



**BOARDING
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Weintraub Israel Center Israel Experience

Oct 14-22, 2018

ITINERARY



מרכז ישראל ע"ש וינטראוב



**Weintraub
Israel Center**

2018

Israel
EXPERIENCE



Jewish Federation
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA





We are thrilled to invite you to explore our new offer, the Weintraub Israel Center's Israel Experience.

A fully-guided journey to Israel

All the "must see" sites together with unique tracks for those who have already visited Israel and would like an opportunity to dig a little deeper.

Unique personal encounters both in Tucson's Partnership region of Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon as well as other locations in Israel based on specific and common interests of the group.

Flexible options throughout the tour

Open to all ages and faiths

The Weintraub Israel Center is proud that this new initiative will fulfill our mission statement- to build a living bridge between Tucson and Israel.

Steve Caine, Steve Weintraub, Jeff Artzi and Oshrat Barel

For more informaton contact

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Tour Educators: Shari Robins and Muki Jankelwitz

Please note. The program is subject to change.



Stephen P. Seiden, Chair

Doron Krakow, President and CEO

Leah Garber, Vice President, JCC Israel Center

Sara Sless, Assistant Director, JCC Israel Center

Program developed and implemented
by the JCC Association Israel Center
together with Weintraub Israel Center

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – DEPART USA FOR ISRAEL

Sunday, Oct 14

DAY 2 – ARRIVE IN ISRAEL

Monday, Oct 15

Welcome to Israel! After safely landing at Ben Gurion International Airport we will travel to the coastal city of Tel Aviv

AFTERNOON

Meet at Ben Gurion airport with tour educators and staff from the JCC Israel Center

Drive to the Old City of Jaffa, begin with an overview from Jaffa, a gateway to the Holy Land for thousands of years and a view of modern Tel Aviv make Shehechyanu (blessing of gratitude)

EVENING

Check in to hotel

Depart for opening dinner and orientation to the trip at local Tel Aviv restaurant

Overnight – Royal Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv



DAY 3 – TEL AVIV AND THE “NEW JEW”

Tuesday, Oct 16

Our journey begins exploring the first modern “Hebrew City” and its expression of modern Jewish-Zionist identity

MORNING

8:30 a.m.

Making Sense of Israel” an intriguing introduction to Israel to set the stage for this journey with educator or journalist (at hotel)

Divide into 4 parallel tracks

10:00 a.m.

Track 1: “The Beginnings of the Modern Hebrew City of Tel Aviv”. Depart for a guided tour; walking through Neve Tzedek, one of the first neighborhoods of the modern city of Tel Aviv and hear the stories of the founders of Tel Aviv and their vision for the cultural capital of the State of Israel

Track 2: “Tel Aviv as the Trail Blazer of the Start-Up Nation”- visit a local start up and learn of why the culture of the city provides fertile ground for innovation

Track 3: Visit one of Tel Aviv’s Art museums and focus on one of the city’s great artists (Nahum Guttman, Reuven Rubin) or tour the Israeli art wing at Tel Aviv Modern Museum of Art (staff decides in planning process which museum to visit)

Track 4: “Tel Aviv on Two Wheels” depart on bicycle through some of the different areas of Tel Aviv to get

a sense of the city’s expanse and diversity

AFTERNOON

12:30 p.m.

*Tracks meet up for lunch on own at Nachlat Binyamin artisans market and time to stroll through stalls and the adjacent Carmel market

2:00 p.m.

Depart for the excavations at Caesarea, ancient city on the Mediterranean Sea expanded by Herod the Great who renamed it Caesarea Marittima, in honor of the Julius Caesar. It was an exemplary Roman city, with all the Roman cultural and engineering ingenuity

EVENING

5:30 p.m.

Travel north

Check in to hotel

7:30 p.m.

Dinner at hotel followed by tie-in discussion

Overnight – Ramot Resort



DAY 4 – THE NORTH – COMMUNITIES, SECURITY AND WATER

Wednesday, Oct 17

Explore the north of the country - learn about the history of the area, the strategic significance and the beauty of the area

MORNING

8:30 a.m.

Depart for guided visit the Mount of Beatitudes Church on the northern shores of the Sea of Galilee

Ascend Golan Heights and visit Mount Ben Tal for overview of the borders of Israel and look into Syria, with an opportunity to discuss the geo-political status of the region and the humanitarian efforts made by Israel to care for wounded from Syria

12:30 p.m.

Lunch and wine tasting at one of the Golan boutique wineries (each bus will visit a different winery)

AFTERNOON

2:30 p.m.

Depart in parallel tracks

Track 1: Depart for a jeep ride off the beaten track to explore some of the important historic and military sites in the upper Galilee

Track 2: Visit one of the pre army leadership training programs “Mechina” to meet with the young people and discuss with them what motivates them to devote a year to

volunteering and studying prior to their army service

Track 3: Hike in one of the nature reserves in the Golan Heights or visit to the Agmon Hahula nature reserve and take a golf cart or bicycle around the reserve which is a landing and feeding place for millions of birds who migrate every winter across the continent

5:30 p.m.

Tracks meet up at the Baba Yona ranch – take part in the culinary delight and cooking contest – preparing your own meal and learn about some traditional Israeli foods – salads and “al ha’esh” (BBQ)

Return to hotel

Overnight – Ramot Resort



DAY 5 – STORIES OF ISRAEL - ASCENT TO JERUSALEM

Thursday, Oct 18

The day begins with a visit to Beit She'an to meet with some of the residents and hear their stories and how they reflect the mosaic of Israeli society; travelling up to Jerusalem to explore the city's place as central to three religions; visit the Jewish and Christian Quarters of the Old City and excavations adjacent to the Temple Mount; visit remnants of Jewish life from Temple times and also get a taste of contemporary Jerusalem

MORNING

8:30 am

Check out of hotel and drive to Jerusalem

9:30 a.m.

"Sirim ve Sipurim" (Saucepans and Stories) Meet with local personalities from Beit She'an and hear their stories of how they and their families arrived in Beit Shean, challenges and aspirations for the future; with brunch

11:30 a.m.

Depart for Jerusalem

1:30 p.m.

Overview of Jerusalem (light snack)

AFTERNOON

"Centrality of Jerusalem for the Major Religions" depart for a short guided visit through selected areas of Jerusalem's Old City and a guided

walk through Jerusalem of the Second Temple Period in the Jewish Quarter including a visit to the southern wall excavations and the Kotel (Western Wall)

5:00 p.m.

Check in to hotel

EVENING

7:00 p.m.

***Track 1:** Depart for Machane Yehuda shuk, which transforms at night from a fruit and vegetable market to a place of music, bars and restaurants; dinner on own

***Track 2:** Depart for Mamilla Mall or the First Train Station for dinner on own

Overnight – David Citadel / Dan Panorama, Jerusalem



DAY 6 – LEGENDS AND LANDSCAPES

Friday, Oct 19

Two options open for the day – a Journey to the wilderness to understand the many dimensions of Masada as history and myth, and the significance of the Dead Sea area in Jewish history and Israel today; or a visit to Gush Etzion to discuss issues of security/a look at some initiatives for people with disabilities.

MORNING

Track 1:

8:00 a.m.

Depart for Masada

Drive along the shores of the Dead Sea and look at the changing structure of the Sea which is shrinking from mineral mining and evaporation

10:00 a.m.

Ascend Masada by cable car for a guided visit to the extensive excavations of Herod's fortress above the Dead Sea, including discussion about Masada as a strategy for Jewish survival

AFTERNOON

*Lunch on own at the Masada food court

Enjoy a quick swim in the Dead Sea at one of the beaches in the northern Dead Sea

2:30 p.m.

Depart for Jerusalem

Track 2:

9:00 a.m.

Depart for visit to the Begin Museum which tells the story of the life of former MK Menachem Begin, who's leadership had a very large impact in the early decades of the State of Israel

11:00 a.m.

2 options from which group organizers choose preferred option

"A Closer Look at issues of Security and Politics" depart for Etzion Settlement Bloc (Gush Etzion), south of Jerusalem to meet with local resident and hear the story of the rise, fall and rise again of this settlement in 1948 and 1967. We will discuss the

larger settlement movement in the occupied territories

-or-

"Tikun Olam – Empowering Those with Disabilities or on the Margins of Society" – a visit to Susan's House – an art workshop for young people at risk and meet with the staff working at the center to get a sense of the vision of the project and how it has developed since it's inception, followed by a stop for coffee at Harutzim, a social enterprise café which is run by adults with disabilities

EVENING

5:00 p.m.

Both tracks meet for Shabbat candle lighting

Depart for the Kotel (Western Wall) for Kabbalat Shabbat (welcoming the Sabbath)

7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Dinner at hotel hosting a few soldiers from the Michael Levin Lone Soldiers Center

Overnight – David Citadel/ Dan Panorama, Jerusalem



DAY 7 – SHABBAT SHALOM

Saturday, Oct 20

Experiencing the beauty of Shabbat as a different dimension of Jewish journey – the weekly separation from daily life and an opportunity to explore its meaning for different people in Israel and abroad

MORNING

Free time to join Shabbat services in one of Jerusalem’s many synagogues or to enjoy Jerusalem’s parks, visit the Old City or just relax

11:00 a.m.

Track 1: Walk through Yemin Moshe neighborhood with the poetry of Yehuda Amichai

Track 2: Visit selected exhibitions at the Israel Museum, considered to be one of the most significant encyclopedic museums housing extensive art and archaeology (uses coach)

Track 3: R&R at the hotel or meet up with friends and family

AFTERNOON

1:00 p.m.

*Shabbat lunch on own (Shabbat lunch is available at the hotel by sign up and at additional cost)

2:30 p.m.

Depart from hotel for guided tour of the Christian Quarter in the Old City and visit Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the rooftops of the Old City

5:30 p.m.

Tie-in discussion followed by Havdallah

EVENING

7:00 p.m.

Depart for dinner at Jerusalem restaurant

Overnight – David Citadel/ Dan Panorama, Jerusalem



DAY 8 – COLLECTIVE MEMORY - CREATING PARTNERSHIPS

Sunday, Oct 21

Today we devote time to getting a greater understanding of the Holocaust and its impact on Israeli society followed by a visit to our partnership region of Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon for a closer look at the notion of peoplehood and strengthening relations between our communities



MORNING

7:30 a.m.

Check out of hotel

8:00 a.m.

“Understanding the Significance of the Holocaust in Israeli Society” with educator Rachel Korazim (at hotel)

9:30 a.m.

Depart for visit to the historical museum of the Holocaust at Yad Vashem, including the Avenue of the Righteous of the Nations and a visit to the Children’s memorial

AFTERNOON

1:00 p.m.

*Lunch on own

2:30 p.m.

Depart for Tucson’s Partnership2Gether communities of Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon

Afternoon activities to be planned together with colleagues from

Partnership Region and will include

- Visits to communal projects in region
- Home hospitality or dinner with local residents
- Hike and/or visits to other sites to get acquainted with region

9:30 p.m.

Depart for Tel Aviv

Overnight – Royal Beach Hotel, Tel Aviv

DAY 9 – JOURNEY’S END

Monday, Oct 22

Coming full circle, an opportunity to enjoy different experiences that make up contemporary Israeli society: art, Tikun Olam, fashion and culinary trends as a reflection of Israel’s diverse cultures.

MORNING

8:15 a.m.

Wrap-up discussion (at hotel)

9:30 a.m.

Depart in small parallel tracks:

Track 1: Tikun Olam – depart for Save a Child’s Heart, a program at Wolfson hospital where children from around the world, especially third world countries and Arab countries receive medical treatment and recuperation by this Israeli nonprofit

*pick up hand held lunch

Track 2: Flavors of Israel – guided visit to the Levinsky fruit and vegetable market in Tel Aviv and some of the lesser known alleyways to meet with some of the store holders and tasting to get a sense of the culinary mosaic of Israel (maximum 15 participants)

*including hand held lunch

Track 3: Fashion as an Expression of Israeli Society – a visit to Israel’s only fashion house, Maskit to learn about how it was established by Ruth Dayan to help Olim (immigrants) from North Africa and now holds a leading place in the international fashion world

*pick up hand held lunch in Jaffa

Track 4: R&R rest and relaxation to meet friends or enjoy the beach promenade or the shops of Jaffa

*lunch on own

AFTERNOON

1:30 p.m.

All groups meet at Independence Hall where the State of Israel was declared 70 years ago in May 1948

2:45 p.m.

Depart for hotel

Time to freshen up

4:00 p.m.

Check out of hotel

Free time to enjoy the promenade or last minute shopping

EVENING

6:00 p.m.

Depart for final dinner at Tel Aviv restaurant

Depart for airport or trip extension

*Trip extension to Petra will be available for additional cost



