

Congregation Beth Chaim

Led by Anne Berman-Waldorf and Rabbi Adena Blum

November 9 – 17, 2019

Version #2 August 2, 2018

Saturday, November 9, 2019

DEPARTURE

- Departure from the United States

Overnight: Flight

Day 1: Sunday, November 10, 2019

Note: The itinerary may change depending on the time of arrival

BRUCHIM HABAIM! WELCOME TO ISRAEL

JAFFA: BRIDE OF THE SEA

- Arrive at **Ben Gurion International Airport**, with assistance by a Makor Educational Journeys representative.
- Proceed to Tel Aviv.
- Tour the **Old City of Jaffa** through Jaffa women-related stories, poems and encounters that may include:
 - **Andromeda's Rock**, a sea rock formation off the shore of Jaffa, named after a Jaffa-related Greek myth.
 - **Basma Café**, a coffee shop, named after the daughter of a café owner, who learned her father's coffee blending skills and passed them on to her daughters and granddaughters.
 - **Women artisans:** Meet with one or more female artists and hear her/their story.
 - **Nine Rooms Club**, a membership club for women only.
 - **Arous Elbahar (Bride of the Sea) Association for Women**, a non-profit women's organization, which advances the position and the involvement of Jaffa's Muslim women.
 - **Women's Courtyard**, a unique multicultural, stigma-free framework that provides support and assistance for girls and young women dealing with situations of distress and risk.
 - Stories/stops about pioneer women in Jaffa from the First and Second Aliya, who lived/worked in Jaffa.
- Check in to the hotel.
- *Shared Society*, experience a home-cooked **Opening Dinner** with the **Rana Choir**, consisting of Arab and Jewish women

Overnight: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv



Day 2: Monday, November 11, 2019

WOMEN'S SOULS; TEL AVIV VIBES

- Optional: **Yoga** on the beach.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Guided walk and exploration through the **Ahuzat Bayit** neighborhood, from which the city developed, and **Neve Zedek**, one of Tel Aviv's first neighborhoods with its many stories and modern galleries, including time for self-exploration and shopping.
- Tour the Tel Aviv urban art scene with tattoo and street artist **Michal Rubin**, who tags her colorful animals, painted to resemble stained glass, simply with MR and/or **Murielle Cohen**, who draws colorful collages made up of short sentences that describe the hidden secrets of each soul that she draws – 2 women artists in a generally male-dominated art and street art world.
- Lunch with IDF **Major-General (Res.) Orna Barbivai**, the former head of the IDF Manpower Directorate and the first woman to achieve the rank of Major-General, and/or presently-serving IDF women soldiers.
- *Women in the Startup Nation*, meet with members of the **Yazamiyot** (Hebrew for “female entrepreneurs”) community, which strives to empower and support women working within the high tech, bio-tech and innovation fields.
- Dinner on own.

Overnight: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv

Day 3: Tuesday, November 12, 2019

FASHIONING THE FUTURE

- Optional: **Bike ride** on the promenade.
 - Breakfast at the hotel.
 - The **Nachalat Binyamin market** has become synonymous with quality Israeli crafts and folk art.
 - Visit **Kuchinate**, a collective of African asylum-seeking women in vulnerable situations—many are survivors of human trafficking, torture, and sexual abuse—who design and create crocheted products for the home, to partake in a traditional Eritrean/Ethiopian coffee ceremony.
- OR**
- The **Achoti (My Sister)** store is a fair trade for peace initiative, founded by Mizrahi feminist social activists to advance topics of social justice and enhance women's solidarity with women from disempowered socio-economic classes.
 - **Maskit**, founded to create jobs for new immigrants, is Israel's first “high” fashion house and its concept was to take modern European patterns combined with ethnic embroidery, creating a uniquely Israeli brand.
 - Lunch on own.
 - **Turning the Tables** is dedicated to vocational training and economic empowerment of women, who break away from life “on the streets” by building self-worth and achieving livelihood possibilities by offering services of sewing, pattern making and designing for designers and individual clients.
 - Rest of the afternoon at leisure.
 - Dinner on own.



- Participate in a guided walking **Rainbow Tour of Tel Aviv** to discover the secrets of the largest LGBT community in Israel.

Overnight: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv

Day 4: Wednesday, November 13, 2019

EEM AIN ANI LI, MI LI?

IF I AM NOT FOR MYSELF, THEN WHO WILL BE FOR ME?

- Optional: **Yoga** on the beach.
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Proceed to the Bedouin village **Lakiya** to meet with representatives of the **Sidreh–Lakiya Weaving Project** at their complex and learn about their ideology of the Independence Movement for Bedouin women and participate in weaving/dyeing in the traditional manner.
- Proceed to Moshav Zekharia.
- Kurdish/Yemenite/Moroccan **Cooking Workshop** and lunch with local women in the Mateh Yehuda region, who are part of a women's empowerment initiative that provides professional mentoring and instruction in operating catering businesses that serve the tourism industry.
- Continue to the Haas Promenade overlooking **Jerusalem** for an introduction to Jerusalem's historical importance and centrality to the Jewish people, including the chance to recite the traditional **Shehcheyanu** prayer.
- Check in to the hotel.
- Workshop with **Theatre Company Jerusalem** that gives contemporary theatrical expression to ancient Jewish sources by merging traditional Jewish text study with theatrical and musical performance, with particular attention given to the voice of the woman.
- Dinner on own at the **Tachana Rishonah** (First Train Station).

Overnight: Harmony Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 5: Thursday, November 14, 2019

FROM DESTRUCTION TO RECONSTRUCTION

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *The Memory of the Holocaust in Israeli Society Today*, a presentation by scholar **Dr. Rachel Korazim**, followed by a guided visit through **Yad Vashem World Holocaust Remembrance Center**, including the Avenue of the Righteous, the Holocaust History Museum and the Children's Memorial, concluding with a special ceremony in the Valley of the Communities—with emphasis on women in the Holocaust.
- Lunch with **MK Rachel Azaria** and a discussion on Women in Politics.
- *The Ketuba*, meet female rabbis and/or scholars to discuss the Jewish wedding ceremony today, as well as female artists, who write and illuminate ketubot, including a **calligraphy workshop**.
- *Mindful Wine Tasting*, with pioneering female vintner **Roni Saslove**, including savory snacks.
- Dinner on own for those who wish to go out for dinner and/or dessert.

Overnight: Harmony Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem



Day 6: Friday, November 15, 2019

WOMEN IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Proceed to **Ein Kerem**.
- A workshop of **Baking Yemenite Shabbat breads**, with Efrat Giat.
- *Jerusalem as a Woman*, text study session with a female Jewish spiritual leader/educator (or Rabbi Blum).
- Travel to the **Old City of Jerusalem**.
- *Women-based Religious Concepts*, explore on-site origins of faith-based rituals, such as the mikvah, and discuss the origins and evolution of female head coverings. Sites to be visited include:
 - Guided tour of the **Western Wall Tunnel**.
 - **Ancient mikva'ot** in the Jewish Quarter or the Jerusalem Archaeological Park.
 - The **Ezrat Yisrael** section of the Western Wall and meet with a representative of the Israeli Religious Action Center (IRAC).
- Lunch and afternoon on own.
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** with a Progressive congregation, followed by home hospitality for dinner.

Overnight: Harmony Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem

Day 7: Saturday, November 16, 2019

SHABBAT PEACE OR PIECES

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Time for meditation or worship.
- *Along the Seam*, a guided walk with maps along Jerusalem's seam zones to better understand the complexities of this united/divided city, including a visit to the **Museum on the Seam**.
- Shabbat lunch on own.
- Afternoon at leisure.
- *Optional* visit to the **Israel Museum** at own expense (40 minute walk or 10 minute cab ride).
- Wrap up conversation followed by **Havdallah** at the hotel.
- Tour of **Machane Yehuda** after hours.
- **Farewell Dinner** TBA.
- Proceed to Ben Gurion Airport for return flight to the United States.

