



2020 Leadership Mission to Israel Itinerary

Led by ZOA President Morton A. Klein

February 23 – March 1, 2020

(Subject to Change)

Mission Segment I: February 23- 27

Sunday February 23 BRUCHIM HABAIM

- Check in-at at the Inbal Hotel in Jerusalem from 3:00 PM
- 7:00 PM – Opening Dinner at the Inbal hotel with MKs/Cabinet Minister as **guest speaker(s)**

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Monday February 24 MEET ISRAELI LEADERS

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Security Briefing
- Head to the **Knesset** as a ZOA delegation led by ZOA President **Morton A Klein** to meet with members of Knesset and cabinet ministers
- Lunch on own at the Knesset
- Visit the **United States Embassy**, which was moved to Jerusalem in 2018 by President Donald J. Trump. *If possible, we will meet with **US Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman***
- Head to the Old City for dinner at **Beit Plugat HaKotel** hosted by **Yaakov HaGoel**, Chairman of **World Likud**. *Learn the fascinating story of the young Betar activists who protected Jews in the Old City from Arab Muslim violence under the British Mandate.*

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Tuesday February 25 FACING HAMAS

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Join **IDF General Bentzi Gruber** at an IDF base near Israel's borders with Egypt and the Hamas controlled Gaza area. *We'll get an in depth understanding of the security challenges and get a first-hand look of how the IDF trains its soldiers for anti-terrorism and urban warfare.*
- Head to **Sederot**, which has endured years of bombardment by Palestinian rockets from Gaza for a simple lunch at the **Sederot Hesder Yeshivah** where students combine their military service with advanced Torah study.
- Join Colonel **Grisha Yakubovich (Res.)** for an overview tour of **Israel's front line communities and defenses facing Hamas controlled Gaza**. *Grisha is former Head of the Civilian Department in the IDF's Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT)*
- Return to Jerusalem for dinner at the Inbal Hotel

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem*

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Wednesday February 26 **GUSH ETZION & HEVRON - SECURING JERUSALEM'S SOUTHERN FLANK**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 8:00 AM – Depart hotel to **Hevron** for a behind the scenes briefing and overview of the security situation with Amit Deri.
- Visit **Me'arat Hamachpelah**, the Tomb of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs and meet **Yishai Fleisher**, spokesperson of the **Hevron Jewish community** and learn about the challenges facing the residents of the Jewish community of Hebron
- Head to **Susiyah** for lunch. Step back in time 1,500 years to the Talmudic era Jewish town and synagogue.
- Briefing at **Caliber 3**, the leading **Counter Terror & Security** Training Academy in Israel
- Meet **Nadia Matar at Oz Vegaon** Nature Reserve *established by Women in Green in response to the murder of the murder of Jewish teens Eyal, Gil-ad and Naftali by Arab terrorists.*
- Return to Jerusalem for dinner and evening on your own.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Thursday February 27 **THE STRUGGLE FOR JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **Morning Session**
- At the **City of David**, we'll get a behind the scenes look at some of the latest finds reflecting Jewish sovereignty in Jerusalem over the centuries going back 3,000 years. *Learn about the role that the archeology and the presence of Jewish families living here today play in strengthening Jewish claims to Jerusalem as the undivided capital of Israel.*
- Have lunch and meet residents of **Maaleh Hazeitim**, on the slopes of Mt. of Olives
- Continue to **Mt. of Olives**. *Learn about the leadership role ZOA plays in the USA and Israel to strengthen Israel's sovereignty here and throughout Jerusalem*
- Visit and meet Jewish residents of the **Shimon HaTzadik** neighborhood *who have re-established a Jewish presence in what had been a Jewish neighborhood until it was destroyed and ethnically cleansed of Jews by the Jordanian Arab Legion in 1948.*
- **For those staying for Mission Segment II:** Drop off at the Inbal Hotel – evening and dinner on own
- **For those departing:** Continue to Ben Gurion Airport for flights to the USA

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem (for those staying for Mission Segment II)*

Mission Segment II February 28 – March 1

Friday February 28 **JERUSALEM SEAMLINES**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **"Legal Grounds"**. Session with ZOA Israel Office Director **Jeff Daube** for an in depth exploration of Jewish legal rights throughout the Land of Israel and in Jerusalem
- **Seam line tour of Jerusalem with Jeff Daube**
- Lunch and shopping time on your own
- **Shabbat Candle Lighting: 5:01 PM**
- Head to the **Kotel** to greet Shabbat with song, dance and prayer (*weather permitting*)
- Walk back to the hotel for Shabbat dinner followed by a **group program**

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem*

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Shabbat February 29 **SHABBAT SHALOM IN JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Enjoy the special atmosphere of Shabbat in Jerusalem by participating in Shabbat services at one of Jerusalem's many synagogues or take time to explore the city on your own
- Session at the Inbal Hotel with **Khaled Abu Toameh**, *Former Arab Affairs Correspondent for the Jerusalem Post*
- Shabbat lunch at the hotel with **IDF Lone Soldiers**
- 4:00 PM – Meet in the hotel lobby for an optional walking tour to the nearby famous windmill and the first neighbourhood built outside the Old City walls by **Sir Moses Montefiore** in the 1860s.
- Shabbat ends at 6:13 PM. Evening and dinner on your own in Jerusalem

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Sunday March 1 **JORDAN RIVER VALLEY - SECURING ISRAEL'S EASTERN BORDER**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 8:30 AM - Pack bus and depart hotel to the **Jordan River Valley**
- Visit Mitzpeh Yericho. See the dramatic views of the Jordan River Valley and meet Mayor Aliza Pilichowski.
- Head to **Qasr El Yahud** on the Jordan River - Israel's border with Jordan. *This site is associated with the crossing of the Tribes of Israel into Canaan with Joshua and with Elijah's ascent to heaven in the fiery chariot. It is also an important Christian pilgrimage site, associated with the Baptism of Jesus by John*
- Lunch with a representative of the **Jordan Valley Regional Council**. *Learn about the security and economic challenges that the Jordan River valley communities face*
- Stand in solemn memory at the dramatic **Bika'a Memorial** which remembers civilians murdered by Arab terrorists and the IDF soldiers who have fallen in battle in the Jordan River Valley.
- Continue to **Mt. Sarbata** from where the strategic importance of retaining the Jordan Valley as part of the State of Israel becomes crystal clear.
- Bus will drop people at the Inbal Hotel and then continue to Ben Gurion International Airport for flights to the USA.
- Dinner on your own

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- Underlined meals are included in the trip price
 - Listed activities and speakers are subject to change.
 - Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator, a Keshet Hostess and on some of the days, a security escort



Keshet Educational Journeys

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