Morristown Jewish Center

Solidarity Trip to Israel
Led by Rabbi Amy Small

March 2-8, 2024

As of January 28, 2024

*(Subject to change)*

**Day 1: Saturday, March 2, 2024**

Departure

Depart USA for Israel.

Overnight: In-Flight

**Day 2: Sunday, March 3, 2024**

Israel Post October 7

Various arrivals

Program introduction.

Hesed project with Evacuees in Jerusalem.

* Return to the hotel, for rest and relaxation.
* **Dinner at the hotel, followed by** *The New Poetry and Where Are We Now?* with scholar **Rachel Korazim**.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**Day 3: Monday, March 4, 2024**

The Western Negev: Tragedy and Small Steps Forward

Breakfast at the hotel.

* Depart hotel towards Kfar Azza.
* Arrive in **Kfar Azza** which was brutally attacked in the Hamas onslaught, in conjunction with the Kfar Azza Rebuilding Alliance.
* Visit the site of the **Nova Festival** in the Reim Park.
* Visit thetownof **Sderot**, a symbol of Israel’ s longstanding conflict with Hamas, stopping at the once-famous now demolished police station, followed by a conversation with people form the local Urban Kibbutz, who are grappling with the complex challenge of following their ideology of dialogue and coexistence with the Palestinians of Gaza and the realities of October 7th.
* Visit Netivot, a town at the entrance to the War Zone, for a visit to **Galgal Hozer**, a center of hesed for residents and soldiers, with an opportunity to pack provisions for soldiers and meet with local social workers.

Visit the **Shura IDF Rabbinate Base** for a special visit to the IDF forensics center, which was the coordination hub for identifying the murdered Israelis on October 7th and after.

Return to Jerusalem.

 *Dinner and A Spiritual Break – Sharing, Music, Torah and Togetherness, with local Jerusalemites.*

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**Day 4: Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

October 7: Creating Memory

* Breakfast at the hotel.
* *Celebration Turned to Horror* – A testimony from Nova Festival survivor, **Amit Mousawi.**
* *The Sounds of Silence: The Israeli Government and the International Women’s Organizations Reactions* to October 7th, at the Israeli **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, with foreign service officers involved in bringing awareness to and action in the international community.
* *Drive to Mount Herzl.*
* *Memory and Life: The Quandary of our Day*, with **Nissimi Naim Naor**, student in the Israeli Rabbinical Program at the Hartman Institute, master chef and story teller and who in reserve duty, is responsible for telling Jerusalemites that their loved ones have been killed in battle, at **Mount Herzl.**
* Continue to the graves of some of the soldiers and police officers killed during the events of October 7th

Program with **Evacuee School Children and their parents at one of the evacuee locations in the Jerusalem area.**

Israel: Post October 7, with author and scholar, **Yossi Klein Halevy** of the Shalom Hartman Institute, followed by Processing conversation at the hotel.

Dinner on your own and free time in Jerusalem.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

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**Day 5: Wednesday March 6, 2024**

Mutual Responsibility

**Breakfast at the hotel.**

**Visit the Hamal Hayerushalmi, the Jerusalem Civil Coordination Center,** for a briefing with **Adir Schwartz**, a Jerusalem community leader and one of the founders of the center, followed by a guided visit through the center.

Drive to **Rahat** or the the **Joe Alon Center in Lahavim,** for a conversation in conjunction with *Have you Seen the Horizon Lately*, which founded the joint Jewish – Arab Community Coordination Center or the *Desert Stars* initiative, which works to incorporate Bedouin youth into broader Israeli society.

Lunch en route.

*Arabs of Israeli Citizenship post October 7, r*eturn to Jerusalem for a conversation with **Mohamud Darawshe, Hartman scholar and director of the Center for Shared Society, Givat Haviva.**

 Processing conversation.

Dinner on your own.

 **Overnight: Jerusalem**

**Day 6: Thursday, March 7, 2024**

The Day After

* Breakfast at the hotel and check out.
* Drive to Tel Aviv.
* **Agricultural Volunteering** en route.
* Drive to **Kibbutz Shfayim** to meet evacuees from Kfar Azza to discuss their challenging battle to rebuild their lives and homes.
* Lunch on own en route.
* Visit **Tel Hashomer - Sheba Hospital** and visit wounded soldiers in the Sheba rehab center.
* Drive into Tel Aviv.
* Meet with hostage family members and visit **Hostage Square** – *as the hostage situation unfolds, this element could change in a variety of ways before the group arrives.*
* Wrap up conversation and farewell dinner.
* Depart for Ben Gurion International Airport or return to Jerusalem.

**Overnight: In-flight//Jerusalem**

**Day 7: Friday, March 8, 2024**

Jerusalem…

* Arrival in the USA.

**OR for those staying for Shabbat**

* Breakfast.
* Free morning or guided visits through Tel Aviv including:
* The Machane Yehudah Market
* The Israel Museum
* The Old City
* Lunch with Jerusalemites whose lives have been altered since October 7th, through reserve duty, volunteering, adopting evacuee families, or just by trying to live a normal life.
* Free afternoon to explore Jerusalem.
* Kabbalat Shabbat at one of Tel Aviv’s progressive congregations.
* Festive Shabbat dinner at the hotel.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

**Day 8: Shabbat, March 9, 2024**

Shabbat in Jerusalem

* Breakfast.
* Free day in Jerusalem for personal exploration.
* Havdallah overlooking the Old City.
* Festive concluding dinner.

**Overnight: Flight**

***Please Note: Due to the changing realities on the ground, this itinerary tentative – The final itinerary should be confirmed one week prior to arrival.***