

HIGHLIGHTS!

Day One: Saturday, February 26, 2022 On The Way To Israel!

Depart USA, Overnight Flight

Day Two: Sunday, February 27, 2022

NEGEV

Arrival Ben Gurion International Airport. An Ayelet expert representative will assist us with all formalities. Once settled in our deluxe motor coach, we begin our drive south to the "Otef Azza" region near the Gaza Strip. Here we'll receive a "Security Brief" from Colonel Grisha Yakubovich, former Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories. Col. Yakubovich will review the situation in the Gaza Strip, the key players, predicted humanitarian crisis, and the Catch-22 situation. From here, we continue to the community of Netiv Ha'Asara, relocated from the Sinai into Israel following the Camp David Accords. Raz Smilovich, a local resident and guide, will share with our group about, "The Nuanced and Challenging Aspects of Raising a Family in This Idyllic-Yet-Troubled Community." We'll witness the steps taken in pursuit of peace while facing frequent missile and mortar attacks. We then travel to S'derot to tour and see, first-hand, one of JNF's Resilience Centers, designed to ease the stress of the ongoing conflict upon families and children in the region. We end the day with dinner in Ashkelon, where we'll be joined by city leadership discussing the recent assault of over 900 rockets during the last Gaza conflict. *Dinner Overnight: Hotel Leonardo, Ashkelon*

Day Three: Monday, February 28, 2022

Today we travel to Be'er Sheva. Here we'll visit the historic site of Abraham's well, the Fringe Theatre, Artist Community, Trupeldor Gallery and Writers House Gallery. While here, we also visit the Negev Brigade Memorial commemorating those who fell during Israel's War of Independence. Next we're off to the Wadi Attir Project - a groundbreaking initiative of a Bedouin community in the Negev desert, establishing a model sustainable farm, leveraging Bedouin traditional values, know-how and experience with modern science and techniques. While sharing a traditional Bedouin lunch, we'll discuss the changing roles of women as well as coexistence within Bedouin society. We end the day in Sha-ar HaNegev, San Diego's sister region, for a tour and dinner with regional Rabbi, Yael Vurgan, as well as other community dignitaries, learning about the drive to encourage students to live in villages and towns on or near the borders. *B/Bedouin Lunch/D Overnight: Hotel Iris Hamidbar, Yerucham*

Day Four: Tuesday, March 1, 2022

We start the day with a visit to the hi-tech Arava International Center For Agriculture Training in Sapir. Here we'll meet with students and faculty of this renowned center established to advance sustainable methods of cultivation in arid regions, raise product quality, find new crops and open new markets, while free-sharing critical discoveries to the region and countries abroad. We continue with a visit to Kibbutz Yahel - the first Reform kibbutz, emphasizing openness, tolerance, gender equality, individual freedom, and social justice in its communal life and activities. We'll explore the agricultural, religious, and social makeup of Yahel and enjoy lunch as well as fruit in the fields as we hear from a founding kibbutz member about life in this unique, first-of-its-kind community. After Yahel, we catch a plane for a short flight to Ben Gurion airport. As we enter Jerusalem, we'll stop atop Mt. Scopus for our first stunning glimpse of the Old City and the sharing of Shehechyanu. *B/Kibbutz Lunch Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem*

Day Five: Wednesday, March 2, 2022

JERUSALEM

Our day begins at Ammunition Hill, site of one of Israel's most famous battles. We then continue to Yad Vashem, Israel's memorial to the Holocaust. Before leaving this treasure of world Jewry, we will pause for a private memorial service in the Valley of the Communities. From here, we visit Mount Herzl National Cemetery, paying homage to those who fell fighting for the state as well as visiting the burial sites of Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin, and Shimon Peres. We conclude our time at the national cemetery with a visit to the newly opened National Memorial Hall for Israel's Fallen, recognizing each of Israel's 23,000 fallen soldiers and victims of terror. We conclude our day with a stop at Israel's 9/11 Memorial before returning to the hotel for a free evening. *B Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem*

Day Six: Thursday, March 3, 2022

This morning we'll engage with Rabbi Noa Sattah of the Israel Religious Action Center on, "The Way Forward in the Struggle for Religious Pluralism and Gender Equality in Israel." We start our touring with an exploration of the City of David. Here we'll descend into the ancient foundations of King David's Jerusalem - just outside the current "Old City." Along our exploration, we'll learn how the city was administered during the First Temple period. Our visit will include: archaeological discoveries illustrating how the early Israelites lived in ancient Jerusalem; the Gihon Spring, source of ancient Jerusalem's water; a walk through an ancient tunnel running underneath the walls of the Old City to the base of the Temple Mount - Southern Wall Excavations - at the Davidson Center where we witness a fascinating retelling of the day-to-day life of ancient Jerusalem. Just off the Davidson Center is the Kotel plaza. Here we'll explore the tunnels along the continuation of the Temple mount's western wall, emerging for a meaningful pause of personal prayer, reflection, thanksgiving and reconnection. We end our touring by making our way up to the Jewish Quarter of the current Old City. Our walking tour will include the Cardo, Broad Wall and Hurva Square. Our evening brings us a tour of the Machane Yehuda open market. Great tasting opportunities and the best falafel ever! *B Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem*

Day Seven: Friday, March 4, 2022

Today is Rosh Chodesh, the first of the month. We will join with Women of the Wall, activists for gender equality at the Western Wall, for a celebration and reading of Torah. Then get your water shoes and bathing suit ready, as we're off to Nachal David in the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve, an amazing desert oasis with springs, waterfalls, and freshwater pools. Across the road and down a

bit, we take a rare, breathtaking boat trip on the Dead Sea - witnessing up close - the amazing natural exhibition of salt formations. From here, we visit Qumran, the famed and ancient depository of the Dead Sea Scrolls. It's then back to the hotel to freshen up before welcoming Shabbat as a TAS community, followed by a sumptuous Shabbat meal. *B/D Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem*

Day Eight: Saturday, March 5, 2022

A holy day of rest, with options. Stroll through Jerusalem, join the Hebrew Union College for services, enjoy the pool, or visit the fascinating Israel Museum - repository of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Israel's archaeological finds. Later in the day, we participate in a discussion with Khaled Abu Toameh, Palestinian Affairs Correspondent for the *Jerusalem Post*, our subject: "Prevailing Views on the Palestinian Street." As Shabbat concludes with Havdalah, we can choose to welcome the week on the boisterous Ben Yehuda Street or take in the Sound and Light Show on the walls of David's Citadel. *B Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem*

Day Nine: Sunday, March 6, 2022

We begin our morning with a visit to the Gush Etzion Foundation for a dialogue with Shani Abrams Simkovitz, on, "Roots For Peace - Developing Solidarity." We then have a unique opportunity to meet with Ali Abu Awwad and Rabbi Shaul Judelman from Shorashim (Roots), a program that brings West Bank Palestinians and their Jewish neighbors together in different initiatives guided by mutual understanding and recognition of each people's connection to the land. Our evening is spent in the company of Women Who Cook - an innovative start-up opportunity for women of disadvantaged backgrounds. Together we'll learn of the culture and history of the Mizrahi Jewish community, as well as learn recipes while cooking our dinner together with these extraordinary women. *B/"Hands-on" Dinner Overnight: Dan Panorama, Jerusalem*

Day Ten: Monday, March 7, 2022

GALILEE

Today, we begin our trip to the north. First, we'll have an opportunity to ask questions of, and learn from, Gil Hoffman, the chief political correspondent and analyst for the *Jerusalem Post*. Our topic for the morning: "Israeli Politics: A Guide for the Perplexed." After driving through the Jordan valley, we arrive at Beit She-an National Park to explore one of Israel's largest archaeological sites from the Talmudic period. Our day will end with another fascinating experience, this time with Hava Almo, founder of the Garmachin Center at Beit She-an. Ms. Almo will share of the Jewish Ethiopian experience. While enjoying a traditional Ethiopian Dinner, we'll hear of her personal story, how the center advocates for the Ethiopian community, and aspires to shed light on the beauty of Ethiopian culture and traditions. *B/Traditional Ethiopian Dinner Overnight: Kibbutz Nof Ginossar, Galilee*

Day Eleven: Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Today, we greet the morning in the mystic city of Tzfat - home of Jewish mysticism and one of Judaism's four holy cities. Tzfat is well known as the world center of Kabbalah. We'll explore: the Meiri Museum; Ari synagogue of Rabbi Isaac Luria who developed the Kabbalah; and the 16th century Caro synagogue, where Rabbi Joseph Caro taught and lived. Lunch on own, personal exploration and shopping time. Leaving Tzfat, we make our way to the northern border, overlooking Lebanon, where we meet with Eitan Oren, member of Kibbutz Malkia, to learn of the security aspects of living adjacent to this sensitive border. We'll also meet with the soldiers who secure the border and the Kibbutz. Then it's off to Ramot Naftali Winery, in the Kedesh Valley to sample the fare of this world-acclaimed, award-winning winery. *B/D Overnight: Kibbutz Nof Ginossar, Galilee*

Day Twelve: Wednesday, March 9, 2022

TEL AVIV

We begin our morning at Mawer Lookout Point in the Hula Valley - a perfect stop for stories about pioneering, Zionism, and global migratory bird watching! We then travel to take in the breathtaking vista over Haifa Bay and Baha'i Gardens, one of the holiest sites of the Baha'i religion. We end the day with a tour of Caesarea Archaeological Park constructed by Herod the Great between 22 and 10 BC. Its Roman Theater, Crusader harbor and 12th-century ramparts are part of our discovery. The evening's dinner will be spent with scholar Paul Liptz from the Tel Aviv University and Hebrew Union College, discussing, "Key Issues Shaping Israeli Society Today - Stronger Than Ever Or Splitting Into 'Tribes'?" *B/D Overnight: Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv*

Day Thirteen: Thursday, March 10, 2022

Today we travel to Tel Aviv for lunch and shopping on Nachalat Binyamin, a pedestrian mall lined with outdoor cafes, shops and a famous bustling art fair. We'll also have time to take in Rothschild Boulevard, one of the iconic streets of Tel Aviv whose Bauhaus Architecture crowned her as a UNESCO heritage city. The day continues with a visit to the 3,000-year-old city of Jaffa to experience its unique charms, history, and heritage including a fascinating tour of Tel Aviv's vibrant urban Graffiti Art. Tonight, is free to take in the Tel Aviv beach scene! *B Overnight: Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv*

Day Fourteen: Friday, March 11, 2022

This morning, we meet with young entrepreneur and current Google exec. Rony Rozen, to discuss her story as well as high-tech innovation in this start-up nation. We then visit the Ayalon Institute Armory where the Haganah produced munitions in secret during the Mandate period as well as the newly opened Agam Museum. The afternoon will be left for shopping and packing. Tonight we welcome Shabbat as a TAS community before enjoying our Sabbath meal. *B/D Overnight: Dan Panorama, Tel Aviv*

Day Fifteen: Saturday, March 13, 2022

Enjoying a leisurely start, our Shabbat experience will begin with an uplifting visit to the new Museum Of The Jewish People: capturing the fascinating narrative of the Jewish people and the essence of Jewish culture, faith, purpose and deed while presenting the contributions of world Jewry to humanity. Tonight we enjoy a parting havdalah together over an incredible final meal at our favorite Yemenite restaurant, Maganda. Blessed with life-long memories, we transfer to the airport with assistance from our expert travel representatives, and bid our ancient-modern land, "I'hitra-ot." *B/D Overnight: Flight to USA*

Come Learn, Discover and Celebrate!

Included:

- 15 Days of Touring, Dialogues and Specialist Presentations!
- 14 Nights First-Class, Four-Star Accommodations!
- 9 Dinners, 2 Lunches and Mind-Blowing Daily Breakfasts!
- 2 Pre-Trip Meetings for Tour Information, Education about Israel, and Getting to Know One Another!
- Private English-Speaking, Government-Licensed, Hand-Selected Guide!
- Deluxe Air-Conditioned Tour Bus! (2 water bottles per person, per day, provided)
- ALL Entrance Fees, Group Transfers, Luggage Handling, and Airport Assistance Upon Arrival/Departure!
- ALL Tips for Guides, Driver and Dining Room Staff Included!
- Cool T.A.S. Israel Trip Swag!
- Surprises, Spiritual Adventures, and Much, Much More Along the Way!

Exclusive Speakers:

- Colonel Grisha Yakubovich, Former Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories
- Raz Smilovich, Gaza Border Resident and Guide
- Rabbi Yael Vurgan & Members of Ayalim Association, Sha-ar HaNegev, San Diego Sister-Region
- Bedouin Community Dignitaries
- Dana Sharon, Women of the Wall
- Khaled Abu Toameh, Palestinian Affairs Correspondent, Jerusalem Post
- Shani Abrams Simkovitz, Gush Etzion Foundation
- Ali Abu Awwad and Rabbi Shaul Judelman from Shorashim West Bank Palestinians and Jewish Israelis
- Rabbi Noa Sattath, Israel Religious Action Center
- Gil Hoffman, Chief Political Correspondent and Analyst, Jerusalem Post
- Hava Almo, Founder, Garmachin Center at Beit She-an Ethiopian Community
- Eitan Oren, IDF Soldiers, Issues on the Lebanese Border
- Paul Liptz, Scholar, Tel Aviv University/Hebrew Union College, "Israel: Getting Stronger or Splitting Into 'Tribes'?"
- Rony Rozen, Entrepreneur, Google Exec., "Israel's High-Tech. Start-Up Genius"

Hotels:

Ashkelon: Hotel Leonardo
Jerusalem: Dan Panorama
Negev: Iris Hamidbar
Galilee: Kibbutz Nof Ginosar
Tel Aviv: Dan Panorama

Land Costs:

	<u>Check</u>	<u>Credit Card</u>
30 + participants	US \$ 4,999	\$ 5,149
20-29 participants	US \$ 5,419	\$ 5,582
Single supplement (+)	US \$ 1,895	(+) \$ 1,952
Triple Reduction (Save)	US \$ 320 pp in Triple Room	

Group Airfare:

Is available from San Diego International Airport
Round trip group airfare will be available. NOTE: airfare departure, and fuel surcharges are subject to change until ticketed.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Round trip airfare departure taxes and fuel surcharges
- Any items of a personal nature.
- Meals not listed
- Travel Insurance. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)

DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION POLICY:

There is a \$500/person deposit due upon registration. Full payment is due 61 days prior to departure. Cancellation policy for individual bookings: \$100 per person, once booked, plus any applicable airline penalties; \$250 per person if canceled up to 91 days prior to departure, plus any applicable airline penalties; \$500 per person if canceled 90-31 days prior to departure, plus any applicable airline penalties; and 100% penalty if canceled 30 days or fewer prior to departure. Please note: See Ayelet website for latest Covid policies.

Full terms and conditions here: <https://ayelet.com/terms-and-conditions/>

For More Information: contact Rabbi David Castiglione at: Rabbic@adatshalom.com Subject: "Israel Trip"

EXCLUSIVE WEBSITE/TRAVEL APP. FOR REGISTRATION: [SECURE.AYELET.COM/TAS22.ASPX](https://secure.ayelet.com/TAS22.ASPX)

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Informational ZOOM Meeting
Sunday, September 19th, 7:00 pm!

Tour facilitated by Ayelet Tours - the TAS standard for over 30 years. Ayelet is also the exclusive provider for Hadassah, The World Union of Progressive Judaism, The American Jewish Congress and many other major organizations!

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