



Jewish National Fund of Canada
JNF University Mission
May 5 – May 15, 2016
Itinerary
SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOR THE BETTER



Thursday, May 5, 2016
Depart Toronto for Israel.

Friday, May 6, 2016

Arrive Ben Gurion. After going through customs and baggage claim, you will be met by your guide Yair. Drive to Jerusalem. As you enter Jerusalem you will pause for a traditional Schecheyanu. Continue on with a walking tour of the famous, colorful Machane Yehuda open market to see Jerusalemites in their weekly tradition of shopping for Shabbat. Here you will become immersed in the bustling energy of the most famous market in Israel.

Hotel check in.

Before Shabbat you will meet in the lobby of the hotel and take the bus to the Western Wall to experience sunset at the Kotel and “a moment for private time and reflection”. Walk back to the hotel together.

Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Prima Kings Jerusalem

Saturday, May 7, 2016

Sleep in and enjoy breakfast at leisure. Enjoy a 4-hour walking tour of the Old City, which includes a visit to the Tower of David Museum, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Via Delarosa as well as a visit to the Christian, Muslim, Armenian and Jewish quarters.

Dinner at the hotel.

In the evening there will be an opportunity to watch the amazing Sound and Light show at the Tower of David Museum.

Overnight: Prima Kings Jerusalem

Sunday, May 8, 2016

After breakfast, start your day at a JNF/KKL tree planting center where you will plant a tree with your own hands “planting your roots in the soil of Israel”. Continue south along the Gaza border and visit the people “Living on the Edge”. Your first stop will be Sderot for a special visit to the police station to see the Kassam Rockets that have fallen on the town over the years as well as a special visit to the underground command crisis centre followed by lunch in the community. On to Halutza (many of the inhabitants are evacuees of Gush Katif) to meet with the people who live in the area and to visit their hot houses, synagogue and bomb shelters that JNF Canada provided them during the last war with Gaza. You will then proceed to a lookout (Black Arrow) over the Gaza strip learning about the recent history of the area.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Prima Kings Jerusalem

Monday, May 9, 2016

After breakfast you will check out of the hotel. Your first stop will be Yad Vashem which is the memorial that honours both the holocaust martyrs and the “Righteous Amongst the Nations” who have been recognized for their compassion and courage when risking their lives to save the lives of the Jews. Continue for a special visit to Ammunition Hill. You will continue north via the Jordan Valley and visit an Army Base in the Golan Heights followed by a BBQ dinner with the soldiers. Drive to the hotel.

Hotel check in.

Overnight: Kfar Giladi Kibbutz

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

After breakfast you will visit a Research & Development Centre. Next enjoy a jeep ride in the Golan Heights and then continue on to Mt. Bental to view the Syrian City of Kunetra.

Continue on to the Golan Winery. Your next stop will be a visit to the Hula. The Agamon Hula Tourism Park is situated in the heart of the Hula Valley and is considered one of the world’s most prominent bird-watching sites. The Hula Valley nature reserve is the primary site for birds migrating along the Syrian-African Rift between Africa, Europe and Asia.

Dinner at the hotel.

In the evening take part in the Yom Hazikaron Ceremony at Kibbutz Kfar Giladi.

Overnight: Kfar Giladi Kibbutz

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

After breakfast and hotel check out enjoy a “Forester for a Day” program in Biriya Forest. You will continue north to Rosh Hanikra which is the most northern point on the coast and you will walk through the beautiful grottos carved by the sea. Drive to the Carmel Mountains and enjoy a short hike over to the Hanging Bridge over the Katia River. Drive to Tel Aviv.

Hotel check in.

Dinner at the hotel.

In the evening you will join the citizens of Tel Aviv and celebrate Israel Independence Day at Rabin Square. You will end your evening at “Rubi” a famous Israeli Bar in Tel Aviv.

Overnight: Leonardo Beach Hotel Tel Aviv

Thursday, May 12, 2016

After breakfast visit Independence Hall where the establishment of the State of Israel was declared by David Ben Gurion. Your next stop will be Ayalon Institute which tells one of the fascinating and mysterious stories in the history of the struggle for the establishment of the State of Israel. Here, underground, and right under the nose of the British, a factory was created for the production of 9mm bullets for the Sten submachine gun, which was the personal weapon of the Palmach fighters until the end of the War of Independence. Continue on to Old Jaffa and enjoy the sites and sounds of old Jaffa. End the day with a visit to Neve Tzedek, the first neighbourhood of Tel Aviv which was established in 1909.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Leonardo Beach Hotel Tel Aviv

Friday, May 13, 2016

After breakfast drive to the Dead Sea which is the lowest point on earth known to man. Continue south to Massada which is the site of the last stand by a group of Jewish Zealots against the mighty Roman Empire just 3 years after the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. Your next stop you will cover yourself in mud and enjoy a float in the unsinkable waters of the Dead Sea. On to Ein Gedi, which is a natural desert oasis where King David (before he was King) hid from King Saul.

Return to the hotel.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Leonardo Beach Hotel Tel Aviv

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Enjoy a free day in Tel Aviv.

Farewell dinner at Maganda.

Overnight: Leonardo Beach Tel Aviv

Sunday, May 15, 2016

At 01:00 transfer to Ben Gurion airport for your departure flight to Canada.