Excursion to Rosh Hanikra and Akko

Please bring sun-screen lotion and a hat for the excursion

The highlight of the social program is an excursion to the historical city of Akko and Rosh Hanikra on Tuesday, September 3rd. We will leave the Technion at 12:15 and will return to the hotel at around 20:30.

The first stop is Rosh Hanikra which is a geologic formation in Israel, located on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, in the Western Galilee. It is a white chalk cliff face which opens up into spectacular grottos.

The Rosh HaNikra grottos are cavernous tunnels formed by sea action on the soft chalk rock. The total length is some 200 metres. The walking path in the heart of the cliff exposes visitors to the grottoes. The grottoes were formed in the wake of underground shocks that ripped open gaps within the bedrock. Slowly, rainwater penetrated these rifts, forming tunnels and caves that continued to expand due to the waves that slammed against the rock.

They branch off in various directions with some interconnecting segments. In the past, the only access to them was from the sea and experienced divers were the only ones capable of visiting. Today the short cable car ride, which is the steepest in the world, takes visitors down for a fascinating encounter with the sea grottoes. The view from the cable car is breathtaking and that's just the start.

To read more about Rosh Hanikra, see the website: http://www.touristisrael.com/rosh-hanikra/2702/

The second attraction is a guided tour through the historical old town of Akko, which for centuries was a stronghold of the crusaders. Up to very recently, most of the archeological digging sites have been closed to the public. Now a major part of the old citadel has been opened, and many of the historical artefacts found in the dig are on exhibition there, many for the first time. Even regular visitors of Israel who have been to Akko before will find something new and unique here.

For pictures see the website http://www.akko.org.il/en/.

Please note that the excursion is being paid for by the conference. It is an opportunity to see some of Israel within the conference week.

Please let Ms. Yael Stern know in advance if you are planning to attend.