

## FAQS

### **Q: What is the target audience for Best-Day Adventures?**

**A:** Our tours and cruises are geared for Jewish travelers who are single, active and in their 40s, 50s & 60s.

### **Q: Will I find love and friendship on a Best-Day Adventure?**

**A:** Our program is created with the single traveler in mind, meaning that we offer a plethora of activities – such as icebreakers, special events, dining arrangements and organized tours – designed to promote group camaraderie, participation, choices and lots & lots of fun. Our trips, however, are not designed to be matchmaking services nor do we promote the idea of finding love while on a tour. It is certainly a byproduct of what we do and the potential is there, but we don't suggest you choose to travel with us for this purpose. Here, the bond of friendship-making will reign supreme, and this purpose of our travel program is what you will find most meaningful and everlasting.

### **Q: How many people do you take on each trip?**

**A:** Our groups vary in size depending upon many factors and what is in the best interest of the participants. Some destinations are more meaningful and fun with a smaller group and some will rock with higher numbers. Our land tours draw, on average, between 15-35 people and our cruises draw roughly between 30-60 people.

### **Q: To which destinations do you have experience leading tours?**

**A:** We have experience leading groups to almost every destination on planet earth. Our resume of tours includes Costa Rica, Israel, Cuba, Australia/New Zealand, Africa, many parts of South America, Europe, the Caribbean, and many US domestic destinations including the National Parks, Nashville and Alaska. And more! One thing is for sure, by traveling with Best-Day Adventures and Ayelet Tours you are entrusting a crew of experienced, reputable and organized travel professionals who know how to make your much-needed, long-awaited vacation as fun and carefree as possible.

### **Q: What is the relationship between Best-Day Adventures and Ayelet Tours?**

**A:** Ayelet Tours is a full-service travel agency that provides a variety of tours worldwide with a Jewish Heritage theme. Israel and Cuba are our grand slam destinations, but we hit home runs in many countries across the world including destination throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Australia, South and Central America, China and more. Best-Day Adventures is a division of Ayelet Tours, designed to offer specialized tours geared towards active travelers who are Jewish and single in their 40s, 50s & 60s.

## Q: Can you tell me more about Ayelet tours and Best-Day Adventures?



**A:** Since 2013 Bill Cartiff has directed Best-Day Adventures, a division of Ayelet Tours designed to offer vacation packages for single Jewish travelers in their 40s-60s. This followed a 22-year stint as the Travel Director at the JCC Pittsburgh, where he escorted Jewish singles tours in conjunction with Amazing Journeys. In tandem with the staff at Ayelet Tours, Bill plans and hosts all **Best-Day Adventures** while cultivating new and old relationships with clients who share his love for travel & adventure.

### **A little about Bill:**

Bill is a graduate of Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education as well as a graduate of the Dale Carnegie Course in Effective Speaking and Human Relations. He taught for several years in the public and private school systems, all the while fulfilling a passion of coaching and officiating baseball at many levels. After teaching for several years, an opportunity to work as a program director with adults at the JCC helped him become established as a professional in the service industry.

As a Jewish communal worker, Bill began to identify a growing need of a particular demographic, Jewish singles. The need to provide social outlets for Jewish singles to meet was a chance to learn more about serving an adult clientele and provide a service to the community. It ultimately became an opportunity to show people the world as local programming blossomed to an international travel program where meeting an even greater need was identified.

This need for the Jewish single community-at-large became a passion, and Bill's devotion to the idea helped foster its growth. Now, with 25 years of experience leading travel groups, he has escorted hundreds of tours to destinations on all seven continents. As "BDA" continues to grow, Bill never underestimates the meaning of helping people explore the world. He is committed to providing a carefree travel experience with personalized attention, action-packed itineraries, a warm & welcoming environment and meaningful memories meant to last a lifetime.

### **A little about Ayelet Tours:**

Ayelet Tours has proudly offered custom tours to Israel and around the Jewish World since 1986. In addition to our mainstays of Israel, Eastern Europe and Cuba, specially coordinated tours encompass destinations around the globe including France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Australia, China, South America, and more. In addition to Best-Day Adventures, we have other divisions of travel interests, including Hadassah, World Union for Progressive Judaism, the Traveling University and American Jewish Congress. Click here to read more [ABOUT AYELET TOURS](#)

## **Q: Do people travel alone?**

**A:** Yes, and no. We understand that traveling alone can be stressful or outright intimidating, so we have created a program that caters especially to the solo traveler. As soon as you meet us at our destination, rest assured that you will be warmly welcomed by staff who understand all of the feelings and emotions of traveling solo. Your tour leaders will make you feel comfortable right from the beginning – from a welcome program and icebreaker to a scrumptious included first dinner together and organized hands-on programming throughout the tour.

That being said, it is a testimony to our successful following that many people on a given trip will be repeat travelers. Due to our cultivating of friendships and reputation of providing outstanding service, we have a strong client base of repeat travelers and some people may know each other from a previous trip or may travel with a friend.

There will ultimately be a mix of both repeat travelers and first time travelers, and this is a meaningful formula for warm welcomes, ever-growing friendships and a new experience on each and every journey.

## **Q: Am I obligated to participate in all of your programming?**

**A:** Exclusive group activities and tours are planned daily throughout each trip so that you always have opportunities to interact with the group. But, this is *your* vacation and you should feel free to participate in as much or as little as you want. Each program, activity, group tour and meal is there for your indulgence and you are invited, but not obligated, to participate in every single piece of it.

## **Q: How will you be of service to me beyond planning programs?**

**A:** As a full service travel agency, we pledge to be a part of your trip planning from the day you call to ask your first question until you say goodbye at our farewell event. You can count on qualified travel planning assistance, from helping you book your flights to providing you with regular correspondence to keep you informed of everything you need to know to prepare for your trip. We will respond to your inquiries within one business day to, at the very least, acknowledge receipt and let you know we are working on assisting you. We will share our tips of the trade to help you be an educated savvy traveler. In short, we are here to provide you with a carefree and easy-to-plan travel experience.

While on tour, your tour leaders will have a presence in all facets of your journey. If you have any issues or need any assistance, we are available to help 24/7.

## **Q: Do you offer Roommate Matching?**

**A:** We offer both shared and single accommodations. We understand that the cost of single supplements can sometimes be prohibitive so we offer roommate matching to help you avoid single supplement fees. You may choose to come with a friend, or if you choose to be matched with a roommate, we will do so as compatibly as possible considering age, gender (obviously), room type selection, and any familiar characteristics we may know about.

Roommate matching options can become very limited within 60 days prior to a given trip. We will do our best to match you with a roommate within this time frame, however if one is not available, you will still have the option of the single occupancy rate. If a roommate becomes available at a later time, we will adjust your reservation accordingly.

Please note that unfortunately we are unable to guarantee roommate matching based upon one's sleeping habits. If you do have sensitivities to what others may offer in a shared space, we would encourage you to take a single.

## **Q: Cost is important to me. Why does it seem that your tour package is priced differently from other ads I see. How can I save money?**

It is our goal to make our tours abundantly inclusive and exclusive. We design each trip to meet the travel, social and personal needs of every passenger; offering choices, fun and value-added experiences. If a trip seems more expensive to you as compared to other similar tours, it is important to know that all tours are not created equal. Other tour companies may offer a lower selling price by removing or changing certain components; perhaps by cruising off-season, by staying at lower-end hotels that are outside the city limits, including fewer meals, using lower standard restaurants or suppliers, or by requiring that you incur certain expenses as you go rather than including them in with the price of the tour.

We offer the following strategies for saving you money:

- Each trip will offer an “early bird” special and by making your plans during this period you can definitely save.
- The option of a shared accommodation with our roommate matching program.
- On most trips, we offer a discount if you pay by check rather than credit card.
- On cruises, we offer multiple price points based on your choice of accommodations. Consider an ocean view room rather than a balcony room. Or an interior room rather than an ocean view. By simply “modest-izing” your accommodation, you can save hundreds of dollars, yet you'll receive the exact same comfort, service and vacation experience as everyone else.

## **Q: Where do your passengers come from?**

**A:** Our passengers are about as international as our destinations. We typically fill our groups by getting small numbers of people from a large number of cities and it's not uncommon to see 10-15 different cities represented in one of our groups.

While the majority of our passengers typically come from throughout North America, we also appeal to guests from across the globe including England, Australia, South Africa, Germany, Uruguay, Belgium and beyond. Imagine....having friends - true and lifelong friends - in various towns from around the world!

## **Q: Are your trips religious?**

**A:** The common denominator of our group is “single” and “Jewish,” and thus we do include a Shabbat and Havdalah Service on each trip as well as visits to Jewish points of interest when available. (Obviously, our Israel tours will encompass a more substantial amount of Jewish content). Our trips, however, are secular by nature, do not adhere to Kashrut (although vegetarian or fish options are always available) and appeal to a more modern and not-fully observant Jewish traveler.

## **Q: Do you offer kosher foods on your trips? Can you accommodate my special dietary needs?**

**A:** We will work hard to provide you with almost any dietary need you have.

**Kosher:** If you are comfortable eating fish, dairy and/or vegetarian, you will easily be accommodated on every tour and cruise. If you are strictly kosher, we can special order glatt kosher meals for you on our cruises. Land tours, however, will incur some challenges with a strictly glatt kosher diet, and we should probably have a discussion before commitments are made.

Other dietary restrictions: If you have a common or uncommon dietary need, you will likely be easily accommodated on our cruises. The chefs are well-trained to be able to offer specially prepared foods for anyone who requires it. Land tours, however, may incur some challenges depending on your specific needs in relation to the country we are visiting, and we should probably have a discussion before commitments are made.

**Q: For cruises, can I book directly with the cruise line, and still join the singles group activities?**

**A:** Unfortunately, no. Our travel packages are customized and value-added to provide an exclusive “above and beyond” experience for all of our guests. All of these extra amenities and activities are exclusive to our groups and are the reasons why one would choose to travel with us. If you want to be a part of our singles group, you do need to book the cruise through our agency.