

Travel

Why is This Guide Different From All the Other Travel Guides?

The Jewish Traveler is a world-wide guide to Jewish communities and sights.

If you must know: where to get a pastrami sandwich in Hong Kong or Helsinki; the name of the first Jew to hitch his horse in Houston; or how to find the old Jewish neighborhoods of Bombay, the answers and much, much more are listed in *The Jewish Traveler*: Hadassah Magazine's Guide to the World's Jewish Communities and Sights (Jason Aronson Inc.) edited by Alan M. Tigay. Tigay is the executive editor of Hadassah Magazine, published by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.

Just why is this Jewish travel guide different from all others? For starters, *The Jewish Traveler* brings the sights, sounds and tastes of the Jewish world enticingly close to the reader's doorstep. All 100 chapters — from Amsterdam to Zurich with Brooklyn and Birobidjan in between — stress the unique character of each community. Included among the not-to-be-missed sights is the local flavor that enables travelers to bridge the distance between Jewish familiarity and the different lives they would live as Jews in other corners of the world. That is why in these 592 pages readers will

discover Jewish tango composers in Buenos Aires, flower arranging classes at Tokyo's Jewish community center, and the story of Luigi Luzzatti, who organized the gondoliers of Venice into a union and went on to become Italy's first Jewish prime minister.

Subheads like "Reading," "Side Trips," "Personality," "Culture" and "History," included in each chapter, distinguish *The Jewish Traveler* from other Yiddishkeit guides. For example, before traveling to Istanbul, two novels "The Light of Day" and "America, America," both set in this cosmopolitan center of Turkey, are part of a recommended reading list. Readers will come to know that in Tombstone, Arizona lies a Jewish cemetery adjacent to the notorious Boothill Graveyard, and while in Kenya they should say shalom to Charles Szlapak, the Jewish owner of The Fairview Hotel.

Equally enjoyable for both armchair and on-the-go travelers, *The Jewish Traveler*, can be found in bookstores or ordered directly from the publisher by calling 1-800-782-0015. Publisher price is \$30.

Israel Travel Update: Ancient Treasure Discovered Off Haifa Coast

A hoard of 4,000 ancient coins, weighing over 40 kilograms, has been discovered several yards off the Haifa shoreline. One of the largest and most valuable finds anywhere in the country, the discovery was made by a team of Antiquities Authorities underwater archaeologists.

The coins have an inscription with the date and place of minting, together with a picture of an eagle on one side, and the Greek emperor Talmi the Sixth portrayed on the reverse side. The coins, or "tetradrachma," minted on the Greek island of Paphos in 145 BCE, were each worth the equivalent of \$133. This calculation is based on the quarter of a tetradrachma per day paid to a soldier of that time.

Archaeologists believe that the money was being transported from Egypt on a boat which sank in a storm off the Haifa coast.

Pninat Hamidbar — Pearl of the Desert

A new attraction was recently inaugurated in Ein Bokek by the Dead Sea — a tourist center called Pninat Hamidbar. Shaped in the form of a shell, the building blends into the landscape of the area.

The complex houses in its lower level a screening room for audio visual presentation, where "The Desert Experience" will be screened. This presentation relates the history of the Dead Sea area and tells about its fauna and flora. On the same level is a



Tetradrachma found off Haifa shoreline.

laundry facility for tourists as well. In the central level are two restaurants, an ice cream parlor, a jewelry store, a spice store and a store that sells the Ahava cosmetic line of products based on the Dead Sea minerals. In the upper level is a dairy restaurant and a viewing balcony.

The complex was built at a cost of five million dollars invested by a South African/Australian group of investors.

Jerusalem's Independence Park To be Renovated

A major renovation is planned for Jerusalem's Independence Park, located in the heart of the city and in the vicinity of some major hotels. The plans drawn by the architect Shlomo Aaronson call for the construction of a 3,000 seat amphitheater, as well as new play areas, walkways, new landscaping and stone sculptures. In addition, there will be two artistic gates added at the entrances to the park from Nahalat Shiva and Agron Street.

The renovations are expected to be completed by the summer of 1995.

A Coffee Shop for All Kinds

Tel Aviv's *Cafe Nordau* claims to be the only place in Israel that will offer its clients two separate menus. One for regular visitors, and one for canine visitors. Chow for dogs comes in different varieties: for puppies, with high energy content or regular. Sometimes canine customers are treated to mushroom sauce as well. And best of all: dogs eat free.

New Tourism Site for Eilat

Minister of Tourism Uzi Baran was a guest of Eilat's Mayor Gabi Kadosh during the recent groundbreaking of a giant new project in Eilat, a new lagoon. This lagoon will in its initial stage add approximately 3,600 square feet of sandy beach front for Eilat vacationers.

Eilat, Israel's southern most resort town, by the Red Sea, expects some 165,000 tourists in the upcoming season. Eilat is the site of many festivals, including the Red Sea Jazz Festival, which attracts jazz performers from around the world and takes place in August this year.

ONE OF THESE BABIES WAS PAINTED AT THE FACTORY, THE OTHER AT BECK.



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