



## Water - Agriculture - Tourism International Meeting

May 15-22, 2016

### Program

#### **Sunday, May 15: Introductory meeting, overnight stay in Tel Aviv area**

- Morning (till noon): Arrive at homes of Servas hosts or meeting hall, all in the greater Tel Aviv area
- Afternoon: Introductions and Practicalities. Lecture: Water and Agriculture in Israel
- Social evening and opening party, with refreshments
- Overnight stay with Servas hosts

#### **Monday, May 16: Site visits in central Israel, overnight stay in Tel Aviv area**

(Hosts will join the tours and provide transport)

- Tour of seawater desalination and green agriculture plants at Emek Hefer, near Hadera
- Stops at tourist sites along the way, including the Israel Trail, along the Mediterranean coast. Lunch en route (purchased individually)
- Dinner and overnight at hosts' homes.

#### **Tuesday, May 17 – Site visits in central Israel, overnight stay in Jerusalem**

(Bus tour. Hosts will deliver guests to meeting point, or guests will arrive by public transportation)

- Tour of municipal wastewater treatment plant, Shafdan. Lecture: Water resource management around the world and in Israel; visit hydroponic nursery where plants are grown without soil, in water and mineral nutrient solutions.
- Stops at tourist sites, with a short hike in Nahal Sorek Nature Reserve and tour (if time allows) of Rishon LeZion, one of the pioneer Jewish villages in pre-State Israel and home of Baron de Rothschild's winery. Lunch en route (purchased individually)
- Dinner at guesthouse in Jerusalem (purchased or prepared individually)
- Cultural evening in guesthouse (if time allows): Presentations by Servas guests; songs and dancing (in national costumes)
- Overnight stay at guesthouse

### **Wednesday, May 18 – Site visits and overnight stay in Jerusalem**

(Bus tour)

- Water efficiency: HaGihon-The Jerusalem Water Corporation's advanced technologies – tour and lecture
- Afternoon/evening tour of Jerusalem's Old City and new, including holy places of the three religions. Lunch and dinner en route (purchased individually)
- Cultural evening at guesthouse (if time allows): Additional presentations by Servas guests, with songs and dancing (national costumes)
- Overnight stay at guesthouse in Jerusalem

### **Thursday, May 19 – Site visits and overnight stay in the Golan Heights**

(Bus tour)

- Visit at DanJain - Low-pressure drip irrigation systems; tour and discussion with researchers at Agricultural Research Institute, Migal
- Visit Safed, one of Israel's four holy cities. Wander the narrow cobblestoned alleys of its old quarters and pop into artists' galleries, medieval synagogues, and picturesque buildings. Lunch en route (purchased individually)
- Dinner at guesthouse (purchased or prepared individually)
- Cultural evening in guesthouse: Additional presentations by Servas guests, with songs and dancing (in national costumes) – if time and energy permit!
- Overnight stay at guesthouse in the Golan Heights

### **Friday, May 20 – Site visits in the Galilee, overnight stay in the Golan Heights**

(Bus tour)

- Sea of Galilee: Discussion of watershed pollution control and prevention; water systems of the Jordan Valley; and water relations between Israel and Jordan before/since the peace agreement. Observation of Yarmuk Dam
- Christian holy sites around the Sea of Galilee: Capernaum, where Jesus began his preaching; Tabgha, site of the Miracle of the Loaves; Kibbutz Ginossar, with its ancient boat from Jesus' time (as time allows); and the baptismal site on the Jordan River. Dinner en route (purchased individually)
- Cultural evening in guesthouse: More presentations by Servas guests, with songs and dancing (national costumes)
- Overnight stay at guesthouse in the Golan Heights

### **Saturday, May 21 – Site visits and overnight stay in the Golan Heights**

(Bus tour)

- Mei Golan - Regional Water Management: Rainwater collection for agricultural consumers. Tour and discussion of a successful regional water project
- Agriculture and agro-tourism: Meet the area's farmers at local visitors' centers to learn about their world-class citrus fruits, cheeses, olive oils, etc. - and possibly be treated to some tasty samples.
- Visit tourist sites, among them an impressive observation point with a panoramic view of the entire region. Lunch en route (purchased individually)

- Afternoon workshops and preparations for the farewell party in guesthouse (each guest should come from home equipped with 30 authentic local beads for a surprise workshop)
- Evening party, including refreshments
- Overnight stay at guesthouse in the Golan Heights

## Sunday, May 22 – Breakfast and farewell hugs

### Important information:

1. Guests are responsible for bringing their valid Letters of Introductions(LOI) and must pay individually for their stays at guesthouses; for their own meals, drinks, etc. during the tours and in guesthouses (excluding breakfasts) as well as in cafes, restaurants, etc. Guests are also responsible for arranging and paying for their own transportation from/to airport and/or to hosts/meeting points.
2. On the opening night of the conference, Servas Israel will collect **NIS 500 (Israeli shekels)** from each participant (if there are 40 participants) or **NIS 700** (if there are only 30) to cover program expenses: entrance fees to sites, guides, lecturers, bus rentals, materials and party refreshments, etc.
3. **In addition to the above, each guest should expect to pay the following:**
  - a. For guesthouses: Five nights at approximately NIS 170-250 per night per person, depending whether the stay is in a double, triple, or dormitory room (as available);
  - b. For food and public transportation: Approximately NIS 200 per day per person.
4. Registration forms will be sent to those who are interested. Contact us at: [israel@servas.org](mailto:israel@servas.org). **Registration will end January 31, 2016.**
5. Guests are welcome to stay with Israeli hosts, of course, before and after the meeting. After your national Servas coordinator issues your Letter of Introduction (LOI), s/he will give you the list of Servas Israel hosts and you can contact them directly.
6. Certificates of attendance will be provided upon request.

See you in Israel

*The Servas Israel Organizing Team*

