

Medji Tours and Boat and Bike Tours to Go are proud to invite you to join one of the most innovative tours to Israel and Palestine.

- Enjoy MEJDI's Dual Narrative Tour™, a patented, socially conscious, award-winning approach to travel.
- Guiding in tandem, Israeli and Palestinian guides debate and highlight different political and historical opinions at each site, in an immersive travel experience that takes you behind the doors of mosques, churches, and synagogues, through the halls of Palestinian and Israeli government, into active dig sites, and into the homes of Arab, Jewish, and Druze locals.
- MEJDI's trained guide-facilitators help open a conversation, answer difficult questions, model friendship through respectful dialogue and disagreement, and give travelers an opportunity to encounter new voices and perspectives.
- Visit all of the must-see sites—the Dome of the Rock, Western Wall, and birthplace of Jesus—plus many new and fun surprises! For example, meet Muslims who live in East Jerusalem, hear the life stories of former combatants, settlers, and refugees, and taste delicious Palestinian and Israeli cuisines, while breaking bread with Jewish and Arab families in their homes. Take an optional bike around the Sea of Gallilee.

Through such in-depth, special-access experiences, see the region's history, religion, politics, and archeology with fresh eyes. Join us, and see why people are talking about MEJDI's Dual Narrative Tour<sup>™</sup>—and why it has been featured by **TED**, **National Geographic, the United Nations, and many more**!

See review in Smithsonian Magazine

For booking and more information contact bob@abiketour.com or call 714 609-0468









# A New Way to See the Holy Land

Dates: October 17-24, 2020

## Included:

7 nights' accommodation (double occupancy) at hotels in itinerary, or similar as necessary:

1 MEJDI-Trained Guide for 5 days

2MEJDI-Trained Guides for 2 days

8 days of private group transportation, including group arrival and group departure airport transfers

Meals listed in the itinerary: 7 breakfasts and 6 dinners

Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers

Audio headsets on touring days Water on bus throughout tour

Customary tips for drivers, guides, and included hotel/wait staff Dedicated pretrip customer service and on-ground support

### Not Included:

International airfare

Travel insurance-HIGHLY RECOMMENDED Meals not included in the itinerary Transportation outside of the group itinerary

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

# **Pricing**

\$2195 per person (double occupancy) Single supplement \$685

#### Itinerary

#### Day 1, Sat, (One Guide, Bus)

Arrive at Ben Gurion airport and meet your guide. Head to Tel Aviv for check-in, a special welcome dinner, and program overview.

Overnight: Cinema Hotel or Similar, Tel Aviv-Jaffa (D)

#### Day 2, Sun: A Tale of Two Cities; Jaffa and Tel Aviv (One Guide, Bus)

Take a walking tour of the historic port city of Jaffa. Continue to the historic Ahuzat Bayit neighborhood, the original suburb modeled on Herzl's vision in Alteneuland that grew into the modern city of Tel Aviv. There, take a walking tour under the fig and Poinciana trees of Rothschild Boulevard, to see Independence Hall and some of the Bauhaus style houses of the White City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After savoring the best of local produce in the Carmel Market enjoy a free afternoon at the beach (with an option of Bike rides on the promenade).

Overnight: Cinema Hotel or Similar, Tel Aviv-Jaffa (B)

Day 3, Mon: Multiculturalism and Mysticism; Nazareth and Tzfat (One Guide, Bus)

Make your way North to tour Nazareth, including a visit to the White Mosque, Basilica of the Annunciation, and a meeting with local peacemakers, to hear about life in the city. Then travel to Tzfat, to tour the ancient synagogue and Kabbalah center, and to discuss Rabbinical and mystical Judaism in Israel from the Roman period to today.

Hotel: Kibbutz Guesthouse, Galilee (B, D)

Day 4, Tues: Impacts of Conflict; Galilee and Golan Heights (One Guide, Bus)

Open the morning with a group boat ride to Capernaum, site of much of Jesus' Galilee ministry. Then head north to the Hula Valley Nature Reserve. There, have a choice of touring by bus or bike, learning about the unique impact of war on the migration of birds. Continue north to Mount Bental for an overview on Syria and, if time permits, stop for a taste of Druze cuisine.

Hotel: Kibbutz Guesthouse, Galilee (B. D)

Day 5, Wed: Religious History; Jerusalem - (Two Guides, Bus)

Drive down to Jerusalem, welcome a second guide and begin Mejdi's award-winning dual narrative approach to exploring the more contentious issues of the Holy Land. From the Mount of Olives, get an overview of Jerusalem's religious history. Then, visit the Noble Sanctuary / Temple Mount, to see the Dome of the Rock and al-Aqsa Mosque. Discus Islam and the politics of the site, and then explore the Muslim Quarter. Next, visit the Western Wall and Jewish Quarter. Finally, tour the Church of the Holy Sepulcher to learn about its history and today's delicate ecumenical status quo.

Hotel: Montefiore or Similar, Jerusalem (B, D)

# Day 6, May 14 Thursday: West Bank – Bethlehem (Palestinian Narrative) - (Two Guides, Bus)

On Thursday, journey south and cross the checkpoint into Bethlehem. Walk the Separation Wall and visit the Banksy Museum before heading into Aida Refugee Camp. Discuss the issue of refugees with your two guides as you drive through Bethlehem for a discussion of the city today. Stop at Church of Nativity before visiting with a Palestinian farmer whose land is surrounded by Israeli settlements, and then with a representative from one of the settlements. Finish the day with dinner and homestay in Bethlehem.

Overnight: Home-Stays in Bethlehem (B, D)

# Day 7, May 15 Friday: Jaffa and Tel Aviv (Two Guides, Bus)

For the final full day of your tour, descend back west toward the Mediterranean. Make a stop at Neve Shalom - Wahat al Salaam (Oasis of Peace), an intentionally integrated community with a bilingual school. Continue from there to Tel Aviv and Jaffa for an afternoon tour of these closely linked cities. Enjoy a special closing dinner and conversation with your two guides before bidding them a final farewell for now.

Overnight: Tal or Similar, Tel Aviv-Jaffa (B, D)

## Day 8, May 16 Saturday: Departure (One Group Transfer to Airport)

In the morning, depart for Ben Gurion airport with group transportation, or on own to your next destination.

End of Tour (B)