

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY



JOURNEY OF PURPOSE &
DISCOVERY



Journey of Purpose & Discovery – Israel, Palestine, Jordan

12 days / 10 nights

October 18-29, 2020

\$6,399 (Based on double occupancy)

\$1,299 (Single supplement)

Join us to explore Israel, Palestine & Jordan, a region steeped in history, diversity and local traditions. Experiencing the unique opportunity to connect with families and community members from a broad cross-section of multicultural backgrounds.

BOOK NOW 888.747.7501

Program Highlights

- 10 nights / 12-day journey through Israel, Palestine and Jordan.
- Explore Tel Aviv, Haifa, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Petra Amman, Jerusalem and Wadi Rum.
- Take a dip in the **Dead Sea**, one of the most spectacular natural and spiritual landscapes in the world.
- Many a bucket list includes the ancient and remote city of **Petra**. Enjoy your visit to this archeology wonder.
- Explore **Jerusalem** including a visit to the **Jewish Wailing Wall**, a walk along the **Via Dolorosa**, the **Church of Holy Sepulcher**, King David's tomb, the **Room of the Last Supper** and much more.

Cultural Exploration

- Explore **Wadi Rum** via Jeep where the weather and winds have carved the imposing skyscrapers of rock. The rock-scapes rise from the desert floor to heights of almost 6,000 feet.
- Explore **Yad Vashem**, a memorial to six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust.
- Enjoy a special **dance performance** by the Batsheva Dance Group at the Suzanne Dalal Center.

Community Focus

- Gain authentic cultural insight during **home-cooked meals with local families**.
- Visit a family-owned coffee mill called **El-Babo**; meet the owner and learn about coffee making in the region.
- Spend time visiting a community project with staff from **A Piece of Jordan**. Their goal is to show the real Jordan, where people of all faiths live together.
- Visit the **Women's Cooperative Society** in the ancient town of **Iraq Al Amir** and see how this social enterprise is allowing them to protect their cultural heritage (weaving, pottery making, traditional foods) and provide economic support for their families.
- Meet members of the **Shatil NGO** to hear about their work towards a society based on equality for all.
- Hear the Khoury family story and learn how they came to open the **first micro-brewery in the Middle East** in the small Palestinian town of Taybeh.

What's Included:

- Superior accommodations throughout
- All transportation and activities outlined in the itinerary
- Group transfers to and from the international airport
- International air (set tentatively out of Washington, DC/Dulles area)
- Local English-speaking guides
- Meals as mentioned and most tips

Not Included:

- Personal expenses at the hotel
- Meals not specified
- Tips for national guide
- Passport renewal or issuance
- Domestic flight to gateway city
- Departure taxes if applicable



📍 Washington Dulles

DAY 1, Sunday, October 18, 2020

Depart for Israel today

Depart from Washington, DC/Dulles or surrounding area and make your way to Tel Aviv this evening.

📍 Tel Aviv

DAY 2, Monday, October 19

Arrival in Tel Aviv

Arrive in **Tel Aviv** late this afternoon at the Ben Gurion International Airport. Upon arrival, the group will be met and transferred to your local hotel. Relax this evening and settle into your hotel.

Grand Beach Hotel is a few minutes from the beaches of Tel Aviv. The hotel has free Wi-Fi, onsite dining, a business center, lounge, pool, and modern amenities for a comfortable stay.

All travelers will gather this evening with your national guide and receive further information on the program.

Enjoy a **welcome dinner** this evening at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Grand Beach Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Dinner

📍 Tel Aviv

DAY 3, Tuesday, October 20

Introduction to Israel

After breakfast visit **Arous El Bahar** (Bride of the Sea), a nonprofit that empowers local women and provides them with the tools they need to improve their lives. Interact with the staff and learn about the important work they do in the community.

After a local lunch drive to the **Old Train Station** located between Jaffa & Tel Aviv. This central hub, which once connected the holy land with its neighboring countries, now acts as an entertainment district and shopping center. Tour **Neve Tzedek**, founded in 1887 by *Aharon Shlush*, in order to escape the crowded Jaffa (22 years before Tel Aviv was founded). Many of the neighborhoods turn of the century houses can still be seen, and while the place has gone yuppie, it has retained much of its old charm. From Neve Tzedek, on to the **Carmel Market** for a fascinating **tasting tour**. With so many vendors, this bustling outdoor marketplace is considered the heartbeat of central Tel Aviv.

Return to the hotel where dinner is on your own this evening. Enjoy a special **dance performance** by the Batsheva Dance Group at the Suzanne Dalal Center.

Overnight: Grand Beach Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch





📍 Nazareth

DAY 4, Wednesday, October 21

Travel to Haifa and on to Nazareth

This morning head north to Haifa. Your first stop is to visit **Beit Hagefen**, an **Arab-Jewish cultural center**. Founded in 1963, their mission is to establish shared spaces that contain the diversity of identities and cultures in Israel and worldwide.

Proceed to **Wadi Nisnas**, a unique Arab neighborhood, known locally for its delicious culinary delights. Enjoy lunch at one of the restaurants in the area on the footsteps of the spectacular **Bahai Gardens**.

Continue onward to **Nazareth**, one of the largest Arab cities in the country. Visit the old city of Nazareth stopping by a very old and special coffee mill owned by one of the local families, named **El-Babor**, to meet the owner to hear from him about the process of making the best cup of freshly ground coffee.

Check into **Legacy Hotel** later today. Guest rooms have a safe, free Wi-Fi, minibar, bathroom amenities and AC. Located in the heart of Nazareth by the markets they have onsite dining, gym, lounge, concierge, patio, business center and a pool.

This evening you will have dinner with a **local family** to enjoy delicious homemade Middle Eastern dishes and their warm hospitality.

Overnight: Legacy Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



📍 Bethlehem

DAY 5, Thursday October 22

Depart for Bethlehem

This morning head out for the drive to **Ramallah** to visit **Mahmoud Darwish Museum**, a commemoration of the Palestinian poet and his achievement. Then head to the local town of **Taybeh** to visit the first ever **micro-brewery in the Middle East**. Hear first-hand the family's story, tour the facility and enjoy tasting their delicious beers. Nadim Khoury (founder) sees Taybeh's beer as a small contribution to co-existence. It brings together Israelis and Palestinians—Christians, Jews and Muslims, alike. The alcohol-free variety is halal, which permits Muslims to drink it.

After lunch head onward to visit the **Church of Nativity** and Shepherd's Fields. The grotto is of great religious significance to Christians as the birthplace of Jesus. It is the oldest site used as a place of worship in the faith and is the **oldest major church in the Holy Land**.

Check in at your hotel in Jerusalem with dinner on your own this evening.

Grand Court Hotel is in the city center close to the Old City. Guest rooms have free Wi-Fi, AC, hairdryers, minibar and safe. The hotel has onsite dining, pool with sundeck, business center, and lounge.

Overnight: Grand Court Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Jerusalem

DAY 6, Friday, October 23

Jerusalem City Tour

After breakfast drive to the **Mount of Olives** for a panoramic view of the city. Stop at **Mount Zion** to visit **King David's Tomb** and the **Room of the Last Supper**. Located on the upper floor of the tomb Cenacle (Latin for dining room), it is considered one of the holiest sites for Christianity in Jerusalem and the place where the last supper took place.

Dormition Abbey on Mount Zion is known as the location of the passing of Virgin Mary into heaven at the end of her earthly life. It is a massive Benedictine church visible throughout the city.

After lunch on your own, enter the **Old City** and walk through the Armenian and Jewish quarters to the recently excavated and restored **Cardo**, the Roman Road. See the **Jewish Wailing Wall (Kotel)**. The Western Wall is a place of pilgrimage and sacred to the Jewish people as the only remains of the Second Temple.

Continue to the Christian Quarter to walk along the **Via Dolorosa** to follow in the footsteps of Jesus before his crucifixion. Head onward to tour the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, the location of the crucifixion and tomb of Jesus of Nazareth. It is a site of great religious significance and pilgrimage.

Meet members of the **Shatil NGO** to hear about their work towards a society based on equality of all citizens and residents of Israel. They envision a society that believes in the principles of social and economic justice and works to achieve them; a society that promotes human and civil rights, respects religious and cultural differences, and recognizes the importance of a truly shared society.

This evening the group will enjoy dinner followed by a night spectacular show at the **Tower of David**.

Overnight: Grand Court Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner





📍 Jerusalem

DAY 7, Saturday, October 24

Cultural Exploration

After breakfast visit **Yad Vashem, The World Holocaust Remembrance Center**. This memorial is dedicated to the six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust. This incredible museum will walk you through the lives of those lost and those who were left behind who are honoring their memories.

Lunch is on your own this afternoon. Afterward visit the picturesque village of **Ein Karem**, the birthplace of John the Baptist. Explore the **“Machaneh Yehuda”** market, one of the most charming marketplaces in Israel, where you will feel the special atmosphere of Jerusalem & the preparations for the Sabbath.

The group will enjoy a special **home hosted Sabbath dinner** to meet a local family tonight.

Overnight: Grand Court Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

📍 Amman

DAY 8, Sunday, June 25, 2020

Travel to Jordan

Check out of your Jerusalem hotel and make your way to Tel Aviv to the airport for your flight to Amman. You will be met on arrival and transferred to your hotel. Lunch is on your own today.

The **Landmark Hotel** is in the heart of the city and a lovely five-star property. With great panoramic views of the historic capital, the hotel has six restaurants and lounges. Guest rooms have all the amenities of a luxury hotel including lots of space, mini-bar, safe and free broadband internet.

Enjoy a welcome dinner tonight at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Landmark Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

📍 Amman & Jerash

DAY 9, Monday, October 26

Cultural Exploration & Community Visit

After breakfast start on foot to visit the **Royal Society for Conservation of Nature (Wild Jordan)** for a quick explanation on reserves throughout Jordan. You will have a chance to visit their shop if interested.

Continue onward passing through shops and the old downtown to **Hussaini Mosque**. After the visit, walk through the vegetable market reaching the **Nymphaeum** and on to the **Roman Theatre** and its Folklore Museum. Your coach picks you up from there as you proceed to the **Citadel** for a visit. A close second to Petra on the list of favorite destinations in Jordan, the ancient city of **Jerash** boasts an unbroken chain of human occupation dating back more than 6,500 years. Conquered by General Pompey in 63 BC, it came under Roman rule and was one of the ten great Roman cities. Known at that time as *Gerasa*, the site is now generally acknowledged to be one of the best preserved Roman provincial towns in the world.

Continue to Iraq Al Amir and visit the **Women’s Cooperative Society**. They offer many hands-on experiences including ceramic making or cooking classes. It is run by women in the local community whose focus is to protect their cultural heritage and provide economic security for their families.

Return to Amman for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Landmark Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast, Snacks & Dinner





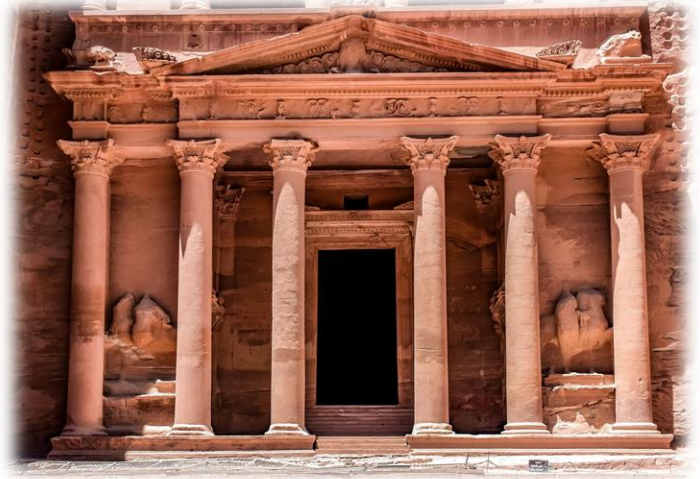
📍 Petra

DAY 10, Tuesday, October 27

Depart for Petra

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and head to Petra via the desert highway. Perhaps the words of Dean Burgon's famous poem: 'Match me such a marvel save in Eastern clime / A rose-red city half as old as time...' reflect some truth about Petra. Yet words can hardly do justice to the true magnificence that is **Petra**. Some archaeologists have ranked ancient Petra as the eighth wonder of the ancient world – a truly justifiable claim. This remote dead city is one of the great archaeological treasures in the world, undoubtedly; it is the most important and famous attraction of Jordan. Much of Petra's appeal comes from its awesome, multicolored sandstone high mountains; it is a secluded site of steep rocky slopes, towering craggy mountain tops and high cliffs, into which most of the celebrated tombs, facades, theatres and stairways are carved. Nature and architecture combine to give a mythical aura to the site.

Lunch and dinner will be provided today.



Check into the **Hyatt Zaman** later today and overnight. Rooms have a minibar, hairdryer, safe, coffee/tea maker, AC, desk, bathrobe & onsite dining. The hotel has an onsite pool and health center.

This evening you are all invited to meet with **Stephanie Altwassi** from **A Piece of Jordan**. A Piece of Jordan is a community project – with a branch in both Jordan and the UK. With the unrest in the Middle East and the media coverage of the area, Jordan often gets painted with the same brush. A Piece of Jordan is working hard to show the real Jordan, the Jordan where people of all faiths live together, a Jordan that welcomes visitors from all walks of life and ensures they feel at home. A Piece of Jordan wants to challenge the media stereotypes of the Middle East – one project at a time.

Overnight: Landmark Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner





📍 Wadi Rum & Dead Sea

DAY 11, Wednesday, October 28

Depart to Wadi Rum & Dead Sea

After breakfast, depart to **Wadi Rum**, a stupendous, timeless place, virtually untouched by humanity and its destructive forces. Here, it is the weather and winds that have carved the imposing, towering skyscrapers, so elegantly described by T.E. Lawrence as “vast, echoing and god-like”. A maze of monolithic rock-scapes rise from the desert floor to heights of 1,750 meters creating a natural challenge for serious mountaineers. Hikers can enjoy the tranquility of the boundless empty spaces; explore the canyons and water holes to discover 4000-year-old rock drawings and the many other spectacular treasures this vast wilderness holds in store. Enjoy a 1.5-hour Jeep touring in a local Bedouin Jeep.

Lunch will be provided at Wadi Rum.

Proceed to the **Dead Sea**. At 410 meters below sea level, the Dead Sea is the lowest place on earth. Jordan’s Dead Sea coast is one of the most spectacular natural and spiritual landscapes in the world and it remains as enticing to international visitors today as it was to kings, emperors, traders, and prophets in antiquity. The main attraction of the Dead Sea is of course the soothing, abnormally salty water itself. The salt content of the water is 31.5% making the water so buoyant that it is impossible for visitors to sink. The water also contains 21 minerals including high levels of magnesium, sodium, potassium, and bromine and 12 of these minerals are found in no other body of water in the world.

Dinner will be provided at the hotel this evening.

Enjoy some free time to explore the beautiful grounds this evening. The **Hilton** is located at the lowest point on earth, over 1,312 feet below sea level. Time permitting use the spa or other amenities like the infinity pools, mud baths or wander to the beach.

Overnight: Hilton Dead Sea (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



📍 Amman

DAY 12, Thursday, October 29

Depart for the U.S.

After breakfast say farewell to Jordan and fly back to the U.S., with arrival the same day.





📍 Tel Aviv, Israel

Grand Beach Hotel

250 Hayarkon Street, Tel Aviv, Israel

Telephone: +972 3-543-3333

<https://www.grandhotels-israel.com/grand-beach-hotel-tel-aviv>



📍 Nazareth, Israel

Legacy Hotel

Paul the 6th Street, Nazareth, Israel

Telephone: +972 4-906-0000

<http://www.nazarethlegacy.com/>



📍 Jerusalem, Israel

Grand Court Hotel

St. George Street 15, Jerusalem, Israel

Telephone: +972-2-591-7777

<https://www.grandhotels-israel.com/grand-court-hotel-jerusalem>





📍 Amman, Jordan

Landmark Hotel

Al Shareef Hussein St. Amman, Jordan

Telephone: +962 6 560 7100

<https://www.landmarkamman.com/>



📍 Petra, Jordan

Hyatt Zaman Petra

Hyatt Zaman Hotel, P.O BOX 2
Petra, Jordan

Telephone: +962 3 2150111

<http://www.hayatzaman.com/en/>



📍 Dead Sea, Jordan

Hilton Dead Sea

Dead Sea Road
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Telephone: +962 5 349 3000

<https://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/jordan/hilton-dead-sea-resort-and-spa-AMMDSHI/index.html>

