

KFIR

MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of May 5, 2017

REPORT FROM JERUSALEM



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Holy Ground Explorations



holygroundexplorations.com

HEADLINES

- * Netanyahu posts shock video to influence Trump-Abbas meeting. <https://worldisraelnews.com/watch-netanyahu-posts-shock-video-to-influence-trump-abbas-meeting/#.WQVjrbKUbHs.email>
- * All 100 members of the US senate signed a letter to the United Nations secretary-general, demanding an end to the UN's ongoing anti-Israel bias. "Although, as Democrats and Republicans, we disagree on many issues, we are united in our desire to see the United Nations improve its treatment of Israel and to eliminate anti-Semitism in all its forms," the letter to UN Secretary-General Antonia Guterres stated.
- * Hamas warns of repercussions after Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas says Ramallah will no longer pay for electricity Israel supplies enclave • Move "a crime against Palestinian people," PA and Israel will "regret this behavior," official says.
- * Relations between North Korea and Israel just took a turn for the worse after Israel's Russian-born Defense Minister, Avigdor Lieberman, called the regime "a crazy and radical group". North Korea responded by threatening "punishment a thousand-fold".



THE LATEST UN VOTE

The UN's cultural body on Tuesday passed the latest in a series of resolutions that denies Israeli claims to Jerusalem, in a move both forcefully condemned by Israel. The [resolution on "Occupied Palestine,"](#) which indicates that Israel has no legal or historical rights anywhere in Jerusalem, had been expected to pass, given the automatic anti-Israel majority in the 58-member body. The vote, which coincided with Israel's Independence Day, passed with 22 countries in favor, 23 abstentions, 10 opposed, and the representatives of three countries absent.

The resolution indicates rejection of the Jewish state's sovereignty in any part of Jerusalem. Israel is referred to throughout the document as the "occupying power" in Jerusalem, indicating that it has no legal or historical ties to any part of the city.



THE DEAL-MAKER?



President Donald Trump reiterated on Thursday his view that an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement is an achievable goal for his administration.

"I want to see peace with Israel and the Palestinians," he [told Reuters in an interview](#).

"There's no reason there's not peace between Israel and the Palestinians – none whatsoever." Trump declined to answer a question from *Reuters* about whether he would recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, saying, "Ask me in a month on that."

After he was elected president last November, Trump [said](#) he would "love to be the one who made peace with Israel and the Palestinians," calling it "the ultimate deal." "As a deal-maker, I'd like to do...the deal that can't be made."



TRUMP & ABBAS



A spokesperson for the Trump administration said Wednesday that the US president expressed concern over the policy of paying terrorists and their families a monthly income dolled out by the Palestinian Authority president, Mahmoud Abbas.

Sean Spicer added that Trump told his Palestinian counterpart, who arrived at the White House for the first time Wednesday afternoon, that the Palestinian Authority must also cease incitement broadcasted on Palestinian television.



THE REAL MAHMOUD ABBAS

As international pressure is mounting on Mahmoud Abbas to stop payments to terrorists prisoners, it should be recognized that Mahmoud Abbas himself is personally responsible for the high salaries that terrorists receive. In 2010, Mahmoud Abbas amended the Palestinian Prisoners Law, dramatically raising salaries to terrorist prisoners. Prior to that, salaries ranged from 1000-4000 shekels a month; now they start at 1400 shekels and can reach as high as 12,000 shekels each month.

Not only is Abbas personally responsible for paying salaries to terrorists, by his own admission he is responsible for sending terrorists to kill Israelis. Abbas told official PA TV in 2005, right after the PA's five-year terror campaign (i.e., the second Intifada) had ended, that all the terrorist prisoners must be freed because they did not murder of their own volition but were sent to murder by the PA



A KINDER GENTLER HAMAS?

Hamas tries to rebrand itself as an Islamic national liberation movement, rather than a branch of the pan-Arab Muslim Brotherhood, which has been outlawed by Egypt. It also drops explicit language calling for Israel's destruction, though it retains the goal of eventually ["liberating" all of "Palestine,"](#) which includes the entirety of Israel, and so this constitutes only a semantic change.

While the founding charter was filled with anti-Jewish references and anti-Semitic language, the new document stresses that Hamas bears no enmity toward Jews. It says its fight is with those who occupy "Palestinian lands."

Israel said the document aimed to deceive the world into believing that Hamas was becoming more moderate.



HGE - UPCOMING FALL TOURS

Israel - Off The Beaten Path
with Petra Extension (optional)



Israel - NOV 12-20 / Petra - Nov 20-24, 2017



Thus says the LORD: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good and walk in it, and find rest for your souls..." Jer. 6:16

There are many paths in Israel. OFF THE BEATEN PATH will take in paths not found on "traditc tours - yet they are important paths, ones that should be seen to take in the full breadth of Israe Dan & Sharon Stolebarger and guide, Jane Ben-Ari as we give you a totally different type of expe Included will be a geo-political Jeep Tour on the Golan Heights - see for yourselves what is truly happening along this strategic border of Israel.



**HOLY
GROUND
TOURS**

OFF THE BEATEN PATH ITINERARY

DAY 1: Overnight in Tel Aviv right on the Mediterranean Sea.

DAY 2 - 4: Travel to Jerusalem where we will be staying inside the walls of the Old City for three nights. While in Jerusalem, visit **OLD SYNAGOGUE TOUR, RABBINICAL TUNNELS, TEMPLE INSTITUTE, BURNT HOUSE, JERICO** with **ST. GEORGE'S MONASTERY** and **FRIENDS OF ZION MUSEUM**. Also planned is an incredible landscape of the Judean desert on a fully guided **JEEP TOUR**.

DAY 5 - 7: Travel to the Galilee where we will stay for three nights at a kibbutz hotel right on the shores of the Sea, away from the hustle and bustle of Tiberias. Our time in the north includes: **TSIPORI, NAZARETH VILLAGE, CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION, MT. ARBEL** (with an option to hike up), **MAGDALA, GAMLA** (with hike to the synagogue) and **MT. BENTAL**. On Shabbat, we will have a Shabbat Service at our hotel. In addition, while in the Golan Heights, we will take a geo-political **JEEP TOUR** to hear and see for ourselves exactly what is happening on this strategic border.

DAY 8: We travel to **JAFFA** for one night. En route, visit the grottoes at **ROSH HANIKRA** and the **VALLEY OF ELAH**.

DAY 9: Before bidding farewell to Israel, we will enjoy a leisurely morning, a tour of **JAFFA**, as well as a **FAREWELL DINNER**. Those departing will be taken to the airport.

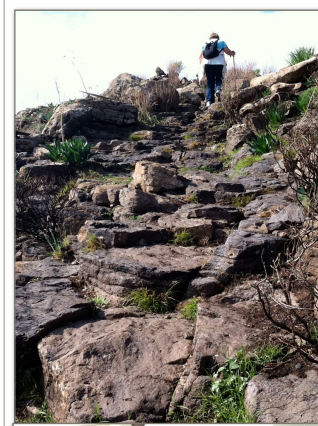
BEATEN PATH INCLUSIONS:

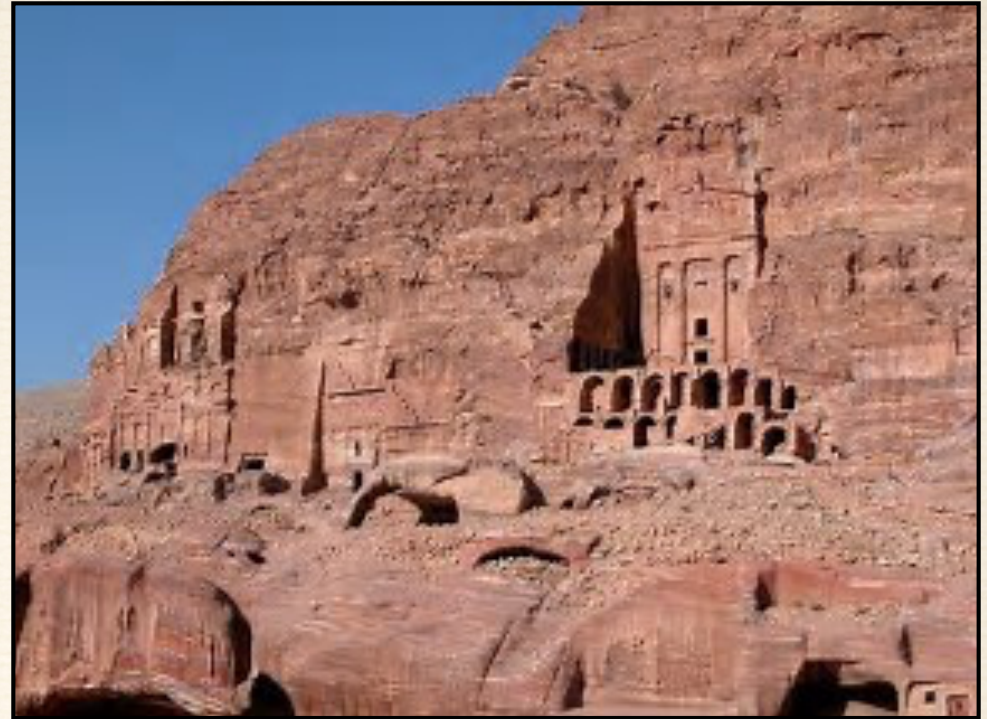
Pricing: \$2995 LAND ONLY per person double occupancy

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- ⊗ Hotels: 1 night Tel Aviv, 3 nights Jerusalem, 3 nights Tiberias, 1 night Jaffa
- ⊗ Meals: Breakfast daily, 4 Lunches, 5 Dinners
- ⊗ All Sightseeing and Entrance Fees including two JEEP TOURS
- ⊗ Gratuities for Guide and Driver
- ⊗ Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage per person
- ⊗ All ground transportation

See Registration Form for complete pricing and the Terms & Conditions for the "fine print."





PETRA EXTENSION (optional): Nov. 21-24, 2017 (1 night Jaffa; 2 nights Eilat, 1 night Petra)*

Israel is the land where it all began and **PETRA** just may be the land where the "end" may be centered. It's one thing to see all the sites where prophecy has taken place and has been fulfilled, but then there are the places where the fulfillment is yet to come. During the Tribulation period, God will provide a refuge for His people...many believe that Petra is that place.

Also included is a visit to the replica **TABERNACLE at TIMNA** where you will learn more in 30 minutes about the Tabernacle than you probably have learned in a decade. All this plus the resort city at the southernmost tip of Israel, **EILAT**, where at night you can see the lights of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt, all at the same time. Add to this an overnight in Petra where our hotel is located right across the street from the entrance. This extension is not often offered so take advantage of this departure date.

*NOTE: Those staying on for Petra will spend Nov. 20th in Jaffa before beginning the Petra extension on Nov. 21st.

For complete brochure information:

<http://holygroundexplorations.com/israel-tours/israel-off-the-beaten-path-tour-petra-extension/>





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