



Culinary & Art Tour of **ISRAEL**

March 2019

Accompanied by Debbie Kornberg

(As of 7/6//18)



Our tour will delight those who love a good fine wine and a meal to remember. See how Israel stacks up with the best of the cosmopolitan centers, all while maintaining its link to history and its eye on cutting edge innovation.

Day 1: Monday, March 4, 2019: WELCOME TO ISRAEL!

- Arrive in Israel. (Plan to arrive by 8am today, or plan to arrive on May 3rd or earlier).
- Meet in our hotel lobby to begin our tour at 10am.
- Today, we visit **Independence Hall**, the place where Israel's Declaration of Independence was signed in 1948.
- Next, we explore the bustling **Carmel Market**, where we take in the sights, sounds and smells as we make our way through the market on a **tasting tour** with **Delicious Israel**.
- Our tour continues at the **Tel Aviv Museum of Art** as we are joined by a museum Curator to lead us through the current exhibitions, giving us detailed insight into the artists and their work.
- This evening, we enjoy a gourmet **dinner** at a delicious meat restaurant and have the opportunity to meet with the chef.

Overnight in Tel Aviv

Day 2: Tuesday, March 5, 2019: THE MEDITERANEAN COAST

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we stroll through **Neve Tzedek** in what is known as the White City, to see the world heritage Bauhaus architecture.
- We depart Tel Aviv and travel north along the Mediterranean coast to **Caesarea**, the former Roman capital of the area. We see the ancient theater and the aqueduct, followed by **lunch** at a local restaurant, where we are greeted by the chef.
- Our next stop is at **Lavido**, an Israeli organic skin care company. We meet founder **Ido Magal**, and learn how to **make our own skin care products**.



- This evening, we visit a **winery** to sip local wines and enjoy a gourmet **dinner**.
- Following dinner, we travel to **Haifa** to check into our hotel.

Overnight in Haifa

Day 3: Wednesday, March 6, 2019: TASTES OF THE NORTH

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day at **Derech HaTavlinim (The Spice Way Farm)** meeting with founder, Avi Zitherspieler, as we take a tour of the agricultural farm that grows over 50 different varieties of spices and herbs for our very own Spice Way in San Diego. We will learn about their amazing benefits.
- This afternoon, we enjoy **cooking lunch with a guest chef** at the farm.
- Next door, we visit **Galili Olive Oil** to learn about the fascinating world of premium olive oil creation and taste the “liquid gold”. We will be joined by family member, **Tamar Galili**.
- We travel north to the **Tefen Open Museum** in **Karmiel** for a guided tour of the art museum and sculpture garden.
- This evening, we visit a **Druze village** where we enjoy **dinner and home hospitality**, learn about their unique culture and dance to music played by a **drum circle**.
- We return to our hotel later this evening.

Overnight in Haifa

DAY 4: Thursday, March 7, 2019: SPICE BLENDING & TOURING AKKO

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we return to **Derech HaTavlinim (The Spice Way Farm)** for a hands-on workshop on **The Art of Spice Blending**. Together, we will explore a selection of spices and herbs and learn how to pair flavors together.
- A **guest chef** leads us in a **cooking class**, as we work together to make a delicious, light and refreshing **salad lunch**, plus **shakshuka!**
- We continue to **Akko** for a tour of the Crusader-era fortifications and British prison, learning about this historically important port.
- We remain in Akko for a world-renowned culinary experience at the fish restaurant, **Uri Buri**, including an opportunity to **meet the chef**.
- Next, we encounter **Johnny Stern** of Stern Winery, founded in 2004 at nearby Kibbutz Tuval, followed by an unforgettable **oud playing** session (a lute-like stringed instrument common in the Middle East).
- We return to our hotel later this evening.



Overnight in Haifa



DAY 5: Friday, March 8, 2019: THE ROAD TO JERUSALEM

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We begin our day with a tour of the **Umm el-Fahem Art Gallery**, an innovative space and meeting place for Jewish and Arab artists, including a discussion with curator and founder, **Sayid Abu Shaqra**.
- We ascend to **Jerusalem**, stopping atop **Mt. Scopus** upon our arrival to take in the panoramic views overlooking the **City of Gold**. We'll stop for light lunch along the way.
- We enter the **Old City** for a tour of the **Western Wall tunnels**, where we discover the archaeological wonders that once remained untouched for centuries.
- We continue with a **walking tour** through the **Jewish quarter**, with time to shop in the **Cardo**. Next, stroll along the **Via Dolorosa** to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.
- Later this afternoon, we check into our hotel and have time to refresh.
- As the sun sets, we join together for a special **Shabbat dinner** hosted and personally prepared by **Danby Meital**, in her home. From her patio, we have a clear view across the valley to the new US Embassy.

Overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 6: Saturday, March 9, 2019: DEAD SEA BASIN OR YEMIN MOSHE

- Breakfast at our hotel.
OPTION 1 (additional cost applies – public tour):
- This morning, we travel south to the **Dead Sea basin**.
- Upon our arrival, we ascend **Masada** by cable car or snake path to view the remains of King Herod's fortress, including the synagogue, walls and bathhouses, and learn about the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman forces. We pass the **Qumran caves** along the way, as our guide tells us about the Essenes, the sect thought to have written the Dead Sea Scrolls found here.
- We continue to the beach for an unsinkable swim in the healing, salty waters of the **Dead Sea**.
- Time permitting, we enjoy a short hike to the hidden waterfalls in the desert oasis of **Ein Gedi**.
OPTION 2 (included):
- We set out on a walking tour of charming **Yemin Moshe**, one of Jerusalem's historic neighborhoods established in the late 1800s outside the Old City. While here, we see the famous **Montefiore windmill**.
- We return to the **Old City** for a chance to tour and shop in the **Arab market (shuk)**.
ALL:
- Enjoy an evening at leisure to explore Jerusalem and have dinner on own.
- Choose to visit the **Tower of David** for the spectacular **Sound & Light show** (optional).



Overnight in Jerusalem



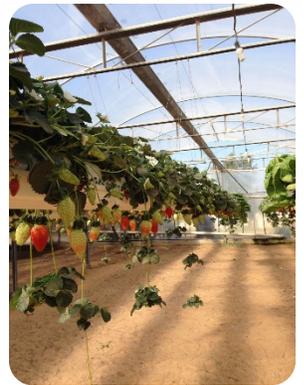
DAY 7: Sunday, March 10, 2019: PLANTING ROOTS IN ISRAEL

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we visit **Yad L’Kashish**, the Lifeline for the Aged, where we meet some of the seniors and view the art they make here.
- Next, we visit the **JNF Forest** to **plant trees**, connecting us physically and spiritually to the land of Israel.
- Our next stop is at the famed **Machane Yehuda**, where we make our way through the rows of fresh produce, piles of spices, meats, cheeses and delicious halva creations, enjoying a variety of Israel’s delicacies on our “**Shuk Bites**” **tasting tour**.
- Our afternoon continues at **Ir David, the City of David**, where we wander through the carefully preserved archaeological excavations dating back to the time of King David.
- At **Emek Tzurim**, we participate in a hands-on project sifting through the Temple Mount rubble. New and important finds are made here every day!
- Tonight, we enjoy a delicious “slow food” **dinner** at **Eucalyptus** with **Chef Moshe Basson**. We are joined by Israeli **lone soldiers** who share stories about their experiences in the IDF.

Overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 8: Monday, March 11, 2019: SOUTHERN EXPLORATION

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- Today, we depart Jerusalem and travel to the **Negev** for an authentic biblical experience at a **Bedouin encampment**, including a **camel ride and desert hospitality**, all while learning about Bedouin life today.
- Our next stop is at the **Salad Trail**, where we will participate in a unique hands-on agricultural tour. Here we witness how Israeli innovation is literally making the desert bloom, with crops grown out of some of the most inhospitable sands imaginable. We will pick and taste fruits and vegetables straight from the kibbutz’s self-picking farm and encounter flying strawberries, tiny orange orchards, racing pigeons and herbal gardens. Our visit is completed with a **MasterChef style cooking competition** ending in a delicious **lunch**.
- Following lunch, we meet artist, **Yaron Bob**, at his workshop. Struck by the terror of shell attacks, Yaron decided to turn something terrible into something beautiful – and so began his work called “**Rockets to Roses**”.
- Later this afternoon, we visit with residents of the **Sha’ar HaNegev** region to learn about life on the Gaza border. The region has a special connection to San Diego as a sister community.
- We travel north to **Tel Aviv** to check into our hotel and refresh before **dinner** at an outstanding culinary restaurant this evening.



Overnight in the Tel Aviv



Day 9: Tuesday, March 12, 2019: THE FLAVORS OF ISRAEL

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy the morning to relax, hit the beach or explore Tel Aviv on own. We suggest exploring Neve Tzedek and visiting some of the outstanding galleries.

OR

- Choose to tour **Old Jaffa**. During our tour we will stop at **Basma Coffee**, a shop owned by an Arab family. We learn the family's history and participate in a **coffee roasting workshop**.
- Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon doing some last-minute shopping.
- In the late afternoon, we check out of our hotel and join together for **cocktails** at the **Ilana Goor Museum of Art**, followed by an early **farewell dinner** at the renowned contemporary gourmet restaurant, **Kitchen Market** located in Shuk HaNamal farmer's market at the Tel Aviv port with the opportunity to meet with the chef.
- We transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our overnight flight back to the United States, or choose to remain in Israel for an extended vacation.



Day 10: Wednesday, March 13, 2019: WELCOME HOME!

- We arrive back in the United States this morning.

The Memories Last Forever!!

**itinerary subject to change*

