



# MEJDI TOURS

## INTERFAITH PEACE PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND FEBRUARY 19-March 2, 2023

### Itinerary:

#### Day 0: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 *(Not Included in Package)*

Depart Kansas City (or your city of origin) travel to Israel (Ben Gurion Airport).

#### Day 1: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Tour begins at 12:00 noon from the lobby of the Artist Hotel, Tel Aviv.
- Lunch in Jaffa's **Hapishpeshim Market**
- Walking tour of **Jaffa**: history from Biblical times through modernity and how it has become an incubator for coexistence.
- Visit the **Tabeetha School** and **Physicians for Human Rights** – Israel Clinic
- Innovative text study of Israel's Declaration of Independence with **BINA**: The Jewish Movement for Social Change
- Dinner in one of Tel Aviv's amazing restaurants

Overnight: Artist Hotel, Tel Aviv (Dinner Included)

#### Day 2: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Check out of hotel after breakfast
- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Depart for **Gaza Border** and meet with local residents, including **Roni Keidar of Other Voice**
- Contribute tiles to the **Path of Peace Wall**
- Travel to **Lod/Ramle** and meet with **Hadar Raphaeli**, One Israeli Perspective
- Dinner in **Ramle**, Kansas City's Sister City, at the **Keshatot 360 Young Leadership Center** and learn about the diverse population of this wonderful "mixed" city<sup>1</sup>
- Ascend to Jerusalem

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast included)

#### Day 3: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Travel to the **Old City** and ascend the **Temple Mount/Al-Haram al-Sharif** and tour the precinct. An **Imam** will explain the importance of the site to Muslims.

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<sup>1</sup> Dinner and activity costs not included. Logistics/arrangements will be made by Mejdi together with Alan

- Tour the **Davidson Center's Archeological Park** with artifacts from the First and Second Jewish Temples, the Byzantine Muslim period, the Crusades period. Learn about the current state of affairs to create an egalitarian section at the **Kotel (Western Wall)**.
- Lunch and time for individual prayer at the Kotel, mosque, and/or church.
- Visit **Mount Zion**, holy to Christians, Jews and Muslims because of its association with both King David's tomb and the Last Supper, with a representative of the **Jerusalem Intercultural Center**.
- Dinner at **YMCA** and meet with members of the **Parents Circle**.

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)

#### Day 4: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Visit **Yad Vashem**, Israel's National Holocaust Museum and Memorial, including a special tour of the campus grounds: The Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations (dedicated to those who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust), Hall of Names, Hall of Remembrance, Children's Memorial, Valley of Communities, Cattle Car Memorial, Warsaw Ghetto Square Wall of Remembrance.
- Visit **Ein Kerem**, birthplace of John the Baptist and the location of Mary's Well. Hear the competing narratives about the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the displacement of the native Palestinian population.
- Lunch and personal prayers at **Mary's Well**
- Optional tour of **Museum on the Seam**, a socio-political contemporary art museum
- Dinner on own in **Mahaneh Yehudah Market**

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast included)

#### Day 5: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Meet **Daniel Roth**, Orthodox Jewish Peacemaker from a West Bank settlement, who is involved in the Abrahamic Reunion movement
- Visit the **tomb of the Matriarch Rachel**
- Continue into the West Bank to **Hebron's Old Town**. Muslim participants will prayer at the **Ibrahimi Mosque**.
- Walk down **Shuahada Street** and the **Women in Hebron Cooperative Shop**.
- Visit the **Cave of the Patriarchs**.
- **Lunch with a Palestinian family**
- Return to Jerusalem. Jewish participants (and others interested) attend Welcoming the **Shabbat services**
- **Dinner at Hebrew Union College Beit Shmuel**

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)

#### Day 6: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Leave the hotel early for a day at **Masada, Dead Sea** and the **Jericho** Area. Christians will have the opportunity to be baptized in the Jordan River, at the site of Jesus' baptism by Matthew. In the Jewish tradition, the location where Joshua led the Israelites into the Land of Israel.

- (Some may wish to remain in Jerusalem for Shabbat worship in one of many synagogues in the city. A number of museums are also open in the afternoon.)
- Return to Jerusalem and grab a quick bite in one of Jerusalem's downtown restaurants
- Experience the underground **Burnstein Basement Klezmer** show (Havdallah, music, humor and delicious kugel) in an ultra-Orthodox neighborhood.

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Lunch included)

### Day 7: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Worship at the **Lutheran Church of the Redeemer** English-speaking congregation in the Old City
- Visit the **Terra Sancta Museum**, focused on roots and historical presence of Christianity in the Holy Land Muslim participants will have the opportunity to pray at an Old City mosque.
- Visit the Garden of **Gethsemane**, Walk the Christian "**Stations of the Cross**" along the **Via Dolorosa** and visit the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**.
- Weave through the shops and alleyways of the **Arab Shuk/Market** in the Old City and bargain for souvenirs
- See the historical photos in the storefront of Elia, a legendary **Armenian photography shop**.
- Leave the Old City and visit the **Ma'aleh Film School**, which creates films that deal with the Israeli society
- Dinner on own in one of Jerusalem's unique restaurants

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast included)

### Day 8: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Travel south to the **Tent of Nations** and Dahers' Vineyard, where the Nassar family seeks to bring people from all over the world together to build bridges of understanding.
- Tour the **Aida Refugee Camp**
- Meet **Dr. Victor Makari** in Bethlehem, who will lead the group on a visit to **Manger Square** and **Nativity Church**
- Continue to **Shepherd's Field**
- Have **lunch at Afteem's** near Manger Square.
- Time for personal prayers.
- Return to Jerusalem and have dinner on own in one of Jerusalem's unique restaurants

Overnight: Arthur Boutique Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Lunch Included)

### Day 9: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Check out of hotel after breakfast
- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Travel to **Neve Shalom-Wahat al-Salaam**, an international cooperative village of Jews and Palestinian-Arab citizens of Israel committed to peace. Participate in prayers for peace in the Pluralistic Spiritual Center.
- Lunch at Neve Shalom-Wahat al-Salaam.
- Travel north to **Nazareth**, where we will visit the **Basilica of the Annunciation** and the **White Mosque**

- Check into our hotel, where we will also enjoy dinner.

Overnight: Legacy Hotel, Nazareth (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Included)

### Day 10: WEDNESDAY, March 1 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Meet interfaith peace activist **Sheikh Abed Alsalam Manasra**, ordained in the Qadiri Sufi Order of Peace.
- Pass through the village of **Kfar Kanna** and continue to **Magdala** along the **Sea of Galilee**.
- **Lunch** on own at **Magdalena** in Migdal.
- Begin the afternoon at the **Mount of Beatitudes**, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount
- Learn about the New Testament holy sites of **Capernaum** and **Tabgha**.
- **Zippori/Sepphoris**, if possible.
- Return to Nazareth for dinner

Overnight: Legacy Hotel, Nazareth (Breakfast and Dinner Included)

### Day 11: THURSDAY, March 2 (Bus, 2 Guides)

- Check out of hotel after breakfast
- Begin day with morning inspiration led by a group participant
- Travel to **Haifa**, cultural mosaic of Jews and Arabs, veteran and newcomers, Eastern and Western influences
- Visit the **Beit HaGefen** Center and explore Haifa's origins as a diverse, cosmopolitan and tolerant city
- Visit the **Museum Without Walls** in the **Wadi Nisnas** neighborhood
- Visit the **Baha'i Gardens**, **Stella Maris Church**, **German Colony** and **Ahmadi mosque**
- Lunch in a **Druze village**
- Travel to the Herodian port city of **Caesarea** and experience the Roman theater and hippodrome as well as learn about the area's Crusade history and old Bosnian Muslim community that lived there.
- Final group processing session at the Caesarea Port
- Enjoy a celebratory feast at the home of **Tova Wald**, founder of Tova Wald Boutique Travel and Events
- Depart for Ben Gurion Airport for our flight(s) back to the US. (Travelers staying will be transferred to their Tel Aviv hotel).

(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Included)