



6 February, 2023

Beit Halochem mission- tour to Israel **April 23-30 , 2023**

**** Every day we will have an IDF wounded veteran accompanying the group so we can talk and hear his story.**

Sunday- April 23- Arrival to Israel + Tel Aviv

All participants will be arriving on their own at different times and from different destinations, we will be happy to offer separate transportation services and vip airport service. (not included in the rate)

At 9:30 AM we will leave the Alexander Hotel. We will begin the day visiting the **Palmach Museum**. In this unique museum we will be “joining” the young recruits from the day they were getting into the Palmach and until the war of independence. From there we will head to the Tel Aviv university campus and visit the renewed **diaspora museum- ANU**, where we will enjoy the brand new exhibits displayed. From there we will continue to the hotel, for check in (for those who only arrived today) and refresh before heading to **Beit Halochem in Tel aviv** to meet the Chairman of the organization. We will also meet the Injured veterans and get a chance to see what they do here. The INZ Chairman hosting us, will present the work being done for the Veterans. The event will conclude with a dinner prepared for us.

Dinner: By Beit Halochem Tel Aviv

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Monday- April 24- New Jerusalem- Erev Yom Hazikaron

Breakfast at the hotel, drive to **Jerusalem**, and start with a visit to the **Ammunition hill**, where the Israeli Paratroopers fought courageously to release the besieged area of Mt.

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Scopus during the 6 day war in 1967. We will watch a presentation telling the battle story and walk in the trenches and bunkers to absorb the heritage. A private tour will be led by one of the **injured veterans who fought in battle** there (TBC). For lunch we will visit the colorful market of **Machne Yehuda**, the traditional Jerusalem's farmers market, where you can find almost anything from fruits and vegetables, spices, pastry goods, here you can also find souvenirs, Judaica and much more. This place offers a great atmosphere where sounds, sights and smells come together. Next we will visit **Mabat 2000**- the police old city control room with hundreds of monitors connected to all the security cameras in the alleys of the old city and the holy sites- the Kotel, the Temple mount and the holy sepulcher. We will be then invited to **Beit Halochem Jerusalem** for a short tour and an early dinner there. From there we will head to the **National opening ceremony for Yom Hazikaron** taking place at the **Kotel** with the attendance of Israel's president and the chief of general staff of the IDF. After a long and interesting day we will drive back to Tel Aviv.

Dinner: Early dinner at Beit Halochem Jerusalem

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Tuesday- April 25- Yom Hazikaron and the eve of Yom Ha'atzmaut

After breakfast we will drive to Jerusalem. We will begin our day with a guided tour at the Holocaust Memorial and Museum; '**Yad Vashem**', on the way we will eat

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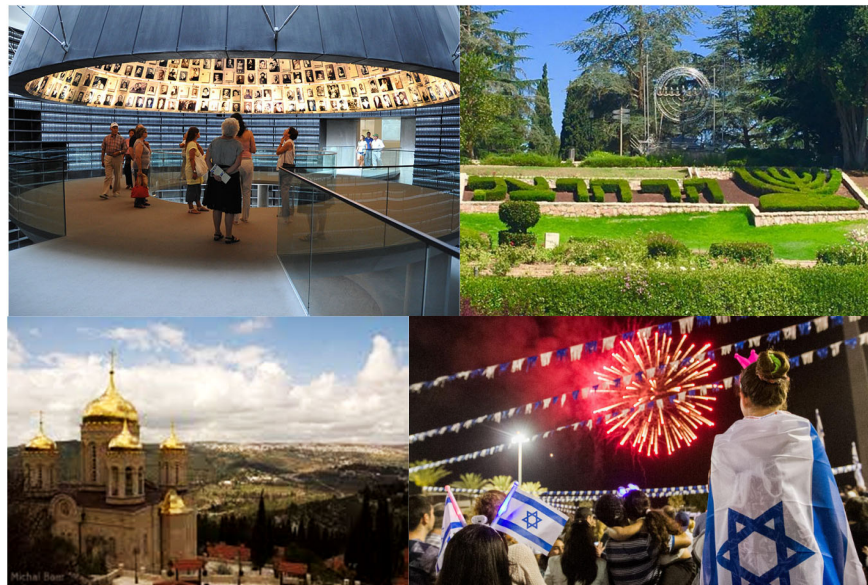
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sandwiches on the bus. The museum displays photographic evidence, documenting the death and destruction amounts. The visit at 'Yad Vashem' is a powerful, portable and very important heritage for the benefit of the Holocaust –"Never again, we remember and never forget". Next we will visit **Mount Herzl**- Mount of Memorialization, here the leaders of the nation are buried and here our fallen soldiers are buried. For early dinner we will continue to the picturesque old village of **Ein Kerem**, a unique spot in Jerusalem. It could be a Greek or Italian village too, but is actually an ancient Jewish one from the 2nd temple period and it got famous as the place where **John the Baptist** was born and raised. To conclude the day and Yom Hazikaron we will attend the **national central ceremony to open Yom Ha'atzmaut**, attended by the president at the **main Plaza of Mt. Herzl**- in front of Herzl's grave. After the celebrations we will travel back to Tel Aviv.

Dinner: Ein Kerem (TBD)

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Wednesday- April 26- Yom Ha'atzmaut

After breakfast, this morning we will leave Tel Aviv and head North. We will stop at the **Caesarea National Park**, the ancient port city built by Herod the Great, over 2000 years ago. It served as a commercial center of Judea Province, part of the Roman empire. Later it served as the capital of the Byzantine Palaestina Prima province. While we walk

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by the ruins on the mediterranean coast we will get an opportunity to watch the **Israeli Air Force** flyover. For lunch we will stop in the area and head to the **Golf course** and play with the Beit Halochem members (TBC). Time permitting We will then continue to **Zichron Yaakov**, the pearl of this region. Here Jewish pioneers settled in the 1800's struggling to establish a flourishing farming community and a winery, later being supported by the famous Baron Edmond De Rothschild. Today it is a charming spot for a meal and a stroll in the original "founders" street and promenade. From there we will head back to Tel Aviv.

Dinner: Tel Aviv (TBD)

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Thursday- April 27- To the Gaza area

This morning we will head south to the northern western Negev, Gaza strip area. Starting with a visit to an **IDF border outpost** facing Gaza and a Hamas assault tunnel (after it was discovered and dismantled by the IDF soldiers). We will be invited to have lunch with the soldiers (TBC). In the afternoon we will visit the **Hatzerim Air Force base**

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led by retired Gen. **Amir Eshel**, former Air Force commander, hopefully we will be able to meet pilot's course cadets. On the way to Tel Aviv we will make two stops, first at a restaurant for dinner and then to conclude this great day we will stop in nature and invite PTSD veterans to sit with us around the campfire and relax. From there we will head back to the hotel in Tel Aviv.

Dinner: At a restaurant on the way to Tel Aviv (TBD)

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Friday- April 28- Tel Aviv

We will start the day with a stroll through the **old city of Jaffa**; The town that was built thousands of years ago and is a charming picturesque old town on a hill by the sea. We will walk the alleyways; visit the artist colony and the old port. From there we will visit the **Neveh Tzedek** area, it was the “cornerstone” for future Tel Aviv laid in the 1860's and now is a place for wealthy families to live and for chic designer shops or art galleries. Next we will head to the artists market fair of **Nachalat Binyamin** and then

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walk on the parallel street through the colorful open food **Carmel market** where the scent of spices, smells of local food and the colorful variety of fresh fruits and vegetables are offered for sale on stalls- A great place to grab lunch on your own. A tour in Tel Aviv is not complete without a walk through **Rothschild and Bialik st.** to explore the Bauhaus in Tel Aviv.

Erev Shabbat Dinner: Tel Aviv (TBC)

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Saturday- April 29- Judean Desert (an optional included tour)

This morning we will begin our day early, at 7:30, driving into the **Judean Desert** and continue down south along the shoreline of the Dead Sea. First we will stop at **Masada National Park**. Here we will ascend an isolated clifftop, and visit the last stronghold of the Jewish rebels against Rome during the Great Revolt. The Archeological finds on the mountain top will help us reveal the story of the place from the years 70-74 CE. A visit to the area will not be complete without a swim or float in the **Dead Sea**. We will stop at

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the **Herods Dead Sea Hotel** for lunch (paid on your own) and a swim. From there we will head back to Tel Aviv.

For those who feel like they need to rest, it would be a great opportunity for **a day of leisure** and relaxation by the beach and/ or at the hotel's spa.

Farewell Dinner: TBC

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel



Sunday- April 30- Tel Aviv to the Golan Heights + Departure

This morning we will leave Tel Aviv early and start our way up north. First, we will head straight to the actual battlefield of the Yom Kippur War known by the name “**The Valley of Tear**”, located right by the Syrian border. We will be privileged to be met by **Retired Gen. Avigdor Kahalni**, former IDF division commander and one of the most awarded fighters in the IDF’s history, here he commanded the 77th battalion while succeeding, against all odds in stopping hundreds of Syrian tanks from crossing the Golan into the depth of Israel. He will share some of his memories with us. For lunch we will stop at

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Kibbutz Ortal, there we will have a chance to dine with the Kibbutzniks in the **Kibbutz dining room** and discuss life in a socialist Kibbutz. After lunch we will enjoy wine tasting in **Tel Shifon Winery**, one of the best wineries at the Golan heights. In the last few years the Golan wine has become well known worldwide. The climate, the rich volcanic soil and the devotion of the Israeli pioneers in the Golan is a great combination for high quality wine making. Time permitting we will also meet **Mr. Amnon Sharon** and visit the site where he was taken into prison by the Syrians. From there we will drive back to Tel Aviv. This evening we will be able to conclude a long satisfying week before heading home. Those who will stay till the end will enjoy another farewell dinner with the old and new friends.

Dinner: on own

Overnight: Tel Aviv- Alexander Hotel

