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* whatcha gonna do.

Program dated: February 2, 2016

HONEYMOON ISRAEL SAN FRANCISCO GROUP 2 TRIP TO ISRAEL February 11 – 21, 2016

Day One: Thursday, February 11, 2016

DEPARTURE

- 7:30 a.m. Depart San Francisco International Airport on Air Canada #758.
- 3:25 p.m. Arrive at **Toronto Airport**.
- 4:55 p.m. Depart Toronto on Air Canada flight #084.

Overnight: Flight

Day Two: Friday, February 12, 2016

ARRIVAL

- 10:15 a.m. Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport.
- Welcome by our representative and assistance with arrival formalities.
- Meet your tour educator, **Koren Eisner**, at the airport and transfer to **Tel Aviv**.
- Walking tour through colorful **Neve Zedek**, one of Tel Aviv's earliest neighborhoods. Today it is a cultural mecca, with many small boutiques and galleries, and the Suzanne Delal Dance and Theater Center.
- Visit the **Nachalat Binyamin** pedestrian mall, with its bi-weekly crafts fair and eateries. Alongside is the colorful Carmel open-air market and across the way Sheinkin Street, with its hip cafés and funky chic shopping.
- Check into the hotel with time to freshen up.
- 4:15 p.m. **Shabbat Candle Lighting** at the hotel.
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** on the beach.
- 7:30 p.m. **Private dinner** at the hotel.

Overnight: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Day Three: Saturday, February 13, 2016

TEL AVIV: THE FIRST HEBREW CITY

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 10:00 a.m. Depart the hotel.
- Visit the **Old City of Jaffa**, ascend from the old port through the renovated alleyways to the Jaffa Overlook for an introduction to Tel Aviv at the place where it all began.
- Lunch on own in Jaffa.
- Walk through the famous **Jaffa Flea Market – “Shuk Hapishpishim”**.
- 4:00 p.m. *A Tale Between Two Cities – Tel Aviv & Jerusalem*: Dialogue with scholar **Dr. Rachel Korazim** of the Shalom Hartman Institute.
- **Honeymoon Israel Conversation.**
- *Ben Kodesh Lechol: Havdallah* on the beach.
- Dinner on own at the renovated **Old Port of Tel Aviv**, with its wonderful restaurants, cafés and shops, right on the water’s edge; **OR** at the **Tachana**, Jaffa’s Old Railway Station, renovated and restored as a great pedestrian complex, with restaurants, shops and open spaces for people-watching.

Overnight: Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Day Four: Sunday, February 14, 2016

TO THE NORTH

- Breakfast at the hotel and check out.
- 9:00 a.m. *Challenge, Question, Engage and Enlighten*: Visit **Bina**, the Secular Yeshiva, which represents the Secular Jewish Renaissance and *Yahadut Hevratit* (Jewish Social Activism) in Israel.
- 12:00 p.m. Visit **Independence Hall**, where David Ben-Gurion proclaimed the State of Israel on May 14th, 1948.
- Lunch on your own, en route north, driving along the coast.
- From the top of Mount Carmel view the **Baha’i Gardens** and gold-domed **Shrine of the Bab**, one of the holiest sites of the Baha’i religion.
- Check into the hotel in **Haifa**.
- 7:30 p.m. Depart the hotel.
- 8:00 p.m. Visit a **Druze** village in the Carmel Mountains for a window into the unique world of the Israeli Druze community, with **home-hospitality dinner**.

Overnight: Dan Carmel, Haifa

Day Five: Monday, February 15, 2016

MOSAIC OF ISRAEL

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:30 a.m. Check out of the hotel.
- 9:00 a.m. Visit the **Beit Hagefen** Jewish-Arab Culture Center, including a walking tour of Wadi Nisnas and a dialogue on coexistence in Haifa led by **Assaf Ron**, Beit Hagefen C.E.O.
- 11:30 a.m. Visit the **Yemin Orde** youth village, one of Israel's most innovative educational institutions, specializing in integrating new immigrant youth into Israeli society. Dialogue with faculty and students, followed by **lunch**.
- Guided visit to **Zichron Ya'acov**, one of the first communities established by the early Zionist pioneers, including:
 - A walk along the colorful **Pedestrian Mall**.
 - **Wine tasting** at a local winery.
- Drive south along the Trans-Israel Highway and ascend to **Jerusalem** through the Judean hills.
- Stop at the **Haas Promenade** for an overlook of the Old and New City of Jerusalem and the traditional "**shehechyanu**" blessing.
- Check into the hotel.
- Free time in the **Mamilla pedestrian arcade**, a very contemporary shopping area with a whiff of the past, located outside the Jaffa Gate of the Old City; dinner on own.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Day Six: Tuesday, February 16, 2016

THE LAYERS OF JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 8:00 a.m. *The Jewish Family- Thoughts and Reflections on its Identity*: Dialogue with **Avraham Infeld**, President Emeritus of **Hillel** International.
- 9:45 a.m. Depart the hotel.
- Visit the **Old City** for a walking tour through the **Jewish Quarter** with visits to archaeological treasures and other highlights, among them:
 - The **Cardo**, the main street of Jerusalem in the 6th century.
 - King Hezekiah's First Temple-period "**Broad Wall**".
 - **Hurva Square**, the central square of the Jewish Quarter.
- Visit the **Kotel** (Western Wall) and experience the special atmosphere of this holy site.
- Guided visit through the **Jerusalem Archaeological Park**, including a visit to the Davidson Center and the Southern Wall Excavations.
- Lunch on own.
- 2:45 p.m. Visit the **Yad Vashem** complex, the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including:
 - The **Avenue of the Righteous**
 - The **Historical Museum**
 - The **Valley of the Communities**
- Return to the hotel.
- **Honeymoon Israel Conversation**.
- Dinner on own and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Day Seven: Wednesday, February 17, 2016

BEYOND BORDERS

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:30 a.m. *Ethics & Dilemmas in the Field*: Dialogue with **Col. (Res.) Benzi Gruber**, Deputy Commander of an Armored Corps brigade.
- 10:00 a.m. Depart the hotel.
- **LaDa'at The Geopolitics of Jerusalem** - ובלילה חומה: ירושלים: Travel through the city of Jerusalem, exploring some of its political and diplomatic complexities – including the 'Security Barrier' – to gain a behind-the-headlines insight into current developments.
- **Multiple Viewpoints - The Geopolitics of Greater Jerusalem** - ובלילה חומה: ירושלים: Travel through the
- Cross the checkpoint into **Bethlehem**.
- Visit the city of **Bethlehem** and the Church of the Nativity, the traditional birthplace of Jesus
- Lunch in Bethlehem.
- 2:00 p.m. *Creating A Joint Future For Palestinians And Israelis*: Meet with **Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, Ali Abu Awwad, Shaul Judelman** who all live in the Bethlehem / Gush Etzion Area and founded the Roots coexistence project. *The Roots project draws Israelis and Palestinians who, despite living next to each other, are separated by walls of fear- not just fear of each other, but even of the price of peace. Without building trust, the suspicions between these two communities will suffocate the political peace agreements.*
- Engage in a dynamic experience at the **Kol Ha'Ot Art Gallery**. Through the magical power of the arts and the special atmosphere of the location, grapple with Jewish texts in a transformative, interactive program that will leave you with a long-lasting family memory.
- Return to Jerusalem.
- Free time to explore **Downtown Jerusalem**, including the Ben-Yehuda pedestrian mall and the Nachalat Shiva neighborhood, with dinner on own.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Day Eight: Thursday, February 18, 2016

INTO THE DESERT, MASADA AND THE DEAD SEA

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 7:30 a.m. Depart the hotel.
- Descend to the **Dead Sea Basin**.
- Visit **Masada**, Herod's mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots' last stand against the Roman Legionnaires. Discuss Masada's role as a symbol of Jewish defence and its current significance in modern Israel.
- **Honeymoon Israel Conversation**.
- Lunch on own.
- Short hike to **Nahal David**, the freshwater spring and waterfalls in the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve, where David hid from King Saul (*time permitting*).
- Experience the weightlessness of the **Dead Sea** as you float in its waters.
- Return to Jerusalem and to the hotel.
- Visit the **Old Train Station Plaza**, a central neighborhood hub for food, entertainment, culture, and enrichment; and dinner on own.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem

Day Nine: Friday, February 19, 2016

OLD & NEW JERUSALEM

- 7:30 a.m. Private breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:00 a.m. *The Labyrinth of Israeli Politics*: Dialogue with **Prof. Reuven Hazan** of the Political Science Department at Hebrew University.
- 9:30 a.m. Depart the hotel by tracks.

Track 1: Cooking Workshop

- 10:00 a.m. Experience the sights, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the **Machaneh Yehuda** open air market, with a **local chef**, choosing the best and the most fresh the *shuk* has to offer in order to return to a kitchen in the market for an interactive cooking session, followed by a delicious **lunch**.

Track 2: I'm Diggin' Israel

- Depart for **Beit Guvrin**.
- 10:30 a.m. Take part in an **archaeological dig** at the **Beit Guvrin Caves** and prepare to get your hands dirty as you uncover pottery from the Hellenistic period, 2,300 years ago, followed by a crawl through the Maresha Cave Labyrinth (crawling is optional). *Beit Guvrin-Maresha National Park* was recently recognized as a *UNESCO World Heritage Site*.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Return to Jerusalem.

Track 3: Jerusalem Underground

- Return to the **Old City**.
- 10:40 a.m. Enter the **Western Wall Tunnel**, the underground continuation of the Temple Mount's Western Wall, exposed in recent years.
- Explore the excavations in the **City of David**, the very core of ancient Jerusalem.
- Experience the sights, smells, and tastes of Jerusalem while walking through the **Machaneh Yehuda** open-air market, with lunch on own.

All:

- Return to the hotel with time to relax and freshen up before Shabbat.
- Kabbalat Shabbat overlooking the old city or at the Western Wall.
- Walk back to the hotel.
- **Festive Shabbat dinner**.

Overnight: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem



Day Ten: Saturday, February 20, 2016

SHABBAT IN JERUSALEM

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- *Optional* Shabbat services.
- Return to the Old City and enter via the **Zion Gate** for a walking tour through the diversified old city of Jerusalem. Experience Shabbat by walking through the allies of the Jewish Quarter.
- Lunch on own.
- Visit different sites at **Christian and Muslim Quarters**, including The **Via Dolorosa**, the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** and the famous **Old City Market (shuk)**.
- Return to the hotel.
- **Honeymoon Israel Conversation.**
- 6:05 p.m. *Ben Kodesh Lechol: Havdallah* overlooking the Old City.
- 7:30 p.m. **Festive farewell dinner at Olive & Fish.**

Overnight: Flight

Day Eleven: Sunday, February 21, 2016

RETURN

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:00 a.m. Check out of the hotel.
- Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport.
- 11:55 a.m. Depart on Air Canada #085 to **Toronto**.
- 4:50 p.m. Arrive at **Toronto Airport**.
- 6:20 p.m. Depart for San Francisco on Air Canada flight #739.
- 9:14 a.m. Arrive in **San Francisco**.

