

Cincinnati Civic and Business Leaders Trip to Israel (II) March 24 – 31, 2019

Sunday, March 24, 2019

ARRIVALS

- Various arrivals throughout the day with **VIP assistance** at the sleeve of the plane.
- Individual transfers to Herzliya.
 - Possible group transfer if arriving on a group flight.
- Check in to the Ritz Carlton Hotel.
- Free time for rest and relaxation.
- Opening **welcome cocktail** at the hotel.
- Festive welcome dinner at **Lumina** restaurant, with leading Israeli chef, **Meir Adoni**.

Overnight: Setai Hotel, Tel Aviv

Monday, March 25, 2019

TEL AVIV: THE FIRST HEBREW CITY AND A CENTER OF INNOVATION SINCE 1090

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Understanding Israel @ 2019*, with the **Tour Educator**, in a room overlooking the sea.
- Meet with **Venture Capitalist Yadin Kaufman**, a pioneer in Israel's venture ecosystem and founder of Veritas, Israel's most experienced venture fund (<http://www.veritasvc.com/team.asp>), and Sadara, an Israeli-Palestinian tech fund (<https://www.sadaravc.com>).
- *Innovation Then and Now*, drive to Tel Aviv and continue to **Rothschild Blvd.** for a guided walk through the original neighborhood of Tel Aviv, **Ahuzat Bayit**, which has now become one of Israel's leading global innovation hubs, and glimpse at part of the **White City**, the UNESCO World Heritage collection of Bauhaus building.
- Visit a leading **Cyber Security** company in the Tel Aviv area. (*pending confirmation*)
- Stop at the **Levinsky Balkan Market**, established by new immigrants from Balkan countries, who brought their bourrekas, pickles, drinks, stuffed vegetables, spices, marzipan and much more, with some shopping time.
- Continue to a local restaurant for a fast lunch.
- Return to Herzliya to **The Squadron**, a new flight simulation center developed by IDF reserve pilots, for a unique flight simulation experience flying IDF F-16 fighter jets, under the guidance of actual IDF reserve fighter pilots. <https://www.pilots.co.il/>
- Return to the hotel for shopping, rest and relaxation.
- Dinner at the residence of a leading Israeli industrialist/philanthropist/innovator, such as **Daniel Birnbaum** of SodaStream.

Overnight: Setai Hotel, Tel Aviv



Tuesday, March 26, 2019

ISRAEL'S NORTH: A JOURNEY OF PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL SECURITY
WITH COL. (RES.) KOBI MAROM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Herzliya Airport.
- **Israel: A Bird's Eye View**, board **helicopters** and fly to the **Golan Heights** along Israel's coast and continuing over the Lower Galilee to the Mount Bental landing pad.
- Board jeeps and drive to the **Booster Outpost**, overlooking Syria, for an in depth briefing on the current status of the conflict in Syria and its impact on the Syrian-Israeli relationship, with reserve intelligence officer **Ilan Shulman**, a resident of Kibbutz Merom Golan.
- Visit a **United Nations** outpost for a unique look at how the international community is involved in the Syrian conflict and, conversely, relates to Israel on the Golan, including dialogues with United Nations officers.
- Drive to one of the **Golan Heights' wineries** for a special tasting and lunch.
- Re-board the helicopters and fly toward the **Sea of Galilee**.
- Visit the **Christian sites** on the shores of the Sea of Galilee: **Capernaum**, where Jesus taught, **Tabgha**, site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fish, and concluding at the **Mount of Beatitudes**, site of the Sermon on the Mount.
- En route back to Herzliya, view the **Seam Zone Barrier**, the **Samaritan Mountains** (northern West Bank) and the **Coastal Plain** from above.
- Land at Herzliya airport and return to the Ritz Carlton Hotel for rest and relaxation.
- Depart for Old Jaffa and the home of **Hela Solomon**.
- Take part in an **Old Jaffa Dining Experience at Spoons**, located in a renovated Jaffa loft, with the Mayor of Tel Aviv. (currently Ron Huldai).

*If protocol dictates, a meeting can be arranged at City Hall during the trip
An alternate day program will be offered for those who choose not to fly.*

Overnight: Setai Hotel, Tel Aviv



Wednesday, March 27, 2019

EXPLORING PALESTINIAN REALITIES

Riman Barkat of Experience Palestine will spend the day with the group

<http://rimanbarakat.wixsite.com/experience>

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Understanding Israel's Approach to the Palestinian Authority*, with **Col. (Res.) Grisha Yakubovich**, former senior officer in the Coordinator of Government Affairs office in the Territories. <http://grishaconsulting.com/>
- Depart for **Ramallah** for a short guided visit and meeting with Pollster **Khalil Shikaki**, for a snapshot of contemporary Palestinian society. <https://www.newyorker.com/news/daily-comment/a-palestinian-research-center-comes-under-threat-in-a-government-crackdown>
- Possible meetings with: (*please prioritize*)
 - High ranking officials of the **Palestinian Authority**
 - Mid-level officials involved in the day-to-day discussion and negotiations, such as **Amal Jadu**, Assistant Foreign Minister of European Affairs, and **Xavier Abu Eid** of the PLO Negotiations Department
 - The **Mayor of Ramallah**
 - Members of the Ramallah YPO chapter
- Possible lunch at the home of **Bashar el Masri**.
- *My Palestine 1*, visit **Rawabi**, the new Palestinian city north of Ramallah, for a glimpse at this unique project, a synthesis between private enterprise and public resources, creating one of the anchors of the future Palestinian State, including a meeting and dialogue with developer, **Bashar el Masri**. <https://www.rawabi.ps/>
- *My Palestine 2*, visit **Taybeh**, a Christian Palestinian village and home of the world-famous Taybeh Brewery, established by the **Khouri Family**, who returned to Taybe after the Oslo Accords, for beer tasting and a conversation of national identity. <http://taybehbeer.com/>
- Drive to Jerusalem.
- Stop at **Mount Scopus** for a *Jerusalem Spiritual Moment of Arrival*, overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem.
- Check in to the Orient Hotel.
- Dinner and processing with **Micah Goodman** of the Ein Prat and Hartman Institutes and author of *Catch 67*, for an exploration of some of the conflicts within Israeli society, at the **Mamilla Hotel Rooftop**. (*pending confirmation*)

Overnight: The Orient Hotel, Jerusalem



Thursday, March 28, 2019

INTERTWINED LAYERS OF JERUSALEM: TODAY, YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *The Jewish Responsibility of Power*, visit the Israeli **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** for a dialogue with **Tal Becker**, ministry legal advisor and a fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute.
- Guided walk through the **Western Wall Tunnel** along the base of the Temple Mount, including a visit to the newly-found (now underground) Roman Theater (as yet unopened to the public), with the archaeologist who made the discovery, **Joe Uziel**. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/massive-section-of-western-wall-and-roman-theater-uncovered-after-1700-years/>
- Continue to the **Kotel** (Western Wall), a center of Jewish worship and longing for over 2,000 years.
- Visit the **Temple Mount – Haram el Sharif** and the location of the Al Aqsa Mosque, with Muslim guide **Ibrahim Gazawi**, for a special meeting with representatives of the **Palestinian Waqf**.
- *The Definition of Security in Jerusalem*, lunch with a senior **Jerusalem Police official** in the Old City.
- In the early evening, depart for **Beit Alliance**, a center of social and tech innovation.
- Cocktail reception with mentors and mentees of **Mass Challenge Jerusalem** and hear about some of the innovation projects that have developed and blossomed under the auspices of **Beit Alliance and the Mass Challenge**.
- Walk to **Machane Yehudah Market** for dinner at **Jacko's Restaurant**, with an opportunity to explore the market, one of Jerusalem's hottest night spots, after dinner.

Overnight: The Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Friday, March 29, 2019

MEMORIES FOR THE FUTURE

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *The Meaning of the Holocaust in Contemporary Israeli Society*, with scholar **Rachel Korazim**. <https://www.rachelkorazim.com/about-rachel>
- Visit **Yad Vashem**, the Israeli national memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, including the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations, the Holocaust History Museum and the Children's Memorial.
- Lunch with **David Horovitz**, editor of the **Times of Israel**.
- Free afternoon for shopping, rest and exploration.
- Welcome in the Sabbath possibilities:
- Walk through the Old City to the **Western Wall** and join in with Jerusalemites and guests as they welcome in the Sabbath.
- Festive Sabbath Dinner at the **Wine Temple**, in Jerusalem's German Colony. <https://www.winetemple.co.il/>

Overnight: The Orient Hotel, Jerusalem



Saturday, March 30, 2019

A JERUSALEM SABBATH

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Late morning departure.
- Guided walk through the Old City of Jerusalem, beginning at **Jaffa Gate** and ascending to the **Market Rooftops** for a look at Jerusalem's Four Quarters from above, continuing in to the **Jewish Quarter**, with **Hurva Square** and the back alleyways of the Quarter.
- Lunch in the Old City.
- Visit the **Christian Quarter**, including the rooftop of the Austrian Hospice and the last stops of the **Via Delarosa**, concluding at the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, followed by a visit to the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate and an audience with the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, **Patriarch Theophilos III**. <http://en.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/curriculum-vitae/>
- Return to the hotel.
- Drive to **Bethlehem** for a visit to the **Church of the Nativity** and an opportunity to visit Shephard's Field.
- Return to Jerusalem and attend **Evening Mass** at the **Notre Dame Cathedral**.
- **Havdallah**, a ceremony of separation between the Sabbath and the rest of the week, overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem.
- Dinner with the **Mayor of Jerusalem** at one of Jerusalem's leading restaurants or a private home. (The mayor will be elected on October 30th)

If protocol dictates, a meeting can be arranged at City Hall during the trip

Overnight: The Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Sunday, March 31, 2019

CONCLUSIONS

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Israel's Thriving Democracy*, meet with the Speaker of the Knesset, **MK Yuli Edelstein**, preferably at the Knesset, if not, at the hotel.
- Continue to the headquarters of **Mobileye**, one of the world leaders in vehicular automation and the Israeli company with the largest exit in Israel's history when Mobileye was sold to Intel for \$15.3 billion, to meet with founder and inventor **Professor Amnon Shashua**.
- Free afternoon for relaxation and shopping.
- Check out of the hotel.
- *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*, **festive farewell** dinner with **Yossi Klein Halevy**, author of a new book by the same name, which is an attempt to understand another's narrative, at the **Tur Sinai Farm** on the outskirts of Jerusalem, with music by the **Solomon Brothers**.
- **Main Group:** Depart for Ben Gurion Airport for return flight to the United States.
- **Petra Extension:** Depart for Ben Gurion or Sde Dov Airports for flight to Eilat, overnight in Eilat.



Monday, April 1, 2019

OPTIONAL PETRA EXTENSION

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Early morning departure for the **Yitzhak Rabin Border Crossing**.
- Cross into Jordan and drive through the Araba Desert to Petra.
- Guided visit through the **Nabatean City of Petra**, a 2,000-year-old city carved out of stone, which once served as one of the main cities on the Nabatean Spice Route, including a walk through the Siq, a viewing of the famed Treasury, and a walk in to the Basin, past the Roman Theater and Monastery.
- Return to Eilat via the Yitzhak Rabin Border Crossing.
- Transfer to the Eilat Airport for flight to Tel Aviv.
- Flight to Tel Aviv and continue to international flight to the United States.

Please note: it is also possible to add a day on to the Petra Extension with another night in Eilat, to avoid exhaustion.

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