



*****ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TOLEDO MISSION TO ISRAEL

6-14 NOVEMBER 2023





Nov. 6 – Monday – Bruchim Haba'im - Welcome to Israel

Day 01 (itinerary subject to change)

Arrival at **Ben Gurion airport**. A **representative** will wait for you just before the passport control. He/she will assist you through all the arrival procedure and will then see you to your awaiting guide and driver.



Transfer to **Azrieli Center** for **icebreaker activity** and a view from the **observation deck**

Lunch at a **restaurant**

Drive to your hotel and enter the **meeting room** for a discussion on Israel's challenges and opportunities led by **Neri Zilber**

Meet the Israelis activity led by **Rabbi Moshe Zeldman**

Check into your hotel room to freshen up

Enjoy a **festive welcome dinner** at a **restaurant** at the **Tel Aviv Port**

Overnight – Tel Aviv



Nov. 7 – Tuesday – Tel Aviv – the first Hebrew City

Day 02 (itinerary subject to change)

Optional: Early morning walk around the *Tayelet*, the beachside promenade

Breakfast at the hotel

Walking tour of **Old Jaffa**, **Jaffa Flea Market**, and overlook of Tel Aviv, and learn what makes Tel Aviv's Bauhaus architecture, declared a **UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site**, unique through a tour with the **Bauhaus Center**

OR

Have a special “**Shuk & Cook**” activity. In the morning you will walk through the Carmel Market to get fresh products, and visit the studio of celebrated **chef Jon Elias** for a special cooking experience (**costed separately**). Enjoy lunch of **your own cooking**

Explore Tel Aviv's neighborhoods and attractions, including the museums on **Bialik Street**, **Carmel Market**, **Nachalat Binyamin Art Fair**, **Rothschild Boulevard**, **Levinski Market**, **Neve Tzedek**, and **Florentin**, including cash lunch

OR

visit **ANU Museum of the Jewish People** at Tel Aviv University with cash lunch on campus

Tour of **Independence Hall**

Visit **Rabin Square** to learn about Yitzhak Rabin's life, leadership, and tragic death

Cash dinner at the bustling and modern **Sarona Market**

Optional: **Street Art Night Tour** of some of Tel Aviv's most “hip” neighborhoods **OR** attend performance at **Habima**, Israel's national theatre (pending performance availability – not costed)

Overnight – Tel Aviv



Nov. 8 – Wednesday – A Mosaic of Israel Conflict and Coexistence

Day 03 (itinerary subject to change)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out of hotel

Travel to the “balcony” overlooking Tel Aviv in the settlement of **Alfei Menashe** for a political topography tour to understand one perspective on the future of Israeli/Palestinian relations with **Dr. Danny Tirza**. In the years 2003 – 2007, Dr. Tirza led the IDF military unit that planned and executed Israel’s “Security Fence”

Learn about Palestinians, Israelis, and Palestinian-Israelis in the town of **Barta’a**, which straddles both sides of the Green Line, including packed lunch

Drive to the beautiful city of **Haifa** and visit the world-famous **Baha’i Gardens**

Arrive in the Western Galilee

Explore the grottos of **Rosh HaNikra** on the border with Lebanon. Hear from an **expert** about the security situation in the north as the sun sets over the Mediterranean

OR

Experience the impact of your Campaign gift: Visit the **YOUiversity** program run by ORT

Check in your hotel to freshen up

Partnership2Gether Mega Event and dinner with local Israelis and P2G staff

Overnight – Western Galilee



Nov. 9 – Thursday – The Western Galilee and Our Toledo Connection

Day 04 (itinerary subject to change)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out of hotel

Meeting with **Partnership2Gether** staff at the Partnership Center to learn about our special connection

Experience the impact of your Campaign gift:

Learn about an **employment program for Haredi men** run by JDC

OR

Visit to the **Galilee Medical Center** with a focus on coexistence

Tour of Akko's **Old City and souk** (market) surrounded by Crusader walls

Cash lunch at the famous **Uri Buri** fish restaurant, **OR Hummus Said**

Experience the impact of your Campaign gift:

Visit the **Akko Educators' Kibbutz**

OR

Meet a family served by the Jewish Agency's **Youth Futures** program

Drive to Jerusalem

Dinner at a restaurant at the First Station, Jerusalem's original railroad station

Hotel check-in

Optional: Explore **Jerusalem's night life** with visit to Machane Yehudah after dark

Overnight – Jerusalem



Nov. 10 – Friday – Jerusalem – Cradle of Faith

Day 05 (itinerary subject to change)

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit **Yad Vashem**, the National Memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, including the Avenue of the Righteous, the Historical Museum and the Children's Memorial, on the 85th anniversary of Kristallnacht

Lunch at **Machane Yehudah** market ("the *shuk*") with tasting card/map

Prepare for Shabbat

Tour of **Old City** followed by joining thousands welcoming Shabbat at the **Kotel** (Western Wall) with prayer, song and dance

Candle Lighting Time: 4:03 p.m.

Walk from the Western Wall to "**Shabbat of a Lifetime**" home hospitality Shabbat dinner with Israeli families. After dinner, walk back to hotel

Overnight – Jerusalem



Nov. 11 – Saturday – Shabbat in Jerusalem Masada and the Dead Sea

Day 06 (itinerary subject to change)

OPTION 1: (Shomer Shabbat)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Optional:** Jerusalem has hundreds of synagogues representing dozens of ethnic and liturgical traditions that converged here from all over the world. **Walk to a synagogue** (or late wake-up)
- Q & A with **Khaled Abu Toameh**, a leading Palestinian-Israeli journalist and political commentator, at the hotel
- Sabbath lunch at the hotel
- **Optional:** Walk to the **Israel Museum**, **OR** Machane Yehuda **street art tour** and walk to Old City
- **Havdalah** – ceremony concluding Shabbat at the hotel (the Sabbath in Jerusalem ends at 5:20 p.m.)

OPTION 2: (Not Shomer Shabbat)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Take the cable car or climb Masada** to tour this mountain fortress and learn about one of the most dramatic stories in Jewish history, its meaning for modern Israelis and for us. Packed lunch at Masada
- Float in the **Dead Sea** at Kalia Beach
- Return to Jerusalem in time for **Havdalah** – ceremony concluding Shabbat at the hotel (the Sabbath in Jerusalem ends at 5:20 p.m.)

AFTER SHABBAT:

- Tower of David **Sound and Light Show** depicting the history of Jerusalem, **OR** Western Wall **Tunnel Tour**
- Cash dinner

Optional: Guided **nocturnal walk on the rooftops** of Jerusalem's Old City

Overnight – Jerusalem



Nov. 12 – Sunday – Israel's Northern Periphery And Security Challenges

Day 7 (itinerary subject to change)

Breakfast at the hotel

Drive through the **Jordan River Valley** and around the **Sea of Galilee** to the mystical city of **Tzfat**, famous for its history and art. Cash lunch and shopping in Tzfat

Enter the **Golan Heights**

Take a **Jeep tour** in the mountains passed abandoned Syrian military bunkers

OR

Visit **Ancient Katzrin Park**, a Talmudic village for a **pita bread making workshop**, and visit a **winery** for a local wine tasting

Visit **Mt. Bental** for an assessment on the chaos that has overcome Syria in recent years overlooking the Syrian border with **Dr. Nir Boms**, a leading expert on the Syrian civil war and an advocate for humanitarian assistance to the Syrian people

Falafel or shwarma cash dinner in the Golan Heights

Return to hotel in Jerusalem

Overnight – Jerusalem



Nov. 13 – Monday – Israel Southern Periphery And Security Challenges

Day 8 (itinerary subject to change)

Breakfast at the hotel

Tour of **Erez Crossing** into Gaza and visit the **Path to Peace** in Netiv HaAsara

Experience the impact of your Campaign gift: Visit **Kfar Silver**, a youth village and school operated by ORT and supported by your campaign contributions, including lunch

Tour **Sderot**, a small Israeli city located along the **border with Gaza**. Get a glimpse into Gaza from an overlook and listen to a briefing on the political issues followed by meetings with residents of Sderot and the surrounding area

Visit to the **SodaStream Factory** and Visitors Center to learn about integrating Israel's diverse workforce

OR

Visit the Bedouin Arab city of **Rahat** to meet with social activists confronting the challenges of life in a society undergoing radical social and economic transition

Traditional **Bedouin campfire Hafla** dinner at **Kfar Nokdim** in the desert

Return to hotel in Jerusalem

Overnight – Jerusalem



Nov. 14 – Tuesday – Contemporary issues And Possible Solutions

Day 9 (itinerary subject to change)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out of hotel

Tour of **The Knesset**, Israel's parliament

OR

Tour of the **Supreme Court**, Israel's highest court

Visit the new Palestinian city of **Rawabi** and meet with the town's developer **Bashar al-Masri (pending security situation)** with packed lunch

OR

Stay in Jerusalem to tour a **Haredi neighborhood** to learn about the issues facing this growing community followed by a visit with **Shevet Achim**, a Christian organization helping children from Gaza, Iraq and Syria come to Israel for open-heart surgeries, with lunch

Visit the **Ayalon Institute**, a former **bullet factory hidden beneath a laundry room**, that was pivotal to 1940s Israeli war efforts

OR

Tour the **Weizmann Institute of Science**

Encounter a discussion on the role of extremism and incitement in regional political cultures with **Itamar Marcus**, CEO of **Palestine Media Watch**, and **Tag Meir** chairman Gadi Gvryahu at the Weizmann Institute

Learn about Israel's challenge of being a Jewish and Democratic State with **Daniel Gordis** at the Weizmann Institute

Farewell dinner

Drive to Ben Gurion International Airport

Arrival in Detroit on November 15th