Jewish National Fund
ISRAEL@70 TOUR
Young Leadership Experience

April 12–19, 2018
Optional Extension: April 19–22

Chairs Civia Caroline and Jason Zenner

Professionals Anna Richlin, Senior Campaign Executive, Central New Jersey
Jessica Milstein, Associate Director, Mountain States
Thursday, April 12 – Arrival / Tel Aviv

AM
Welcome to Israel! Upon individual flight schedules, transfer to the Herods Hotel in Tel Aviv, Israel’s most cosmopolitan city located along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

PM
Option for early arrivals: take time to wander the narrow streets of the chic Neve Tzedek neighborhood. Built in 1909, and considered Tel Aviv’s first neighborhood, Neve Tzedek was neglected for years, but today has been transformed into one of Tel Aviv’s most popular places to live, work, and shop. This picturesque area is filled with galleries, artists’ studios, cafés, restaurants, and unique shops. Your journey will officially commence with a welcome dinner in the evening at a local restaurant in Tel Aviv.

Overnight
Herods Hotel, Tel Aviv
Friday, April 13 – Tel Aviv

**AM**
Enjoy a delicious buffet breakfast at the hotel before visiting the **Tel Aviv Museum of Art**, home to Israel's most extensive collections of modern, contemporary and Israeli art.
Continue to the **Palmach Museum**, a state-of-the-art multimedia experience that allows a glimpse into this elite strike-force unit of the Haganah, Israel's pre-State army, and the fight for Israeli independence.

**PM**
Have lunch on own and spend the afternoon exploring Tel Aviv’s most iconic areas:

- The **Nachlat Binyamin Arts & Crafts Fair**: a festival of arts, crafts, pottery, and street performances. Pass through the Carmel Market and capture all of the liveliness and vibrancy of this iconic, open-air market.

- **Dizengoff Street**: named after Tel Aviv’s first mayor Meir Dizengoff, this is one of Tel Aviv’s most popular streets. Check out the shops and restaurants that line the street and the flea market found at the recently revamped Dizengoff Square.

- Take time to relax on one of Tel Aviv’s pristine beaches.

Return to the hotel to prepare for Shabbat.

This evening, come together with all Israel@70 Tour groups for our first joint event at the Carlton Hotel. Mark the beginning of **Shabbat** with a symbolic Kabbalat Shabbat ceremony before enjoying a memorable Shabbat dinner with special guest **Deputy Minister Michael Oren**, former Israeli Ambassador to the U.S.

**Overnight**
Herods Hotel, Tel Aviv

*Itinerary is subject to change.*

*From left: Artisan at the Nachlat Binyamin Arts & Crafts Fair, Tel Aviv Museum of Art*
Saturday, April 14 – Shabbat

AM

Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat, providing the opportunity to relax and explore Tel Aviv at your own pace. Shabbat services will be offered at the hotel for those who wish to attend.

Consider visiting Beit Hatfutsot (the Diaspora Museum), relaxing on the beach, or joining one of the following optional day tours:

• *Masada & Dead Sea Day Tour: Depart on the bus to begin your drive via the Judean Hills along the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest place on Earth. Continue to Masada, the mountain fortress built by King Herod, where Zealots made their last stand against the Romans, and learn about the history of the Jewish fighters before taking a cable car ride to the top of the Herodian Palace Complex. Afterwards, descend the mountain to the depths of the Dead Sea and float in the buoyant waters or simply relax at the beach.

• Stroll through Tel Aviv’s “White City” to see some excellent examples of the famous German-inspired Bauhaus architecture. Walk down Rothschild Boulevard, an iconic cultural and commercial center, and hear about the story of Tel Aviv.

PM

Dinner will be on own this evening.

Overnight

Herods Hotel, Tel Aviv

*Additional Cost – not included in tour price.

Itinerary is subject to change.
Sunday, April 15 – North

AM
After breakfast and hotel checkout, depart north along the scenic coastal route. Visit the Atlit Detention Camp, where thousands of Jewish immigrants were once imprisoned upon their arrival into Israel during the British Mandate. Tour the restored Galina, a replica of a ship that carried 122,000 “illegal” immigrants in defiance of the British blockade to Israel, and the new Plane Museum.

PM
Experience an authentic Druze lunch in Usafiya, a village situated along the scenic slopes of Mount Carmel. Dine on delicious, ethnic cuisine while learning about Druze culture and traditions. Hear firsthand stories from your hosts and other leaders in the community and learn about the history of the Druze faith and its present-day model of coexistence.

Visit Akko and tour the ancient gates, towers, tunnels, and secret passageways of this underground Crusader city. See the JNF Western Galilee Tourist Information Center, a multimedia facility that showcases the wide array of activities and attractions in and around the Western Galilee. Meet with Michal Shiloah, CEO of Western Galilee Now (WGN), who will discuss how the center serves as one of many JNF initiatives that aim to attract and retain 300,000 new residents to the thriving region. Afterwards, enjoy free time to wander through Akko’s famous shuk (Hebrew “market”).

Proceed to Kfar Masaryk for an authentic kibbutz experience with Michal Shiloah and various partners of Western Galilee Now, a consortium of artisanal businesses and entrepreneurs that work to enhance social, economic, and tourism opportunities in partnership with Jewish National Fund.

Enjoy a delicious catered dinner on the kibbutz before departing for your hotel in Nahariya.

Overnight
Sea Life Boutique Hotel, Nahariya

Itinerary is subject to change.
Monday, April 16 – Western Galilee

AM
Following breakfast, visit the gleaming white cliffs of Rosh HaNikra, an enchanting geological phenomenon situated along the northern most point of the Mediterranean Coastline.

Later, head to Erez College in Shlomi, a school dedicated to providing practical engineering and natural gas training in Northern Israel. Meet with the Nefesh B’Nefesh Go North Director Michele Kaplan-Greene and members of the JNF-NBN Business Network Forum—which was established to bring together small and medium-sized businesses on a regular basis for networking and mutual support.

PM
Enjoy lunch and a wine-tasting at Kishor Winery, a participating business of Western Galilee Now. Hear the owners discuss its unique business model that employs people with special needs from the community.

Spend the remainder of the afternoon with HaShomer HaChadash, a youth volunteer organization dedicated to safeguarding the land in the Negev and Galilee. Meet with young leaders to hear an overview of the program and gain a deeper understanding of their goals and vision for the future.

Enjoy an exclusive event and dinner organized by the KKL World Leadership Conference along with the other tracks of JNF’s Israel@70 Tour at Mount Precipice. Held every two years, this special conference brings together distinguished leaders, eminent donors, and academics from across the world for an in-depth discussion and exploration of KKL and JNF’s work.

Overnight
Sea Life Boutique Hotel, Nahariya

*Itinerary is subject to change.*
Tuesday, April 17 – Coastal Route / Jerusalem

AM
After breakfast and hotel checkout, visit LOTEM-Making Nature Accessible, a one-of-a-kind organization that enables people with special needs to maximize their enjoyment of nature through outdoor activities, unique educational opportunities, and comprehensive field trips. Engage in an interactive pita-making activity with LOTEM kids, and meet with CEO Surin Hershko who will share his personal story of perseverance and leadership during Operation Entebbe.

PM
Head to Jerusalem, having lunch en route. Upon arrival, immerse yourself in the bustling energy of Mahane Yehuda Market, Israel’s most famous open-air market. Enjoy the sights and smells of the various vendors selling fresh produce, meats, cheeses, and sweets.

Following dinner at the hotel, the evening will be spent observing Erev Yom HaZikaron, known as “The evening of Remembrance Day.” Join together with all of the Israel@70 Tour participants at Ammunition Hill, the site where the definitive battle for the reunification of Jerusalem took place during the Six-Day War, for an exclusive ceremony in honor of soldiers who have fallen protecting their country and victims of terrorist attacks. Hear personal stories from Lone Soldiers, young Israeli immigrants who volunteered to leave their family, friends, homes to enlist in the Israel Defense Forces and serve the State of Israel.

Overnight
Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem

Itinerary is subject to change.
Wednesday, April 18 – Yom HaZikaron

AM

Today marks Israel’s Memorial Day. The day will begin at the 9/11 Living Memorial, built in memory of the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Designed by award-winning Israeli artist Eliezer Weishoff, this unique memorial is the only place outside of the United States that recognizes the names of the people who were killed on 9/11. Participate in a powerful ceremony with all tour participants and pay tribute to those who lost their lives as victims of a terrorist attack or brave soldiers who fell in battle protecting their country. At 11:00 am, hear the sirens sound as we pause with all the people of Israel for a moment of silence.

PM

Following lunch, spend the afternoon on a comprehensive walking tour of the Old City of Jerusalem. Explore the Jewish and Christian Quarters in all of their history and wonder, hear the soft sounds of prayer and contemplation at the Kotel, and enjoy some free time in the Old City.

Tonight marks the beginning of Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel’s Independence Day. Enjoy dinner at your own pace before immersing yourself in Israeli culture by celebrating at one of the many open concerts and parties. Consider spending time on Ben Yehuda Street, the beating heart of Jerusalem’s center-city life, or heading to Machane Yehuda to experience the lively night scene as bars and restaurants open up while the rest of the market shuts down.

Overnight

Dan Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem

Itinerary is subject to change.
Thursday, April 19 – Yom Ha’atzmaut / Departure

AM
After breakfast and hotel checkout, begin your day at Ammunition Hill. Follow in the footsteps of the soldiers who fought here as you walk through the battlegrounds and bunkers. Experience the new state-of-the-art Six-Day War Museum that tells the captivating story of the historic battle that reunified Jerusalem.

PM
This afternoon, rejoice with everyone one last time and celebrate Yom Ha’atzmaut like local Israeli’s do with a festive BBQ at an outdoor park near Jerusalem. If we’re lucky, we’ll see the special IDF Air Show, where a range of aircrafts from the Israeli Air Force fleet flyover numerous cities around the country.

Afterwards, drive along the Burma Road, and see the oversized silhouette figures that have been placed to recall the fortitude of the Haganah, who worked tirelessly to construct the road.

Enjoy a farewell dinner before continuing to Ben Gurion Airport for return flights to the U.S. (unless joining the optional extension).

Itinerary is subject to change.
Optional Extension – Thursday, April 19 – Eilat

PM  Transfer to Sde Dov Airport in Tel Aviv for your flight to Eilat. Enjoy dinner tonight on Eilat’s luxurious promenade parallel to the Red Sea, lined with various bars, restaurants, and trendy shops.

Overnight  Herods Palace Hotel, Eilat

Friday, April 20 – Timna / Eilat

AM  Start the day with breakfast at the hotel before you visit Timna Park, a site of great historical significance and a premier recreation destination for Israelis and tourists. Start at the JNF Chudnow Visitor Center and discover the park’s archaeological and geological treasures, such as King Solomon’s breathtaking pillars, ancient copper mines, and mountains that afford spectacular views.

PM  Enjoy lunch at the park before taking time to explore the beautiful hiking and biking trails at your leisure.

Continue to the Botanical Garden of Eilat. Grown on a former military outpost, this biblical style garden offers a unique combination of rare plants and herbs, bird sanctuaries, a rain forest, and an abandoned military bunker.

Return to the hotel to freshen up before heading to the promenade for a walking tour. Conclude at the Ink Flag Sculpture Memorial, which commemorates the Israeli victory and last military maneuver of the War of Independence.

Enjoy Shabbat dinner tonight at the hotel.

Overnight  Herods Palace Hotel, Eilat
Saturday, April 21 – Shabbat in Eilat

AM
Today will be at leisure in honor of Shabbat, providing the opportunity to relax and explore Eilat at your own pace. Services will be offered at the hotel for those who wish to attend. Consider relaxing on Eilat’s pristine beach, snorkeling around Eilat’s coral reef, hiking the nearby Har Shlomo, or joining the following optional day trip:

*Day Trip to Petra: Begin at the Arava border point in Jordan and drive to the Rose City of Petra. Enter Petra through a long, winding sandstone canyon called the “Siq,” before viewing the jaw dropping grandeur of the Treasury. On a walking tour through the heart of this ancient city, see the spectacular architecture carved into the mountains, myriad tombs and monuments, and a one-of-a-kind amphitheater. Following lunch, walk or take a camel or donkey ride back through the modern city of before returning to Eilat.

PM
Enjoy dinner at leisure.

Overnight
Herods Palace Hotel, Eilat

*Additional Cost – not included in tour price

*Itinerary is subject to change.
Sunday, April 22 – Arava / Departure

AM
Following breakfast and hotel checkout proceed to Yotvata, the oldest kibbutz in the Arava, and home to one of the leading dairies in Israel. Experience the famous ice cream and chocolate milk of Yotvata on a special “Chocolate Milk Trail” tour of the Dairy Farm. The original formula for Yotvata’s famous chocolate milk has not changed since it was first developed 40 years ago—in fact, only two people can access the kibbutz’s safe, where the Yotvata chocolate milk formula is kept.

Next, head to the Yair Agricultural R&D Center in Hatzeva and pick fresh vegetables and herbs while hearing about the latest agricultural findings from the region.

Alternatively, visit the Agricultural Institute Arava International Center for Agricultural Training (AICAT) in Sapir, the regional capital of the Central Arava. See firsthand how this cutting-edge program is generating employment opportunities and enhancing communities in the Negev, while bringing together international students from various countries including Cambodia, Ethiopia, Jordan, Thailand, and more. Visit the one-of-a-kind Central Arava Medical Center, another Jewish National Fund-sponsored initiative that has brought much-needed medical care and health services to the region.

PM
After lunch, head to Be’er Sheva, the capital of the Negev and the crown jewel of JNF’s Blueprint Negev initiative to improve the quality of life in Southern Israel. Upon arrival, visit the Be’er Sheva River Park, the centerpiece of JNF’s efforts to create a renaissance for the city. Hear how this urban renewal project has served as an anchor of tourism and recreation. See the Pipes Bridge, a pedestrian and cycling bridge that links to the Old City of Be’er Sheva, and the 12,000-seat amphitheater—now the largest in Israel.

Indulge in a farewell dinner before ending our journey at Ben Gurion airport to catch return flights back to the U.S.

Itinerary is subject to change.