EXPERIENCE ISRAEL

Community and Jewish heritage are the background for an Israel opportunity as you've never experienced before. Experience the rich history, breathtaking scenery and sacred places where ancient civilizations once thrived and where the Jewish future is being written.



Jewish Federation & Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

TOLEDO JEWISH COMMUNITY MISSION

November 6 - 14, 2023



An Israel Journey of a Lifetime

Your tour of Israel includes nine days of art and culture, history, attractions and adventure. Prepare to be awestruck at the old city of Jaffa, the Galilee, the new city of Jerusalem and the Jewish Quarter of the Old City. You'll visit the holiest site in Judaism, the Western Wall, and tour the Israel Museum and view the Dead Sea Scrolls. You'll get an up-close view of the center of Israeli government – the Knesset and the Supreme Court. Your trip-of-a-lifetime includes swimming in the therapeutic waters of the Dead Sea, a Jeep tour of the Golan Heights, ascending Masada by cable car, and so much more! And when it's time for you to rest and recharge, you'll do it at hotels in the heart of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and at a "kibbutz experience" boutique hotel in the Western Galilee.





BEAUTIFUL
Tel Aviv

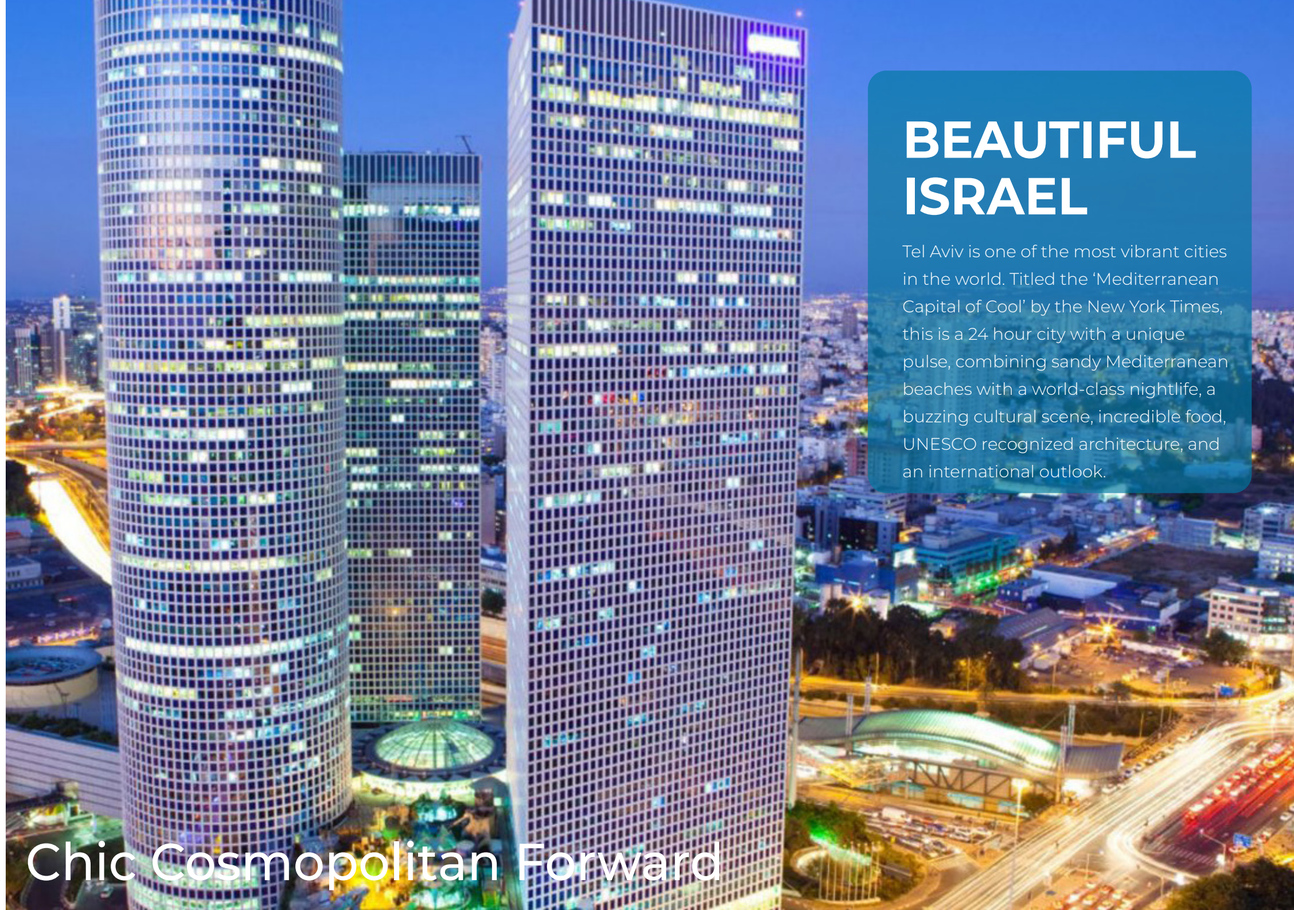
The beginning of the Jewish State and the start of your Israel discovery.

From the most upbeat neighborhood of Florentine to the 4,000 year old city of Jaffa, Tel Aviv, thrives with world-class arts and culture.

Your Tel Aviv experience includes:

- A special **Street Art Night tour** of some of Tel Aviv's most "hip" neighborhoods.
- Walking tour of the fashionable **Neve Tzedek, the first neighborhood to be built outside of the Old City of Jaffa,** where many well-know artists and intellectuals lived.
- A visit to **Rabin Square** to learn about Yitzhak Rabin's life, leadership, and tragic death
- A tour of the ANU Museum of the Jewish People at Tel Aviv University

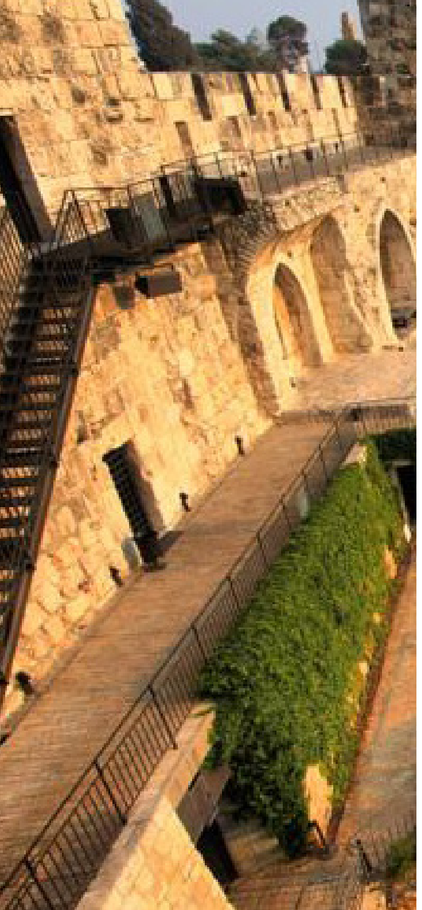
Jaffa Tel Aviv Neve Tzedek



BEAUTIFUL ISRAEL

Tel Aviv is one of the most vibrant cities in the world. Titled the 'Mediterranean Capital of Cool' by the New York Times, this is a 24 hour city with a unique pulse, combining sandy Mediterranean beaches with a world-class nightlife, a buzzing cultural scene, incredible food, UNESCO recognized architecture, and an international outlook.

Chic Cosmopolitan Forward



AWE-INSPIRING JERUSALEM

No other place like it in our world, Jerusalem is a breathtaking focal point for religion, culture and history.

Your Jerusalem experience includes:

- The holiest place in Judaism today, the **Western Wall – Kotel**. We will have a special behind-the-scenes tour of the Kotel, including the subterranean spaces under the classic Western Wall Tunnels – one of the most popular sites in Jerusalem
- Walk through the **Jewish Quarter** of Jerusalem's **Old City**
- Walk through the halls of the **new Supreme Court**, a spectacular building incorporating traditional Middle Eastern motifs with contemporary design. Stop at the **Knesset** to see where Israel's plenary takes place and pause for a picture in front of the famous Menorah depicting the history of the Jewish people
- Visit **Machane Yehuda Market** (Shuk) and enjoy a special tasting menu from select stands
- **Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum** on the 85th commemoration of Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass
- A **Shabbat of a Lifetime** experience: Enjoy a home-cooked Friday night dinner — an unforgettable experience at the home of a local family.

Layers of the past **Inspiration for the future**

AWE-INSPIRING ISRAEL

Discover the unparalleled beauty, taste the special dishes, and inhale the clean mountain air of the city that has driven history for millenia. Experience Jerusalem today and understand why it continues to be inspirational for so many.



AMAZING
NATURAL WONDERS

When it comes to nature, Israel has it all. The country itself may be small, under 300 miles long and about 85 miles across at its widest point, but what it lacks in area it makes up for in diverse, beautiful scenery.

Explore the scenic beauty of Israel, including:

Sandy beaches with sunset views, green trees and fields, solemn desert, fascinating geological formations and more ...

- Visit a winery for a tour and **wine tasting**
- Ascend up to **Masada** by cable car and tour the famous ancient fortress built by King Herod
- Enjoy floating in the therapeutic waters of the mineral rich **Dead Sea**
- Buckle in to a **Jeep tour** in the mountains of the Golan Heights passed abandoned Syrian military bunkers

Natural Diversity

AMAZING ISRAEL

Israel is a beautiful country of diverse landscapes and scenery, ranging from desert in the south, to lush green hills in the north.

Picturesque Scenery



VITAL
Western Galilee

Art to science, medicine to geopolitics, Israel's Western Galilee boasts vital national resources, lifesaving medicine, and cultural treasures. Beyond our Partnership region, Israel's northern frontier awaits.

Connect with the global forerunner that is Israel today:

Engage with our Partnership in Israel's Western Galilee. From a visit to the state-of-the-art Galilee Medical Center to a geopolitical tour of the north to the Lebanon border, you'll exchange ideas with people at the forefront of building Israel's strengths and reinforcing our connections with Jews across the world.

- Tour the **Galilee Medical Center** in Nahariya, including the underground hospital, the new ER and receive updates on the treatment of the wounded Syrians.
- **Meet with the recipients of life-changing programs** fueled by our Federation's Community Campaign dollars.
- **Explore the historic alleyways of Akko** and walk where history was made.
- Celebrate Israel at 75 and our Partnership relationship at 25 with a **Partnership2gether Mega Event** with local Israelis, including friends who have visited Toledo, such as participants of the Women Leading a Dialogue program.
- Visit the **mystical city of Tzfat** and stroll the narrow, winding alleys; visit some of the beautiful synagogues and browse through the artists' workshops and galleries.
- Partake in a **geopolitical tour** at Kunetra Outlook and Mt. Bental to view the Syrian border and learn about the challenges facing Israel with the Syrian Civil War.

Art Science

VITAL ISRAEL

Israel possesses a number of distinct regions, with landscapes varying between coast, mountain, valley and desert landscapes, with just about everything in between. In a relatively small geographic region, Israel claims a diverse population in a highly urbanized and economically developed society.

Medicine Agriculture





HISTORIC ISRAEL

The Hurva Synagogue

The Hurva Synagogue, in the Jewish Quarter, was Jerusalem's main Ashkenazi synagogue until its destruction by the Arab legions during the 1948 War of Independence. The newly rebuilt synagogue was dedicated in 2010.



AGRICULTURAL ISRAEL

Where even the seemingly ordinary is nothing short of extraordinary.

Visit the Weizmann Institute of Science in the agricultural community of Rehovot to learn about Israel's amazing accomplishments with little water and few natural resources.



BREATHTAKING ISRAEL

A political topography tour provides a glimpse into the big struggle for this small land

Travel to the "balcony" overlooking Tel Aviv in a nearby settlement to understand one perspective of Israeli-Palestinian relations with Col. (ret) Danny Tirza, the architect of the security fence between Israel and the West Bank.

Sampling a few highlights



Israel Museum

We will visit the renovated and exciting **Israel Museum**, where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** are exhibited and view the Model of Jerusalem, as it used to look during the Second Temple period. Time for last minute shopping at the beautiful Israel Museum gift shop.

Sound and Light Show

This evening, enjoy dinner on your own. We will meet in the lobby of our hotel and walk to the Tower of David to see the **Sound and Light Show** depicting the history of Jerusalem along the ancient stones.





Khaled Abu Toameh

Meet with Khaled Abu Toameh, a Palestinian award winning journalist and documentary producer that has been covering Palestinian affairs for nearly three decades.



Luxurious hotels
Top-rated restaurants



Royal Beach Tel Aviv

One of Tel Aviv's nicest hotels

A 5 star hotel in a fantastic location, by the Mediterranean beach with plenty of shops and restaurants nearby. Presenting the ultimate in luxurious prestige, the Royal Beach is located on the non-stop city's bustling promenade.



NEA Resort, Western Galilee

The nicest hotel in our Partnership region, located in a sleepy village 100 meters from the sea

NEA is a boutique hotel nestled in northern Israel in the moshav of Shavei Tzian. NEA invites you to enjoy the tranquility and peace of nature, the pastoral vistas of the Galilee (including the turquoise ocean and breathtaking shores) and beautiful rooms.



Herbert Samuel Jerusalem

Located in the heart of Jerusalem, the Herbert Samuel Hotel is steps away from the best shopping and restaurants

The hotel's prime location, in the middle of downtown Jerusalem and close to the Old City and the Machane Yehuda Market, offers unparalled views of the city.

Itinerary

The mission includes Tel Aviv, the Western Galilee, the Golan Heights, Jerusalem, and the Negev Desert. Each day follows an educational theme.

Mission dates: November 6-14, 2023

	Themes	Date
Day 1	*Bruchim Haba'im* – Welcome to Israel!	Nov 6
Day 2	Tel Aviv – The First Hebrew City	Nov 7
Day 3	A Mosaic of Israel – Conflict and Coexistence	Nov 8
Day 4	The Western Galilee and Our Toledo Connection	Nov 9
Day 5	Jerusalem – Cradle of Faith	Nov 10
Day 6	Shabbat in Jerusalem / Masada and the Dead Sea	Nov 11
Day 7	Israel's Northern Periphery and Security Challenges	Nov 12
Day 8	Israel's Southern Periphery and Security Challenges	Nov 13
Day 9	Contemporary Issues and Possible Solutions	Nov 14

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo is generously subsidizing the cost of this mission.

Before subsidies, the trip costs $4,400 per person
- Each participant receives an automatic $1,400 subsidy, bringing the cost to **$3,000 per person**
- Young adults (18-45) receive an additional $1,000 subsidy, bringing the cost to **$2,000 per young adult**
- All participants are asked to pledge at least $500 a year for three years to the community campaign
- These prices do not include suggested gratuities for the tour guides and bus drivers totaling approximately $150 per person

*Prices assume double occupancy; single occupancy will incur an additional charge

This mission includes:
- Adults only (18+)
- 9 days on the ground in Israel
- Two busses, around 30 people per bus (60 people total), each with their own tour guide and medic/guard
- Each bus will follow a similar, but not identical, itinerary
- Various optional excursion opportunities in addition to each day's scheduled itinerary

With many community members likely interested in extending their time in Israel, Europe, or elsewhere in the Middle East, these prices do not include airfare. If you require assistance with booking a flight, please contact Stephanie Gersten at Ottawa Hills Travel Group: stephanie@ohtco.com. Stephanie has our mission itinerary and can help you book your flights. Please note there is a $35 fee when booking with a travel agent, payable to Ottawa Hills Travel Group at the time of booking flights. We ask that all participants arrive at the Tel Aviv airport no later than 10 a.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, with flights departing Israel no earlier than 11:45 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023.

Mission questions? Please contact Daniel Pearlman, VP Community and Government Relations, at 419-724-0315 or at daniel@jewishtoledo.org
To register and learn more, please visit https://www.jewishtoledo.org/mission. Itinerary subject to change.

Jewish Federation & Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO



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HONORING OUR PAST
CELEBRATING THE PRESENT
CARING FOR OUR FUTURE