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**Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael**

***A Celebration of Jewish Renewal in Poland***

***and Scientific Innovation in Israel***

*July 3 – 16, 2014*

**Led by Rabbi David & Ellen Nesson**

Itinerary

*Draft September 30, 2013*

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| **Date** | **Program** | **Meals/Overnight** |
| **Thursday**  *July 3* | 6:25 PM departure from JFK on LOT Polish Airlines flight #7 |  |
| **Friday**  *July4* | ***The World That Was: Krakow***  ● 9:05 AM arrival in Warsaw; connect to LOT Airlines flight #3907 departing 9:45 and arriving Krakow 10:40 AM.  ●Explore the **Kazmierz Old Jewish Quarter** of Krakow. *Sites include: Ramah Synagogue/Cemetery & Temple Synagogue*  ● Check-in and relax at our hotel and prepare for Shabbat  ● **Pre-Shabbat** Jewish Culture Festival Musical Program\*  ● Kabbalat Shabbat services and Shabbat Dinner with members of the local Jewish community\*  ● Walk back to the hotel | Lunch on own  Shabbat Dinner  Qubus Hotel  *Krakow* |
| **Shabbat**  *July 5* | ***Shabbat Shalom Krakow***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● Walk to Shabbat morning services and Shabbat lunch with the local Jewish community\*  ● Visit the **Galicia Jewish Museum** which tells the story of the Jewish communities of Southern Poland  ● Walking tour in the area of the Nazi era Krakow Ghetto. See a section of the **Ghetto Wall**  ● Evening: Havdallah and Jewish Culture Festival Activity\* | Shabbat Lunch  Dinner on own  Qubus Hotel  *Krakow* |
| **Sunday**  *July 6* | ***Auschwitz***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● Head to **Auschwitz**-**Birkenau** Polish State **Museum & Memorial**  ● Start at the **Auschwitz I Concentration Camp.** *Visit the barracks, museum exhibits and gas chamber*  ● Packed Lunch  ● Continue to the site of **Auschwitz II Birkenau Death Camp** where over 1,000,000 Jews were murdered.  ● Return to Krakow.  ● Walking tour at Krakow’s historic **Old Town Square** and dinner on your own | Packed Lunch  Dinner on own  Qubus Hotel  *Krakow* |

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| **Monday**  *July 7* | ***Zachor – Remember: Krakow & Lodz***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● See a section of the Krakow **Ghetto Wall** of the Nazi era  ● Drive by the **Schindler Factory Gates**  ● Head north to **Lodz**  ● Stand in solemn memory at the **Radegast** train station in **Lodz** from where **150,000 Jews were sent to their deaths.**  ●Remember the over 300,000 Jews murdered by theNazis a**t Chelmno, the first "Death Camp"**  ●Continue to **Warsaw**; check in at our hotel and have dinner on your own | Packed Lunch  Dinner on own  Radison Sobieski Hotel, *Warsaw* |
| **Tuesday**  *July 8* | ***The World That Was: Warsaw***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● Explore the *“Life that Was*” at Warsaw’s **Genscha Cemetery.** *Dating to 1799, with over 250,000 people buried in 200,000 graves, it includes mass graves for thousands of Jewish victims of the Nazis in the Warsaw ghetto.* ● Lunch on your ownin Warsaw's **Old Town**  ● Visit the **Nozyk Synagogue**, *the only surviving pre-WWII synagogue in* [*Warsaw*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw)*.*  ● Meet members of the Warsaw Jewish Community\* - *learn about the challenges they face as Jews in Poland today.* | Lunch and dinner on your own  Radison Sobieski Hotel, *Warsaw* |
| **Wednesday**  *July 9* | ***Zachor – Remember: Warsaw***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● Learn about the 1,000 years of Jewish life in Poland at Warsaw's new **Museum of the History of the Polish Jews**\*  ● Meet a “**Righteous Gentile**” who risked all to save Jews during the Shoah.\*  ● Explore the area of **Warsaw Ghetto** including parts of the ghetto wall, **UmshlagPlatz, the Route of Jewish Heroes, Mila 18 .**  ● Summary session and dinner  ● Closing ceremony at the Rappaport Memorial  ● 10:55 PM departure from Warsaw on LOT flight #151 | Lunch on own  Dinner |
| **Thursday**  *July 10* | ***Welcome to Israel – Innovation Nation***  ● 3:50 AM arrival in Israel at Ben Gurion International Airport.  ● Welcome to Israel! Ceremony at Holocaust Memorial in JNF Forest on the way to Jerusalem (or morning prayer/ceremony at the Western Wall).  ● Breakfast at the **Neot Kedumim Biblical Nature Reserve** (or in Jerusalem hotel). Ascend to Jerusalem  ● Opening lecture with **Assaf Luxemberg** of the Star – Tau Center for Entrepreneurship at Tel Aviv University  ● “**Innovation Nation” site visit** in Jerusalem. *The actual site can only be reserved much closer to the visit date. Examples of possible Jerusalem visits include:*  ●Mobileye,a successful Jerusalem based start-up, has developed a camera system for automobiles that reduces collisions and saves lives  ● JVP, Jeruslem Venture Partners located opposite the walls of the old city, is one of the most successful venture capital operations in Israel.  ● Yossi Abramowitz, CEO of Global Solar Energy, is an oleh from Boston is changing the landscape of solar energy in Israel.   He recently led the effort to salvage Better Place.  ● Noon lunch on own, then hotel check-in. Free afternoon and evening. | Lunch and dinner on own  Dan Panorama, *Jerusalem* |

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| **Friday**  *July 11* | ***Jerusalem - Old and New***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● *“New Finds in the Old City”* - Visit the **City of David** and tour of the exciting new archeological discoveries here including the probable foundations of King David’s palace and the Second Temple Period Pilgrims Way. *We will explore the revolutionary religious innovations of First Temple Judaism and their connection to the City of Jerusalem.*  ● **Meet with the Chairman** of the Machaneh Yehudah Market Merchants Association, who will speak about: *“Entrepreneurship and Gentrification in the Machaneh Yehudah Market”*  ● Site visit with tasting opportunities in the **Machaneh Yehudah Market** and take in the hustle and bustle of Jerusalemites preparing for Shabbat  ● Free time to prepare for Shabbat  ● Morristown Jewish Center egalitarian **Kabbalat Shabbat** service beneath **Robinson’s Arch at the Western Wall**  ● Festive Shabbat Dinner at the hotel | Lunch on own  Festive Shabbat Dinner at the hotel  Dan Panorama, *Jerusalem* |
| **Shabbat**  *July 12* | ***Shabbat in Jerusalem***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● *Free morning for rest and relaxation or prayer in one of Jerusalem’s many vibrant synagogues (a list of these will be provided to group participants)*  ● Festive Shabbat lunch buffet at the hotel  ● Afternoon optional walking tour in the Arab markets of the Old City and in the Christian Quarter including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher  ● *For those who wish to visit on their own, the Israel Museum is also open on Shabbat from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*  ● Shabbat ends at 8:28 p.m. Free evening | Dinner on own  Festive Shabbat lunch at the hotel  Dan Panorama, *Jerusalem* |
| **Sunday**  *July 13* | ***Herzliya – Israel’s “Silicon Valley”***  ● Breakfast at the hotel and hotel check-out  ● Travel to Herzliya, north of Tel Aviv and Israel’s Silicon Valley. Meet with executives of one of the many **venture capital firms** based here and hear about how they operate in Israel.  ● Visit the headquarters of one on the many **multi-national hi-tech firms** like Google and Microsoft who have set up shop in Herzlia and opened their doors and pocketbooks for Israeli entrepreneurs. Here we will see some of the newest ideas and companies still in formation and learn why multi-national corporations have been drawn to Israel’s hi-tech entrepreneurial culture.  ● Group dinner in the restored town center of **Zichron Yakov**, founded in 1881 by the Zionist pioneers of the First Aliyah (or alternatively, dinner in a Druze village on Mount Carmel)  ● Hotel check-in in Haifa and free evening | Lunch on own  Dan Panorama, *Haifa* |
| **Monday**  *July 14* | ***Innovation in the Galilee***  ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● *In the morning we will visit* ***Yokneam****, a once sleepy immigrant town and now a hotbed of biomedical and technological innovation. Examples of the sites we may visit include:*  ● **GivenImaging,** which revolutionized the sector of gastro-intestinal imaging, and is the flagship of the biomedical  cluster in Yokneam  ● **VocalZoom**, which is developing a microphone and camera to read lips and improve sound quality.  ●In the afternoon, classical touring in the **Tzippori National Park** among some of the most beautiful pagan and Jewish mosaics in Israel. *Ancient Zippori was once seat of the Sanhedrin and home of Rabbi Judah the Prince who redacted the Mishnah here. The innovations of the Talmudic Rabbis of Tzippori facilitated the transformation of Judaism from a land and Temple based religion to the Judaism that we know today sustained the Jewish People through centuries of Diaspora life.*  ● Visit the **cemetery at Moshav Nahalal** and learn about Moshe Dayan, Col Ilan Ramon and other Zionist heros buried here.  ● Return to Haifa. Dinner on own and free evening | Lunch and dinner on own  Dan Panorama, *Haifa* |
| **Tuesday**  *July 15* | ● Breakfast at the hotel  ● Guided tour and meetings at the **Technion**, the Israeli academic institution that is the research engine that drives many of Israel’s start-up companies  ● Today we visit **Elbit**, and/or any of a number of Israeli hi-tech start-ups that have “graduated” from start-up status to go on and become world leaders in their fields today.  ●Summary discussion and Farewell Dinner at a venue TBD (Caesarea?)  ● Return to Haifa and pack for 2:30 a.m. departure to the airport | Dan Panorama, *Haifa* |
| **Wednesday**  *July 16* | Arrive at the airport by 3:30 to check-in for 6:00 AM departure from Israel on LOT flight #152 arriving Warsaw at 8:55 AM. Connect to LOT flight #6 departing 12:55 PM and arriving New York JFK at 4:05 PM |  |

► Program will be staffed by a Keshet Tour Educator who will be joined by a local guide in Poland

► All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.

*\*All speakers and company visits subject to availability*

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