

WELCOME

ברוכים הבאים

9 DAY | THE TRIP FOR MACHERS
A MAJOR DONOR'S ISRAEL TOUR
9-DAYS | 7-NIGHTS

DAY ONE: Saturday

DEPARTURE

- Depart the U.S.A.

Overnight: Flight

DAY TWO: Sunday

ARRIVAL

- Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- VIP meeting and assistance on arrival.
- 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.
- Meet in the lobby to depart for dinner.
- Enjoy dinner at **House Number 3**, located in a beautiful Arab building from the Ottoman Period.

Overnight: Tel Aviv

DAY THREE: Monday

ALONG THE COAST

- Private breakfast at the hotel with the US Embassy's Economic Minister-Counselor **David Burnett**.
- Check out and depart Tel Aviv.
- *The Electric Car Revolution* Guided visit to the new **Better Place Center**, for a glimpse at the premier global provider of electric vehicle services.
- Drive to Caesarea.
- Guided visit to **Caesarea**, one of the Land of Israel's most important cities during the Roman Period; visit the Herodian Theater and new excavations along the Mediterranean shore concluding with a visit to the 900-year-old crusader city built on the same site.
- Lunch at the **Aresto** Restaurant, on the water, with a lecture on the geography of Israel.
- Visit the **Yemin Orde Youth Aliyah Village**, one of Israel's most innovative educational institutions, specializing in integrating Ethiopian Youth into Israeli society.
- Depart for **Kibbutz Kfar Blum** in the Upper Galilee.
- Arrive at the kibbutz and check into the hotel.
- Free time to relax and enjoy the hotel's facilities.
- Dinner at the hotel.
- *Kibbutz Ideology and Israeli Reality in the 21st Century*, meet with second-generation kibbutz member, **Dubi Ben Ari**.

Overnight: Kibbutz Hotel, Upper Galilee

DAY FOUR: Tuesday

NATURE AND SPIRITUALITY

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out and depart the kibbutz.
- *The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border* **Seminar on Wheels** and dialogue with **Avi Melamed**.
- Guided visit through some of the Christian Holy Sites around the Sea of Galilee, including:
 - The **Mount of Beatitudes**, traditional site of Jesus' 'Sermon on the Mount', overlooking the Sea of Galilee.
 - **Tabgha**, traditional site of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fish, which hosts a modern church built on the remains of a Fourth Century church.
- Visit the **Golan Winery**, starting first with a gourmet lunch, including wine-tasting and followed by a brief tour.
- Depart for Jerusalem.
- Check into the hotel.
- *The Labyrinth of Israeli Politics* Dialogue with **Prof. Reuven Hazan** of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University.
- Dinner on own in Jerusalem and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY FIVE: Wednesday

PARTNERSHIP AND VISIONS

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Depart the hotel for a visit to the new **Supreme Court Building**.
- Depart for **Ashkelon**.
- Visit the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee's "Merchav" Program, a multi-faceted school-based response for students at risk.
- Lunch in Ashkelon.
- Visit **Baltimore's Park and Playground** as well as the Partnership's newest project the 'Baltimore Ashkelon Volunteer Center'.
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Free time to relax.
- Depart the hotel for the **Western Wall**, on foot.
- Dinner on the **Roof of Aish Hatorah**, overlooking the Western Wall.
- Meet with **Dov Schwartz** – Senior Advisor and Spokesman to the U.S. Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SIX: Thursday

JERUSALEM –BETHLEHEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- **Counterpart Program.** Each mission participant will be paired with an Israeli professional for informal exchange.
- Private lunch at the **Olive & Fish** Restaurant, and a dialogue with **Felice & Michael Friedson** of **Media Line** in preparation for the afternoon visit to Bethlehem.
- Drive to Bethlehem and meet with the mayor, **Dr. Victor Batarseh**, at the municipality.
- Visit the city of **Bethlehem**, site of the birth of Jesus and the Church of the Nativity.
- Return to the hotel with free time to relax and freshen up before dinner.
- Group dinner in a private room at the **Dolphin Yam** Restaurant, located on the new pedestrian street.
- Group dialogue to explore individual impressions about the tour and feedback about the counterpart program.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY SEVEN: Friday, May 20, 2011

MEMORY AND RENEWAL

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Dialogue with **Dr. David Zilberklang**, Senior Historian at the International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem, and editor of the scholarly journal *Yad Vashem Studies*.
- Guided visit through the newly renovated **Yad Vashem**, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including the new Historical Museum and the Children's Memorial.
- Lunch at the **Ima** Restaurant, offering a menu of Middle Eastern/Kurdish-style food.
- Depart for the Old City.
- Walking tour through the **Christian Quarter** of the Old City of Jerusalem, including the Via Delarosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and other Christian sites. Conclude the tour by descending to Gethsemane with its ancient olive grove, and a possible visit to the Church of Agony, where tradition holds that Jesus prayed.
- Meet in the hotel lobby to walk to Beit Shmuel.
- **Shabbat Program** and **Festive Dinner** with invited guests, including a few Israeli lone soldiers (*soldiers who have immigrated to Israel without their families*), and Israeli guitarists/singers, who will lead the service. The program and dinner will take place in the **Blaustein Hall** at **Beit Shmuel**, overlooking the ramparts of the Old City of Jerusalem.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY EIGHT: Saturday, May 21, 2011

THE DEAD SEA BASIN

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to the **Dead Sea Basin**.
- Ascend the cable car or walk up the snake path to **Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defense and its current significance in modern Israel.
- Swim in the relaxing and healthy sulphur springs at a **Dead Sea Resort Hotel** and float in the **Dead Sea**, including lunch at the hotel.
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Free time to relax and freshen-up before dinner.
- **Festive Farewell Dinner at Chakra** – "food made with love" and a good atmosphere makes Chakra an entertaining place to have dinner.

Overnight: Jerusalem

DAY NINE: Sunday

DEPARTURE

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