

Jewish National Fund
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TOUR

July 8 – July 15, 2018

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JEWISH
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FUND

Your Voice in Israel



Sunday, July 8 – Arrival / Tel Aviv

- AM** Welcome to **Israel!** Upon individual arrivals, meet your arranged transfer and head to the Isrotel Tower Hotel in **Tel Aviv**, Israel's most cosmopolitan city on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.
- PM** This evening, your journey will officially commence with a welcome dinner in a private room at the hotel. Afterwards, enjoy the night out experiencing Tel Aviv's rich night-life scene.
- Overnight** Isrotel Tower Hotel, Tel Aviv



Tel Aviv

Itinerary is subject to change.

Monday, July 9 – Tel Aviv

AM

Following a delicious Israeli breakfast at the hotel, begin the day at **Ben Gurion House**, which served as the residence of Israel's first Prime Minister David Ben Gurion until he settled in the Negev with his wife. A visit here allows for unique, tangible insight into the constitutive events in the history of the State of Israel, as it was in this very house that the final version of the Declaration of Independence was written.

Depart for the trendy Sarona neighborhood, a former German Templar colony that has transformed into a thriving urban complex with new restaurants, cafés, and beautiful outdoor spaces. **Noa Gefen**, Executive Vice-Chairman of the **Society for Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites (SPIHS)**, will lead a walking tour of Sarona and discuss the partnership between SPIHS and JNF that has helped restore Sarona and preserve many other historical sites across Israel.

PM

Enjoy lunch on own in **Sarona Market**, a contemporary urban market where Israel's thriving culinary scene is on display.

Spend the remainder of the afternoon at leisure; relaxing on one of Tel Aviv's scenic beaches or exploring the surrounding area on own.

This evening, join the group for dinner at the **Nefesh B'Nefesh (NBN) Tel Aviv Hub** and engage in an activity with successful NBN olim, before proceeding to Tel Aviv's **Florentin** neighborhood for a unique tour through winding alleyways. See the impressive street art and graffiti that makes Florentin the up-and-coming neighborhood of choice for young adults.

Overnight

Isrotel Tower Hotel, Tel Aviv



Sarona Market

Tuesday, July 10 – Tel Aviv / North

AM

Following breakfast and hotel check-out, depart north along the scenic coastal route to explore **Caesarea**, former Roman capital of the region. Tour this ancient city and see excavations from the time of the Crusades, the historic aqueduct, and the site of the old amphitheater that has been restored and converted to a concert venue.

PM

Proceed to the **Tishbi Winery**, which offers views of the lush vineyards of the Tishbi Estate. Following a tour of the grounds, enjoy a guided wine-tasting and a delicious lunch.

Then, continue to the charming village of **Zichron Ya'akov**, one of Israel's first modern settlements. Stroll along the cobblestone streets and see stunning views of the Mediterranean shore, explore the quaint brick-paved downtown district, and learn about the town's rich Zionist history.

Later this afternoon, visit the **Atlit Detention Camp**, where thousands of Jewish immigrants were imprisoned during the British Mandate upon arriving into Israel. Tour the grounds and see the restored Galina ship, an exact replica of the ship that once carried 122,000 "illegal" immigrants in defiance of the British blockade.

Enjoy dinner tonight at a restaurant in Haifa.

Overnight

Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Haifa



Ancient Roman amphitheater in Caesarea

Wednesday, July 11 – Western Galilee



Akko

AM

Following breakfast, tour the **Baha'i Gardens** in **Haifa** to see the beauty that is described as the "eighth wonder of the world."

Depart north for **Rosh HaNikra**, one of Israel's most incredible natural wonders. Here, tour the cavernous tunnels and caves of the Rosh HaNikra Grottoes and take in the turquoise blue waters of the Mediterranean.

PM

Enjoy lunch at **Alto Dairy Farm**, a boutique dairy farm and restaurant founded by a family in the Western Galilee. Meet with the owners and hear about their experience of running a small business in the area as a participating member of **Western Galilee Now (WGN)**, a consortium of artisanal businesses, local entrepreneurs, and tourism operators.

Continue to **Akko** for the Templars' Tunnel tour in this city that is steeped in Medieval Crusader history.

Spend some free time exploring the city, which is home to a brilliantly coexistent population of Jews, Christians and Muslims, before enjoying dinner and returning to the hotel.

Overnight

Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Haifa

Thursday, July 12 – North/Jerusalem

AM

Following breakfast and hotel check-out , participate in a symbolic tree planting at the **Harvey Hertz-JNF Ceremonial Tree Planting Center** in Neot Kedumim, Israel's national Biblical Landscape Reserve. Plant a tree in the soil with your own hands to solidify your roots in Israel and contribute to JNF's ongoing afforestation efforts.

PM

Continue to **Ammunition Hill**, site of the most pivotal battle of the Six-Day War. Enjoy a catered lunch upon arrival before touring the grounds. Walk through the battlegrounds and bunkers to follow in the footsteps of the soldiers who fought here; see the multimedia exhibit and movie that tells the story of this fierce battle that reunified Jerusalem; and visit JNF's Wall of Honor, which commemorates Jewish veterans from around the world.

Enter the **Old City of Jerusalem** for a comprehensive walking tour. Explore the historic Jewish & Christian Quarters; take time for silent contemplation, and enjoy free time in the heart of Israel's capital for an opportunity to shop and explore. Before enjoying dinner and the evening on own, discover the **Western Wall Tunnels**; an incredible labyrinth of underground arches, tunnels, and passageways.

Overnight

Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem



Jerusalem

Friday, July 13 – Jerusalem



Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda Market

AM

Following breakfast, visit **Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum & Memorial**. A sprawling complex of tree-studded walkways leading to museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, and memorials, Yad Vashem tells the story of the Holocaust from a unique perspective, emphasizing the experiences of victims through original artifacts, survivor testimonies, and personal possessions

Proceed to the nearby **Mt. Herzl**, site of Israel's national cemetery. See the new dedication wall, and visit the gravesites of former leaders and dignitaries such as Shimon Peres, Theodore Herzl, Golda Meir, and Yitzhak Rabin.

PM

Depart for the famous **Machane Yehuda Market** and become immersed in the bustling energy of Jerusalem's *shuk* (Hebrew for "market"). Take time to wander among the many stalls where local vendors sell delicious cheeses, pastries, spices, and more and enjoy lunch on own.

Early this evening, we will celebrate the spirited ritual of Kabbalat Shabbat at the Kotel like the locals. Afterwards, enjoy a special **Shabbat dinner** at the hotel with **Nefesh B'Nefesh Lone Soldiers**, who will share their personal stories of leaving their family, friends, and homes in order to serve in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Overnight

Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem

Friday, July 14 – Shabbat

AM

Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat, services will be offered at the hotel this morning for those who are interested.

Alternatively, consider participating in one of the following optional activities:

- **Option 1: Masada & Dead Sea Tour***

Spend the day at Masada and the Dead Sea. The bus will depart from the hotel early this morning and drive via the Judean Hills along the shores of the Dead Sea. Visit Masada, the mountain fortress built by King Herod where religious zealots made their final stand against the Romans. Take a cable car ride to the top of the Herodian Palace Complex and learn about the history of the Jewish fighters. Afterwards, proceed to the Dead Sea, the lowest place on Earth. Enjoy lunch, float in the buoyant waters, and spend time relaxing at the beach.

- **Option 2: Day on Own**

Take the day to enjoy Jerusalem at your leisure. Consider visiting sites such as Yemin Moshe, Ein Kerem, or the Israel Museum, one of the world's leading art and archeology museums. Here, see the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world; view the "Holy Land Model," a miniature replica of Jerusalem as it was during the Second Temple Period; stroll through the beautiful sculpture garden; and explore other fascinating exhibits at this one-of-a-kind cultural institution.

PM

Enjoy the evening and dinner at leisure, exploring Jerusalem's nightlife at your own pace. Consider spending time this evening on **Ben Yehuda Street**, the beating heart of Jerusalem's center-city life.

Overnight

Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem

**Additional cost – not included in tour price.*



Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem

Sunday, July 15 – Negev/Departure

AM Following breakfast and hotel check-out, depart south for **Aleh Negev-Nahalat Eran**; a one-of-a-kind rehabilitative village that provides high-level medical services and unparalleled care to children with severe cognitive and physical disabilities. Tour the beautifully landscaped grounds and see the various therapeutic services offered here.

PM Enjoy a home hospitality lunch in **Ofakim**, a small but rapidly growing city in the northern Negev. Hear from the chef and local resident, **Osi**, who will share her story of growing up in the area and the challenges of living near the Gaza border.

Visit the **Sderot Indoor Recreation Center**, a JNF signature project that has provided a much-needed sense of normalcy for residents living in the hard-hit town of Sderot located less than one mile from Gaza. Learn how this secure playground was strategically built so that play areas double as bomb shelters, ensuring that all occupants can quickly reach safety in the case of a rocket attack.

Proceed to **Old Jaffa**, one of the world's oldest seaports now home to a multiethnic community of Muslims, Christians, and Jews. See the ancient ruins, explore the restored artists' quarter, and stroll through the winding alleyways while learning about the rich history of the area. Explore Jaffa's flea market, boutique shops, and enjoy Jaffa's charming atmosphere.

Enjoy a memorable farewell dinner before transferring to **Ben Gurion Airport** for return flights to the **U.S.**



Kids playing at the Sderot Indoor Recreation Center