

Taking a scenic pause

While searching for overnight lodgings near Kfar Giladi, I unearthed a brand-new guesthouse in Moshav Sha'ar Yishuv. Called Pausa, it is billed as a Galilee gourmet inn and is the fulfillment of its owners' fantasies.

Avigdor and Einat Rothem wanted hills – so they hauled thousands of tons of soil to their nine dunams of flat, thorny land and made their own! The hills are covered with trees, plants and flowers, and they offer such a gorgeous view of the Hermon Mountains and the Golan Heights that you may be moved to meditate, stand on your head yoga-style or practice tai-chi. All are within the spirit of Pausa, which is meant to offer a break from the everyday rush.

Guests begin their stay with a cocktail get-together in the early evening, and can enjoy a

jacuzzi beneath the heavens at night. Gourmet dinners are purposely leisurely and somewhat ceremonial, giving guests the chance to socialize with each other and with their delightful hosts into the wee hours.

The inn's eight rooms are attractive, with interesting little touches, while two are decorated Japanese style. All include luxurious extras like robes and super-fluffy towels. Satellite TV, great showers, wireless computer connections and a mini-bar are a given. But you probably won't spend much time in your room, when you can be outside chatting and enjoying the unusual landscape.

For bed and breakfast at Pausa during the week you pay NIS 450 or NIS 600 depending on the room you ask for. On weekends your reservation includes two nights and at least one gourmet dinner.

– A.B.-A.

