

International Municipal Lawyers Association Israel Trip



Draft Version 3

November 25 – December 1, 2018



Israel Seminar

Sun., Nov 25 Welcome to Israel

As per arrival Landing at Ben-Gurion Airport. VIP assistance from plane and through passport control and baggage claim

Plus one hour Depart airport and travel to hotel for check in

For those arriving on Saturday **The Gateway to the Land of Israel:** Explore the ancient port city of Jaffa including its alleyways and marketplaces. The city had its beginnings more than 5,000 years ago, and has grown and changed over the millennia to include the old city, as well as the surrounding neighborhoods.

The First Modern Hebrew City: Tour Neve Zedek, one of the most beautiful areas in Tel Aviv and the first neighborhood built in the “new” city of Tel Aviv in 1887. With the backdrop of the Zionist movement, the Hebrew language was revived and brought to life as part of the new thinking and strategy for Hebrew (Jewish) culture.

Evening Opening Dinner

Overnight Tel Aviv

Mon. Nov 26 The Pulse of Israel Today

7:30 - 8:30 am Breakfast

9:00 – 10:00 am **The Jewish Connection to the Land of Israel:** A framework for understanding Israel with **Dr. Ian Stern**, renowned archaeologist, scholar and educator.

10:30 – 12:30 pm **Jewish and Democratic:** Walk along Rothschild’s Boulevard, the main avenue of Tel Aviv, which used to be known as Rehov HaAm (the Street of the People). Stop at **Independence Hall**, where the new state was declared in 1948. Using a Declaration of Independence to set out the tenets of the new State, the founders faced resistance to a constitution by the religious movement who opposed anything other than the Bible for that purpose. The ongoing tension between religion and politics has shaped Tel Aviv until today.

12:30 – 2:30 pm **Basic Principles of Law:** Lunch and discussion with representatives from the **Israel Bar Association**.

2:30 – 5:00 pm	Visit the Tel Aviv Municipality and meet with representatives of the municipal law department .
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Israel’s Military Law: Meeting with Military Advocate General, Sharon Afek on the legal challenges and dilemmas facing the IDF, and Daniel Reisner , widely recognized as the “Godfather of Israeli Experts on international law and war crimes”. Reisner is the former Head of the International Law Branch of the IDF Legal Division and will discuss the legal status of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank .
Evening	Dinner
Overnight	Tel Aviv

Tues. Nov 27 Geography, Demography and Strategic Affairs

7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30 am	Check out
9:00 – 12:00 pm	Session with the Federation of Local Authorities - TBD
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 – 1:30 pm	Travel to Herzliya
2:00 – 3:30 pm	The Legal Status of Israel’s Territories: Round Table Discussion at the IDC Radzyner Law School with prominent Israeli legal scholars. Address the most pressing issues and gain insight into various legal claims regarding the rights and obligations of Israel in the territories. Are the “Biblical Rights” or is God’s promise of a land, an inherent claim to any or all of the land.
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Continue to Alfei Menashe
4:30 – 5:15 pm	Israel’s Narrow Waistline: A viewpoint and briefing on current issues from the West Bank settlement Alfei Menashe with David Kreizelman . Kreizelman has been living in

Israel for the past 50 years and most recently served as a Foreign Policy Associate for AIPAC in Jerusalem. Previously, he was the Deputy Director of the Israel Government Press Office (Prime Minister's Office) and as well as working at the Weizmann Institute of Science.

5:30 – 7:00 pm Travel North

Evening Dinner

Overnight Galilee

Wed., Nov 28 From the Peaks of Golan to the Hills of Jerusalem

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast; Check out

8:30 – 9:30 am Ascend to the Golan Heights

9:30 – 11:00 am Stop at **Mt. Bental**, a former IDF outpost, for an overlook onto Kuneitra and Mt. Hermon. While overlooking the Israeli – Syrian border, receive a briefing by a former **IDF Officer** on the current situation in the area and the influence over Israel.

11:00 – 3:00 pm Continue to Jerusalem, lunch along the way. Stop for a welcome and overlook on the city from the **Mt. of Olives**

3:00 – 5:00 pm **The Historic Nucleus:** Visit **The City of David**, the ancient capital of Jerusalem, established 3,000 years ago by King David. Explore the excavations and recent archaeological developments, before heading off for a tour of the site.

5:00 – 5:30 pm Visit the **Western Wall**

5:30 – 6:00 pm Check in to hotel

7:30 pm Dinner with speaker TBD (from municipality/embassy)

Overnight Jerusalem

Thurs. Nov 29 Jerusalem, A Home to Three Great Monotheistic Religions

6:30 – 7:15 am	Early Breakfast
7:30 – 9:00 am	Visit the Temple Mount and view the Dome of the Rock and the al Aqsa Mosque from the outside (entry to the structures is not permitted). Since 1187, the area has been under the rule of the Waqf, an Islamic religious trust.
9:00 – 12:00 pm	Venture into the alleyways of Jerusalem’s Old City for a tour of the religious and cultural focal points of all four quarters. The tour will include a visit to the Old Arab Bazaar, historical and modern places of interest in the Jewish Quarter , the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in the Christian Quarter and a view of the Armenian Quarter. Stop for lunch along the way.
12:30 - 2:00 pm	The Labyrinth of Israeli Politics: Lunch with Prof. Reuven Hazan Political Science Dept. of Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
2:30 – 4:00 pm	Visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4:30 – 5:30 pm	“A Jewish and Democratic State”: A tour of Israel’s Supreme Court and meeting with Justice Daphne Barak – Erez .
6:00 pm	Israel’s National Legal Challenges: Meeting with Israel’s Minister of Justice, Ayelet Shaked followed by Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit .
7:00 pm	Dinner on own
Overnight	Jerusalem

Fri. Nov 30 Tragedy of the Past; Promise of the Future

8:00 - 9:00 am	The Law of Return as a Just Law: Breakfast with Dr. Tal Becker , Senior Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute , and Legal Advisor of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss the challenges to the Law from Palestinians and Israeli Arabs
9:30 -12:00 pm	Remembering the Holocaust: A comprehensive tour of Yad Vashem including the Historical Museum, The Children’s Memorial and the Hall of remembrance. As the Jewish

people's living memorial to the Holocaust, Yad Vashem safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations.

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Old Markets; New Markets: A lunch **tasting tour** through the **Machane Yehuda** fresh produce market, take in the sights and sounds of this fantastic Jerusalem institution. Hear the stories of the many different ethnic backgrounds of the vendors who bring the wares to the market and see the influence from the incredible diversity of cultures: Morocco, Yemen, Iraq, Ethiopia, and so many more, and meet with the innovative people that have taken the market place from fruit and vegetable stands to a thriving cultural center in Jerusalem.

2:00 – 3:00 pm

The Quest for Peace: Jerusalem is a microcosm of the Arab-Israeli conflict, conveying the human, political, and territorial dimensions. Joined by **Shaul Arieli**, one of Israel's leading experts on the demarcation of the future Israeli-Palestinian border and the route of the Separation Barrier, stop at several observation points overlooking the security barrier, as well as checkpoints to the West Bank, for a geo-strategic survey of the neighborhoods surrounding Jerusalem.

3:00 – 5:30 pm

OPTIONAL: Tour of **Bethlehem**, including the **Church of the Nativity**, Manger Square and Shepherd's Field.

Evening

Welcome Shabbat at the **Western Wall** followed Shabbat Dinner with a local family

Overnight

Jerusalem

Sat. Dec 1

Masada and the Dead Sea

8:30 – 9:30 am

The Palestinian Public – Opinions and Trends: Meet **Dr. Khalil Shikaki** - a Professor of Political Science and Director of the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. Dr. Shikaki has conducted more than 200 polls among Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and, since 2000, dozens of joint polls among Palestinians and Israelis.

9:30 – 11:00 am

Travel to Masada

11:00 – 1:00 pm

The ancient desert fortress **Masada** has become synonymous with Israel's quest for freedom and independence in modern times. Slither up the Snake Trail (on foot), or take a cable car to the top of the plateau. Hear the inspiring story of the 960 men, women, and

children that were the last to resist the Romans during the Great Jewish Revolt, almost 2000 years ago.

1:30 – 3:30 pm	Lunch and swim at the Dead Sea , the lowest place on earth
3:30 – 5:30 pm	Return to Jerusalem
5:00 – 8:00 pm	Farewell dinner joined by a representative from the US Embassy in Israel for a discussion on US - Israel relations.
As per flight time	Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport; VIP Assistance through check in, passport control, and to gate

*** Final program subject to change based on confirmations of sites and activities.*

All Speakers pending confirmation of availability