

## Hadassah Associates Mission to Israel Jerusalem & the Spectacular South October 2017 Led by Fred Safer & Sherryl Kaufman

(As of 10/3/17)



### Day 1: Sunday, October 15, 2017: DEPARTURE

- We depart the United States on our overnight flight to Israel.

### Day 2: Monday, October 16, 2017: ARRIVAL IN JERUSALEM

- Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, with assistance by an Ayelet representative - Welcome Home!
- Transfer to Jerusalem.
- This evening, we participate in a special “**Shehecheyanu!**” blessing at our hotel.
- Check into our hotel.
- Enjoy a **welcome dinner** and orientation with Hadassah Leadership.

### Overnight in Jerusalem

### Day 3: Tuesday, October 17, 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.
- Continue with a visit to **Ein Karem Hadassah Hospital**, where we tour the **Mother and Child Pavilion**. We also tour the newly opened **Sarah Wetsman Tower**, featuring the most modern hospital facilities in the region.
- Walk along the **Cardo** with time to shop at **Hurva Square**.
- Lunch (on your own) in the Jewish Quarter.
- 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.
- This afternoon, we meet with Member of the Knesset, **Yehuda Glick**.
- Meet with scholar **Rachel Korazim** at **Nofei Jerusalem**.

### Overnight in Jerusalem



#### Day 4: Wednesday, October 18, 2017: NATURE & THE CRADLE OF JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We drive west to the **Avshalom Reserve** to explore the stalactite cave. Here we can see many varied limestone formations, among the best in the world.
- Tour **Latrun**, Israel's outdoor armed corps museum, where we explore and touch the tanks and artillery used by the Israeli Defense Force and enemy armies throughout the country's history.
- Explore 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.
- Enjoy some time at the **Kotel** and experience the special atmosphere.
- Tour the **Western Wall Tunnels**.
  - Walk along the underground tunnel.
- For a different perspective, we enjoy a short **walk along the rooftops and ramparts** of the Old City.
- Dinner at **Olive and Fish Restaurant**.



#### Overnight in Jerusalem

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#### Day 5: Thursday, October 19, 2017: IDF AND HADASSAH

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Visit Israel's Parliament for a tour.
- We arrive at an **army camp** and meet with commanders.
- **Lunch** at the base with the soldiers.
- **"Sharing" conversation**. Each participant shares their opinions and feelings experienced during the day's activities.
- Visit **Binyamin Region** visitor's center and meet with key members of the local community.
- Visit **Mount Scopus Hospital** to see and hear about Hadassah projects and the local area.

#### Overnight in Jerusalem

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## Day 6: Friday, October 20, 2017: WELCOME SHABBAT

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Visit the **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, where we explore some of the newly found materials relating to places, people and events connected to the Holocaust. End the visit with a group **memorial service** at the **Valley of the Lost Communities**.
- Visit **Machane Yehuda**, Jerusalem's outdoor marketplace, filled with foods of every variety. Meet a Chef and learn about the amazing varieties of produce, spices and more, in the market, before sitting down for lunch.
- Time to relax in the market or at our hotel before Shabbat.
- Oneg Shabbat at the Southern Wall.
- **Shabbat dinner** at the Dan Panorama with Hadassah friends from Florida and beyond.



## Overnight in Jerusalem

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## Day 7: Saturday, October 21, 2017: SHABBAT SHALOM

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Free morning for Shabbat services or just to relax.
- Guided walking tour of the **Old City**. We walk through the **Christian Quarter**. Continue along **Neviim Street**, with its' many buildings connected to the history of Hadassah.
- Late afternoon meeting at the hotel with **Khaled Abu Toameh**, an Israeli Arab journalist, lecturer and documentary filmmaker, born to an Israeli Arab father and a Palestinian Arab mother.
- **Havdalah with Barbara Goldstein** on the rooftop of our hotel overlooking the Old City.
- Free evening in Jerusalem – enjoy a stroll along **Ben Yehuda Street**, through **Emek Refaim Street** or visit the **Mamilla pedestrian walk**, filled with shops and restaurants.
- **OPTIONAL**: Sound and Light show on the history of Jerusalem at the David Citadel (*additional cost - \$18 pp*)

## Overnight in Jerusalem

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## Day 8: Sunday, October 22, 2017: MASADA & THE DEAD SEA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Drive to **Ein Gedi** & hike to the hidden waterfall, as we watch the Ibex & other wild animals come out to feed in the morning.
- Ascend to **Masada** by cable car and tour the famous mountain fortress.
- Next we enjoy an unsinkable swim in the healing salty waters of the **Dead Sea**.
- Visit the **Dead Sea Water Works** and learn about the importance of this factory to Israel's economy.
- Drive to **Beer Yerucham**, a city in the Negev, and check into our hotel.
- **Dinner** together this evening at our hotel.
- **Meet the Mayor** of the city to hear about the great positive changes being made in the city.

### Overnight in Yerucham

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## Day 9: Monday, October 23, 2017: BEER SHEVA AND THE NEGEV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Visit the **JNF/Hadassah project** of a park in the desert.
- Visit **Ben Gurion University** and learn about all the technological updates of utilizing the desert in a high-tech industry.
- We tour the **solar energy farms** in the desert.
- Visit the village of **Merchav Am**.
- Check in to our spa hotel and enjoy the facility.

### Overnight in Mitzpe Ramon

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## Day 10: Tuesday, October 24, 2017: LIVING IN THE DESERT

- **OPTIONAL:** Sunrise **Jeep tour of the Ramon Crater**, watching the sun reflect on the golden and red rock. (No extra cost)
- Return to our hotel for breakfast.
- Visit the **Mitzpe Ramon Visitors Center**, which combines exhibits about **Ilan Ramon**, Israel's first astronaut, with information on the natural creation of this massive crater
- Visit the unique original hut & grave of David Ben Gurion at **Sde Boker**, deep in the heart of the Negev Desert. We learn about his dreams for the region, as we have seen them become realities.
- Visit one of the local farms of **Ein Avdat**.
- Dinner together this evening at our hotel.



### Overnight in Mitzpe Ramon

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## Day 11: Wednesday, October 25, 2017: ESHKOL REGION

- Breakfast and a slow desert morning.
- Continue to the **Eshkol** region, bordering Gaza; visit the **Regional Center** for a security briefing at the Command Center.
- Next we visit 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.
- **Farewell dinner** at L’Entrecote.



## Overnight in Herzliya

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## Day 12: Thursday, October 26, 2017: TOURING TEL AVIV

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin this morning with a visit to **Independence Hall**, site of the 1948 signing of Israel's Declaration of Independence (if open to the public after renovations).
- Continue to the library in the city center - **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.
- Time Permitting: Visit Tel Aviv's **White City**, one of the largest concentrations of Bauhaus in the world, followed by a tour of **Jaffe**.
- Lunch on your own.
- Next we visit the **Rabin Center and Museum**, where we Learn about the History of a leader and a country from the time before Israel was established till today
- The balance of the day is at leisure.
- Transfer to airport for our flight back home or optional extensions.

## Day 13: Friday October 27, 2017: ARRIVE HOME

- We land back home in the USA.

**The Memories Last Forever!**

*\*Itinerary subject to change*



## Optional Extension No. 1

### Day 12: Thursday, October 26, 2017: EVENING FLIGHT TO EILAT

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Full day touring with the group (see 10/26)
- After Dinner we board our flight to Eilat.
- Check into our hotel upon arrival.

### Overnight in Eilat

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### Day 13: Friday, October 27, 2017: EILAT

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy a day of leisure at our hotel on the shores of the Red Sea. Optional on own activity suggestions include visiting the Underwater Aquarium, OR enjoy a barbecue lunch and snorkeling cruise on the Red Sea, OR just relaxing poolside or seaside!

OR



- **OPTIONAL PETRA DAY TOUR:** We cross the border into Jordan and begin our full day tour of **Petra, the Red Rose City.** Explore the Nabatean City (as seen in Indiana Jones & the Last Crusade). Walk through the **Siq** and view the ancient temples. Discover the famous **Treasury**, the **Roman Theater**, and more at this, the Eighth Wonder of the World (*additional cost - border taxes are due in USD at the border crossing – currently \$65 per person*).

- Pass **Wadi Ram** before returning to Israel.
- Dinner on your own this evening.

### Overnight in Eilat

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### Day 14: Saturday, October 28, 2017: SHABBAT IN EILAT

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy the day at leisure in Eilat.
- This evening, we join together for a closing **Havdalah service.**
- Depart for the airport to connect with our flight home to the United States.



### Day 15: Sunday, October 29, 2017: ARRIVE HOME

- We arrive home.

**The Memories Last Forever!**

*\*Itinerary subject to change*



## **Optional extension No. 2**

### **Day 12: Thursday, October 26, 2017: TEL AVIV OR HERZELIYA**

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Full day touring with the group (see 10/26)

### **Overnight in Tel Aviv or Herzliya**

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### **Day 13: Friday, October 27, 2017: TEL AVIV OR HERZLIYA**

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy the day at leisure.

### **Overnight in Tel Aviv or Herzliya**

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### **Day 14: Saturday, October 28, 2017: TEL AVIV OR HERZLIYA**

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Enjoy the day at leisure.
- Depart for the airport for our flight home to the United States

**The Memories Last Forever!**

*\*Itinerary subject to change*

