

SPNI's Yarok

Trips & Activities: June-July 2009

Friday, June 5, 2009

A "Dairy"-Flavored Galilee

"Teva Date" – for ages 30-45; CODE: 70506953

Located high up in the Galilee is the picturesque village of Jish where Moslems and Christians live together in harmony. From the village's alleyways filled with ancient remains we continue to the Halav (milk) hill and a hidden pool. We will hike in the Baram Forest between oaks and other impressive trees and towards evening we will enjoy coffee hosted by a resident of the Circassian village of Reychana. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 147 NIS; Guests – 207 NIS

Saturday, June 6, 2009

Crossing the Meron Ridge

For good hikers; CODE: 20606925

A long and challenging trail awaits us as we cross the Mt. Meron Reserve filled with water reservoirs and "hutas" – deep Karst caverns created by long and gradual seepage of water into the ground. Amidst the mountainous landscape filled with Mediterranean brush we will hike from the grave of Shimon Bar Yochai via Ein Zeved, Hurbat Hamama, Nahal Nerya and Ein Hotam until Peki'in. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 159 NIS; Guests – 222 NIS

Falcons on the Moshava Roofs

CODE: 70606967

The nesting season for flocking birds is at its peak. We will walk through Moshav Elyakim and visit the nesting reserve of the Red Falcons, who nest in tile roofs. We will visit the large colony of European Bee-eaters (*Shrakrakim* in Hebrew) adjacent to Yokneam, and in Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael's birding park we will be greeted by flocks of herons, ibis and terns. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 36 NIS; Guests – 51 NIS

A "Spring" Trail: Family Trip

CODE: 30606978

The Sataf's trails in the Jerusalem Hills pass through landscapes of orchards, water pools and stone terrace remains of ancient agriculture. We will be impressed by the many springs coming from crevices in the rocks, we will dip our feet in cool water and learn about how that very land was tilled and how water was used in ancient times. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 57 NIS; Guests – 78 NIS

Wonders of Desert Culture

CODE: 70606922

In the Negev's Bedouins towns we are exposed to a fascinating world of ancient culture and traditions. We will stroll around Rahat, Segev Shalom and Tel Sheva and learn from local residents about the social life of the area's Bedouins. We will visit the "Grandmothers' Museum," an authentic Bedouin tent, and become familiar with some of the medicinal desert herbs and some of the preparations made from them. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 216 NIS; Guests – 300 NIS

Saturday, June 13, 2009

A Grove with Pools Around It

For the little ones; CODE: 21306970

Along Nahal Tzalmon in the Western Galilee can be found water pools and cane and raspberry bushes. On our way to the grove of eucalyptus trees we will pass by remains of ancient flour mills and enjoy dipping our feet in the cool pool waters surrounding by rich plant life. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 57 NIS; Guests – 78 NIS

The Jordan's Source

For good hikers; **CODE:** 61306924

The plenitude of water and flowing tributaries around the sources of the Jordan River are a perfect way to cool off during the steaming summer days. We will hike along the Banias and Dan among rich plant life, pools of water and lovely shady resting spots. Orchards and groves will lead us, via the Tank Trail, Hurbat Omrit and Nebi Huda to the Hatzbani River. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 159 NIS; Guests – 222 NIS

Nesting in the Valley

CODE: 70205966

We will stroll through the open spaces of the verdant Hula Reserve, following the trail of the thousands of flocks of birds that recently flew northwards, and the birds that will spend their summer here nesting. We will walk around the edge of the Hula, watching thousands of birds there, and visit the new ringing station to watch the ringing process. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 51 NIS; Guests – 72 NIS

Friday, June 19, 2009

'Dinka' and 'Karnaf's Jerusalem – Celebrating National Book Week

Appropriate for Sabbath observers; **CODE:** 71906931

David Grossman's novel, "Someone to Run With," takes us on a fascinating journey through the alleyways of Jerusalem. We will follow the trail of the book's heroes from City Hall at Safra Square to "Cats' Square" at the foot of Yoel Solomon Street, the Russian Compound and Nahalat Shiva; we will make a quick visit to "Theodora's Monastery" and "Leah's Restaurant." We will also meet a surprising character who will accompany us with musical selections along the entire route. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 105 NIS; Guests – 147 NIS

Saturday, June 20, 2009

Along the Carmel's Hills

CODE: 72006970

The Forest of Australian Jewry is filled with oaks and eucalyptus trees that lead to Moshav Kerem Maharal. From Moshav Ofer is a section of the Israel trail leading towards the Meir Shefaya Youth Village, surrounded by fragrant fruit orchards. We will pass remnants of a settlement and agricultural implements in Hurbat Taliman, reaching Ein Zur at Ramat Hanadiv, and the Nikba stream with a system of water collecting pools and a Roman bathhouse. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 144 NIS Guests – 204 NIS

The Galilee Refresher

CODE: 22006923

A hike in the Nahal Kaziv Reserve is a winning bet: Cool water pools, a variety of plant life and a Crusader fortress surrounded by green groves. We will walk along the stream's channel bed among plane trees, a flourmill, a spring and a pool where we will have the opportunity to take a dip in the cool waters. We will visit the impressive Montfort Fortress and climb up to an impressive overlook in Goren Park. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 156 NIS Guests – 216 NIS

In the Footsteps of the "Path of the Orange Peels"

CODE: 72006973

An entertaining dramatization with audience participation following the children's books by author and artist Nahum Gutmann, in Neve Tzedek in Tel Aviv. Between the Suzanne Delal Center and the streets of the historic neighborhood of Neve Tzedek we will discover the world of stories that sound like legends, and legends that become reality. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 57 NIS; Guests – 78 NIS

Friday, June 26, 2009

Kabbalat Shabbat by the Sea

Friday afternoon; CODE: 72606968

The twilight hours are magical ones along the beautiful seashore of Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael. We will watch the huge variety of birds nesting among the fishponds, participate in a variety of activities for the whole family and end with a ceremony bringing in Shabbat with candle-lighting, tea and cookies in a special atmosphere.

Private vehicles.

Cost: SPNI members – 51 NIS Guests – 72 NIS

The Kinneret's Melody

Friday afternoon; CODE: 72606924

Many of the songs written by Naomi Shemer describe her childhood landscape of the Kinneret. During the twilight hours we will tour Kibbutz Kinneret, the Jordan's shores and 'the Eucalyptus grove' (her song, "*Hurshat Ha'Ekalyptus*") where she grew up. Songs and music she wrote will bring her alive her life story and the events that impacted on her creativity. In the courtyard of the Kibbutz we will also read from the poems of Rachel, another resident of the same kibbutz, as well as stories of the settlement and pioneers of the Jezreel Valley. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 186 NIS; Guests – 258 NIS

Saturday, June 27, 2009

Circumnavigating the Crater

Bicycle tour for riders aged 10+ with open terrain riding experience; CODE: 52706977

We will experience desert terrain bike riding on a new bicycle trail above the Ramon Crater. We will ride the upper section of the trail in Nahal Zin, surrounded by breathtaking desert scenery and fascinating geological phenomena. **Private vehicles.**

Lodging can be reserved in advance at the Har Hanegev Field School.

Cost: SPNI members – 87 NIS; Guests – 129 NIS

In cooperation with the Rosen & Meents bicycle stores. Bikes and helmets can be rented at an additional cost of 75 NIS. Route is approximately 20 km long, medium-level riding difficulty. A support vehicle, and a Rosen & Meents technician who will also offer tips and recommendations to riders, will accompany the group.

Ringling in Lachish Park

7:00 AM, NO CHARGE

Summer has arrived, and with it the many birds that have chosen to spend the season with us. Right before they set out on their journey to Africa, join us in a walk through Lachish Park where we will see some of the birds and other swamp life, help in ringing some of the wandering birds and learn about the park's unique ecosystem.

Meeting place: The eastern side of Lachish Park, via Sderot Herzl in Ashdod, behind the extreme sports park and horse stables.

For additional information: www.teva.org.il/birdsa

A Sea of Mollusks & Inlets

For the Little Ones; CODE: 92706964

There are picturesque inlets with blue water and a multitude of shells and mollusks – the Bonim Beach is one of the country's most beautiful. We will hike along the shoreline, pass through the blue cave and see a variety of the area's animals and plant life. **Private vehicles.**

Includes entrance to the Bonim Reserve.

Cost: SPNI members – 42 NIS Guests – 57 NIS

Monday-Tuesday, June 29-30, 2009

Cleantech Exhibit

10 AM-6 PM, Tel Aviv Exhibition Grounds

A professional exhibition for environment and water technology with the participation of SPNI. The exhibit will deal with a variety of topics, including: Renewable energy, recycling, water technology, green construction, and more.

Free entrance (one ticket) for members by advance registration to the exhibition at www.clean.hinet.co.il

For additional information: www.aquaisrael.net

Thursday, July 2, 2009

Nighttime's Wise Ones

Thursday evening; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 70207934

In this unique nighttime adventure we will follow the varied activities of raptors that are so common in the center of the country. We will watch a family of tree owls and learn about the uniqueness of night raptors, their characteristics and hunting patterns. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 36 NIS; Guests – 51 NIS

Friday, July 3, 2009

The Carmel of Legends

Friday afternoon: "Teva Date" for ages 45-60; CODE: 70307954

The *Shofet* Stream in Ramot Menashe has a special magic at sunset time. Among the trees and flowing waters we will hear stories of love and legends of the forest. As evening descends, we will tour the colorful village of Zichron Ya'akov and hear tales of the village's women. We will also experience a special mood as we walk along the Caesarea beach by moonlight. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 144 NIS; Guests – 204 NIS

The Desert by Moonlight

Friday night; CODE: 50307929

The white chalk boulders and the marlstone hills sparkle by moonlight in the Negev's *Havarim* (marlstone) Stream. We will hike along the streambed by night among impressive ravines, pass through rock crevices and a water cistern. A unique nighttime experience. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 57 NIS; Guests – 78 NIS

The First Signs of Night

Friday night; CODE: 30307980

As night descends, we will meet a fascinating world of nature in the sands of the Nitzanim Nature Preserve. We will walk along the shoreline by moonlight among the soft sand dunes and the pools of underground water. We will sing songs of the sea by a campfire and get to know the area's unique plant and wildlife. We will greet the breathtaking dawn with hot coffee and tea. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 156 NIS; Guests – 216 NIS

Saturday, July 4, 2009

The Carmel of Legends

Friday afternoon: "Teva Date" for ages 45-60; CODE: 70307954

The *Shofet* Stream in Ramot Menashe has a special magic at sunset time. Among the trees and flowing waters we will hear stories of love and legends of the forest. As evening descends, we will tour the colorful village of Zichron Ya'akov and hear tales of the village's women. We will also experience the special mood as we walk along the Caesarea beach by moonlight. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 144 NIS; Guests – 204 NIS

Challenges and Water in the Canyon

For good hikers; CODE: 90407925

One of the nicest spots for a fascinating hike filled with water, waterfalls and canyons is the Golan's *Nahal Yehudiya*. Using iron stakes we will descend cool water-filled cisterns, swim across deep pools and hike in the beautiful basalt canyon along the streambed. **Buses.**

Includes entrance to the Yehudiya Reserve.

Cost: SPNI members – 174 NIS; Guests – 246 NIS

Fishing Boats and Ancient Walls

Urban tour; CODE: 90407965

Magnificent Crusader history, impressive walls and a beautiful port are some of Acco's crowning glories. We will tour a colorful marketplace, walk on the city walls and stroll through a busy port, accompanied by tales of Napoleon and Ahmad-al-Jazar. Via a hidden tunnel leading to huge underground halls we will become acquainted with "Napoleon's Cannons" an inn on stilts and a watchtower. **Private vehicles.**

Includes entrance to the Halls of the Knights and the Templar Tunnel.

Cost: SPNI members – 57 NIS; Guests – 68 NIS

"Water, Water Everywhere"

Waterway hikes; high, closed shoes are required; CODE: 70407930

A fun day of wet and wild experiences awaits us in the magical landscapes of the Jordan River. We will hike in Jordan Park among early water reservoirs, orchards and an ancient flour mill. We will enjoy activities along the Jordan's shores and kayak along the river in the shadow of rich river plant life.

Includes kayak fees.

Private vehicles: Cost: SPNI members – 99 NIS; Guests – 138 NIS

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Sunset on the Dunes

Thursday afternoon; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 30907910

An evening hike among the acacia and sycamore trees in *Nitzanim's* sand dune park. We will watch the sun set behind the golden dunes, identify the footsteps of wild life and set traps for rodents. We will end with drinks and light snacks around a campfire. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 45 NIS; Guests – 60 NIS

Friday, July 10, 2009

Chilling out in the Wadi

Friday afternoon; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 81007911

The warm summer days are a perfect time to refresh in the cool spring waters of Nahal Prat (Wadi Kelt). We will hike along the length of the streambed from the village of Anatot until Ein Prat, become familiar with this untamed area of the desert, along with the plant life and wild life endemic to it. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 69 NIS; Guests – 96 NIS

Hunting Snakes

Friday afternoon; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 71007932

The Circaetus (from the eagle family), large raptors that feed on snakes and field mice, gather towards the end of their nesting season, for a unique meal following the plowing season: we will watch as they search for their prey in recently-plowed fields and learn about their way of life and their contribution to agriculture from a Circaetus researcher. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 36 NIS; Guests – 51 NIS

A Night in the Desert

Friday night; for good hikers; CODE: 51007927

The light of the full moon exposes the desert landscapes in all their glory. On unfamiliar trails along the *Halukim* ridge and *Nahal B'sor*, we will set out on a night-time trek during which we will examine archaeological remains and ancient open spaces. In *Nahal Noked* we will meet an impressive acacia tree and end with a breathtaking sunrise from the Zin Valley, accompanied by warm drinks. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 165 NIS; Guests – 231 NIS

Thursday-Saturday, July 9-11, 2009

A Calming River in the North

A Family weekend; CODE: 70907911

An excitement-filled weekend combining kayaking on the Jordan River, nature activities for the children and watching beautiful sunsets. We will hike along water-filled streams, dip into cooling waters and enjoy breathtaking Golan views and peaceful Galilee landscapes. **Private vehicles.**

Includes room and full board in the Hermon Field School.

Cost: SPNI members – 885 NIS; child – 585 NIS; minimum charge per room: 1770 NIS

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Alleyways, Bells and Houses of Stone

Urban tour; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 81607924

In the colorful alleyways of Jerusalem's Ein Kerem neighborhood hide special houses and hidden courtyards, with the sounds of church bells sounding in the background. We will tour amongst the neighborhood's impressive churches amidst the landscapes of the green hills and houses of stone. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 36 NIS; Guests – 51 NIS

"Water, Water Everywhere"

Waterway hikes; high, closed shoes are required

Thursday afternoon; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 71607921

A fun day of wet and wild experiences awaits us in the magical landscapes of the Jordan River. We will hike in Jordan Park among early water reservoirs, orchards and an ancient flour mill. We will enjoy activities along the Jordan's shores and kayak along the river in the shadow of rich river plant life.

Includes kayak fees.

Buses: Cost: SPNI members – 204 NIS; Guests – 285 NIS

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Alleyways, Bells and Houses of Stone

Urban tour; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 81607924

In the colorful alleyways of Jerusalem's Ein Kerem neighborhood hide special houses and hidden courtyards, with the sounds of church bells sounding in the background. We will tour amongst the neighborhood's impressive churches amidst the landscapes of the green hills and houses of stone. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 36 NIS; Guests – 51 NIS

Friday, July 17, 2009

Awash in Green

Friday afternoon; "Teva Date" – for good hikers, ages 25-45; CODE: 71707955

Nahal Kziv's pools of water will help us pleasantly pass the afternoon hours. We will hike along the streambed in the shade of green trees, dip into the pools and climb, towards sunset, to Goren Park. Later in the evening we will stroll along the Achziv beach and continue with an evening tour along the walls of ancient Acco, hearing stories and legends from the days of Napoleon and Al-Jazar. **Buses.**

Cost: SPNI members – 144 NIS; Guests – 204 NIS

Sunset on the Dunes

CODE: 30907910

An evening hike among the acacia and sycamore trees in *Nitzanim's* sand dune park. We will watch the sun set behind the golden dunes, identify the footsteps of wild life and set traps for rodents. We will end with drinks and light snacks around a campfire. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 45 NIS; Guests – 60 NIS

Saturday, July 18, 2009

A Heavenly Summer

CODE: 91807966

We will hike along the slope of *Nahal Amud* opposite the landscapes of the upper Galilee, filled with plant life and flowing waters. In the shade of orchards and groves of trees we will come upon impressive water pools.

Private vehicles.

Includes entrance to the *Nahal Amud* nature reserve.

Cost: SPNI members – 78 NIS; Guests – 108 NIS

Wet and Challenging

CODE: 71807903

Nothing compares to the experience of rappelling in *Nahal Zavitan*, one of the most beautiful and impressive canyons in the Golan Heights. Among pools of water and basalt cliffs we will set out on a challenging and wet rappelling outing filled with cisterns and waterfalls. We will rappel down from the top of a high waterfall into a cold pool of water, and swim across other pools along the way. **Buses.**

Includes entrance to the *Yehudiya* nature reserve, rappelling equipment, a lifeguard and licensed instructors. The hike is intended only for those with rappelling experience and who know how to swim.

Cost: SPNI members – 264 NIS; Guests – 369 NIS

Wings on Salt

CODE: 71807933

Atlit's salt pool attracts myriads of fowl and birds that make this beautiful site their home over the summer season. We will watch the nesting colonies of the seagulls and terns, as well as the impressive nesting habits of the stilt plovers. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 36 NIS; Guests – 51 NIS

Friday, July 24, 2009

Chilling out in the Wadi

Friday afternoon; appropriate for Sabbath observers. CODE: 81007911

The warm summer days are a perfect time to refresh in the cool spring waters of *Nahal Prat* (Wadi Kelt). We will hike along the length of the streambed from the village of *Anatot* until *Ein Prat*, become familiar with this untamed area of the desert, along with the plant life and wild life endemic to it. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 69 NIS; Guests – 96 NIS

Saturday, July 25, 2009

The Precipice in the Hill

CODE: 92507993

Nahal Kelach is well-known for its impressive cliffs, Mediterranean troves and a rocky trail that overlooks breathtaking scenery. We will hike in "Little Switzerland" on the Carmel, through thick, green forests, and be impressed by an inverted precipice, a unique natural phenomenon. **Private vehicles.**

Cost: SPNI members – 57 NIS; Guests – 78 NIS