

Land Of Dreams, Land Of Innovation: Hadassah's Summer Mission To **ISRAEL**

Led by Stephanie Z. Bonder

July 3-14 2017

(Feb, 3 2017)



Day 1, Monday July 3 2017: DEPARTURE

- We depart on our afternoon flight and travel overnight to Israel.

Day 2, Tuesday July 4, 2017: ARRIVAL IN JERUSALEM

- Early morning arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, with assistance by an Ayelet representative - Welcome Home!
- Upon arrival in Jerusalem, we drive to the Mt of Olives to recite a special "Sh'hekiyanu!" Blessing overlooking the **City of Gold**. Visit **Henrietta Szold's grave**.
- Visit the **Hadassah Hospital** campus atop Mt. Scopus. We'll visit Henrietta's office and celebrate the 50 years since the reunification of Jerusalem, and the subsequent rebuilding of the hospital on Mt Scopus.
- Tour the **Western Wall Tunnels** and enjoy some time at the **Kotel** to experience the special atmosphere.
- Check into our hotel.
- Participate in a tasting tour of the **Machane Yehuda** market. After the market's shops close for the day, it comes alive once again. We enjoy the unique murals painted on the shutters of the market shops and see how the market changes as it becomes the newest hub for Jerusalem's night life.
- Enjoy a **Welcome dinner** and orientation at a restaurant in the market.

O/N Jerusalem



Day 3, Wednesday July 5, 2017: HADASSAH AND CITY TOUR



- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we meet with **Gil Hoffman**, chief political correspondent for the Jerusalem Post, for an in-depth and entertaining look at Israeli current events
 - Visit to **Ein Kerem Hadassah Hospital**, where we tour the **Mother and Child Pavilion**. We tour the recently completed **Sarah Wetsman tower**, featuring the most modern hospital facilities in the region, and also visit the synagogue, home to the famed **Chagall windows**.
- Lunch (on own).
- We enter the **Old City** where we explore the **Bazaar/Shuk**, the **Christian Quarter**, the **Via Dolorosa** and the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**.
- Tour the Jewish quarter and walk along the **Cardo** with time to shop at **Hurva Square**.
- Visit the **Ir David Excavations** just outside the Old City walls, where we wander through the carefully preserved archeological excavations dating back to the time of King David.
- Continue to **Ein Tzurim**, a live archaeological site where we have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on excavation. Join us in uncovering the glorious past of the Temple Mount. Sift through rubble that originated in ancient buildings from the Temple Period and learn about findings from the archaeologists.
- Free evening and dinner on own.

O/N Jerusalem

Day 4, Thursday 6, July 2017: MEMORIALIZING THE PAST, CREATING THE FUTURE

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We visit the **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Here we explore some of the newly found materials relating to places, people and events connected to the Holocaust, including:
 - The Avenue of the Righteous
 - The new Historical Museum
 - The Children's MemorialEnd the visit at Yad Vashem with a group **Memorial service** at the **Valley of the Lost Communities**.
- Visit **Mt Herzl**, where we visit the gravesites of Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin,



and Shimon Peres. We view the military cemetery and hear from our guide some of the heroic stories of those buried here.

- Explore the bunkers at **Ammunition Hill**, the official museum symbolizing the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem. Its new multimedia film helps visitors better understand the events and battles of 1967.
- **Jerusalem Startup Hub** – Visit the new Center for Entrepreneurial Innovation in Jerusalem. Located in the heart of the city, the Hub opened its doors in March 2013. JSH aims to be the center of start-up development in Jerusalem, a hub for break-through technological ideas from all over the world.
- Free evening and dinner on own.

O/N Jerusalem

Day 5, Friday 7, July 2017: BEER SHEVA AND THE GAZA BORDER, WELCOME SHABBAT

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Visit a joint **JNF/Hadassah project**, building a park in the southern desert region. We'll plant a tree here, helping to make it even more beautiful and connecting us physically to this important project.
- Drive south to the **Eshkol** region, bordering Gaza. We visit the **Regional Center** for a security briefing at the Command Center.
- Continue to a **secure school** on the border and the protected playground for a moving visit with faculty.
- We visit to exquisite blacksmith **Yaron Bob**. Struck by the terror of shell attacks, Yaron decided to transform something horrible into something beautiful – and so began “**Rockets into Roses**”.
- Enjoy a picnic lunch at the “**Salad Trail**” in the Eshkol region on the border with Gaza. See how Israeli innovation is literally making the desert bloom – with crops grown out of some of the most inhospitable sands imaginable.
- Return to Jerusalem, where we welcome Shabbat at the **Western Wall** with the people of Jerusalem.
- **Shabbat dinner** in a private room at our hotel with Hadassah friends.



O/N Jerusalem



Day 6, Saturday 8, July 2017: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Free morning for Shabbat services or just to relax.
- This afternoon, we enjoy a guided **walking tour** through the historical and charming neighborhood of **Yemin Moshe**, the first modern neighborhood built outside the Old City's walls.
- Continue to **Neviim street** (street of the prophets), where we follow the story of these historically protected buildings, so closely entwined with Hadassah's history in Jerusalem.
- **Havdalah with Barbara "BG" Goldstein** on the rooftop of our hotel, overlooking the Old City.
- Free evening in Jerusalem – enjoy a stroll along **Ben Yehuda Street**, Emek Refaim Street or visit the Mamilla pedestrian walk, filled with shops and restaurants. OR Optional: Attend the **Tower of David Night Spectacular Sound and Light Show** (at extra cost)

O/N Jerusalem

Day 7, Sunday 9, July 2017: MASADA & THE DESERT



- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Check out of our hotel.
- We depart Jerusalem and drive toward the **Dead Sea Basin**.
 - Ascend to the **Masada** summit by cable car. Here we view the remains of King Herod's palace and fortifications, and hear the story of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the approaching Roman armies.
 - We enjoy an unsinkable swim in the salty waters of the **Dead Sea**, with a chance to visit the spa's mud baths. Lunch at the hotel.
- Explore **Ein Gedi**, where we take a short hike to the hidden waterfalls in this desert oasis.
- Drive along the **Jordan Valley** to our Kibbutz in the north.
- Dinner at our kibbutz.

O/N in the Galilee



Day 8, Monday 10, July 2017: THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- **Jeep tour** up to the **Golan Heights**. Atop the Golan, we take in an amazing view. Here at Mitzpe Gadot, we see the memorial to those soldiers who lost their lives capturing this crucial spot from Syrian forces in 1967.
- Take in the views stretching far into Syria from atop **Har Bental**.
- We enjoy a **chocolate workshop** with one of Israel's top chocolatiers at **Ein Zivan's Dekarina Chocolate Factory**.
- We next cross the Galilee to visit the mystical city of **Safed**. Here we visit the ancient synagogues and have time to stroll along the shops of the Artists' Quarter. We participate in a Kabbalah workshop and study
- We visit a nearby **Winery** for a delicious wine tasting before returning to our Kibbutz .
- Dinner at our kibbutz, followed by a meeting with Kibbutz members and youth.



O/N in the Galilee

Day 9, Tuesday July 11, 2017: TO TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our kibbutz.
- We take an insightful **drive along the Lebanese border**, stopping at **Kibbutz Malkia**, a strategic overlook, where we will meet with the IDF unit on the border, as well as kibbutz security personnel to learn about the steps they take to protect this small frontier community.
- This morning, we'll tour the **Hula Valley Nature Preserve**, where millions of migrating birds come to rest and eat each year. Enjoy a surrey or golf cart ride through the heart of this beautiful and bucolic scene.
- Visit **Hadassah's Meir Shfeya** youth village, where we meet and volunteer with the kids and staff.
- Visit **Zichron Yaakov**, stroll the streets, browse the shops and visit the **Nili Museum** amid this European style village's charming shops and cafes.
- Visit a **Druze village** and enjoy the wonderful home hospitality, as we learn about this unique minority.

O/N in Tel Aviv



Day 10, Wednesday, July 12, 2017: STARTUP NATION



- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we meet with young entrepreneur **Rony Rozen** to discuss her story, as well as Hi-Tech innovation in this Start-Up nation.
 - *The Story of Tel Aviv*, guided walk through **Neve Zedek** and what was **Ahuzat Bayit**, exploring the origins of the city of Tel Aviv, its people and places.
 - Continue to Tel Aviv's **White City**, one of the largest concentrations of Bauhaus architecture in the world.
- We visit the library in the city center – the **Space for Entrepreneurship and Innovation**. The Library provides a shared-working space and hub facilities for teams dedicated to developing internet startups and technology companies.
- Visit one of the leading Israeli fashion designer studios - **Reuma**. Learn about the way they started a business from nothing in Tel Aviv and now have achieved worldwide recognition.
- **OPTIONAL (additional cost):** Evening at the **Nalaga'at Center**, a meeting place for deaf, blind and deaf-blind and the wider public, that through an artistic and cultural experience engage in a dialogue. Dinner at the **Blackout Restaurant**, which invites you to an exceptional culinary experience that will trigger your senses; followed by a performance of "Not by Bread Alone."

O/N Tel Aviv

Day 11, Thursday, July 13, 2017: TEL AVIV FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

- Breakfast at our hotel
- We begin our day at the **Palmach Museum**, where we "join up" with the brave paramilitary unit from Israel's pre-statehood days.
- Uncover the secrets of the **Ayalon Institute**, where an underground ammunition factory played a pivotal role in Israel's fight for Independence at the end of the British Mandate.
- Visit **Old Jaffa**, where we stroll the winding streets and explore the artist galleries. Enjoy Lunch in the area (on own), and visit one of the largest open-air flea and art markets in Israel.
- Enjoy the balance of the afternoon at leisure.
- We gather for our **Farewell dinner** at a local restaurant, as we recount all we have experienced together.
- Depart for the airport for our flight back to the United States.



Day 12, Friday, July 14, 2017: ARRIVE HOME

- We land back home in the USA.

The Memories Last Forever!

**Itinerary subject to change*

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