

ISRAEL @ 75: Summer Mission



Israel @ 75 Mission Participants.

Planning for Zamir's "Celebrate Israel @ 75" Mission began immediately after our Zamir Israel@70 Mission five years ago. The challenge was to offer something new for those who had frequented Israel and provide a fundamental experience for first-time visitors. Thorough research into recent developments and competitor offerings guided our decisions, resulting in an itinerary that received unanimous approval from our participants.

The pre-mission started with a reading of Eichah (Lamentations) on Tisha B'Av at the Hass Promenade/Tayelet overlooking the old city walls. The mission participants visited Yad Vashem, took a light rail tour, and had a unique volunteer experience at JLM Food Rescuers. A highlight was the visit to the new Jerusalem Campus for the Arts, exploring Sephardic/Eastern music.

Throughout the mission, participants enjoyed the full itinerary, augmented with enjoyable rehearsals and meaningful performances. The visit to the artist's houses in Ein Kerem and in Tzfat, the exploration of historical sites and singing Salamone Rossi (17th century composer) in the Italian Museum fueled an Israel tour that filled participants with love of Israel and pride in coming to support the Jewish Homeland.

The journey continued through Jerusalem, up to the north of the country, including a performance at the Music Festival in Netanya, and the mission ended in Tel Aviv with a moving performance for over 100 Holocaust survivors.

A total of 42 participants from 10 states left with cherished musical memories, new friendships, and a profound sense of having truly celebrated Israel at 75. The question now lingers: Israel @80?