

WELCOME
ברוכים הבאים

10 DAY | ISRAEL HERE & NOW
A POLITICAL & SECURITY BRIEFING

10-DAYS | 8-NIGHTS

DAY ONE: Sunday

DEPARTURE

- Depart the U.S.A.

Overnight: Flight

DAY TWO: Monday

ARRIVAL

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by our representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Drive through **Tel Aviv**, known as the “city that never sleeps” and pass by centers of culture and recreation such as the Habima Theater, sprawling beaches, Dizengoff Street and Rabin Square.
- Check into the hotel.
- *Israel and the Middle East* **Welcome Dinner** and dialogue with **Col. Ret. Miri Eisen**, the Former Prime Minister’s advisor on the foreign media..

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY THREE: Tuesday

BUILDING SOMETHING NEW

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Defining and Meeting Israel's Challenges for the Next 30 Years* Special program at **Independence Hall** with **Gidi Grinstein**, Founder and Executive Director of the Reut Institute.
- *Creating Reality: The Visionaries and Builders* Guided visit through the **Trumpeldor Cemetery** for a glimpse at the lives of some of the dreamers and builders of Tel Aviv, including writer Haim Nahman Bialik, Mayor Meir Dizengoff and Zionist thinker, Ahad Ha'Am.
- Lunch on own.
- Walk through the museum at the new **Rabin Center**, dedicated to the history of society and democracy in Israel, with the life of Yitzhak Rabin serving as a connecting thread between the various sections of the exhibition, both chronologically and substantively.
- *Cracking Cyber Terrorism* Special seminar at the **Interdisciplinary Center** in Herzliya with **Dr. Yael Shahar**.
- Return to Tel Aviv.
- Enjoy dinner on your own in **Tel Aviv**, at a choice of a wide array of restaurants from the Tel Aviv Port to Jaffa, and downtown Tel Aviv.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY FOUR: Wednesday

ISRAEL'S CO-EXISTENCE CHALLENGES

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- *Fatah, Hamas and Israel – What Might the Future Hold?* Dialogue with **Avi Issacharoff**, the Ha'aretz Newspaper Arab Affairs correspondent.
- Participate in a seminar on Arab-Jewish coexistence at the **Givat Haviva** seminar center.
- *Nazareth as a Microcosm* Field seminar in **Nazareth** to explore the complex political and religious reality of the city's past and present, including visits to churches and markets, as well as interactions with the local Mayor.
- Continue to the Upper Galilee and check into the kibbutz hotel.
- Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Kibbutz Hotel, Upper Galilee

DAY FIVE: Thursday

THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel and depart the kibbutz.
- *The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border* Dialogue with **Colonel (Res) Kobi Marom**, former Northern Brigade Commander.
- **Jeep** tour climbing to the **Golan Heights** in the footsteps of IDF soldiers and their battles in the Six Day War, to enjoy the beautiful natural scenery and gain an insight into the strategic complexity of the Golan.
- Lunch on own or possible lunch with IDF soldiers at an **Army Base**.
- *The Redemptive Power of Vision* Tour of the ancient synagogue at **Capernaum**.
- Visit the **Kinneret Cemetery** and hear about the dreams of the early Zionist pioneers.
- Continue south to Jerusalem, driving along the **Jordan Rift Valley**.
- **Welcome to Jerusalem – ברוכים הבאים**: Enter the vibrant and colourful 3,000 year old city of Jerusalem and experience the convergence of the old and the new.
- Check into the hotel.
- Enjoy dinner on your own in **Jerusalem**, at a choice of a wide array of restaurants.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SIX: Friday

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Guided visit to the new excavations at the **City of David**, including the newly discovered Siloan Tunnel, with archeologist **Eli Shukrun**.
- *My Home in Jerusalem*, dialogue with a local resident of **Ir David**.
- *Claiming Jerusalem* Dialogue with **Danny Seidman** from Ir Amim.
- Experience the sites, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the **Machaneh Yehuda** Market, with lunch on own.
- Return to the hotel for personal Shabbat preparation.
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** services at a local synagogue or at the Kotel.
- **Festive Shabbat Dinner** at the hotel, and *An Insider's Look into Israeli Society* Dialogue with scholar **Paul Liptz** of the Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew Union College.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SEVEN: Saturday

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Optional* Shabbat morning services.
- *Jerusalem of Three Religions* Guided visit through the **Old City of Jerusalem**, including sites holy to Jews, Moslems, and Christians: the **Western Wall**, a view of the **Temple Mount** and a visit to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**.
- *Optional* Visit to the renewed **Israel Museum**, one of the most creative and innovative museums in the world with a wide and eclectic collection, ranging from Judaica and archaeology to Renaissance and contemporary Israeli art, concluding with a visit to the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Shrine of the Book and the Second Temple Period Model of Jerusalem.
- Dinner on own and evening at leisure in Jerusalem.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY EIGHT: Sunday

JUDEA AND SAMARIA: COMPLEXITIES AND DILEMMAS

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *The Current Jewish-Arab Relationship* Dialogue with journalist scholar **Yossi Klein HaLevi** of the Shalem Center.
- Depart for Gush Etzion.
- Special program at the **Kfar Etzion** Visitors' Center, which depicts the heroic efforts of the Gush Etzion residents during the War of Independence; including an audio-visual program.
- *Hebron: The Way I See It* Tour of **Hebron** with representatives from the **Jewish Settlement of Hebron**, followed by further touring with representatives from **Shovrim Shtika**, an organization that is committed to allowing an unmediated encounter with the reality of military occupation.
- Visit the city of **Bethlehem** and meeting with a local journalist or Palestinian politician.
- Return to Jerusalem.
- *Putting the Pieces (Peace) Together* Dinner and dialogue with **Eitan Bronner** of the New York Times.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY NINE: Monday

THE CHALLENGE OF SOVEREIGNTY

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *The Labyrinth of Israeli Politics* Dialogue with **Prof. Reuven Hazan** of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University.
- Take part in a VIP tour of the **Knesset** and meet with Knesset members from various parties to discuss current political agendas
- Lunch on own.
- Visit **Moshav Netiv Haasarah**, located on Israel's border with the Gaza Strip, for an insight into the security complexities of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza, including a dialogue with local resident.
- *Life After Operation Cast Lead*, visit the town of **Sderot** and meet with local residents.
- **Festive Farewell Dinner** and wrap-up discussion.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY TEN: Tuesday

RETURN

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport.
- Departure flight to the U.S.A., arriving in the U.S.A. the same day.