

## SPNI's Yarok Trips & Activities: October 2009

### Saturday, October 3, 2009

#### **Birds and Fowl in the Lachish Park**

**Lachish Park, Ashdod, 7:00 AM; no charge**

Right before they depart on their way to Africa, let's help ring some songbirds setting off on their winter wanderings, watch some swamp fowl hatching in the Lachish Stream, and enjoy a fascinating tour following the water fowl.

**Meeting point:** The eastern side of Lachish Park, along Sderot Herzl in Ashdod, behind the horse farm and the challenge park. **For more information:** [www.teva.org.il/birdsa](http://www.teva.org.il/birdsa)

#### **The Eagle's Travels**

**Succot Family trips; CODE: 70310955**

As winter comes, the eagles – large, impressive raptors – move towards Africa. We will hike through the Ben Shemen forest and watch the breathtaking sight as the eagles head out on their trip southwards after a night's sleep in the forest. **Private vehicles.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 45 NIS; Guests – 63 NIS

#### **A Researcher is Born – Reptiles in Nature**

**Succot Family trips; CODE: 90310922**

A magical world of reptiles and other animals hides among the Mediterranean plant growth. Along the paths of Canada Park we will carefully turn over rocks and search for signs testifying to their activities, while learning to identify reptiles and bugs. Led by reptile researcher Ilan Narinsky. **Private vehicles.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 60 NIS; Guests – 84 NIS

### **\*\* Sunday-Thursday, October 4-8, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009**

#### **A Succot of Nature Hikes**

**Succot Family trips; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 90410932**

Sponsored by the Shikmim, Alon Tabor and Hatzeva Field Schools – **only 20 NIS each for SPNI members!**

Throughout the week of chol hamoed Succot, a festival of events has been planned for you in the above-named Field Schools. Every day, a variety of short walks appropriate for families will take place leaving from each location:

In Shikmim, morning tours will head out to the sand dunes to enjoy the sycamore trees and golden dunes while following the trails of local wildlife; afternoon tours in Alon tabor will head towards the hilltops of Beit Keshet; and in Hatzeva, we will enjoy morning outings to watch the local Palestine babblers, hikes to the Shizaf Reserve, and to Nahal Paras and Nahal Tsafit, and sunset-moonlight tours along the marlstone rock-line trails. **Private vehicles.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 20 NIS; Guests – 40 NIS

### **Sunday, October 4, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009**

#### **Birds and Fowl in the Lachish Park**

**Lachish Park, Ashdod, 7:00 AM; no charge; appropriate for Sabbath observers**

Right before they depart on their way to Africa, let's help ring some songbirds setting off on their winter wanderings, watch some swamp fowl hatching in the Lachish Stream, and enjoy a fascinating tour following the water fowl.

**Meeting point:** The eastern side of Lachish Park, along Sderot Herzl in Ashdod, behind the horse farm and the challenge park. **For more information:** [www.teva.org.il/birdsa](http://www.teva.org.il/birdsa)

### **The Legend of the Red Tree**

**Succot Family trips; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 80410928**

Nature's greenery and refreshing mountain air accompany us on a magical trail along Nahal Katlav in the Jerusalem Hills. We will see the red-trunked Katlav (strawberry) trees and learn of the importance of nature protection in the Judean Hills. **Private vehicles.**

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

### **Monday, October 5, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009**

#### **A Feel for Nature**

**Succot family activity trip; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 90510956**

We will smell, feel, examine and listen to nature around us on a fun day of activities and projects in the Sharon Coastal Park abloom with color. We will pass through a number of 'activity stations' along the trail, slide down the sand dunes and enjoy a story hour amidst nature. **Private vehicles.**

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

#### **A Legendary Forest**

**Succot single-parent family trip; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 20510924**

A Galilean experience in the Bar'am Forest Reserve, amidst enormous oak trees and a one-of-a-kind view. We will examine up-close the area's unique trees and plants and follow the activities of local animal life. **Buses.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 141 NIS; Guests – 195 NIS

### **Sunday-Monday, October 4-5, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009**

#### **Under the Sky**

**A special event for Bar-Bat Mitzvah teens and their parents; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 70410992**

A youngster's Bar or Bat Mitzvah year is a special one filled with memories that last a lifetime. In order to add some special significance to this time of their lives, join us for an exciting two-day trip filled with challenges and adventures in the beautiful Galilee. We will hike along the cliff-filled Nahal Kadesh, and in the Biryia Forest, and hold a moving Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony in an ancient Galilean synagogue. We will try our hand at rappelling along the Dalton cliffs and spend the night sleeping in tents under the stars. **Private vehicles. Includes full board (camping and eating outdoors) from Sunday dinner.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 585 NIS; Guests – 819 NIS

### **Tuesday, October 6, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009**

#### **Bats in the Stream**

**Succot family trip; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 80610925**

The Me'Ara Stream (Nahal Me'ara) is one of the most beautiful places in the Judean Hills. We will visit the Teomim (twins) Cave at the top of the stream and see the bats that live there. We will learn some of the characteristics of the area's plant and wildlife and slide down a unique rock slide. **Private vehicles.**

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

#### **A Festive City**

**Urban tours; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 80610931**

Succot in the Old City of Jerusalem is a celebration of sounds and colors. We will walk among the Jewish Quarter's alleyways, take in some of the holiday atmosphere at the Western Wall, and learn about the customs of the holiday through the generations. **Self-arrival.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 42 NIS; Guests – 57 NIS

### Let's Head South – to the Arava

**Succot family trip; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 50610922**

We head southwards to the untamed landscapes of the land of Genesis. We will hike on the Hatzeva hill with its unique rocks of red sand, visit the Biblical site of Tamar where we will see vestiges of ancient communities, and see an ancient plum tree. We will travel along the 'Peace Road' along the border with Jordan, among agricultural fields and impressive water reservoirs. **Buses.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 150 NIS; Guests – 210 NIS

### Sunday-Tuesday, October 4-6, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009

#### Galilee's Most Beautiful

**Family vacation in the Mt. Meron Field School; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 70410991**

A festival of hikes and nature activities in the country's greenest area. The Mt. Meron Nature Reserve is filled with breathtaking views of the northern landscapes with the endless colors of the Fall season. We will connect to nature in the Bar'am Forest and atop Mt. Meron. We will also visit the Pa'ar Cave and the alleyways of the village of Peki'in. Nighttime activities will include a kumsitz and a movie – popcorn included! **Private vehicles. Includes room and full board at the Mt. Meron Field School.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 945 NIS; Children – 585 NIS

#### Relics and Hidden Treasures

**Family vacation in the Negev Mountain Field School; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 50410916**

From the remains of the ancient city of Shivta, along the trails surrounding the crater, to breathtaking geological specimens, the area around the Ramon Crater offers us a wide array of desert adventures. We will participate in a Treasure Hunt in addition to a variety of family adventures, as well as a nighttime kumsitz. We will visit a Bedouin village and learn about the Bedouin's fascinating lifestyle. **Private vehicles. Includes room and full board at the Har HaNegev Field School.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 945 NIS; Children – 585 NIS

### Monday-Tuesday, October 5-6, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009

#### Land of Craters

**For good hikers; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 50510920**

Two fascinating and challenging days among the big and small Ramon Craters. We will climb to the "Top of the Fin" and look down into the landscapes of the Big Craters; we will pass by the beautiful water cistern of Ein Yerak'am and descend via the Palmach Road. Dinner will be cooked over large metal casseroles ("Foikas") and we will sleep under the desert sky. The next morning begins early with a desert sunrise, as we descend into the Small Crater along the Eli Trail and Nahal Hatzera, continuing until Nahal Zin. **Buses. Includes dinner only.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 345 NIS; Guests – 483 NIS

### Wednesday, October 7, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009

#### Around the Crater

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

Enjoy an open terrain desert experience on the new bicycle path above the Ramon Crater. We will ride the section along the upper part of Nahal Zin, surrounded by breathtaking desert scenery and fascinating geological specimens. **Private vehicles.**

**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.**

### White Sands and a Green Submarine

**Succot family trip; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 30710955**

A unique experience combining a nature hike and children's activities in the Ashdod Museum's "Green Submarine." We will run, jump and roll down Ashdod's giant sand dune and participate in creative activities in the "Green Submarine" where we will watch 3D films and learn about the environment and the world of recycling, also making artwork from recycled materials. **Private vehicles. Includes entrance to the Monart Center, Ashdod Art Museum.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 66 NIS; Guests – 90 NIS

### Thursday, October 8, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009

#### Along the Mt. Heret Trail

**Succot family activity; appropriate for Sabbath observers; no charge, 9 AM**

This special hike is awash in green and will emphasize the need for preserving the Jerusalem Hills. We will take part in olive harvest and making oil as well as other activities among the olive orchards in the area. The event is co-sponsored by SPNI, JNF and the Coalition to Preserve the Jerusalem Hills.

**For further details and registration call:** 02-625-2357

#### Green and Challenging

**Succot family trip; for good hikers; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 80810926**

Along the lower channel of Nahal Og can be found dry waterfalls and high rock walls. Thorny caper bushes and a myriad of desert birds will accompany us along this challenging trail amidst the desert landscape. **Private vehicles.**

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

#### Waterfalls in the Desert

**Succot family trip; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 30710955**

A unique experience combining a nature hike and children's activities in the Ashdod Museum's "Green Submarine." We will run, jump and roll down Ashdod's giant sand dune and participate in creative activities in the "Green Submarine" where we will watch 3D films and learn about the environment and the world of recycling, also making artwork from recycled materials. **Private vehicles. Includes entrance to the Monart Center, Ashdod Art Museum.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 66 NIS; Guests – 90 NIS

### Tuesday-Thursday, October 6-8, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009

#### In Nature's Wilderness

**A challenging desert vacation; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 70610990**

Three days of challenging action in the Judean Desert where we will learn survival methods, climbing up dry waterfalls and enjoying much of the desert's peace and quiet. We will hike among the canyons of Nahal Og and Nahal Zohar, take dips in the pools in Nahal Arugot and enjoy a unique sunset hike among the marlstone rocks near Massada **Private vehicles. Includes room and board at the Ein Gedi Field School. For ages 6 and up.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 945 NIS; Guests – 585 NIS

### Wednesday-Thursday, October 7-8, Chol Hamoed Succot, 2009

#### All Tied Up

**A family rappelling workshop in the Galilee; appropriate for Sabbath observers; CODE: 70710993**

The wild landscapes of the Galilee serve as the perfect backdrop for an exciting rappelling adventure. We will study and experience the secrets of gliding down the Dalton cliffs with the green landscape of the Birya Forest in the background. We will sleep under the stars in Goren Park, rappel down from the Keshet Cave and crawl through the Tiger Cave. **Private vehicles. Includes sleeping and full board outdoors, equipment and professional rappelling teachers and training.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 585 NIS; Guests – 819 NIS

## Saturday, October 10, Simchat Torah, 2009

### The Galilee's Orange Side

**For good hikers; CODE: 71010908**

In addition to the many different landscapes one can enjoy in the Western Galilee, we can also find ancient remains and signs of hidden cities. We will visit some impressive graves along the edge of the abandoned village of Ikarit, as well as Hurbat Tzunan, an Byzantine archaeological site. We will hike along the beautiful streambed of Nahal Mishmesh to Nahal Srach and Ramat Admit, where we will enjoy an impressive view from atop the rainbow-shaped rock suspending atop the Rainbow Cave.

**Buses.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 147 NIS; Guests – 189 NIS

## Saturday, October 17, 2009

### Desert Solitude

**"Teva Date" – for ages 25-45, good hikers; CODE: 71710966**

Nahal Og in the northern Judean Desert offers us a unique and challenging trail, with high rock-hewn steps and cliffs reaching towards the Dead Sea landscapes and the mountains of Moab. We will learn about the fascinating phenomenon of desert asceticism and refresh ourselves in the cold waters of Ein Fuar in Wadi Kelt. **Buses.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 156 NIS; Guests – 219 NIS

### The Hidden Stream

**For good hikers; CODE: 71710937**

Hidden in the middle of the Jerusalem Hills is a beautiful, unfamiliar world – the Nahal Kfira Reserve. We will hike along the streambed, along whose shores are impressive rock cliffs, to the streams of Ein Nataf and Ein Kfira, descending into the Ayalon Valley. **Buses.**

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

### The Plain Has It All

**Family trip; CODE: 32609915**

Come join us on a trip to Hirbat Burjin in the Judean Plain. Amidst a landscape of curved hills, ancient water cisterns, remains of historic villages and burial caves, we will experience hidden tunnels from the days of the Second Temple and the Bar Kochba Revolt. **Private vehicles.**

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

### To the Heights of the Galilee

**Family trip; CODE: 21710957**

Surrounded by natural forests and breathtaking vistas, we will hike along Mount Shazur in the upper reaches of the Upper Galilee. We will visit a unique sculpture park with huge pieces of rock, and walk through the alleyways of the village of Peki'in. **Private vehicles.**

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

### Yellow and Blooming on the Golan

**For good hikers; CODE: 11710907**

The Fall covers the Golan Heights with an endless rainbow of foliage colors. We will hike through Hushaniya and Ramatanya, two abandoned Syrian villages, up to the Hazaka ridge where we will enjoy the rare sight of yellow crocuses in bloom. Amidst the Golan's impressive basalt landscapes we will also come upon wind turbines and water reservoirs. **Buses.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 156 NIS; Guests – 219 NIS

## Friday morning, October 23, 2009

### **Eco-Cinema Mini Festival**

**Appropriate for Sabbath observers; The Third Ear, Tel Aviv**

A mini-festival of ecology-environment films at The Third Ear's Tel Aviv screening room. Three films will be screened simultaneously and repeatedly (viewers will be able to see two full-length films):

Sharkwater (Canada, 2006), 92 mins.

The Age of Stupid (UK, 2008), 85 mins.

The Woman Who Planted Trees: The Vision of Wangari Maathai (USA, 2008), 80 mins.

All films are in English with Hebrew subtitles; in cooperation with Ecolnoa. **Self-arrival.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 30 NIS; Guests – 50 NIS

## Saturday, October 24, 2009

### **Crocuses in the Northern Negev**

**Family trips; CODE:** 52410979

Along the slopes of the Yerucham ridge is a unique desert trail following the large crocuses, one of the country's most beautiful flowers. We will continue to a breathtaking overlook and enjoy sand games in a site of colorful sands. **Private vehicles.**

**NOTE: Trip will take place even if flowers have not yet bloomed.**

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

### **High on the Carmel**

**Family trips; CODE:** 92410978

We will visit Hurbat Krach, a site with many historic remains, passing among water cisterns, burial caves and wine presses. We will hike along a trail among Mediterranean forests to the Muchraka Monastery, and enjoy scenic views of the north. **Private vehicles.**

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

### **Peeking through the Rocks**

**CODE:** 52410934

Ancient monuments, rock drawings and yellow crocuses peeking through the rocks. The Yerucham ridge offers us a unique desert trail in pursuit of the yellow crocus, one of the country's prettiest flowers. **Buses.**

**NOTE: Trip will take place even if flowers have not yet bloomed.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 159 NIS; Guests – 225 NIS

### **To the Mountain in the Land of the Desert**

**For good hikers; CODE:** 62410906

Now is the time to get to know some hidden corners of the desert. We will climb up Mt. Gezem and cross the Gobi Mountains that are set amidst breathtaking desert landscapes. Along the "Mt. Marpek gap" we will hike to Mt. Saharonim and the Nakrot horseshoe, one of the most beautiful natural sites in the Ramon Crater region. **Buses.**

**Cost:** SPNI members – 135 NIS; Guests – 189 NIS

## Sunday-Wednesday, October 25-28, 2009

### **Tour de 'Trom'**

**Fund-raising bike trek in the upper Galilee and Golan Heights for the children of ILAN/Ramat Gan; appropriate for Sabbath observers**

Join dozens of riders from Israel and abroad on this unique bike trek to raise money and consciousness for the thousands of disabled children who are members of the ILAN sports center in Ramat Gan. Riders will be able to select from several trails of varying levels of difficulty included in the overall 400 km route. SPNI is co-sponsoring this event.

SPNI members are invited to join the first or second day of the trek at reduced prices and of course participate in the entire event as a donation for the children of ILAN.

For additional information and to register visit [www.teva.org.il/tourdetrom](http://www.teva.org.il/tourdetrom) or call (03) 575-4444

