

JEWISH CONGREGATION
OF NEW PALTZ PRESENTS

the **GLORY OF ISRAEL**

MAY 12-26, 2019

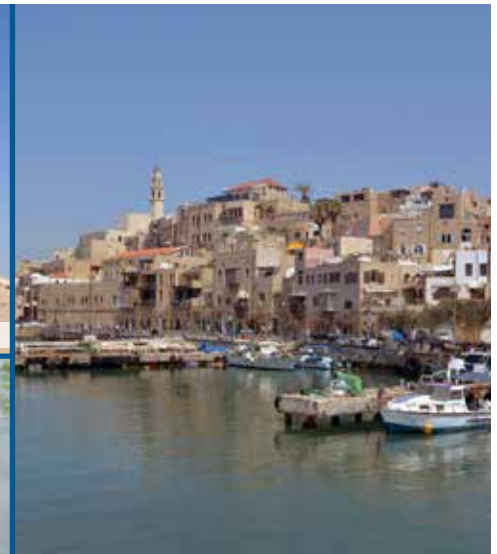




TEL AVIV



CAESAREA



JAFFA



ARIEL SHARON PARK

SUNDAY, MAY 12 - Depart Newark with El Al nonstop flight #26 to Tel Aviv, leaving at 9:00pm.

MONDAY, MAY 13 - TEL AVIV (D)

Upon arrival at Tel Aviv Ben Gurion Airport at 2:25pm, you will be met by a Ya'lla Tours USA Israel representative and transferred to your hotel for overnight. TAL BY THE BEACH is located just steps away from Metzizim Beach and Tel Aviv's vibrant port, shopping, dining and nightlife areas. www.atlas.co.il/tal-hotel-tel-aviv
Evening: dinner in one of Tel Aviv best restaurants on the beach.

TUESDAY, MAY 14 - TEL AVIV (B)

You will be met in the hotel lobby by your private guide. Start your tour today with an orientation tour of Tel Aviv, the largest and most vibrant city in Israel. Continue to Independence Hall, where David Ben Gurion announced the establishment of the State of Israel. Drive along Rothschild Blvd. and nearby streets to see some of the 4,000 Bauhaus buildings that make up the White City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Continue for a tour of the Diaspora Museum, including the new Judaism and Humour exhibition. On to the Palmach Museum to see, hear, and feel what it meant to be a youngster fighting for Israel's independence.

Visit Tel Aviv's old city of Jaffa. Continue to the nearby, beautifully renovated Tahana (railroad station), with shops and cafes.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15 - TEL AVIV (B)

Visit the Ariel Sharon Park, one of the biggest environmental rehabilitation projects in the world. This once polluted land is now a flourishing park and the green lung of the country's most densely populated urban region. Start with a short lecture, followed by a film detailing the change from the most famous garbage hill to a thriving modern green park. Drive to the Ayalon Institute, an underground ammunition factory that operated in 1948 in defiance of the British, who prevented the Jews from buying or manufacturing weapons in anticipation of the Arab invasion. Visit Soreq Cave, also known as Avshalom Cave or Stalactite Cave, discovered in 1968, while quarrying in the Judean hills. The cave is teeming with stalactites and natural sculptures.

THURSDAY, MAY 16 - TIBERIAS (B,D)

Drive along the Mediterranean Coast to the ancient port city of Caesarea, built by Herod the Great to honor Roman Caesar Augustus. Herod built a port in the bay and erected all the cultural institutions found in every great Greco-Roman city, including a theater, a hippodrome, a luxurious bathhouse and an extensive aqueduct system stretching from the springs of Mt. Carmel to Caesarea. Continue to Mt. Carmel and the city of Haifa. Enjoy the panoramic views of the largest port of Israel, and the Shrine of the Baha'i. Drive to Akko (ancient Acre), the maritime capital of the Crusader Kingdom. Visit the Knights' Halls, one of the most beautiful and impressive remains from this period. Visit Rosh Hanikra, one of Israel's most unusual natural phenomena. Drive to Tiberias for dinner and overnight. Stay in a Panoramic View Room at LEONARDO TIBERIAS on the Sea of Galilee. www.leonardo-hotels.com/israel-hotels/tiberias-hotels/leonardo-hotel-tiberias



BAHA'I SHRINE, HAIFA



AKKO



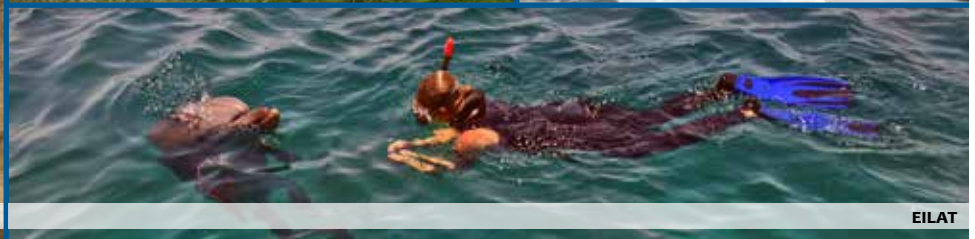
MASADA



GOLAN HEIGHTS



BEIT SHEAN



EILAT

FRIDAY, MAY 17 - TIBERIAS (B,L,D)

Drive north to one of the four holiest Jewish cities, Zafed, steeped in the mystical tradition of Kabbalah. Visit the art galleries and the ancient synagogues. Meet David Friedman for a talk on Kabbalah. Drive to Kibbutz Gadot to see Mitzpe Gadot, which once served as a Syrian base, commanding a spectacular view of the Hula Valley and kibbutzim below. Enjoy lunch at the kibbutz and then meet a local kibbutznik for a tour around the property. Continue to Sha'ar Yishuv on the old border of the Golan Heights, a moshav which took much fire from Syria before the Six Day War. In 1997 this was the site of a national disaster, when two IDF helicopters collided mid-air above the moshav, killing 73 soldiers. Return to Tiberias for Kabbalat Shabbat and overnight.

SATURDAY, MAY 18 - TIBERIAS (B,D)

Drive to Beth Shean, one of Israel's most ancient cities. In its 7,000-year history, the Egyptian, Roman and Byzantine empires laid claim to the site, attracted by abundant water, fertile soil and the situation at an important east-west crossroads. Drive south to Belvoir (Kohav HaYarden), one of the best-preserved Crusader fortresses in Israel. Walk across the moat and visit the fortress with its spectacular views of the Jordan Valley. On the way to the Golan Heights, we'll stop to gaze down over the Galilee as the Syrians once did. In the Valley of the Tears, hear the moving story of Kahalani's battle to secure the Golan Heights during the Yom Kippur War. Take a 4X4 ride into the hidden corners of the Golan Heights. Continue to Mt. Bental for an outstanding view of the Upper Galilee and the Golan Heights. Return to Tiberias for dinner and overnight.

SUNDAY, MAY 19 - EILAT (B)

Leave Tiberias early and drive south through the Jordan Valley to the Bika Monument, a memorial to the Israeli soldiers who died in this area from 1967 to 1971. Continue via Jericho, the oldest city in the world, to the Dead Sea. Visit the natural fortress of Masada, with majestic ruins overlooking the Dead Sea.

Peer into amazing water cisterns as a cable car delivers us up to Herod the Builder's elaborate aerie. Marvel at the impressive villas built on different levels. Imagine bathing in one of the luxurious bath houses. Large store houses fed hundreds. Jewish zealots held the rock against the unrelenting 10th Roman legion until 72 CE, when a monumental siege, using an astounding attack ramp, conquered the fortress. The camps and other fortifications that encircle the mesa constitute the most complete Roman siege-works to have survived to the present day. Descend by cable car and drive to the Dead Sea beach to take a dip in this saltiest lake in the world. Drive south through the Arava Valley to the Red Sea resort of Eilat for overnight. RIMONIM EILAT is a beautiful 4.5-star hotel, located on the beach and within 5 minutes from the entertainment and shopping of downtown Eilat. <http://rimonim.com/en/hotel/eilat/about/>

MONDAY, MAY 20 - EILAT (B)

Enjoy a morning at leisure. In late morning, visit the Underwater Observatory and see the wonderful flora and fauna of the Red Sea. The afternoon is at leisure. Optional tour: Take a 4X4 ride into the Red Canyon and the mountains surrounding Eilat. The cost is \$85 per person, based on a minimum of 8 participants.



DAVID FRIEDMAN, ZAFED



THE DEAD SEA



PETRA



MACHNE YEHUDA MARKET



DEAD SEA SCROLLS EXHIBITION AT SHRINE OF THE BOOK



THE WESTERN WALL

TUESDAY, MAY 21 - EILAT (Petra) (B,L)

After an early breakfast, your guide will transfer you to the Arava border crossing. After the border formalities, you will be met by your private Jordanian guide and proceed to Petra (driving time is approximately 2 hours). On arrival at Wadi Musa go on foot through the siq (canyon) to Petra, also known as Sela Edom or Red Rock City, the Nabatean capital from the 3rd century BCE to the 2nd century CE. Visit the most interesting rock-carved monuments, such as the Treasury (El Khazneh), the field of tombs, obelisks, and the Altar (Al Madhbah). Lunch en route. After touring, proceed south towards the Israeli/Jordanian border. Once back in Israel, you will be met and transferred back to your hotel for overnight.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22 - JERUSALEM (B)

Drive north through the Arava Valley. Stop at Kibbutz Yotveta and try some of Israel's most delicious dairy products. Visit the Timna Valley and King Solomon's Pillars. Continue through the spectacular Ramon Crater (Israel's Grand Canyon). At Sde Boker, visit David Ben Gurion's Hut and Tomb. Take a driving tour of Beer Sheva, Israel's largest city in the Negev. Then climb the Judean Hills to Jerusalem. Stay in a Superior Room at LEONARDO BOUTIQUE, a charming property, within walking distance of the Old City, Machne Yehuda Market and downtown Jerusalem's pedestrian district. fattal-hotels.com

THURSDAY, MAY 23 - JERUSALEM (B)

Drive to Mt. of Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem. Continue to the City of David excavations, which reveal the earliest days of Jerusalem dating to King David. Weather permitting, walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel. Walk the Pilgrims Tunnel to the Old City. At the Davidson Center, watch a multi-media presentation about Jerusalem in the days of the Second Temple. Walk to the Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism and the only visible remains of Herod's splendid Second Temple. Walk through the excavated Western Wall Tunnel, huge arched spaces which link to a water tunnel cut through the rock. Drive to Mt Zion and visit David's Tomb. Take a walking tour in the Jewish Quarter, including the Burnt House and the Herodian Quarter. Visit the recently restored Hurva Synagogue; the largest synagogue in Jerusalem for a long time, it was destroyed by the Jordanians in 1948 and reopened in 2010.

FRIDAY, MAY 24 - JERUSALEM (B,D)

Visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. *As the Jewish people's living memorial to the Holocaust, Yad Vashem safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations. For over half a century, Yad Vashem has been committed to four pillars of remembrance: Commemoration, Documentation, Research, and Education.* Meet a local cantor for a short Yizcor. Then to Mt. Herzl to visit the Military Cemetery, including the tombs of Theodor Herzl, Golda Meir and Itzhak Rabin. At the Israel Museum, see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition at the Shrine of the Book and the wonderful scale model of Jerusalem from the days of the Second Temple. Continue to Machne Yehuda Market, a landmark institution and one of the most prosperous markets in Israel. We'll have an in-depth tour, with emphasis on the history of the market, the foods sold and their uses and origins. As you browse the colorful stalls, you will see, hear, smell and feel how many Jerusalemites and visitors experience this thriving market as a symbol of Israeli resilience. Return to the hotel for Kabbalat Shabbat and overnight.

SATURDAY, MAY 25 - JERUSALEM (B,D)

Today is at your leisure. At 8:00pm, enjoy a farewell dinner at the renovated Ana Ticho House.

SUNDAY, MAY 26 -

You will be transferred to the Ben Gurion Airport for your departure on El Al nonstop flight #25, leaving at 1:50pm and arriving at 6:35pm.



YAD VASHEM HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL