

SPNI

# SPNI Reconnect with Nature - Israel November 2025



5 Nights

NOVEMBER 02, 2025 - NOVEMBER 07, 2025

via śabra

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## Our team

### ABOUT US

We're a team of Israel-obsessed locals ready to take you on the trip of a lifetime around our exciting country. We aim to "unfold Israel" by immersing you in the experience of Israel. Hike a hidden trail, tour a historic site you've never heard of, taste unfamiliar flavors, meet someone who was born here and someone who immigrated – take it all in.

Become acquainted with contemporary Israel, its history, heritage, cuisine and culture.

And of course with the Via Sabra touch - the extra special care we devote to making every tour the best adventure of your life, at no extra charge, you'll find yourself transformed!

I invite you to join the Via Sabra community, discover Israel for yourself– and discover yourself!

*Avihai Tsabari*

**Avihai Tsabari**

CEO and founder of Via Sabra

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# In a nutshell

## SPNI Reconnect with Nature - Israel November 2025

NOVEMBER 02, 2025 - NOVEMBER 07, 2025

### Day 1

**Sun, 02 Nov 2025**

- Meet your tour guide and group members
- Nili and David Jerusalem Bird Observatory
- A visit to the beautiful Gazelle Valley
- Picnic lunch in the park
- Tour of Jerusalem Hills to see Wildfire Recovery
- Dinner at a local restaurant (TBD)

### Day 2

**Mon, 03 Nov 2025**

- Depart the hotel and head north
- Visit the Start Up Nature Project
- Lunch at Kibbutz Kfar Ruppin
- Check in to hotel
- Night Safari Tour

### Day 3

**Tue, 04 Nov 2025**

- Sunrise Bird Watching
- A visit to Golan Field School, Katzrin
- Lunch at Field School
- Tour with the Army for the Protection of Nature
- Dinner at hotel

### Day 4

**Wed, 05 Nov 2025**

- Beit Ussishkin Nature Museum
- SPNI's Arab-Israeli Educational Program in Maghar
- Lunch in Mrar
- Maagan Michael
- Drive to Tel Aviv & Check-in to hotel
- Dinner at a local restaurant (TBD)

# In a nutshell

## SPNI Reconnect with Nature - Israel November 2025

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### Day 5

#### Thu, 06 Nov 2025

- Tour of the Gaza Envelope
- Visit to the Nova Music Festival Memorial Site
- Lunch with a Culinary Queen
- Meet with residents of the Kibbutzim/Sderot
- Return to Tel Aviv
- Free evening in Tel Aviv

### Day 6

#### Fri, 07 Nov 2025

- Morning Balloon Ride/River Walk
- Back to hotel for screening of 40 minutes Barn Owl movie
- Meet with Prof. Yossi Leshem
- Lunch and closing session ending by 2 p.m.
- OPTIONAL: Carmel Market Tasting Tour
- Group Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport
- Farewell, We hope to host you again in our beautiful country!





# Wild Life of Jerusalem

**DAY 1 SUNDAY, 02 NOVEMBER 2025**

- **Meet your tour guide and group members** Bus pick up from the main pre-stay hotels
- **Nili and David Jerusalem Bird Observatory** In 1993, two young birdwatchers discovered a banded migrant bird from Sweden and so started the Nili and David Jerusalem Bird Observatory, a center of education, science, and community located next to the Knesset. Over 50,000 visitors, from around the world and all sectors of society, flock to visit the JBO. You'll be joining them to experience an unforgettable up-close bird banding activity and learn about Israel's vital importance to global bird migration.
- **A visit to the beautiful Gazelle Valley** Located in the heart of Jerusalem, in the shadow of the infamous Holyland apartment block, the Gazelle Valley was saved by SPNI and turned into a world-class urban wildlife site. It's a very special type of park, and a haven for a herd of 180 endangered Israeli mountain gazelle. Amir Balaban, our Director of Urban Nature, will tell you the story of how the park came to be and how it's being used as a model for urban sustainability in Israel and around the world.
- **Picnic lunch in the park**
- **Tour of Jerusalem Hills to see Wildfire Recovery** Over 6000 acres of the Jerusalem forest was torched by wildfires in August. With an SPNI professional, you will hike in places affected by the fire first hand to witness the recovery and see how resilient nature is. You'll learn about Israel's misguided afforestation policy and what SPNI is doing about it.
- **Dinner at a local restaurant (TBD)**

**Overnight: Isrotel Orient Jerusalem**





# North through Jordan Valley

## DAY 2 MONDAY, 03 NOVEMBER 2025

- **Breakfast at the hotel** And check out from hotel
- **Depart the hotel and head north**
- **Visit the Start Up Nature Project** Start Up Nature is one of SPNI's most ambitious initiatives – to create an artificial wetland that will support mass bird migration and global biodiversity. At Kibbutz Kfar Ruppin, you'll see migrating birds in their glory, and hear about the complexities of creating and managing a nature reserve from former fishponds, and SPNI's bold goals for replicating this model nationwide.
- **Lunch at Kibbutz Kfar Ruppin**
- **Check in to hotel** Dinner, free time and prepare for night safari!
- **Night Safari Tour** Take a fun and interesting jeep tour with a local expert guide. While traversing the rich landscape, learn about the area's history, flora, and fauna and explore the night wildlife.

**Overnight: Pastoral Kfar Blum Hotel**



# Galil and Golan

## DAY 3 TUESDAY, 04 NOVEMBER 2025

- **Sunrise Bird Watching** Undoubtedly one of the annual highlights of Israeli nature is the phenomenal experience of watching 40,000 cranes take off from the Hula Valley while the sun rises over the Golan Heights. Bring your binoculars and cameras for one of the best nature experiences available anywhere in the world.
- **Return to hotel for breakfast**
- **A visit to Golan Field School, Katzrin SPNI** is the biggest provider of environmental education in Israel, including hundreds of classes each year at our network of Field Schools. We'll hear about our ambitious plans to revolutionize sustainable building in Israel together with experiential environmental education.
- **Lunch at Field School**
- **Tour with the Army for the Protection of Nature** Join a special conservation tour with the Army for the Protection of Nature, a decade-long collaboration between SPNI and the IDF. We'll meet soldiers and their commanders on their base who are committed to nature protection, even in these times.
- **Dinner at hotel**

**Overnight: Pastoral Kfar Blum Hotel**





## South through the Galilee towards the Coast

### DAY 4 WEDNESDAY, 05 NOVEMBER 2025

- **Breakfast at the hotel** And check out from hotel
- **Beit Ussishkin Nature Museum** Nestled in a lush landscape, the museum features an impressive collection of regional flora and fauna, showcasing the rich biodiversity of the area. Through the Interactive exhibits and informative displays, you will gain a deeper understanding of the local ecosystem, wildlife conservation, and historical significance.
- **SPNI's Arab-Israeli Educational Program in Maghar** Visit Maghar, meet with SPNI Arab-Israeli educators for a in-depth overview of how SPNI works with Israel's different minorities.
- **Lunch in Mrar**
- **Maagan Michael** Tour Maagan Michael's newly opened birding sanctuary and rewilded wetlands park at Kibbutz Maagan Michael, the second flagship site of SPNI's Start-Up Nature rewilding project.
- **Drive to Tel Aviv & Check-in to hotel**
- **Dinner at a local restaurant (TBD)**

**Overnight: Isrotel Royal Beach Tel Aviv**



# October 7 Memorial and Restoring the Western Negev

**DAY 5 THURSDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2025**

- **Breakfast at the hotel**
- **Tour of the Gaza Envelope** Stop at key lookout points for an in-depth discussion about the complexity of rehabilitating the Gaza Border situation and the rehabilitation efforts with SPNI professionals and local residents.
- **Visit to the Nova Music Festival Memorial Site** We will visit the site of the Nova Music Festival, now a memorial site, bear witness, and pay our respects to the 364 Israelis murdered by Hamas on the morning of October 7th.
- **Lunch with a Culinary Queen** While enjoying the culinary experience, listen to her personal stories about life in the Envelope, her birthplace and hometown. Gain insights into how the October 7th attack affected her home, family, and neighborhood.
- **Meet with residents of the Kibbutzim/Sderot**
- **Return to Tel Aviv**
- **Free evening in Tel Aviv** Dinner is not included.

**Overnight: Isrotel Royal Beach Tel Aviv**





# Tel Aviv and Shalom

## DAY 6 FRIDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2025

- **Breakfast at the hotel** And check out
- **Morning Balloon Ride/River Walk** Hover over Tel Aviv in a balloon! or Walk along the Yarkon River
- **Back to hotel for screening of 40 minutes Barn Owl movie**
- **Meet with Prof. Yossi Leshem** A senior Researcher in the Department of Zoology in the Faculty of Life Sciences at Tel Aviv University and the founder and Director of the International Center for the Study of Bird Migration at Latrun, Israel, established by Tel Aviv University and the SPNI.
- **Lunch and closing session ending by 2 p.m.**
- **OPTIONAL: Carmel Market Tasting Tour** A culinary tasting tour and cultural experience in the Carmel Market (Shuk HaCarmel), the largest market in Tel Aviv. Touring the market reveals the taste of the ages of Tel Aviv and the diverse cultures and culinary traditions mix in this vibrant shuk. Through the delicious authentic tasting tour, its secrets and legends will be revealed to you.
- **Group Transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport** Fly back home.
- **Farewell, We hope to host you again in our beautiful country!**



# via sabra

Via Sabra gave us an Israel experience like no other. The bookings, the guides, where we went, everything was a joy, the perfect combination of touring, learning and fun.

Stephen K



Not only was the experience reflective of top-notch quality and superb attention to detail, you were treated like family.

Elizabeth



It was the most interesting, delicious, fun trip that we have ever had to Israel and quite frankly, anyplace! Our tour guide brought everything alive for us and filled our days with so many adventures. Cannot recommend this enough.

Ariel P

