



# MEJDI TOURS

- Tour:** Rodfei Shalom (Pursuers of Peace) Tour of Israel and the West Bank
- Dates:** February 18-27, 2020
- Included:** 9 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar <sup>1</sup>(double occupancy): Harmony Hotel (Jerusalem), Golden Hotel (Taybeh), Market House Hotel (Jaffa)  
1 Israeli MEJDI-Trained Guide for 9 days  
1 Palestinian MEJDI-Trained Guide for 8 days  
8 days of private bus transportation, including 1 group departure airport transfer  
Meals listed in the itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners  
Bottled Water available on the bus daily  
Personal Headsets for daily use  
Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers  
Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff (including portorage)  
Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support
- Not included:** International airfare  
Travel insurance-**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
Meals not mentioned in the itinerary  
Single Supplement - \$780 USD Per person  
Optional Pre trip extension - \$425 USD Per person (minimum 10 travelers)  
Individual / Group airport transfers outside of the included transfers  
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section
- Pricing:** 20 - 25 Paying participants - \$3,110 USD Per person  
15 - 19 Paying participants - \$3,500 USD Per person

---

<sup>1</sup> Subject to confirmation based on availability

## GENERAL TOUR ITINERARY

### Day 1, Tuesday, February 18, 2020: Arrival

- Arrive into Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport and transfer on your own to the hotel in Jerusalem.
- Meet Rabbi Elkin along with your fellow travelers at a welcome orientation at the hotel.

*Hotel: Harmony Hotel, Jerusalem (Dinner included)*

### Day 2, Wednesday, February 19, 2020: A Four Quarter Religion, History, and Art Tour of the Old City of Jerusalem

- Meet your Israeli and Palestinian Guides at the hotel lobby.
- Enter the Old City through the Dung Gate and visit the Kotel (Western Wall) plaza and learn about the current state of affairs to create an egalitarian section.
- Ascend to the Temple Mount/Al-Haram al-Sharif and tour the precinct.
- Visit Jerusalem's oldest synagogue, the Karaite Synagogue, which dates back to the time of Caliph Omar, circa 637 CE. Learn how Karaite Jews have been dedicated to the observance of the original written Torah by its "peshat" or face-value meaning in contrast to mainstream Judaism that followed rabbinic law.
- Have free time for lunch on your own in the Jewish Quarter.
- Learn about the Christian "Stations of the Cross" along the Via Dolorosa and the incense-filled halls of the Holy Sepulchre Church, the place identified as both the site of the crucifixion and the tomb of Jesus.
- Weave through the shops and alleyways of the Arab *shuk* (market) in the Old City, where you can practice your haggling skills.
- See the historical photos in Elia photography, a legendary Armenian family owned photography shop that began using photography to document the history of the Old City of Jerusalem in 1924.
- Visit the Sandrouni Armenian Ceramics Showroom and meet George Sandrouni.
- Meet Wissam Razzouk at Razzouk Ink, a 700-year-old Christian family owned tattoo parlor that catered to Coptic Christian pilgrims. He has centuries of family stories to tell including his own recent involvement in "Healing Ink," which uses tattooing to help Israeli victims of terrorism and war overcome trauma.
- Leave the Old City, have a 1-on-1 session with members of the Jerusalem Youth Chorus involving discussion, singing, storytelling and more. The Jerusalem Youth Chorus is a choral and dialogue program for Israeli and Palestinian high school students in Jerusalem.

*Hotel: Harmony Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast included]*

### Day 3, Thursday, February 20, 2020: Art and Activism along Jerusalem's Seam Line

- Begin the day outside of City Hall with an orientation to the Musrara neighborhood along the Seam Line physically dividing Jerusalem from 1948-1967 and tacitly remaining a buffer between East and West Jerusalem since then. While Musrara is a model of successful neighborhood renewal, it still preserves memories of difficult absorption processes, discrimination, and the first authentic Israeli protest movement, "the Black Panthers."

- Have the opportunity for some shopping for a good cause at Yad LaKashish/Lifeline for the Old.
- Visit the Ma'aleh Film School and screen 2-3 short films produced by their graduates, meet with one of the filmmakers. Ma'aleh films primarily deal with the Israeli experience, Jewish identity and Israeli society and culture. The meeting with the filmmaker encourages broad discussion about the film, the behind the scenes story and reasons for its creation.
- Have lunch together.
- Then visit the Musrara - The Naggar School of Art in the heart of the Musrara neighborhood and see the school's three galleries beginning with its social gallery followed by two others in the school's main building.
- Meet a Mizrahi rights advocate from the Israeli Black Panthers.
- End the day by meeting with a speaker.

*Hotel: Harmony Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast and Lunch included]*

**Day 4, Friday, February 21, 2020: East Jerusalem**

- Tour the "City of David" archaeological site using a critical analytical approach.
- Then get to see the community of Silwan that surrounds the City of David from the perspective of Palestinian residents and Israeli settlers that have moved into the neighborhood.
- Return to the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- Join Maayanot for Shabbat services and dinner at host families.

*Hotel: Harmony Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]*

**Day 5, Saturday, February 22, 2020: Free Day with Options (1 guide only, No bus)**

- Have breakfast at the hotel.
- Enjoy the remainder of the day free to relax, celebrate Shabbat, or see more sites in Jerusalem or beyond.
- Regroup in the late afternoon to make Havdallah together.
- Have a group dinner.
- Hear from two peacemakers, one Israeli and one Palestinian, from the Parents Circle/Families Forum. Both speakers lost close family members in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

*Hotel: Harmony Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast and Dinner included]*

**Day 6, Sunday, February 23, 2020: Southern West Bank**

- Travel to Bethlehem.
- Tour the separation barrier up close and discuss both its impact on Israelis and Palestinians and the images you see painted on the wall.
- Visit the Walled Off Hotel, set up and financed by world renowned Street Artist Banksy, to see their museum and art gallery. Have the opportunity to spray paint your own choice of stenciled images onto paper at the hotel's Wall Mart workshop.
- Have lunch in Bethlehem.
- Continue south to Hebron for a tour of the Old Town. Have an opportunity to see the Cave of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs.

- Then meet with settler peacemaker involved in the Abrahamic Reunion Movement.
- Return to the hotel.

*Hotel: Harmony Hotel, Jerusalem [Breakfast and Lunch included]*

**Day 7, Monday, February 24, 2020: Northern West Bank**

- Check out of the hotel after breakfast.
- Visit East Jerusalem's forgotten palace, Tel El Ful, covered by the very popular Israel Story Podcast episode "King of The Hill". One of the Israel Story podcasters will guide the group through the location describing the myths, history, Jordanian royals, Palestinian families, and Israeli generals associated with the site.
- Have lunch in Ramallah.
- Tour Rawabi, the first planned Palestinian city.
- Take a tour and have a tasting of Taybeh Beer at Taybeh Brewing Company. Taybeh Brewing Company is a family owned business established in 1994 following the Oslo Peace Agreement when David Khoury and Nadim Khoury were inspired by their late father, Canaan David Khoury to return to their home village of Taybeh after spending more than twenty years in the United States and establish the first micro brewery in the Middle East.
- Check into the hotel and then tour the Khoury family's Taybeh Winery and taste a variety of their wines over dinner with a Palestinian business leader.

*Hotel: Taybeh Golden Hotel [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]*

**Day 8, Tuesday, February 25, 2020: Birzeit**

- Spend the morning visiting the new multi-million dollar Palestinian Museum in Birzeit. The museum is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history, culture and society of modern Palestine.
- Have a falafel lunch in the Old Town of Birzeit.
- After lunch, tour the Birzeit Brewery and meet the founders.
- Return to the hotel for dinner.
- Have an evening program with Israeli and Palestinian members of Combatants for Peace, an egalitarian, bi-national, grassroots organization that is committed to non-violent civil disobedience against the Israeli occupation and all forms of violence between the two sides in the state of Israel and the Palestinian territories.

*Hotel: Taybeh Golden Hotel [Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included]*

**Day 9, Wednesday, February 26, 2020: Northern West Bank Settlements**

- Check out after breakfast.
- Visit the settlement of Shiloh and archaeological site of Tel Shiloh.
- Visit the Israeli settlement of Rehelim to have lunch and a wine and olive oil tasting at Tura Winery (<http://www.turawinery.com/en/>).
- Visit the settlement of Ariel and take a tour of Ariel University.
- Check into the hotel and have a group processing session.
- Have a free evening in Tel Aviv.

*Hotel: Market House, Jaffa [Breakfast and Lunch included]*

**Day 10, Thursday, February 27, 2020: Jaffa**

- Check out after breakfast and store your luggage.
- Take a walking tour of Jaffa through the lens of music with a member of the multi-ethnic hiphop group System Ali. The tour combines the history of the city of Jaffa in its 5,000 years of existence with a discussion of the conflictual issues of the city in recent decades through textual and musical works performed on the site.
- Have free time for lunch on your own.
- Spend the afternoon visiting shared society institutions in Jaffa.
- Time permitting, see the Tabeetha School, founded by Jane Walker-Arnott, a mid-19th century young Scotswoman who came to Jaffa on a Christian Mission, who found a lack of educational opportunities for girls under Turkish rule. The school remains supported by the Church of Scotland and continues to provide education for youngsters of all faiths. Visit the school's Museum of Coexistence, if it is open at the time of the tour.
- Check out the Yafa Coexistence Bookshop.
- Stop outside of the Physicians for Human Rights-Israel clinic and learn about the communities they serve.
- Visit the Bustan Yaffa Bilingual (Hebrew, Arabic) Kindergarten that operates in the spirit of the Waldorf method and meet with its director.
- End the day with a visit to the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation in Jaffa. Not only will you learn about Israeli innovation, but the group will meet an inspiring peacemaker there to close out the trip.
- Transfer to the airport on your own with the help of the guides

*[Breakfast included]*