closing dinner together.

Overnight: Hotel Elma, Zichron Ya'akov

Sunday, October 21st:

We will spend more time in the region focusing both on projects supported by the Jewish Agency for Israel and our partnership before heading to the airport and heading to our other homeland, Charleston.

**Transfers to and from the airport are available for anyone arriving Friday-Sunday, October 12-14, to the King David Hotel, and to anyone departing on Sunday, October 21st. We will also be providing transportation support for those that want to stay for JFNA's General Assembly in Tel Aviv, October 22-24 as well.*

Additional cost for the King David Hotel for Friday & Saturday evening (10/12 & 10/13)

Additional Cost for the Excursion to Masada/Dead Sea

****Itinerary Subject to Change****