



MEJDI TOURS



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
OF ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

A Place to Connect, Grow and Serve



## Itinerary:

### Day 1: Saturday, Oct 5: Arrival

- Arrive at Ben Gurion airport, meet your driver and transfer to Jerusalem for check-in. Group transfer time TBD (more information will be provided upon tour confirmation).
- Have a group welcome dinner at your hotel

*Hotel: Holy Land Hotel, Jerusalem (Dinner included)*

### Day 2: Sunday, Oct 6: Jerusalem Narratives

- Meet your guides for a short orientation
- Begin the morning with an overview of Jerusalem's religious history from the **Mount of Olives**
- Take an alternative tour of the **Old City's** Jewish, Christian, and Muslim holy sites with your two guides, one Arab and one Jewish. Visit the hotly contested Temple Mount / Haram al Sharif, to see the **Dome of the Rock and al-Aqsa Mosque**. Meet with a **local imam** for a discussion on Islam and the politics of the site, and then explore the Muslim Quarter
- Next, visit the **Western Wall** and Jewish Quarter
- Tour the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher** to learn its history and its fragile ecumenical peace
- Continue to **Ein Karem** for a walking tour to learn the different narratives about Zionism and the War of 1948.
- Over dinner meet with **Rabbi Daniel Roth**

*Hotel: Holy Land Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

### Day 3: Monday, Oct 7: Geopolitical Jerusalem and Settlements

- Begin the morning with a **Geopolitical tour of Jerusalem**; gain an understanding of ABC areas, where the wall passes, and complex categories of citizenship and residency.
- Meet with the **Yesha Council**, a settlement in Samaria/West Bank, and meet with local residents to hear their stories and goals.
- Drive up to the Galilee for the night

- Evening Group Debrief

*Hotel: Mt of Beatitudes Guesthouse (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 4: Tuesday, Oct 8: Tiberias and Nazareth**

- Begin the day with a **Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee**, and tour of **Capernaum**, central location of Gospel narratives on Jesus' ministry.
- Continue to **Nazareth** for a tour of the area. While in the north, also meet with **Fr. Elias Chacour** as available prior to trip to Taybeh.

*Hotel: Golden hotel, Taybeh (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 5: Wednesday, Oct 9: Ramallah**

- Tour the city of **Ramallah** and meet with various speakers and local politicians.
- Also visit the nearby village or **Nabi Saleh** and share a meal with a member of a Palestinian family.

*Hotel: Golden hotel, Taybeh (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 6: Thursday, Oct 10: West Bank**

- Visit **Khan el Ahmar** (if still standing at time of trip)
- Drive to **Bethlehem** and tour the city. Visit **Aida Refugee camp**, **Church of the Nativity**, **Manger Square**, and the old city of Bethlehem. See the graffiti on the **Separation Wall**, and visit the **Banksy Museum**
- End the day splitting to your home-stays in Bethlehem

*Hotel: Home Stays, Bethlehem (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 7: Friday, Oct 11: Bethlehem and Hebron**

- Begin the day with a tour of Hebron, including meeting with a speaker from local human rights agency, as available: May be from Ecumenical Accompaniment Program (**EAPPI**), **B'tselem**, **Christian Peacemaker Team**, **Breaking the Silence**, or Ayed Abu Eqtaish- **DCI Hebron**.
- Later meet with a Palestinian activist before heading to the **Tent of Nations** to hear their unique story
- Evening Group Debrief

*Hotel: Home Stays, Bethlehem (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 8: Saturday, Oct 12: Jordan Valley and Masada**

- Make your way down south through the Jordan Valley stopping at the **Baptismal site in the Jordan River** to discuss the Jewish and Christian religious history of the area
- Continue south 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
- Afterward, learn about the Dead Sea Valley environmental challenges, and enjoy free time to float in the **Dead Sea**
- End the day splitting to your home-stays in Bethlehem

*Hotel: Home Stays, Bethlehem (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 9: Sunday, Oct 13: Jewish Narrative**

- Explore Jerusalem's political history from an Israeli perspective. Pay a sobering visit to **Yad Vashem**, the Israeli Holocaust Museum (guided tour)
- Learn about Israel's wars and leaders through a tour at **Mt. Herzl**
- Visit **Machne Yehuda Shuk** (market) and enjoy a free afternoon
- Over Dinner meet with representatives of the **Parents Circle Family Forum**

*Hotel: Holy Land, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 10: Monday, Oct 14**

- Make your way to **Neve Shalom Wahat al Salaam (Oasis of Peace)** and get acquainted with the Jewish/Arab cooperative village, its history, and ideology. Have a discussion with a village member and guided tour of the village.
- Group final facilitation time
- Afternoon free for shopping / self touring in Jerusalem
- Enjoy a **Farewell dinner** with your group and guides. including Evening Group Debrief

*Hotel: Holy Land, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 11: Tuesday, Oct 15: Departure**

- Depart to the airport for your flight back home. Group transfer time TBD (more information will be provided upon tour confirmation).

*(Breakfast included)*