

jcc association
boarding pass



Women's Trip to Israel

October 19 - 30, 2014

ITINERARY



See Israel
in a Whole
New Way



shalom!

This special journey for women will view Israel through a female gaze. Encounter the diversity of Israel's landscapes and of its people. Travel the country and be inspired by the passion and energy of the women you will meet along the way.



Frances Oppenheimer, Tour Educator

Born in England, but grew up in New Zealand.
Made in Aliyah, after graduating university.
Has been a freelance guide since 1998.
She lives in Jerusalem and has three grown up children.

Please note: *Meals or items marked in the program are at the participants' expense. The program is subject to change.*



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JCC Association Boarding
Pass travel in Israel is
provided in conjunction with:



ITINERARY

DAY 1 - Depart USA for Israel

Sunday, October 19, 2014

DAY 2 - Arrive in Israel

Monday, October 20, 2014

For thousands of years, people of all backgrounds have arrived in Israel with great expectations. In our first few hours together, we will share our hopes and outlook for this ten-day exploration.

AFTERNOON

Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport
You will be greeted at Ben Gurion Airport by a member of the JCC Israel Center staff and your tour educator Frances Oppenheimer
Depart for the Negev

EVENING

Check into Pundak Ramon
Opening Dinner at the Guest House
Overnight - Pundak Ramon, Mitzpe Ramon



DAY 3 - Unraveling the Layers of the Desert

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

"The Negev is the place where the Jewish People will be tested."

- David Ben Gurion

David Ben Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, believed that an indicator of the Jewish people's success in building the first modern Jewish state was Israel's ability to transform the desert and "make it bloom." This day is dedicated to exploring the opportunities and challenges of Israel's desert communities.

MORNING

9:00 A.M.

Hike at Ein Ovdat
Easy hike to explore the unique landscape of the natural oasis of Ein Ovdat

11:00 A.M.

Visit to Sde Boker
Visit the graves of Paula and David Ben Gurion to learn about the vision of Israel's first prime minister for the development of the Negev

AFTERNOON

12:30 P.M.

Mevashlot Yerucham
(The Chefs of Yerucham)
Enjoy an ethnic meal in the home of a local woman in the development town of Yerucham. Hear the story

of her aliyah and learn about the changing nature of Israel's communities in the "periphery"

Return to hotel to relax

4:30 P.M.

Sunset Jeep ride in the Ramon crater
An opportunity to explore the Machtesh Gadol, one of the Negev's most impressive geological formations

EVENING

7:00 P.M.

Desert style dinner at the Desert Ship or other dinner experience and star gazing

Overnight - Pundak Ramon, Mitzpe Ramon



DAY 4 - A Window Into the Negev: Women's Changing Status in Israeli Society

Wednesday, October 22, 2014

The role of women in Israeli society has changed as drastically and as quickly as Israel itself. We will use this day to explore this evolution.

MORNING

8:15 A.M.

Early-morning desert walk and time for reflection to enjoy the silence of the desert

10:00 A.M.

The Role of Women in the Israeli Army
Meeting with female soldiers at the Bislach army base. The discussion will explore the special challenges for women in the IDF.

AFTERNOON

Lunch

2:00 P.M.

Bedouin Life in Israel - Challenges and Opportunities

Meet with staff and volunteers at Sidreh, a nonprofit organization established in 1998 to empower and represent Bedouin women living in the Negev, and improve their socio-economic condition

4:00 P.M.

Departure for Jerusalem
Shehecheyanu upon arrival in Jerusalem at the Haas Promenade overlooking the old and new city
Check in to Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

EVENING

Dinner on own and free evening to explore Jerusalem

Overnight - Kings Hotel, Jerusalem



DAY 5 - The Making of a Holy City

Thursday, October 23, 2014

Explore Jerusalem as central to the major world religions by walking the Old City's Jewish and Christian Quarters and the excavations adjacent to the Temple Mount. In addition, we will visit remnants of Jewish life from Temple times and examine perennial issues of Jewish communal life throughout the ages.

MORNING

8:15 A.M.

Depart for the Old City of Jerusalem for a guided visit to the Jewish and Christian Quarters

Explore the Kotel (Western Wall) Tunnels

AFTERNOON

1:30 P.M.

Free time to explore the Jewish Quarter

Lunch and free time in the Jewish Quarter or along Mamilla Pedestrian Mall

4:00 P.M.

Israel's Culinary Tradition
Discover Israel's cuisine with chef Tali Friedman - She will lead us through Machane Yehuda, Jerusalem's fruit and vegetable market, followed by a culinary workshop at her home and dinner on her rooftop terrace.

EVENING

9:30 P.M.

Free evening

Overnight - Kings Hotel, Jerusalem



DAY 6 - Contemporary Issues in Israeli Society

Friday, October 24, 2014

This day is dedicated to exploring contemporary challenges and opportunities that Israeli women are involved in, either as leaders of innovative nonprofit organizations, or as journalists reporting from the field.

MORNING

9:30 A.M.

Meeting with Women Heroes

In small groups, participants will meet with Israeli women who are having a significant impact on Israeli society:

- Women in Politics: Meet with Yifat Zamir of We Power
- Women in Informal Education: Meet with Hagar Yona, director of Sunrise Israel day camp for Arab and Israeli children with cancer and their siblings
- Women in Tikkun Olam: Meet with Sivan Yaari, founder and director of Innovation: Africa, which brings Israeli technology to Africa

11:30 A.M.

Meet the Press

Meeting with journalist Isabel Kirshner or Linda Gradstein to discuss pressing issues on Israel's social and political agenda

AFTERNOON

1:00 P.M.

Lunch

Explore Jerusalem on your own with free time for lunch

4:00 P.M.

Kabbalat Shabbat
(Welcoming Shabbat)

We will welcome Shabbat as a group with members of Shira Hadasha, an Orthodox egalitarian synagogue or at Nava Tehilla, an emerging prayer and study community.

EVENING

7:00 P.M.

Shabbat dinner at a private room at the Hotel

Optional session at the conclusion of dinner on food and memory

Overnight - Kings Hotel, Jerusalem



DAY 7 - Shabbat in Jerusalem

Saturday, October 25, 2014

Shabbat in Jerusalem is an experience unlike any other. This day is dedicated to soaking up this unique atmosphere through walking tours and the personal narratives of Jerusalem natives.

MORNING

Free morning to rest and enjoy Jerusalem

Optional Programs:

- Visit one of Jerusalem's many synagogues for morning services
- Explore the Arab Market in the Old City
- Walk around the First Station, recently renovated old railway station

AFTERNOON

Lunch at hotel

3:00 P.M.

Jerusalem in Story: Walking tour of Jerusalem with the poems of Yehudah Amichai as a guide

EVENING

5:00 P.M.

Tie-in discussion followed by Havdallah (saying goodbye to Shabbat)

Dinner on own and free evening

Optional cultural event (at own expense)

Overnight - Kings Hotel, Jerusalem



DAY 8 - Memory and the Holocaust

Sunday, October 26, 2014

The memory of the Shoah influences almost all aspects of Israeli society. This day is dedicated to exploring Israel's collective memory with a focus on women as subjects and transmitters of the story.

MORNING

8:15 A.M.

Discovering "The Changing Understanding of the Holocaust in Israeli Society" with Rachel Korazim

TRACK 1: Guided visit to Yad Vashem's main exhibition

TRACK 2: Guided visit to Yad Vashem's less known exhibitions, including the Valley of the Communities, the synagogue, and the art museum

AFTERNOON

1:00 P.M.

Lunch on own

2:30 P.M.

Tour the Israel Museum
Guided visit to selected exhibitions at the Israel Museum with a focus on the representation of women in art, both as subjects and artists

EVENING

6:00 P.M.

Dinner at Jerusalem restaurant

8:30 P.M.

Sound and Light Spectacular at David's Tower at Jaffa Gate

Overnight - Kings Hotel, Jerusalem



DAY 9 - Washington and Virginia Partnership with Beit Shemesh/Mateh Yehudah

Monday, October 27, 2014

This day is dedicated to a person-to-person encounter with our Partnership 2Gether communities - Beth Shemesh/Mateh Yehudah

MORNING

8:15 A.M.

Check out of hotel

Full day of programming in the partnership region of Mateh Yehuda and Beit Shemesh

In consultation with the P2Gether professionals, possible programs include two of the following:

- Art Workshop at Kakadu - Wood Painting at Givat Yesheyahu.
- Meet with Shoshana Gugenheim of Woman of the Book - Jewish Women Recording, Reflecting, Revisioning the traditional Torah scroll
- Dance Workshop at Vertigo - Ecoart Village.

- Meet with *matnas* (community center) director to learn about women's initiatives in the community.
- Wine tasting at a boutique winery

AFTERNOON

Lunch in the region

EVENING

5:00 P.M.

Depart for Tel Aviv; check into hotel

6:00 P.M.

Dinner on own and free time to explore Tel Aviv's nightlife

Overnight - City Hotel, Tel Aviv



DAY 10 - Tel Aviv: A Taste of History and View of the Contemporary

Tuesday, October 28, 2014

This day is dedicated to an exploration of the sites and the stories of the first Hebrew city.

MORNING

9:00 A.M.

How Tel Aviv Began

- Explore the founding of Tel Aviv through the stories of women leaders: Israel's first Hebrew author, Dvora Baron and Zionist activist Rachel Katznelson Shazar.
- Short guided walk through Neve Zedek, the first Jewish neighborhood to be built outside the city of Jaffa
- Guided visit to the Hall of independence, the home of the first mayor of Tel Aviv and where the declaration of the State of Israel took place

AFTERNOON

Lunch and free time at the Nachalat Binyamin arts and crafts fair or the Carmel market

2:30 P.M.

"Off the Beaten Track" window into Tel Aviv: *Hebrew through Graffiti and Street Art: A walking tour in Tel Aviv and a chance to learn some Hebrew through graffiti with Shirel Horowitz*

5:00 P.M.

Tie-in discussion

EVENING

Dinner on own and time to explore the new Sarona market (to be opened in summer 2014)

Evening concert at Zappa night club (at own expense)

Overnight - City Hotel, Tel Aviv



DAY 11 - Women: Food, Art, and Fashion

Wednesday, October 29, 2014

A day to encounter Israel's rich tradition of food, art, and fashion, with a conversation about how these arts can have a positive impact on society.

MORNING

9:15 A.M.

TRACK 1: Morning yoga with instructor

TRACK 2: Morning walk along the promenade with Frances

11:30 A.M.

Return to hotel to freshen up

AFTERNOON

Lunch on own

2:30 P.M.

Two Faces of Tel Aviv

Meet with Turning the Tables, a nonprofit organization designed to

help women leave prostitution and develop marketable skills in the fashion world

EVENING

Guided walk through art galleries: Walk along Rothschild Boulevard with Vardit Gross

7:00 P.M.

Dinner with *Eat With*, an Israeli initiative to offer catered, gourmet meals in people's apartments for an insight into Israeli homes and society

Overnight - City Hotel, Tel Aviv



DAY 12 - Final Conversations and Reflections

Thursday, October 30, 2014

An opportunity to connect with the fruits of the land: we will volunteer at a farm to pick food for the needy, followed by a visit to a boutique winery to learn about how the ancient art of winemaking has become a modern industry.

MORNING

8:30 A.M.

Leket (Leftover Harvest for Tzedakah) at Kvutsat Shiller. Pick fruit and vegetables for use at a food bank
Visit to boutique winery and wine tasting

AFTERNOON

Lunch on own

3:00 P.M.

Free afternoon

-OR-

Guided visit to the Tel Aviv art museum with Frances

EVENING

5:00 P.M.

Wrap-up discussion

Final festive dinner

Depart for airport for midnight flight to the U.S.

