

An Israeli/Jewish Journey:

The Cultures of Israel

With Julian Resnick

15th-25th April 2010

£1290, single supplement £480
Add on or stand alone: Jordan 25th-27th April

Thursday April 15th

This, the day of our arrival in Israel, will set the tone for the coming days. We will open with a walk to one of the stunning sites of Jerusalem, Mount Zion where we will watch the sun set over Jerusalem and create the context for the Journey by asking the core questions about Israel and the struggles to create a new culture for those who live here.

Meet in our Jerusalem hotel at 17.30 ready to walk [**check in from 14.00**]
Introduction: Evening walk to Mount Zion for our opening conversation.
Group dinner*

Sleep Jerusalem

Friday April 16th

We enter into the first of our three cultures, the culture of Boundaries. We will visit some sites which are on the well trodden path of mainstream tourism as well as those less often visited.

Optional early morning walk [**for those who wish to include some walking in their days, we offer early morning walks (around 07.00). We will leave the hotel most mornings at around 09.30 so you will have time to shower, change and eat**]

Culture number 1: The Culture of Boundaries: Sacred space and profane behaviours [sites: [Western and Southern Walls](#), [Church of St Anne](#), [the Museum on the Seam](#)]

The boundaries of Shabbat in Jerusalem [sites: [the edge of Mea Shearim](#), [Machaneh Yehuda](#), [the fruit and vegetable market](#)]

Evening: Kol Haneshama; dinner*

Sleep Jerusalem

Shabbat April 17th

We will celebrate Shabbat in many ways and you can choose to be part of as much of our Celebration as suits you.

Shabbat Services and Torah study with Jeremy Leigh
Lunch*

Shabbat Afternoon walk through Culture, Space and Time

[sites: [Jerusalem City Hall](#), [Musrara](#) and [the Damascus Gate](#)]

Havdalah

Sleep Jerusalem

Sunday April 18th Erev Yom Hazikaron

After walking about the Temple Mount (if security considerations do not interfere), we will have the opportunity to discover the complexities with an expert, whose personal biography as both a soldier and a peace maker will ensure a very hard look at this issue. The cost of the decision to recreate a home for the Jewish People in the Land of Israel will become terribly clear on this most difficult of evenings in Israel: Erev Yom Hazikaron

Optional early morning walk

Culture number 1: The culture of Boundaries: [Temple Mount](#), THE BOUNDARY [sites: [the Separation Barrier](#) with Colonel (res.) Ron Shatzberg]

Evening, Erev Yom Hazikaron: Film on the Yom Kippur War, 'Unetanei Tokef', [this powerful film traces the impact of the Yom Kippur war on Kibbutz Bet Hashita which lost 11 of its young men during this war]

Sleep Jerusalem

Monday April 19th Yom Hazikaron

On our third and final day of the Culture of Boundaries we visit sites intimately connected with this day, the Memorial Day for the Soldiers of the IDF. We will be in Gush Etzion at the Memorial for the members of Kfar Etzion whose homes were destroyed in 1948; we will participate in the ceremony of the 'Gush' (the Etzion Bloc) where I will unpick what we have seen after the ceremony. After lunch we will continue to Hebron for a very challenging visit hosted by the NGO, Breaking the Silence. Appropriate for this day? This should be a great discussion in itself.

Culture number 1: The culture of Boundaries: Cultures of Exclusivity and Divine Rights [sites: [Gush Etzion](#) (Kfar Etzion AV inc. the Yom Hazikaron Ceremony of Gush Etzion), [Hebron](#)]

Evening: Erev Yom Ha'atzmaut' dinner*, evening bus

Sleep Western Galilee

Tuesday April 20th Yom Ha'atzmaut

We take a day out from examining the different cultures of Israel, to immerse ourselves in celebration. After sunset, we return to consider a new angle on Culture, that of alternative or minority cultures in Israel. We start with a look at the day which has just passed through the eyes of the Arab non-Zionist minority. We consider the narrative of 'Nakba' the great disaster. It is a particularly apposite look this year in the light of the Knesset debates and public debates about the limits of alternative lenses in Israeli society especially this specific Nakba narrative.

A day out from culture for a celebration!! [sites TBC]

Evening: **Culture number 2: Alternative Voices:** Nakba
Sleep Western Galilee

Wednesday April 21st

We continue focusing on minority cultures in Israel to try and better grasp the potential for their enriching of Israeli society and the issues they face as minorities.

Culture number 2: Alternative Voices: Minority populations
[sites: [Akko Arab-Jewish Centre](#), [Bahai Gardens](#), [Druze lunch](#), [Co-existence Walk](#)]

Dinner*

Evening: Abraham Fund

Sleep Western Galilee

Thursday April 22nd

We are still looking at alternative culture, but this time alternative ideological cultures from that of the Socialist left through to the strident extremes of the right in Jewish society. We visit the first purpose built art museum in pre-State Palestine on Kibbutz Ein Harod; the cemetery of the Pioneers; Kibbutz Degania and switching 'sides' we meet a settler in Kedumim on the West Bank. The evening takes us to Tel Aviv and an introduction to Culture number 3: Freedom

Culture number 2: Alternative Voices: Labour Zionism/Kibbutz/
Pioneers/Settlers [sites: [Ein Harod Art Museum](#), [Kinneret Cemetery](#),
[Degania](#), [Kedumim \(West Bank settlement\)](#)]

Evening: Music in Tel Aviv

Sleep Tel Aviv

Friday April 23rd

A day in the consumer culture of Tel Aviv metaphorically known as 'the Bubble' We visit Tel Aviv on a Friday and probably notice the difference between this and what we saw the previous week in Jerusalem as it prepared for Shabbat. For those who want, Kabbalat Shabbat at Bet Daniel the reform synagogue in Tel Aviv followed by a group dinner.

Culture number 3: Freedom: Markets, a boulevard and a street [[Flea Market in Dizengoff](#), [Carmel Market](#), [Nahalat Binyamin](#), [Rothschild Blvd](#), [Shenkin St](#)]

Eve: Kabbalat Shabbat at Bet Daniel, dinner*

Sleep Tel Aviv

Shabbat April 24th

Tel Aviv, the icon of the new Hebrew culture. As someone once wrote Jerusalem is about boundaries and Tel Aviv is about freedom. But do we potentially lose something vital to us in a culture of freedom? We visit sites connected to Tel Aviv as both a Hebrew and as a Jewish city. This is a walking tour.

Culture number 3: Freedom: A new Hebrew city: The meaning of Tel Aviv [sites: Shabbat from the Hilton to Jaffa, 'What this beachfront has seen', Trumpeldor Cemetery, Bialik's home, Reuven Rubin Museum]
Evening: Havdalah

Sleep Tel Aviv

Sunday April 25th

Breakfast and departure (hotel rooms available until 11.00)

- *This programme is subject to minor changes
- * Price quoted is dependent on a minimum of 20 participants and the Pound Sterling maintaining its present rate relative to the US Dollar
- * The price includes hotel accommodation with breakfast, meals where marked with an asterisk*, air-conditioned coach, entrance fees
- *Julian Resnick present throughout the trip
- *Tips not included
- *Please note that travel insurance is not included. We recommend strongly that you take out a suitable policy which can be arranged through Colletts Travel.

To book please contact Debbi Arnold at debbi@collettstravel.co.uk or on 020 8202 2233

Jordan

April 25th to 27th

£545 (single supplement £85) with the Israel trip; £595 (single supplement £85) on its own

A three day visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This great road trip will bring the great sites and stories of the 'other' Holy Land to life.

Sunday April 25th

We will fly from Ben Gurion to Eilat and cross over to Jordan at the Arava border crossing where we meet up with our Jordanian guide once we get through a third-world border experience (fine, just slow). We head north to Petra for a once in a lifetime experience where we will have as much time as you want to see the marvels carved out of the desert by those masters of desert life the Nabateans. Theirs is a great story which ends as the routes of the spice trade change.

Early morning flight to Eilat; transfer to Arava border crossing; [Petra](#)
Sleep Petra

Monday April 26th

On the road again, heading for Amman via the Crusader fortress of Kerak where we will also stop for lunch. On to Medaba and the nearby Mt Nebo for an extraordinary Jewish moment as we stand where according to our tradition Moses stood as he looked over to

the land he had led us to, but was unable to enter. Can there be anywhere as beautiful to read this parasha (passage) from Torah? We arrive in Amman early evening for our overnight.

[Kerak, Mt Nebo and Medaba](#)

Sleep Amman

Tuesday April 27th

On our final day we head for Gerash, an over the top Roman ruin with a crazy re-enactment of the gladiator culture thrown in.

[Amman and Gerash](#); transfer to Sheikh Hussein border crossing and return to Tel Aviv

***Programme subject to minor changes**

*** Price dependent on a minimum of 20 participants and the Pound Sterling maintaining its present rate relative to the US Dollar**

*** The price includes hotel accommodation, all meals, air-conditioned coach, entrance fees**

***In addition to Julian Resnick, there will also be a licensed English-speaking Jordanian guide**

***Not included are the border charges, at present around \$25**

***Tips not included**

***Please note that travel insurance is not included. We recommend strongly that you take out a suitable policy which can be arranged through Colletts Travel.**

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