



## ***The Negev Club - Charter Itineraries for Excursions***

**16-19/12/2011**

*Organized by Nof Moladati, quality tours in Israel and Abroad*

*Minimum number of participants: 20; if there are not enough participants the tour will be cancelled.*

### **Friday 16-12-2011 - Negev Excursion**

- 8:00 Departure from the Leonardo Hotel, Beer-Sheva.
- 9:15 Park Ben-Gurion and Grave of Paula and David Ben-Gurion, Sde Boker.  
Uvdat River - The Rimon Crator Observation Point.
- 9:45 Guided tour of Ben-Gurion's Hut - Home on the Kibbutz of Paula and David Ben-Gurion, with emphasis on the man who became an icon of leadership. Ben-Gurion and his wife Paula lived in this small abode from the time they were accepted as members of the Kibbutz Sde-Boker in 1953. In time the hut was enlarged in order to accommodate for the demands of his work and for hosting visitors. The present structure is as it was from the 1960's.
- 13:00 Lunch at the Shopping Center, Mitzpe Rimon (not included in price of tour).
- 14:00 Rota Winery (private farm): Boutique winery with a view of the desert, Ramat HaNegev.
- 15:30 Ship of the Desert, Parhan: Fascinating stories based on the Bedouin tradition for receiving guests, grinding and preparation of coffee, the Bedouin tent. The visit will include Baklava and tea.



**Cost : 240 NIS**



## **Saturday 17-12-2011 - The Bedouin Community**

*Minimum number of participants: 20; if there are not enough participants the tour will be cancelled.*

8:30 Departure from the Leonardo Hotel, Beer-Sheva.

9:00 Desert Embroidery, Laqia Women's Assn., Laqia (Bedouin town) - Naama Elsana, director, will explain the Bedouin embroidery and the organization of Bedouin women in Laqia.

(Reference: <http://www.haaretz.com/travel/a-bedouin-growth-industry-1.224611> )



11:00 Rahat Women's Assn., Rahat (Bedouin city) - Sabha Abu-Ganem, director, will explain the purpose of her organization and the women it serves. We will be treated to a typical Bedouin light meal of large Bedouin pita bread and Labene cheese, with salad, humus and techina salads.

(Reference:

<https://grants.globalfundforwomen.org/GFWSearch/index.php?id=23356> <http://sandacall.blogspot.com/2011/08/bedouin-towns-in-negev-desert-rahata.html> )



12:30 El-Oziel Tribe 100-year-old Palace of the Bedouin Sheikh; learn about the life of a Bedouin woman before the modern era.

15:30 Daughter of the Desert Cosmetics and Soap, Tel Sheva

In this Bedouin village Miriam Abu-Rakiik has established a company that deserves admiration. Her story begins with her studying in England Business Administration and Management. She returned to Tel Sheva, established a company and today runs the Daughter of the Desert and Soap which makes a wide range of organic cosmetic products from local plants growing organically local desert plants and based on ancient Bedouin traditional methods and combinations.



16:30 Lunch at the Tel-Soket Shopping Center.

**Cost : 160 NIS**



**Sunday 18-12-2011- Jerusalem**

*Minimum number of participants: 20; if there are not enough participants the tour will be cancelled.*

7:30 Departure from the Leonardo Hotel, Beer-Sheva.

10:00 Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Christian Quarter of the Old City, Jerusalem tour of Moslem and Jewish Quarters and the Western Wall (Wailing Wall).

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is the largest located on the site of the crucifixion according to Christian tradition, the interment of Jesus. The church is located on the outskirts of the Christian Quarter.

The Western Wall is one of the four supporting walls that surrounded the Temple Mount for about 2,000 years, from the Second Temple Period until the present day. According to the Jewish tradition, the Western Wall, the holiest place in Judaism, and thus, it was decreed in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century a place of worship along side of the wall, up to the present day. The Western Wall has religious, national, and historical importance, and consequently millions of visitors, Jews and non-Jews, visit it every year.



The Jewish Quarter. The Jewish Quarter was desecrated and destroyed during the Independence War in 1948 and afterwards during the Jordanian occupation. Since 1967 when it was rejoined to the State of Israel, it has been rebuilt and renovated.

The Moslem Quarter. The Moslem Quarter is the largest of all the Quarters in the old city (approximately 22,000 inhabitants), and is one of four Quarters, the others being the Jewish, Christian and Armenian. In the Moslem Quarter the inhabitants are mostly Moslem.

13:00 Lunch at the Magic Carpet Restaurant. (Included in the price of the tour.)

14:30 Armon HaNatziv Walkway: Jerusalem Landscape. From the walkway we can see the broad landscapes and the vast meaning to the world of the holiness of Jerusalem: The old city and the Jerusalem hills surrounding it, the Judean Desert, and the Moav Mountains in the background.



18:00 Return to Beer-Sheva (approx.)

**Cost : 235 NIS**



## **Monday 19-12-2011- The Dead Sea**

8:00 Departure from the Leonardo Hotel, Beer-Sheva.

9:30 **Masada Archiological Site** and ascent by cable car: Masada is an ancient fortress atop an isolated rock plateau on the eastern edge of the Judean Desert, overlooking the Dead Sea. Masada is best known for the violence in the First Jewish-Roman War; a Siege of Masada by troops of the Roman Empire led to the mass suicide of the Sicarii rebels. According to Josephus, a 1st-century CE Jewish Roman historian, Herod the Great fortified Masada between 37 and 31 BCE as a refuge for himself in the event of a revolt. In 66 CE, at the beginning of the First Jewish-Roman War against the Roman Empire, a group of Jewish extremists, called the Sicarii, overcame the Roman garrison of Masada. Numerous Jewish families fled Jerusalem and settled on the mountaintop, using it as a base for harassing the Romans. The only access was a narrow pathway (the Snake Path).



גן לאומי מצדה

In 72, the Roman governor Flavius Silva laid siege to Masada. The Roman legion surrounded Masada and built an embankment against the western face of the plateau.

According to Josephus, when Roman troops entered the fortress, they discovered that its 960 inhabitants had set all the buildings but the food storerooms ablaze and committed a mass suicide.

Some thirty skeletons have been recovered on the site.

In 2001 it was decreed an world heritage site by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO.

11:00 **Ein Pasha**. The meaning of Ein Pasha is cracked or fissured, broken. It is the lowest national park in the world and one of the most beautiful protected sites in Israel. Between the ancient, arid cliffs of various shades of brown and the Dead Sea blue there is such an amazing, unique green oasis.

13: 00 Bathing and Lunch at the Ein Gedi Spa.

19:00 Return to Beer-Sheva (approx.)

**Cost : 295 NIS**