



ITINERARY

October 6–9, 2024

We Choose Life

October 7 Solidarity
Mission to Israel



JEWISH
NATIONAL
FUND
USA

Your Voice in Israel



ITINERARY

Join us as we mark a year since the atrocities of October 7. Stand in solidarity, pay respects to those who were murdered, support the hostage families, and hear stories from people who remain evacuated from their communities.

The solidarity mission will guide participants through crucial sites impacted by the terrorist attacks, offering a chance to pay respects and witness ongoing recovery efforts firsthand. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with survivors, Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers, first responders, and community leaders who have shown remarkable resilience in the aftermath of the attacks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Arrivals / Opening Program

Group Transfers from airport to the hotel

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Opening Program at Hostage Square with Guest Speaker – Jewish National Fund-USA is a proud and strong supporter of the Hostages and Missing Families Forum in Israel. Hostage Square is the public plaza located in front of the Tel Aviv Art Museum of Art and across from the offices of the IDF. Since October 7, 2023, the families of hostages taken have encamped in the square calling attention to the plight of the hostages taken by Hamas. The square features art installations and banners calling for the release of those taken. We will hear from a representative of the Hostages and Missing Families Forum in Israel.

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Dinner at the hotel

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Overnight: Ritz Carlton, Herzliya



MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Memorializing October 7

Breakfast at the Hotel

Yad Mordechai – Kibbutz Yad Mordechai, located within the Hof Ashkelon Regional Council and just two miles from the Gaza Border, was named after Warsaw Ghetto Uprising hero Mordechai Anielewicz. The museum on the restored battlefield site, where valiant members fought during the 1948 War of Independence, was hit by a terror rocket on October 7. It ripped a hole in the exhibit of the bunker replicating the ones used by resistance fighters in the Warsaw Ghetto. This is a poignant reminder that eighty years post Holocaust, Jews are still fighting for their lives.

Sha'ar HaNegev Athletic Center – We will lay a cornerstone at the site of the new and largest sports center in the Israel Envelope in memory of Ofir Libstein. Ofir was the mayor of the Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council and he was murdered defending his kibbutz of Kfar Aza. His son Nitzan Libstein, mother-in-law Bilha Epstein, wife's nephew, Netta Epstein, and fifty-eight others were murdered that day. Nineteen people were taken hostage from Kfar Aza.

Pay our respects to communities in the Israel Envelope

Lunch

Honor the memory of the victims at the Nova Festival site – in Kibbutz Re'im and take part in a ceremony of Jewish National Fund-USA's Be Inscribed initiative, a timeless tribute of a new Sefer Torah to Kibbutz Re'im as a beacon of light and remembrance.

Attend a moving **Building Together Ceremony** at Kibbutz Re'im – commemorating those we've lost, supporting the hostage families, and envisioning future plans for rebuilding affected communities together.

Dinner at Sderot Playground

Overnight: Ritz Carlton, Herzliya



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Challenges in the North

Breakfast at the Hotel

Akko – Western Galilee Now Tourist Information Center – Tens of thousands of residents of the north of Israel have been evacuated from their homes, due to the ongoing rocket fire from Hezbollah in Lebanon. Many businesses in the north are also fighting for their lives. Most employees in the region fall into one of these categories: tourism, agriculture, or construction. With these industries halted by the evacuations, many people on reserve duty and limited tourism, the region is in dire need of help. We will have a discussion with local residents about employment & small businesses

Meet with Regional Council Representatives

Lunch in Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk

Packing Western Galilee Now boxes in honor of Yarden Buskila. Yarden Buskila grew up in Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk. He was murdered at the Nova Festival on October 7th at the age of 25. We will be packing Western Galilee Now gift boxes to be given to soldiers in Yarden's memory.

Security Briefing

Dinner with lone soldiers at the hotel

Overnight: Ritz Carlton, Herzliya



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

B'Kol Dor V'Dor Looking to the Future

Breakfast at Hotel & Checkout

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Halutza – Located in the Northwest Negev less than a mile from the Gaza border, Halutza was founded in 2005 by a group of families that left their homes during Israel's disengagement from Gaza. In partnership with JNF-USA, Halutza's pioneers laid roads, created infrastructure and housing sites, planted crops, built fields of solar energy power and more. We will meet with residents and hear how October 7th has impacted them. We will have the opportunity to plant flowers, paint with the children and tour the new community center.

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See one of the 14 communities in the South where Jewish National Fund-USA volunteers have worked to make it a place people can come back to and visit an Elementary School in the Gaza Envelope area

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Lunch

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Tour of Beer Sheva – as we follow in the footsteps of Ben Gurion we will visit the capital of the Negev and witness the unbelievable growth of the city of Beer Sheva and look to the future

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Farewell Dinner at AMHSI – South Campus

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Transfer to Airport for Departing Flights

