



**Together for Israel: A Solidarity Mission with American Friends of  
Magen David Adom Northeast Region  
May 5-9, 2024**

In these troubled times, the clear message is **We Stand with Israel – Am Israel Chai!**

**AFMDA's Solidarity mission** will travel to Israel for 5 days/4 nights to be in our homeland alongside the people of Israel and show our support.

Itinerary highlights:

- **Briefings by the Experts** – visit essential locations and observe Israel post October 7. VIP meetings with official and military personnel and professional specialists on the war.
- **Behind the Names** – firsthand meeting with survivors of the terror attack, family members of those who were murdered and/or those held in Gaza and meet the MDA heroes who risked their own lives to rescue others.
- **Standing Together** – hands-on volunteering as a show of solidarity with the people of Israel. See the extensive volunteering networks created by Israelis showcasing the true meaning of All of Israel Are Responsible for One Another - *Kol Israel Arevim Ze La'ze.*

*ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. (As of 5/5/24)*

<b>DAY 1 - Sunday, May 5</b>	
<b>Welcome to Israel</b>	
	Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport on multiple flights <b>ברוכים הבאים - Welcome to Israel!</b>
	Check in at the David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem Time to freshen up
5:45 pm	<b>Opening Dinner</b> – <i>David Citadel Hotel</i>
7:00 pm	<b>VIP Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) Ceremony with the President and the Prime Minister of Israel</b> – <i>Yad Vashem</i>
	<b>OVERNIGHT:</b> <i>David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem</i>

<b>DAY 2 – Monday, May 6</b>	
<b>The South</b>	
	Breakfast at the hotel
10:30 am-12:30 pm	<p>Visit Western Negev communities – <b>Kibbutz Nir Oz</b></p> <p>Visit one of the Kibbutzim that was brutally attacked on October 7 and bear witness to the devastation. <i>(Based on IDF regulation and permission)</i></p>
1:15 pm-2:15 pm	<p>Stop at <b>Re'im Forest where the Nova Music Festival party occurred</b></p> <p>Thousands of Israelis and foreign nationals descended on the Negev Desert for the music festival, marking the Jewish holiday Sukkot and touted as an event celebrating “unity and love” when they were attacked by Hamas on October 7.</p>
2:30-3:15 pm	<b>Lunch with IDF soldiers</b> in Netivot
4:00-4:45 pm	<p>Visit at <b>Sde Teman and meet MDA's helicopter team</b></p> <p>Responsible for treating and airlifting sick and injured patients to hospitals throughout the country.</p>
7:30 pm	<b>Dinner with MDA team – The Jerusalem House of Quality</b>
<b>OVERNIGHT: David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem</b>	

<b>DAY 3 – Tuesday, May 7</b>	
<b>Ramla &amp; Tel Aviv</b>	
	Breakfast at the hotel
8:15-9:30 am	<p><b>Threat from the Northern Borders with Brigadier General (res.) Ilan Lavi</b>          – <i>David Citadel Hotel</i></p> <p>Lavi participated in numerous combat operations along the borders of Israel, Lebanon, Syria, the Gaza Strip, and the Territories (Judea/Samaria).</p>
10:15-12:00 pm	<p>Tour the <b>new Marcus National Blood Services Center (MNBS)</b> in Ramla</p> <p>MDA Blood Services are responsible for the collection, processing, testing, and supply of blood units and components to all hospitals and the IDF.</p> <p>See the <b>Sussman National Human Milk Bank</b>, responsible for providing essential nourishment to orphaned babies and have supplied thousands of liters of milk to premature infants born during the stress of the war.</p>
12:30-1:30 pm	<p>Visit at <b>MDA Israel's National Dispatch Center</b> in Kiryat Ono</p> <p>See how MDA uses the most sophisticated EMS dispatch system in the world to dispatch our fleet of over 2,300 vehicles and 35,000 staff and volunteers.</p>
1:30-2:30 pm	Lunch – <i>Aslan</i>
3:30-6:00 pm	<p><b>#BringThemHome</b> - visit at <b>Hostages' Square at the Tel Aviv Museum</b></p> <p>See where Israelis gather in a call to release all the hostages held in Gaza. Among the crowd are families and friends of those held in Gaza, MK's, artists, and others who stand together in solidarity. Part of the square is devoted to art displays including the Empty Dinner Table Installation and multiple activities led by teams of activists.</p>
6:15-7:00 pm	<p><b>#BringThemHome</b> - <b>meet with the Hostages and Missing Families Forum in Tel Aviv</b></p> <p>Established less than 24 hours after the horrific attack, the Forum is volunteer-based and focused on bringing the hostages back home. They families holistic support, professional assistance, and advance the ongoing efforts (locally, regionally, and globally) to bring the hostages back home.</p>
	Dinner on own at <b>Sarona Market</b>
	<b>OVERNIGHT: David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem</b>

<b>DAY 4 – Wednesday, May 8</b>	
<b>Jerusalem</b>	
	Breakfast at the hotel
8:30-9:30am	Meeting with the <b>parents of Adi Vital Kaploun, who was murdered on October 7</b> – <i>David Citadel Hotel</i>  Adi's father is a survivor of the Hamas attack in Kibbutz Holit.
10:30-11:30am	Meet with <b>Professor Ofer Merin, Director General of Shaare Zedek Hospital</b>
12:00-1:00pm	To honor those who lost their lives, visit <b>Mount Herzl</b> to pay tribute. Recite the Kaddish and lay a wreath in remembrance.
1:30-2:00 pm	Lunch – <i>MDA's Bloomberg Station in Jerusalem</i>
2:00-3:00 pm	Visit <b>MDA's William H. Bloomberg Station in Jerusalem</b>  This station is responsible for providing EMS for 1.7 million Jews, Muslims, and Christians. The Bloomberg Station is one of seven national dispatch centers. Meet with MDA staff from different sectors of the Israeli society and have the opportunity to donate blood. Visit the Simulation Room, the first of its kind in Israel, that allows paramedics and volunteers to train for any emergency in lifelike circumstances.
3:00-4:00 pm	VIP meeting with <b>David Horovitz, Founding Editor of The Times of Israel</b> – <i>MDA's Bloomberg Station</i>
5:00-6:30 pm	Visit <b>The Adama Tova (good earth) Healing Center for the Nova survivors</b>  Run by volunteers, it was created for Nova survivors and their families, in the backyard of Einat Haimovitz (psychotherapist) and Yiftach Shahaar's (meditation guide) home, longtime members of the trance music community. In the first days after October 7, only a handful of survivors showed up, but since early November, more than 100 people meet here three times a week, with many seeing it as a second home.  Volunteers are on hand to provide counseling, massage, art therapy, fresh food, and relaxed conversations about life after October 7.
	Dinner on own
	<b>OVERNIGHT: David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem</b>

<b>DAY 5 – Thursday, May 9</b>	
	Breakfast at the hotel
8:30-10:00 am	<b>Private audience with Isaac Herzog, President of Israel – <i>The President's Residence</i></b>
10:30-12:30 pm	<b>Volunteer activity to cook for IDF soldiers – <i>Jerusalem</i></b>  Partake in an unforgettable experience by preparing and serving meals to IDF soldiers. What a great way to say “Thank you for your service” to these brave men and women who are risking their lives as Israel’s first line of defense, protecting the land and its people from the enemies that surround it.
1:00-2:30 pm	<b>Free time for lunch (<i>on own</i>) and shopping at Machane Yehuda (<i>shuk</i>)</b>
3:00-3:45 pm	Visit at the <b>Western Wall, the <i>Kotel</i></b>
4:00-5:00 pm	<b>Activity with evacuees – <i>Jerusalem</i></b>
5:30-6:30 pm	Refresh before the flight and <b>check-out</b> of the hotel
7:00 pm	<b>Farewell Dinner – <i>Kedma</i></b>
	Group transfer to Ben Gurion Airport <b>להתראות – See you soon!</b>

*Please note: Components and content of the itinerary are subject to change at any time.*