

# program\*

\* whatcha gonna do.

program dated: November 5, 2019

## **BOULDER COMMUNITY-WIDE TRIP TO ISRAEL 2020**

**MAY 31 – JUNE 11, 2020**

**Day One: Sunday, May 31, 2020**

### **ON THE WAY TO ISRAEL**

- Depart the US.

Overnight: Flight

**Day Two: Monday, June 1, 2020**

### **THE JOURNEY BEGINS**

- The Boulder Community-Wide Trip to Israel has begun! **Welcome to Israel!**
- You'll arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport where our representatives will be on hand to assist with all formalities and ensure the smoothest of arrivals.
- Meet your tour educator, who will accompany you on this journey of experiences, interactions, and education.
- We'll make the short drive to **Tel Aviv**, also known as "the city that never sleeps." A place of sun and fun, its centers of culture and history are complemented by great beaches, stores, and entertainment.
- Check into the hotel.
- **Why I Love Israel: Dinner** overlooking the Mediterranean Sea and a discussion with **David Siegel**, former Consul General of Israel to the Southwest United States, on why he's inspired by Israel.

Overnight: Tel Aviv



**arzaworld.com 888-811-2812**

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Three: Tuesday, June 2, 2020

## FOUNDATIONS OF A CITY AND STATE

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- **A New Way to Celebrate Israel:** Meet with **Joanna Landau**, founder of **Vibe Israel**. This nonprofit, apolitical organization is promoting a new vision of Israel on social media as a multicultural, creative, and innovative society rather than a country dominated by conflict.
- **Arming for Independence:** Visit the **Ayalon Institute** near Rehovot and uncover its role in the establishment of the State of Israel. This secret ammunition factory produced millions of bullets for Jewish forces fighting for a Jewish State and the end of British rule over Palestine.
- **Ethnic Tasting Tour:** Eat, drink, and be educated at the **Levinsky Market**, where we'll sample food and sweets from all over the Mediterranean and the Middle East and try to figure out what is Israeli about Israeli food. This doubles as a delicious **lunch**.
- A short drive will take us to the oldest, original part of Tel Aviv, the **Old City of Jaffa**. We'll learn about its historical importance and contemporary status as a mixed Jewish-Arab city as we make our way up from its ancient port, where fishing boats dock next to modern cultural centers and restaurants. We'll walk through the renovated alleyways with their artists' studios and then shop for bargains at the Jaffa Flea Market – **Shuk Hapishpeshim**.
- **What's Going on in Bohemian Tel Aviv?** Join an expert on Tel Aviv's alternative scene for an urban adventure and **graffiti tour**. Explore the latest street art and find out what it reveals about life, ideas, and ideology in Israel's cultural capital.
- **From Hebrew City to Hebrew State:** Walk along the **Independence Trail** and embark on a remarkable journey that begins with the founding of Tel Aviv in 1909 and ends with the establishment of Israel in 1948.
- Return to the hotel with time to swim and relax.
- Tel Aviv has plenty of great options for dinner (*not included in package*). We're happy to make reservations and recommendations including at the **Tel Aviv Port**, with its restaurants and cafés right on the water's edge, OR the **Tahana**, Tel Aviv's old train station, which has been transformed into a center of fine dining and shopping.

Overnight: Tel Aviv



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daattravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Four: Wednesday, June 3, 2020

## DESERT ADVENTURES

- Early **breakfast** at the hotel, followed by check-out.
- We'll drive south to the **Negev Desert** to understand efforts to both develop and preserve this remarkable natural environment.
- Proceed to the **Shafdan Wastewater Treatment Plant**, which reclaims wastewater from high-density Tel Aviv for use in agriculture. One of the largest and most advanced facilities of its kind in the world, the plant's 44-mile piping system transports municipal wastewater from urban areas and industrial zones to the treatment facility at Sorek.
- Visit the **grave** of Israel's founding father, David Ben-Gurion, located at **Kibbutz Sde Boker**. We'll discuss why Ben-Gurion, the "grand old man" of Israel's public life and the country's first Prime Minister abandoned the political scene for life in an isolated Kibbutz in the Negev Desert.
- We'll then take off into the spectacular desert on a **jeep tour** through the Zin Valley and experience the Negev in all its wildness and beauty.
- Lunch (*not included in package*), en route.
- **How Fast Does This Thing Go? Camel riding** is not something you do every day. We'll take a train of camels for a test drive and ride into the heart of the desert along the ancient trade route. Afterward, relax in a spacious Bedouin tent at the **Chan Hashayarot** camp and find out what Middle Eastern hospitality is all about.
- Drive to **Ramat HaNegev**, partner region of **JEWISHcolorado** in a program connecting the two communities on many levels. We'll view some examples of how Colorado's involvement is changing people's lives in this region, after which we'll join friends old and new from Ramat HaNegev for an event at **Shanti Bamidbar**, a home for youth at risk. There we'll learn about an unconventional but very effective approach to integrating these youngsters back into society. After enjoying a postcard-worthy sunset, we'll have **dinner** celebrating friendship and love.
- Check into the hotel.

Overnight: Kibbutz Mashabei Sadeh



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Five: Thursday, June 4, 2020

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SOUTH

- **Breakfast** at the hotel, followed by check-out.
- **Living on the Edge:** Drive to **Moshav Netiv Ha'asarah**, located on Israel's border with the Gaza Strip, and meet **Tsameret Zamir**. An artist and resident of the moshav, Tsameret is the force behind the **Path to Peace** – a joint mosaic created by thousands of people which has been placed on the security wall that separates Israeli and Palestinian communities. Hear how the mosaic, which can be seen on both sides of the wall, is spreading a message of optimism and hope of a peaceful future.
- Visit **Project Wadi Attir**, a groundbreaking initiative within a Bedouin community in the Negev to establish a sustainable farm based on traditional Bedouin values, know-how, and experience. The project was initiated by the Sustainability Laboratory, in partnership with the Hura Municipal Council.
- Lunch (*not included in package*), en route.
- Take part in an **archaeological dig** at the **Beit Guvrin Caves**. Prepare to get your hands dirty uncovering pottery from the Hellenistic period, 2,300 years ago, and (*optional*) crawl through the **Maresha Cave Labyrinth** at this UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Welcome to the fascinating, contentious, and holy city of **Jerusalem**. We'll celebrate our arrival by reciting the traditional "**shehechyanu**" blessing of thanks.
- Check into the hotel.
- **Dinner** at a Jerusalem restaurant with **Gil Hoffman**, chief political correspondent and analyst of the *Jerusalem Post*. (*pending confirmation*).

Overnight: Jerusalem



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daattravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Six: Friday, June 5, 2020

## THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- Explore the **City of David**, the core of ancient Jerusalem, and learn how the city was administered during the First Temple period and how its wealthy lived. See the **Gihon Spring**, the source of Jerusalem's water supply, which was integral to its survival and religious ceremonies. Then (*optional*) wade through the 2,700-year-old **water tunnels**, an architectural wonder of King Hezekiah's, before experiencing the transformation from the First Temple to the Second Temple.
- A highlight of any journey to Israel is a visit to the **Kotel** (the Western Wall), widely considered Judaism's holiest site. We'll discuss its historical and contemporary importance and experience its unique atmosphere.
- Continue to the **Western Wall Tunnel**, the underground continuation of the Kotel, and enjoy access and explanation of the archaeological new discoveries that are rewriting our understanding of daily life in Jerusalem.
- Lunch (*not included in package*) in the Jewish Quarter.
- Walk through the Old City's Jewish Quarter:
  - Walk to the **rooftops** for a bird-eye view of the remarkably disparate yet closely bound communities of the Old City.
  - Explore the **Cardo** – the main street of Roman-controlled Jerusalem, with its spectacular Byzantine-era columns, King Hezekiah's **Broad Wall** – a massive wall built to protect Jerusalem from invasion 2,700 years ago, and **Hurva Square** – the center of life in the Jewish Quarter today.
- Return to the hotel with time to relax and to enjoy the atmosphere as Jerusalem prepares and slows down for Shabbat.
- **Candle lighting** at the hotel.
- **Pre-Kabbalat Shabbat ceremony** (*location to be advised*).
- Be part of the diversity and spirituality of Jerusalem as people from all over the world gather to welcome Shabbat at the **Kotel** or at a **local synagogue**.
- **Festive private Shabbat dinner** at the hotel with **lone soldiers** who came (without their families) from countries outside Israel to serve in the Israel Defense Forces.

Overnight: Jerusalem



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Seven: Saturday, June 6, 2020

## A JERUSALEM SHABBAT or MASADA AND DEAD SEA DAY

### A JERUSALEM SHABBAT – OPTION 1

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- Sample the enormous variety of Jerusalem's synagogues with **Shabbat morning services** or enjoy a morning of leisure.
- Lunch (*not included in package*).
- A free afternoon to relax or join one of these special walking tours (*pre-registration required*).
  - **Jerusalem and Its Writers:** Explore the streets of Jerusalem through the eyes and words of its poets and authors, including Yehuda Amichai and S.Y. Agnon.
  - **A Street of Modern Prophets:** Discover Hanevi'im Street (Street of the Prophets) and the extraordinary people who lived in one of Jerusalem's first modern neighborhoods. Visit the homes of Eliezer Ben Yehuda, the reviver of the Hebrew language, and artist Anne Ticho, see the Ethiopian Church, the Italian Hospital, and other buildings that made this known as Jerusalem's most beautiful street outside the Old City walls.
  - **Yemin Moshe, Mishkenot Shaananim, and Mamilla:** Get acquainted with **Sir Moses Montefiore** and the pastoral neighborhoods, famous windmill and artists' colony that he developed, which transformed Jerusalem. En route, view two of modern Jerusalem's most storied and important landmarks: the King David Hotel and the YMCA building.

### MASADA AND DEAD SEA – OPTION 2 – SUPPLEMENTAL COST OF \$160 PER PERSON

- Enjoy an early **breakfast** at the hotel before setting out to the **Dead Sea**.
- **As Low as It Goes:** We'll drive to the Dead Sea Basin, 1412 feet below sea level and the lowest place on earth. The desert, the landscape, and the views are breathtaking.
- **The Last Stand:** A cable car will bring us to the top of **Masada** with its extraordinary views and fascinating archaeological remains. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is where Jewish rebels are believed to have made their final attempt to resist Roman invaders (c 74 CE) before committing mass suicide. We'll learn about Masada's importance as a symbol of Jewish defense and discuss its influence on modern Israel.
- Lunch (*not included in package*), en route.
- **The Sea of Salt:** Go floating, rather than swimming in the **Dead Sea**. Not much can live in what is the saltiest piece of water in the world, nine times saltier than the ocean, but the weightless feeling of floating is great fun.
- While returning to Jerusalem, we'll drive by **Qumran**, where a separatist Jewish sect from the Second Temple period created an isolated community and the Dead Sea Scrolls, some of the most ancient and important religious manuscripts in existence, were discovered.

#### ALL:

- **Ben Kodesh Lechol:** Join your community in a beautiful **Havdallah** ceremony overlooking the Old City as we bid farewell to Shabbat and look forward to the experiences still to come.
- Free time to enjoy the city, including the **Mamilla Pedestrian Arcade**, a contemporary shopping and dining area with a touch of the past; a great location for dinner (*not included in package*).
- The **Night Spectacular** at the **Tower of David Museum:** The walls of the Citadel serve as the stage for this cinematic celebration of sight and sound depicting the story of Jerusalem.
- Meet at **Jaffa Gate** and walk back to the hotel.

Overnight: Jerusalem



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

[customerservice@daatravel.com](mailto:customerservice@daatravel.com) | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Eight: Sunday, June 7, 2020

## GOING DEEPER INTO JERUSALEM

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- **A Light unto the Nations: IsraAID** provides disaster relief and ongoing rehabilitation assistance to crisis areas around the world. Meet their co-CEO, **Navonel (Voni) Glick**, and hear the inspiring story of how this Israel-based organization is saving lives and creating long-term partnerships with people struck by disaster.
- Visit **Yad Vashem**, the national memorial of the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Our tour, a profound experience, both emotionally and educationally, will include:
  - The **Avenue of the Righteous**, where trees symbolic of the renewal of life have been planted along with plaques honoring brave non-Jews who saved Jews during the Shoah.
  - The **Historical Museum**, a state-of-the-art interactive display reflecting decades of research and educational expertise. The story of the Holocaust, with an emphasis on individual victims, is told through survivor testimonies, original artifacts, and personal possessions saved from the ghettos and camps.
  - The **Children's Memorial**.
  - The visit will conclude with a special **memorial service** allowing us to pay personal tribute to those who were lost.
- Explore the sights, smells, sounds and especially the food during a **tasting tour** in Jerusalem's exciting and ethnically diverse open-air market, **Mahane Yehuda**. This doubles as a delicious **lunch**.
- **The Geopolitics of Jerusalem:** Go beyond the headlines for an in-depth discussion on the political situation in East and West Jerusalem and the effects of the Security Barrier on local communities, including visits to key areas along the seam zone.
- Return to the hotel with dinner (*not included in package*).

Overnight: Jerusalem



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Nine: Monday, June 8, 2020

**KEEPING THE VALLEY GREEN**

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel and drive north through the **Jordan Valley**.
- **Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu** is the site for an interactive tour of the **Bio-Bee** fields, where environmentally friendly ways to protect crops using flies, bees, and owls rather than pesticides, are developed. We'll see how this collective Kibbutz is thriving in 21<sup>st</sup>-century Israel and is strengthening environmentalism in the international marketplace.
- **Kinneret Cemetery: Moshava Kinneret** was one of the first Zionist agricultural settlements. We'll discuss the iconic figures in Zionist collective culture buried here, including Rachel the Poetess, philosopher Ber Borochov, and the "first lady of Israeli song," Naomi Shemer.
- Lunch (*not included in package*), en route.
- Swim in freshwater pools and natural springs at the **Gan Hashlosha Nature Reserve** (Sachne), situated at the foot of Mount Gilboa.
- Enjoy a **boat ride** on the Sea of Galilee. A chance for the adults to toast their journey together while the kids let their hair down with dancing and music.
- Check into the hotel and enjoy **dinner**.

Overnight: Kibbutz Hotel, Sea of Galilee



**arzaworld.com 888-811-2812**

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

Day Ten: Tuesday, June 9, 2020

## MYSTICS AND DREAMERS IN THE GALILEE

- **Breakfast** at the hotel.
- Perhaps it's the combination of mysticism and art, and maybe it's the mountain air in Israel's highest city; entering **Tsfat**, there is a sense of something uniquely Jewish but not quite of this world. Here, you'll:
  - Visit the **Ari Synagogue** and share in the inspiration and innovation that moved Rabbi Isaac Luria (the Holy Ari) and his fellow mystics. In Tsfat they developed the Kabbalah, the esoteric insights of Judaism and created Kabbalat Shabbat, the prayers sung on Friday evenings to welcome the arrival of the Sabbath.
  - Walk through the cobble streets and alleyways to the **Artists' Colony** with its galleries, shops, and studios.
  - Meet with artists inspired by the Kabbalah and by their Jewish identities.
- Lunch (*not included in package*), en route.
- **The Balance of Power on Israel's Northern Border:** Dialogue with **Maj. (Ret) Sarit Zehavi**, a former senior intelligence officer and now a security analyst, on the complex and fast-changing military, diplomatic, and strategic challenges confronting Israel from the north.
- **A Sweet Day:** Indulge your sweet tooth and check out the culinary and therapeutic delights of chocolate with a **chocolate workshop** at the **De Karina Chocolate Factory** in Kibbutz Ein Zivan.
- **Ready-Set-Cook!** Who are the champion cooks in the Boulder community? Find out in a Middle Eastern comparative cooking workshop where laughter and fun are crucial parts of the menu. We'll join into teams and create some great local dishes with help from a top chef from the Galilee region. After the cooking, comes the eating with **dinner**.
- Return to the hotel.

Overnight: Kibbutz Hotel, Sea of Galilee



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel

## Day Eleven: Wednesday, June 10, 2020

### THE POWER OF COMMUNITY PAST AND PRESENT

- **Breakfast** at the hotel, followed by check-out.
- Relatively few overseas visitors have seen the fascinating ancient-modern city of **Shefaram**, located between the bottom of the Carmel Ridge and the entrance to the Galilee. Once a Jewish rabbinical center operating under Roman rule, Shefaram was later a Crusader post and is now an Arab city with tightly interwoven communities of Muslim, Christian, and Druze residents. We'll meet with leaders and residents and hear of their efforts to maintain close, respectful ties between the town's different faiths and with the Israeli Jewish population. Highlights of our visit will include:
  - A **muezzin** (Muslim clergy) will welcome us into a local **mosque** and discuss Islamic practice and life in Israel.
  - Entering the town's beautiful **Roman Catholic church**, with an opportunity to talk with locals about the variety of Christian denominations in the town.
  - A visit to the town's abandoned **synagogue**, where we'll discuss what, historically and today, it means to be a minority community in the Land of Israel.
  - Our tour of Shefaram will conclude with a **cooking workshop** as we'll whip up some **knafeh**, the iconic dessert of the Western Galilee.
- Drive to the innovative **Zippori National Park**, site of Rabbi Yehuda Hanassi's codification of the Mishna and extraordinary ancient mosaics, with a **special mosaic-making program** for children and youth.
- Lunch (*not included in package*), en route.
- **Caesarea** was one of the Land of Israel's most important cities in the Roman Period. We'll explore the town, the Herodian Theater, and the excavations along the Mediterranean shore.
- Proceed to **Neot Kedumim**, an interactive Biblical landscape reserve dedicated to preserving the lifestyles and flora of ancient times. Afterward, we'll join together as a community to celebrate our journey through Israel and to leave our mark on the country with a **tree-planting ceremony** and **farewell dinner**.
- (*Optional*) Day use rooms and check-out from the hotel.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport and check in for your return flight to the US.
- It has been our privilege to be with you on the **Boulder Community-Wide Trip to Israel**.

Overnight: Flight

## Day Twelve: Thursday, June 11, 2020

### ON THE WAY HOME

- Arrival in Colorado.



[arzaworld.com](http://arzaworld.com) 888-811-2812

customerservice@daatravel.com | fax 888-295-5609

US Office: 500 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. | 8<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10018

Israel Office: 19 Washington St. | P.O.B 71047 | Jerusalem, 91710 | Israel