

Tour: Israel and the West Bank with Lewis and Clark

Dates: Tuesday May 24 - Thursday June 2, 2022

Included:

- 9 nights' accommodation at the following or similar hotels (double occupancy): Arthur Jerusalem, Ginosar Galilee, Market House Jaffa
- 2 MEJDI-Trained Guides for 9 days (May 10-18)
- 8 days of private bus transportation
- Staggered airport arrival transfers per flight detail via van, bus, or taxi
- Meals listed in the itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 8 dinners
- Entrances, sites, and honoraria for speakers
- Audio headsets if group is 15 or above
- Water on bus daily
- Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff
- Dedicated pre-trip traveler services and on-ground support

Not included:

- International airfare
- Travel insurance - **Obligatory** (Cancel for Any Reason Policy Recommended)
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Individual airport transfers outside of the group transfer
- Single Supplement - \$1,245 (as available)
- Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

Tour Price: \$5,275 (per person, based on double occupancy)
\$500 deposit due at time of registration*

*There is a minimum number of travelers needed in order for the trip to run, if the minimum number is not met, deposits will be refunded.

Itinerary:

Day 0, May 9: Depart from United States

For travelers departing from the US, you will need to depart the day before the tour start date.

Day 1, Tues May 24: Arrival, Intro to Dual Narrative™

Arrive to Ben Gurion Tel Aviv Airport and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner of Mediterranean fusion at Focaccia Bar with your Israeli and Palestinian guides, who will introduce MEJDI's exciting Dual Narrative™ approach.

Meals Included: Dinner

Accommodations: [Arthur Hotel](#) / Jerusalem

Day 2, Wed May 25: Old City and Yad Vashem

In the morning, begin your dual narrative tour with an early morning visit to the Dome of the Rock, al Aqsa Mosque/Temple Mount, and the Western Wall. There, we learn Islamic and Jewish traditions about the area, as well as local legends and stories. Then we head to Yad Vashem to learn about the history of the holocaust and its impact on the Jewish community and Israel today. After included cafe-style lunch with various options at Yad Vashem, we return to the Old City to visit Christian holy sites, walking part of the Via Dolorosa towards the Holy Sepulcher, where you will learn about the ancient church, its history of disputes and ownership claims, and the modern Christian community in Jerusalem. For dinner, we'll visit with Rabbi Joshua Weisman for a home cooked meal at his house.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: [Arthur Hotel](#) / Jerusalem

Day 3, Thurs May 26: Israel Museum, Ein Kerem

On Friday, begin the day at the Israel Museum, where you will see a model of Jerusalem's Old City 2000 years ago. Explore the Dead Sea Scrolls and see some of the best-preserved archaeological artifacts from local dig sites. Then we head to Ein Karem, the village traditionally believed to be John the Baptist's home. After an included Israeli-style lunch at Karma restaurant, we will discuss both ancient and modern history of the area. In the afternoon, hear stories of cooperation efforts for peace from Palestinian and Israeli peacemakers. Finally, head to Bethany for a traditional home-cooked meal of Maqloubeh with a local Palestinian family, and traditional songs from a joint Palestinian-Israeli musical group.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: [Arthur Hotel](#) / Jerusalem

Day 4, Fri May 27: Bethlehem and Settlements

In the morning, head toward one of the settlements in the region, to meet with a representative of the Jewish settlement movement and hear their perspective. Then travel to Bethlehem, see the colorful and controversial graffiti on the Separation barrier, and visit the Banksy Museum. Meet with a local pastor/community leader over lunch of kebab with mezze at the Bedouin-style Tent Restaurant. Then visit the Church of the Nativity, Manger Square, and the old city of Bethlehem before an open evening to explore bustling Ben Yehuda Street and its many cafes and restaurants. Dinner on own this evening.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: [Arthur Hotel](#) / Jerusalem

Day 5, Sat May 28: Masada, Dead Sea, Jordan River

Sunday is a full day, so be sure to be ready early. After checkout, drive to the fortress of Masada: built by Herod the Great as a refuge, the site was later used by rebels during the Jewish Revolt, and became an Israeli national symbol and site for military ceremonies. Afterwards, learn about the Dead Sea Valley environmental challenges, enjoy free time to float on the Dead Sea, and a simple buffet lunch. Then, head north towards Tiberias. Make a brief stop at the Jordan River to discuss the Jewish and Christian religious history of the area. Spend the night in the Galilee, with buffet-style dinner at Kibbutz Maagan.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: [Ma'agan Eden](#) / Galilee

Day 6, Sun May 29: Sea of Galilee and Upper Galilee

Start the day by heading to Capernaum, known as “the town of Jesus,” then continue to the Mount of Beatitudes the site traditionally believed to be where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. Continue to Safed / Tzfat where we meet with an expert about Kabbalah and mysticism in Judaism. Lunch is on own in Tzfat, with nearby options including Tunisian food, shawarma, falafel, and more. Then visit Banias and enjoy a short hike towards the waterfall. Banias was once a Syrian village, so your guides will discuss Syrian-Israeli relations and current affairs in Syria. Return for dinner at Kibbutz Maagan.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations: [Ma'agan Eden](#) / Galilee

Day 7, Mon, May 30: Nazareth, Druze

Head to Nazareth, visit the Christian Basilica of the Annunciation and meet with Arab-Jewish youngsters part of a dialogue program with Hands of Peace. For lunch we head to the highest elevated village in Israel, a Druze village to hear about their unique culture and religion, and to enjoy their cuisine, including distinctive sandwiches made with

a crepe-thin large pita, lebenah, olive oil, and zaatar. Afterwards, on the way to the kibbutz, stop for a wine tasting before heading back for dinner.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: [Ma'agan Eden](#)/ Galilee

Day 8, Tues, May 31: Caesarea and Tel Aviv

On day 8, head to the Mediterranean Coast, making a stop at the beautiful Herodian seaside port of Caesarea to learn about the Jewish, Christian, and Bosnian Muslim history of this Mediterranean city. Enjoy free time to explore the cafes and seaside attractions on your own in Caesarea, and then continue south to Jaffa and Tel Aviv. Visit Rabin Square and learn about his impact on Israel, and his assassination. Dinner is at Dr. Shakshuka, a local Jaffa restaurant famous for its namesake dish.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations: [Market House](#) / Jaffa, Tel Aviv

Day 9, Wed, June 1: Jaffa and Tel Aviv

Spend the final full day of your tour in Jaffa and Tel Aviv. There, learn the dual histories of the Arab and Jewish city, including an explanation of the birth of Tel Aviv and the Zionist movement and the struggles of life in Arab Jaffa. Visit a kindergarten run by an Sufi Imam and his Jewish wife. Enjoy free time to explore Tel Aviv's many cafes, shops, and theaters. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner with your fellow travelers and guides at one of the area's fresh Mediterranean seafood restaurants.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations: [Market House](#) / Jaffa, Tel Aviv

Day 10, Thu, June 2: Departure

Check out of your hotel and transfer on own to the airport. Departure transfers can be arranged directly with the hotel.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner