



Bellevue



MEJDI TOURS

Seeking Peace and Justice in the Holy Land

Tour: Bellevue Presbyterian Church, University Presbyterian Church, and Churches for Middle East Peace

Dates: Apr 25 - May 2, 2020

Included: 7 nights' accommodation (double occupancy) at hotels listed in itinerary, or similar as necessary
1 MEJDI-Trained Guide for 5 days
2 MEJDI-Trained Guides for 3 days
8 days of private group transportation, including 1 group arrival and 1 group departure airport transfers
Meals listed in the itinerary (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner): 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 6 dinners
Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers
Audio headsets on touring days
Water on bus throughout tour
Customary tips for drivers, guides, hotel and wait staff
Custom tour webpage with online registration, payment, processing
Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support

Not included: International airfare
Travel insurance-**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**
Single Supplement-\$590 (as available)
Meals not included in the itinerary
Transportation outside of group itinerary
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

Main Trip Pricing
30-34 Paying Participants: \$2,469 per participant
25-29 Paying Participants: \$2,572 per participant
20-24 Paying Participants: \$2,719 per participant



Itinerary

Day 1 – Sat, Apr 25, 2020: Arrival

Arrive at Ben Gurion airport and transfer to Jerusalem for check-in and a welcome dinner with Kyle Cristofalo, CMEP's Director of Advocacy and Government Engagement and MEJDI Tour Guide.

Hotel: Golden Walls Hotel, Jerusalem [Dinner included]

Day 2 – Sun, Apr 26 – Worship in Aboud and Visiting the West Bank

This morning worship with the Palestinian Christian community in Aboud; attend Evangelical, Catholic and Orthodox services. Spend time with Father Ibrahim at the Catholic Church for a briefing. Lunch with Abuna Immanuel at the Orthodox Church in Aboud. Afternoon visit the Palestinian activist community of Nabi Saleh, joined by a speaker as available. Return to Jerusalem for dinner at the hotel.

Hotel: Golden Walls Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]

Day 3 – Mon, Apr 27 – Jerusalem in Conflict

Begin the morning with an overview of Jerusalem's religious history from the Temple Mount. Then, take a full day alternative tour of the Old City's Jewish, Christian, and Muslim holy sites with two guides, one Palestinian and one Jewish. Visits include the Western Wall and Jewish Quarter; touring the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and discussing the many conflicts over the site. Other Old City sites include St. Anne's church where Jesus healed the man who had been lame at the Pool of Bethesda and Ecce Homo, at the beginning of the path of the Via Dolorosa. The afternoon will be spent traversing the Mount of Olives where Jesus had his triumphal entry into Jerusalem and will include Holy Sites such as Dominus Favit (where Jesus wept) and the Garden of Gethsemane. Finally, enjoy a dinner celebration with the family of Aziz Abu Sarah in the Palestinian town of Al Lazarea.

Hotel: Golden Walls Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]



Day 4 – Tue Apr 28 – Jerusalem, Israeli Narrative

With a Jewish and Palestinian guide, explore Jerusalem’s political history from an Israeli perspective. Pay a sobering visit to Yad Vashem, the Israeli Holocaust Museum. Have lunch with a renowned Israeli expert on Jerusalem, Danny Seidemann. And have an afternoon driving/walking tour of Jerusalem with Jeff Halper of the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions (ICAHD). Finally, enjoy an optional trip to see the bustling nightlife of Ben Yehuda Street in West Jerusalem and have dinner on own.

Hotel: Golden Walls Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast and Lunch included]

Day 5 – Wed, Apr 29 – Hebron

Start the day with a devotional at the Garden Tomb led by the group’s pastors. Then, cross back into the West Bank and travel to Hebron, to tour the Old City of and the Cave of the Patriarchs. The Ibrahimi Mosque and Synagogue is the burial site of the Patriarch Abraham. Have a light lunch in the city and shop among the souk (local market) in Hebron. In the afternoon, visit with the Palestinian peace activist and learn about their efforts as a part of Youth Against Settlements.

Hotel: Jacir Palace Hotel or Homestay (select at registration), Bethlehem [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]

Day 6 – Thr, Apr 30 – Bethlehem, Palestinian Christian Perspective

Begin the day in Bethlehem with a tour of the Church of the Nativity. Walk the Separation Wall. Have a midmorning visit with a leader at Efrat settlement. Head to the Tent of Nations for lunch, a home cooked meal prepared by the Palestinian Christian Nasser Family and to learn more about their ministry and engagement in peacemaking. Afternoon meet with a Palestinian Christian of Holy Land Trust in the Old City of Bethlehem to further discuss realities and challenges of holistic peace in the land. Savor fresh local cuisine at the Bedouin Tent Restaurant for dinner.

Hotel: Jacir Palace Hotel or Homestay (select at registration), Bethlehem [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]



Day 7 – Fri, May 1 – Compassion & Peace

Morning at Joy School for children with disabilities in Beit Sahour. Drive to Nablus and have lunch there in the heart of the city. Meet with student activists in Nablus to learn about Palestinian efforts toward a just peace. In the afternoon, have a visit at the church and take a drink of water from the well there dating back to the time of Jacob. Stop by Rafidia for the Palestinian traditional desert of Knaffeh. Drive to Tiberias for overnight in Jewish kibbutz.

Hotel: Ohalo Manor Kibbutz Hotel [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]

Day 8 – Sat, May 2 - Sea of Galilee and Tiberius

Spend the day in reflection and community among the Holy Sites around the Sea of Galilee. Explore Capernaum, home of Peter and site of Jesus' ministry, the Primacy of St. Peter in Tabgha and enjoy a hilltop prayer in the gardens at the Mount of Beatitudes. Take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee where Jesus walked on water and called for Peter to do the same. Consider renewing your baptismal vows in the Jordan River and enjoy a late and leisurely lunch of St. Peter's fish or another local delicacy as a celebratory departure meal.

Departures to the Airport (Flights must depart *no earlier* than 11:00 pm)

[Breakfast and Lunch included]