



## 2017 RIDER ITINERARIES

### Wednesday, May 10

#### Shoafim

- Shoafim will leave the hotel for a short bus ride and begin biking outside the Leonardo Hotel in Ashkelon on the beautiful Mediterranean Coast. Leaving Ashkelon to the south, continue biking past Kibbutzim Zikim and Karmia. We will stop for a break at Kibbutz Erez and bike past Kfar Aza near the border with the Gaza Strip, stopping at a scenic lookout. Stop for lunch and touring at Kibbutz Alumim, established in 1966 as Bnai Akiva agricultural settlement on the then-border with Egypt. Transfer by bus to Netiv Ha'asara on the northern border of the Gaza Strip to learn more about the separation wall at this strategic geopolitical site. Transfer by bus back to the hotel in Ashdod.
- **Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Ashdod
- **Distance:** 26 miles / **Elevation:** 1,198 feet

#### Bogrim

- Bogrim will leave the hotel for a short bus ride and begin biking outside the Leonardo Hotel in Ashkelon on the beautiful Mediterranean Coast. Leaving Ashkelon to the south, continue biking past Kibbutzim Zikim and Karmia. We will stop for a break at Kibbutz Erez and bike past Kfar Aza near the border with the Gaza Strip, stopping at a scenic lookout. Stop for lunch and touring at Kibbutz Alumim, established in 1966 as Bnai Akiva agricultural settlement on the then-border with Egypt. From here we bike back to Netiv Ha'asara on the northern border of the Gaza Strip to take part in a unique artistic activity at the separation wall with Gaza. Short bus ride back to the hotel in Ashdod.
- **Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Ashdod
- **Distance:** 43 miles / **Elevation:** 1,739 feet

#### Mumchim

- Mumchim will bike out of hotel along Highway 4 to Ashkelon on the beautiful Mediterranean Coast. Leaving Ashkelon to the south, continue biking past Kibbutzim Zikim and Karmia. We will break at Erez and then pass Sderot and Kfar Aza near the border with the Gaza Strip, stopping at a scenic lookout. Stop for lunch and touring at Kibbutz Alumim, established in 1966 as Bnai Akiva agricultural settlement on the then-border with Egypt. Continue riding to Sderot, then turn north, ending the ride at Kibbutz Sde Yoav, founded in 1956, and named for Yitzhak Dubno (nicknamed Yoav) who was killed while defending the nearby kibbutz of Negba during the 1948 Arab–Israeli War. Short bus ride back to the hotel in Ashdod.
- **Overnight:** Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Ashdod
- **Distance:** 63 miles / **Elevation:** 2,316 feet

## Thursday, May 11

### Shoafim

- Transfer by bus to Aderet and then begin climbing into the Judean Hills toward Jerusalem. Pass Agur, a small moshav founded in 1950 by Yemenite Jews, then bike to Beit Guvrin, Israel's premier center for archeological digs. After a tour of Beit Guvrin, transfer by bus to Givat Yeshayahu for lunch, and then ride the bus up to Hotel Yehuda in the Malha section of Jerusalem.
- **Overnight:** Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem
- **Distance:** 18 miles / **Elevation:** 906 feet

### Bogrim

- Short bus ride from our hotel to our starting point at Kibbutz Sde Yoav. Bike east along Route 35, turning left at Revaha, a religious moshav founded in 1953 by immigrants from Kurdistan. Continue past Aluma, a Haredi community, until Kibbutz Gat, outside the industrial Israeli city of Kiryat Gat. Continue east passing three kibbutzim, Gal'on, Beit Nir, and Luzit, beginning the climb from the shfelah (coastal plain) into the Judean Hills. Turn right at Agur, a small moshav founded in 1950 by Yemenite Jews, then bike toward Givat Yeshayahu where we will stop for lunch. Transfer by bus to Bar Bahar. After lunch continue along route 386, passing a monastery on your right. On the left you will pass the Sataf nature reserve, famous for its amazing natural beauty and hiking trails through the Jerusalem Hills. Turn right onto route 396 to ride around Hadassah Hospital, and then continue through Jerusalem to Hotel Yehuda in the Malha section of Jerusalem.
- **Overnight:** Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem
- **Distance:** 43 miles / **Elevation:** 3,000 feet

### Mumchim

- Short bus ride from our hotel to our starting point at Kibbutz Sde Yoav. Bike east along Route 35, turning left at Revaha, a religious moshav founded in 1953 by immigrants from Kurdistan. Continue past Aluma, a Haredi community, until Kibbutz Gat, outside the industrial Israeli city of Kiryat Gat. Continue east passing three kibbutzim, Gal'on, Beit Nir, and Luzit, beginning the climb from the shfelah (coastal plain) into the Judean Hills. Turn right at Agur, a small moshav founded in 1950 by Yemenite Jews, then bike toward Givat Yeshayahu. Climb the 10 km climb to reach lunch at Bar Bahar. After lunch continue along route 386, passing a monastery on your right. On the left you will pass the Sataf nature reserve, famous for its amazing natural beauty and hiking trails through the Jerusalem Hills. Turn right onto route 396 to ride around Hadassah Hospital, and then continue through Jerusalem to Hotel Yehuda in the Malha section of Jerusalem.
- **Overnight:** Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem
- **Distance:** 49 miles / **Elevation:** 4,757 feet

## Friday, May 12

### Shoafim

- Transfer by bus from hotel to Ein Karem. Ride along the mountainous route encircling Jerusalem from the north toward the Hebrew University campus on Mt. Scopus, where we will have lunch. After lunch we will ride through the Arazim Valley to the 9-11 Living Memorial in Ramot, where we will stop for a brief ceremony, and then ride back to Ein Karem. From there we will transfer by bus back to our hotel for Shabbat.
- **Overnight:** Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem
- **Distance:** 20 miles / **Elevation:** 1,703 feet

### Bogrim

- Bogrim will bike out of hotel along the bike lane to Yad Kennedy, Israel's magnificent memorial to John F. Kennedy, built in 1966, surrounded by the Kennedy Peace Forest. Continue riding to Ein Karem where we follow the bike lane along the mountainous route encircling Jerusalem from the north toward the Hebrew University campus on Mt. Scopus, where we will have lunch at the amazing lookout over the city of Jerusalem. After lunch we will ride through the Arazim Valley to the 9-11 Living Memorial in Ramot, where we will stop for a brief ceremony, and then ride back to Ein Karem. From there we will transfer by bus back to our hotel for Shabbat.
- **Overnight:** Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem
- **Distance:** 31 miles / **Elevation:** 2,684 feet

### Mumchim

- Mumchim will bike out of hotel along the bike lane to Yad Kennedy, Israel's magnificent memorial to John F. Kennedy, built in 1966, surrounded by the Kennedy Peace Forest. Continue riding to Ein Karem where we follow the bike lane along the mountainous route encircling Jerusalem from the north toward the Hebrew University campus on Mt. Scopus, where we will have lunch at the amazing lookout over the city of Jerusalem. After lunch we will ride through the Arazim Valley to the 9-11 Living Memorial in Ramot, where we will stop for a brief ceremony, and then ride back to our hotel through Ein Karem.
- **Overnight:** Hotel Yehuda, Jerusalem
- **Distance:** 34 miles / **Elevation:** 3,484 feet

## Sunday, May 14

### Shoafim

- Shoafim will leave Jerusalem by bus and begin biking in the beautiful Lachish region. Surrounded by rustic moshavim, our route will take us past the village of Neta and Kibbutz Lahav. We'll arrive at Kibbutz Kramim for a late lunch and bus transfer to Kibbutz Hatzerim where we will tour the world-famous Netafim factory and then return to the hotel by bus.
- **Overnight:** Leonardo Hotel Negev, Be'er Sheva
- **Distance:** 25 miles / **Elevation:** 1,962 feet

### Bogrim

- Bogrim will leave Jerusalem by bus and begin biking in Aderet towards Beit Guvrin, one of Israel's famed national parks known for its Bell Caves. Bogrim will then bike through the beautiful Lachish region. Surrounded by rustic moshavim, the route will pass the village of Neta and Kibbutz Lahav. We will arrive at Kibbutz Kramim for a late lunch and bus transfer to Be'er Sheva.
- **Overnight:** Leonardo Hotel Negev, Be'er Sheva
- **Distance:** 46 miles / **Elevation:** 2,844 feet

### Mumchim

- Leaving the Hotel Yehuda, Mumchim will ride past Hadassah Hospital and into the majestic village of Ein Karem. Passing the Sataf Reserve and Beit Shemesh, we will proceed to the Lachish region. Surrounded by rustic moshavim, our route will take us past the village of Neta and Kibbutz Lahav. We will arrive at Kibbutz Kramim for a late lunch and bus transfer to Be'er Sheva.
- **Overnight:** Leonardo Hotel Negev, Be'er Sheva
- **Distance:** 61 miles / **Elevation:** 4,121 feet

## Monday, May 15

### Shoafim

- Shoafim will leave Be'er Sheva by bus and arrive at Har Amasa, a yishuv nestled in the Yatir Forest, then bike to Tel Arad, which is surrounded by the mountain ridges of the Arad Plain. Continue to bike via the town of Arad and then to the oasis at Havat HaNokdim for lunch. Bike to Masada and then climb the ancient path via the Roman Ramp. Here all groups of the ride and hike will meet for a closing ceremony at the ancient synagogue. After descending Masada via the eastern side, Shoafim will conclude the day either biking from Masada to Ein Gedi or transferring to the hotel by bus. Check in to the hotel and farewell dinner.
- **Overnight:** Ein Gedi Hotel, Kibbutz Ein Gedi
- **Distance:** 31 miles / **Elevation:** 1,732 feet

### Bogrim

- Bogrim will leave Be'er Sheva by bus and arrive at Har Amasa, a yishuv nestled in the Yatir Forest, then bike to Tel Arad, which is surrounded by the mountain ridges of the Arad Plain. Continue to bike via the town of Arad and then to the oasis at Havat HaNokdim for lunch. Bike to Masada and then climb the ancient path via the Roman Ramp. Here all groups of the ride and hike will meet for a closing ceremony at the ancient synagogue. After descending Masada via the eastern side, Bogrim will conclude the day either biking from Masada to Ein Gedi or transferring to the hotel by bus. Check in to the hotel and farewell dinner.
- **Overnight:** Ein Gedi Hotel, Kibbutz Ein Gedi
- **Distance:** 45 miles / **Elevation:** 2,346 feet

### Mumchim

- Mumchim will leave Be'er Sheva by bus and arrive at Kibbutz Kramim, then ride through the beautiful Yatir forest, stopping at the Havat HaNokdim oasis for lunch. Continuing through Arad, Mumchim will bike to Masada and then climb the ancient path via the Roman Ramp. Here all groups of the ride and hike will meet for a closing ceremony at the ancient synagogue. After descending Masada via the eastern side, Mumchim will conclude the day biking from Masada to Ein Gedi. Check in to the hotel and farewell dinner.
- **Overnight:** Ein Gedi Hotel, Kibbutz Ein Gedi
- **Distance:** 59 miles / **Elevation:** 3,875 feet