



# MEJDI TOURS

## Itinerary

### National Council of Churches Tour of Israel and Palestine

February 21 - March 1, 2019

#### **Day 0: Thursday, Feb 21, Departure to Amman**

#### **Day 1: Friday, Feb 22, Arrival (Jordanian Guide)**

Arrive in Jordan and transfer as a group to your hotel.

This evening, enjoy a Welcome Dinner and Orientation Conversations.

*Hotel: Al Fanar Palace, Amman (Dinner included)*

#### **Day 2: Saturday, Feb 23, Orientation (Jordanian Guide)**

Spend the day becoming oriented to each other and the purposes of the trip. Prepare for those you will meet and places you will visit in Israel and Palestine.

In the afternoon, travel to Palestine via the Allenby Border (with VIP service).

*Hotel: Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 3: Sunday, Feb 24, Aboud and Jerusalem (Palestinian Guide)**

Begin your day in Worship in Aboud (at Greek Orthodox Church with Abuna Immanuel).

Have Lunch in Aboud with Orthodox Church Leaders such as Abuna Immanuel and Bishop

Atallah of Zebabdee. That afternoon, drive back to Jerusalem for a time of fellowship and connection between Church Leaders. That Evening, join a dinner reception with Archbishop

Theopholis III and other Ecumenical Leaders of the Holy Land.

*Hotel: Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*

#### **Day 4: Monday, Feb 25, Jerusalem (Israeli and Palestinian Guide)**

Start your morning with a tour of the Temple Mount, the Old City of Jerusalem, and the Mt. of Olives. Including the holy sites of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Via Dolorosa, and St.

Anne's and the Pool of Bethesda. Including a meal and discussion with Jewish Jerusalem Expert Danny Seidemann and a briefing on the city of Jerusalem.

*Hotel: Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*

**Day 5 - Tuesday, February 26, Hebron and Bethlehem (Israeli and Palestinian Guide)**

Travel to visit Hebron and the Ibrahimi Mosque. Meet with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program - EAPPI. Have a quick lunch and then travel to Bethlehem to see the separation barrier and realities affecting the Bethlehem community. Visit the Church of the Nativity.

That evening Visit to the Tent of Nations and Daoud Nasser for dinner. You'll need to walk about a half a mile on a gravel road to get to the Tent of Nations from where the bus can park.

*Hotel: Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*

**Day 6: Wednesday, Feb 27, Palestinian Narrative (Palestinian Guide)**

Start the day with government meetings with President Abbas and others in Ramallah. Visit the Yaser Arafat Museum. That afternoon, visit Nabi Saleh and learn about the heart of Palestinian nonviolent resistance.

*Hotel: Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*

**Day 7: Thursday, Feb 28, Jewish Narrative (Israeli Guide)**

Have a morning briefing with Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) near the Old City of Jerusalem. (Schedule for 90 minutes.) Afterwards, take a private tour of Yad Vashem. Meet with Sahar Vardi, an Israeli Peace Activist, to discuss the role of the Holocaust in Israeli discourse and militarization within Israeli society. That afternoon, join a conversation with the Shalom Hartman Institute and have dinner with Daniel Roth for a discussion on Scriptural reasoning.

*Hotel: Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*

**Day 8: Friday, March 1, The Role of the United States and Foreign Governments (Palestinian Guide)**

Begin your day with a meeting with Consul General, the Highest Ranking Official working with the Palestinian Authority. Then, meet with the office of Ambassador Friedman, U.S. Ambassador to Israel. In the afternoon, there will be time for discussion and debrief at the hotel. Enjoy a final evening closing dinner at a nice restaurant in Jerusalem.

Evening - Depart and return to South Africa and/or the United States.

*(Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included)*