



**Bet Aviv**  
The Meeting House  
5885 Robert Oliver Place  
Columbia, MD 21045



April 2017

Bet Aviv, a Reform Congregation in Columbia, Maryland, and the Bet Aviv Sisterhood are planning a trip to Israel scheduled for **April 21 to May 2, 2018**. We are inviting adult members of the Jewish community to join this us on this exciting adventure.

**Please note that this trip is geared towards adults.** Singles are encouraged to join the tour- I will be happy to send a list of all singles who are looking for a roommate so that people can pair up. A single supplement is also available for those who would prefer their own room.

In order for trip participants to become familiar with one another- a number of social, cultural, and educational events are planned for 2018 in the Columbia area. It is my hope that by the time of the trip all participants feel like a big family.

Israel will be celebrating its 70th Independence Day (Yom Ha'atzmaut) in 2018 and this is a wonderful time to visit the Jewish homeland. The spirits of community, friendship, and hope will certainly be in the air during our time in Israel.

Some highlights of our tour include:

- planting a tree in a JNF Forest
- hearing about the formation of Israel at Independence Hall
- interacting with a high-tech startup
- touring the Leo Baeck School and Rambam Hospital in Haifa
- visiting the Akko Theater Center- run jointly by a Jew and an Arab
- staying in a kibbutz
- enjoying wine at a Golan Winery
- shopping in mystical city of Safed
- experiencing a Shehecheyanu moment when entering Jerusalem
- viewing the Tower of David Sound & Light show spectacular
- hearing from Gil Hoffman of The Jerusalem Post
- paying respect to those lost at the stirring 9/11 Memorial
- shopping at the Machane Yehuda market
- visiting Yad Vashem to honor those lost in the Holocaust
- exploring the Western Wall Tunnels at night
- ascending Masada
- swimming in the Dead Sea
- hearing from the Women of the Wall

I am certain there will be places of interest for the 1<sup>st</sup> time visit to the 100<sup>th</sup> time visit- there is so much to see in Israel that you could stay 70 years and not see everything!

Attached you will find: 1) the itinerary and 2) flyer + registration form.

**Since airfare is not available until 11-months before travel, the tour cost is currently land-only.** Ayelet has estimated the airfare cost to be \$1,200-1,250 per person from the Washington/Baltimore area. Final airfare costs should be available around May/June, 2017 and will be communicated to all once received.

Registration is now open! Your registration form-**1 per person**, passport copy, and deposit of \$500 per person should be sent to:

**Bet Aviv  
C/O Neal V. Green  
8351 Sand Cherry Lane  
Rocky Gorge, Maryland 20723-1091**

Deposits are accepted via check (made out to Ayelet Tours) or credit card. For all payments by credit card, there is an additional fee of 3%.

Upon receipt of your check and registration form, you will receive an e-mail acknowledgement that your registration is confirmed. A link to purchase travel insurance will also be sent in the confirmation e-mail. If you are interested in purchasing travel insurance, please do so ASAP in order for any pre-existing conditions to be included in your plan. **While insurance may be purchased later, pre-existing conditions (for travelers or covered family members) are usually only covered if the insurance is purchase within 14-21 days of your initial deposit.** The timeframe may vary for different companies but standard practice is usually between 14-21 days of the initial deposit. **I highly recommend that you consider adding insurance.**

Please make note of the cancellation policy: \$100 per person charge if cancelled once booked plus any applicable airline penalties- \$250 per person plus any applicable airline penalties charged if cancelled 60-31 days before departure- 100% penalties apply if cancelled 30 days or less before departure.

**The trip is limited to 36 people.** After 36 people have registered, a waiting list will form. To be placed on the waiting list, you will need to provide all registration materials and a check that will only be submitted to Ayelet if/when space becomes available. To avoid disappointment, I would encourage you to send in your deposit ASAP.

**The deadline for registration is May 31, 2017.**

If you have any questions, please contact Neal V. Green at 301-989-0499 or 410-792-8029 or 808-436-8985 or [exploretheworldwithbetaviv@outlook.com](mailto:exploretheworldwithbetaviv@outlook.com).

Sincerely,

Neal V. Green

