



MEJDI TOURS

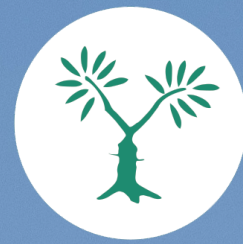
A Tour Company for a Better World



An Introduction to MEJDI Tours

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The MEJDI Difference



DUAL NARRATIVE

There's more than one side to every story. Our innovative multi-narrative approach exposes travelers to the complexity of local history and culture, offering a nuanced understanding of each destination.

AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

From home cooked meals to engagements with local artists and youth, genuine encounters foster appreciation for different ways of life. Rather than sell a destination, the MEJDI invites travelers to become a part of it.



VALUES-BASED TRAVEL

“Mejdi” - meaning both “honor” and “respect” in Arabic - is our guiding principle. MEJDI prioritizes respect for local host communities while reflecting the values of our diverse groups of travelers.

EXCLUSIVE ACCESS

Decades of relationship building around the world means behind-the-scenes access to key sites, community leaders and local experts.



TRUSTED & FEATURED BY:

 NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
EXPEDITIONS

Smithsonian
MAGAZINE

TED

The New York Times

Certified

Corporation



Expertise & Customization

MEJDI's carefully curated educational travel experiences are differentiated by commitment to authenticity, educational depth, extraordinary customer service, and superior destination knowledge.

GUIDE EDUCATORS & LOCAL EXPERTS

Our guides are premier educators and facilitators capable of bringing their destinations to life. Clients note that: "The tour leaders' commitment to cultural education and awareness is truly beyond compare."



CUSTOMIZABLE & EXCLUSIVE ACCESS

With deep global roots, MEJDI offers access to unique voices and unlikely experiences at each destination. Itineraries are adapted collaboratively to meet our partners' educational goals.



SAFETY & SECURITY PROTOCOLS

With relationships in government, contacts in international agencies, and unparalleled local expertise, MEJDI goes above and beyond to keep travelers safe and secure.



PRE-TOUR EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

MEJDI Tours begin before take-off and continue after travelers return home. Virtual education offerings and enrichment opportunities inspire continued engagement with their destination and institution.






MEJDI TOURS


Featured Destinations and Educational Themes




Educational Themes and Focus Areas


 Agriculture & Food Production


 Ancient Civilizations


 Art, Music & Cinema


 Business & Economic Development


 Conflict & Reconciliation


 Conservation & Biodiversity


 Engineering & Technology

 Healthcare & Human Services

 Political Science & Government

 Religious & Cultural Studies

 **Israel & Palestine:**
Landmark Destination
(all educational categories available)

 **Other MEJDI Destinations**
(see full list below)
(custom itineraries available in all destinations)

MEJDI Custom Program Features

- GUIDE EDUCATORS, LOCAL EXPERTS AND LEADERS
- EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO UNIQUE SITES AND VOICES
- SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS AND AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES
- PRE-TRIP RESOURCES AND LEADER TOOLS
- DEDICATED TRAVELER SERVICES LIAISON
- SAFETY & SECURITY PROTOCOLS

OTHER DESTINATIONS

- 1 Israel/Palestine & Jordan
- 2 UAE
- 3 UK (N. Ireland) & Ireland
- 4 Australia & New Zealand
- 5 Argentina
- 6 Chile
- 7 Costa Rica
- 8 Peru
- 9 Tanzania (Safari)
- 10 USA (NYC, Civil Rights, Southwest, Washington, DC)
- 11 Japan
- 12 Vietnam



Socially Conscious Experiences

“MEJDI Exclusive”

Our socially conscious model focuses on the human element of each destination - the diversity of its people and their stories - in a way that benefits communities around the world.

Deliberate itinerary design, meant to immerse travelers in the local experience, and to demonstrate utmost respect for our hosts, is what sets MEJDI apart.

FEATURED EXPERIENCES:

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South Korea.....	pg. 12

Over 20+ Destinations Available



MEJDI TOURS

Global Leader in Socially Conscious Travel.

THE BALKANS: LAND OF BLOOD & HONEY

Explore the Land of Blood & Honey in dual perspective, with both a Serbian and a Bosnian guide on board. Experience Belgrade, Serbia's capital, built at the confluence of rivers, and holding over 2,000 years of history within its city limits. Meet with both combatants and survivors of recent conflicts for their first-hand accounts of a tumultuous past. Explore Sarajevo with a renowned local photo journalist and visit picturesque Mostar, a medieval town on the banks of the Neretva River. Reach the fortified town of Dubrovnik on Croatia's Adriatic Coast for stunning views and discussion with local creators.

SAMPLE EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Each custom program is designed in collaboration with faculty.



- "Dual Narrative" experience led by both a Serbian and a Bosnian guide
- Exclusive meeting with a decorated Serbian general now devoted to coexistence
- First-hand accounts of Serbia's tumultuous past from refugees of the Yugoslav Wars
- Discussion with an award-winning writer on Belgrade's current political climate
- Photojournalist presentation on life in Bosnia and Herzegovina before and after the war
- Meet with an economics expert to discuss the indicators for the six Balkan countries on the path towards the EU



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Serbia

Welcome to Belgrade! Your Balkans adventure begins with an important welcome meeting and a festive group dinner. If planning to arrive early, we're happy to arrange accommodation.

Day 2: Belgrade Old Town

Explore a city rich in history from Roman times to Austrian occupation. See the striking architecture along Belgrade's Knez-Mihailova Street and visit the Belgrade Fortress for insight into a diverse civilization. Meet with a local journalist to discuss the impact of Belgrade's past conflicts on its present political and socio-economic landscape.

Itinerary, continued

Day 3: The History of Yugoslavia

Explore Yugoslavia's history in Zemun, a charming part of Belgrade with Habsburg influences. Visit a WWII memorial, delve into the Museum of Yugoslavia, and trace the Kingdom from earlier histories through the Socialist era until today. Hear divergent perspectives on the life and legacy of former revolutionary and statesman, Josip Broz Tito, upon visiting his gravesite.



Day 4: Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Meet with an expert on the Serbian Revolution to recount the overthrow of Slobodan Milošević before heading to the airport for your flight to Sarajevo. A city walking tour upon arrival illuminates the Ottoman and Austrian quarters, and why Sarajevo is called the European Jerusalem. Later, a world-renowned Bosnian photojournalist will present on the city's siege and post-war daily life.

Day 5: The City Then & Now

Visit an ancient Jewish Cemetery near the frontline of the 1992 conflict. In an exclusive meeting with a Serbian general who supported the Bosnians, learn about his change of attitude and post-war efforts with the Education Builds Bosnia organization. Take a gondola to the mountains for a scenic view of Sarajevo, followed by discussion on Bosnia and Herzegovina's current affairs.

Day 6: Remembering a Troubled Past

Visit the National Museum of Sarajevo, showcasing a rich national history. An impressive collection includes Greek pottery, Roman mosaics, and the renowned Sarajevo Haggadah, one of the oldest such manuscripts in the world. Bear witness to an exhibit on the Srebrenica massacre and meet a curator who lost members of his family in this tragedy. Meet a descendant of Josip Broz Tito, former President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to discuss his complex life and legacy.

Day 7: Bridges of Mostar

Leave Sarajevo for the city of Mostar in Herzegovina, stopping in Konjic to explore its once top-secret nuclear bunker. Tour Mostar's historic old city including an iconic UNESCO Heritage Site, the single arch bridge over the Neretva River. Gain insights into the city's diverse history as a "mixed city" of Orthodox Christians, Catholics and Muslims. Visit local places of worship and climb a minaret for a spectacular view. A longtime local resident will join you for dinner.

Day 8: The Neretva River + Cooking Class

This morning, explore town on your own or enjoy a light 2 hour rafting trip (good for beginners) for a new perspective on Mostar's famous bridge. Then discover Bosnia-Herzegovinian cuisine and learn to cook regional dishes under the guidance of a local chef.

Day 9: Beyond the Walls of Dubrovnik

Transfer to Dubrovnik, a port city listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its renowned medieval history and striking Old City walls. Explore a captivating blend of history and natural beauty on a walking tour covering the city's resilience following brutal siege in the early '90s and fame as a filming location for the television hit Game of Thrones. In addition to stops at city highlights, visit the gallery of a prominent international photojournalist to hear tales of his travels, work, and daily life in Croatia.

Day 10: Elaphiti Islands

Take a boat ride to nearby islands, soaking in the sights of bright blue sea surrounded by stunning beaches. Explore the rich history of well-traveled waterways, swimming and snorkeling in and around the natural sea caves and walking winding island trails. Return to the mainland for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Join the group for a festive farewell dinner this evening.





MEJDI TOURS

Global Leader in Socially Conscious Travel.

CENTRAL EUROPE IN FOCUS

Study Central Europe as a robust global region made up of distinct national destinations. Stop at historical landmarks such as the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Prague's Old Town Square and the Hungarian Parliament building, delighting in their medieval charm and prominent part in making history. Get to know Poland as an emerging continental actor and pass bucolic landscapes throughout the European journey. Revisit moments of conflict and humanitarian tragedy, learning from leaders in business and civil society about building bridges today.

CUSTOM EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Each custom program is designed in collaboration with faculty.



- Meet the executive of an international company based in Germany
- Medical clinic site visits to compare healthcare infrastructure and delivery
- Panel discussion with scientists and engineers
- Local students salon covering between national and pan-European identity
- Visit a refugee center to learn about crisis response in a local context
- See how an airport complex functions from the inside



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Berlin

Welcome to Berlin! Your Central European adventure begins with an important orientation and festive group dinner.

Day 2: Berlin

Explore this dynamic German capital, where the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 marked a pivotal moment in its transformation. Highlights include visits to Checkpoint Charlie, symbolizing the former border between East and West Germany, and the Topography of Terror Museum, which houses the largest remaining segment of the Berlin Wall. Immerse yourself further with a guided walking tour of Berlin.



Itinerary, continued

Day 3: Berlin

Take an expertly guided tour of Berlin and see Brandenburg Gate. – Stop for a photo at Checkpoint Charlie. – Visit the Topography of Terror Museum. – Enjoy time to see more of Berlin or Visit Potsdam.



Day 4: Dresden | Prague

Travel to Dresden for a tour then continue to Prague to discover the captivating beauty of the former capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Explore Prague's charming streets, visit historic landmarks like the Old Town Square and the iconic astronomical clock, and marvel at its renowned art and architecture, including St. Vitus Cathedral and the Charles Bridge. Immerse yourself further with a guided walking tour of Prague.

Day 5: Prague

Take an expert-led tour of Prague and see the Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, Wallenstein Palace Gardens (April–October), Lennon Wall, Charles Bridge, and Old Town Square.

Day 6: Kraków

Start your exploration of Krakow with a walking tour of Nowa Huta, a former communist town transformed into an eastern quarter of Krakow. In the afternoon, visit the remarkable Old Town to see Rynek, one of Europe's oldest medieval plazas, and the lively market housed in the Renaissance-era Cloth Hall. Explore the Jewish quarter, indulge in a Zapiekanka treat, and gain insights into Poland's history and recent political changes from a local expert.

Day 7: Salt Mines & Rzeszów

Explore the historic Salt Mines near Krakow, dating back to the 13th century. Then, journey east to Rzeszow to understand how the city has effectively managed a secure and peaceful environment amid an influx of Ukrainian refugees. Meet a local Ukrainian refugee to gain insight into their experiences and Poland's ongoing response to the crisis.

Day 8: Košice

Travel south to Košice, Slovakia to explore the charming Old Town, including landmarks like St. Elisabeth's Cathedral and Jakab Palace. Learn about the peaceful separation between Slovakia and the Czech Republic in 1993. In the evening, engage with a local youth development organization over dinner to understand how informal education promotes intercommunal solidarity.

Day 9: Hungary

Travel by train to Budapest in the morning. After lunch, explore the Buda Castle District to see highlights including the Matthias Church and the Royal Palace, and explore hidden gems while learning about Hungarian roots.

Day 10: Budapest

Engage with a local civil society leader to grasp current political trends and evolving public discourse. Then, explore Budapest's iconic landmarks, including the Hungarian Parliament and the poignant Shoes on the Danube Bank monument. Visit the Museum of Terror, a symbol of Hungary's tumultuous history, before delighting in a cooking class with a local chef for lunch. End the day with a farewell dinner.



Day 11: Departure or Extension Tour to Vienna

Optional trip extension to Vienna, visiting iconic landmarks and architectural marvels such as Schönbrunn Palace and the Vienna State Opera and Hofburg Palace.



MEJDI TOURS

Global Leader in Socially Conscious Travel.

EXPERIENCE GREECE

Experience the beauty, flavor and cultures of Greece from a local's perspective. Absorb dramatic views of the Aegean Sea, study the birth of an ancient civilization, and meet distinctive communities from across the mainland and stunning Greek Isles. Appreciate the unique cultures of Thessaloniki, Rhodes and Crete, and feel the gravity of urban Athens set against the backdrop of iconic sites like the Acropolis. Learn about land conservation, local healthcare, religious traditions and more.

SAMPLE EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Each custom program is designed in collaboration with faculty.



- Hands-on farming experience highlighting organic technique
- Ride-along experience with local healthcare professionals
- Expert presentation on the connection between Ancient Greece and contemporary national politics
- Introduction to "Blue Zones" and factors contributing to longevity
- Private gallery visit hosted by leading fashion designer
- Mini-hike exploring both land and sea conservation issues



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Athens

Welcome to Athens! Your Greece adventure begins with an important welcome meeting and a festive group dinner.

Day 2: Athens

This morning, meet with your guide at the hotel. Depart for a full day guided visit to the famous Acropolis and the Mars Hill followed by a visit to the Acropolis Museum. Explore the cobblestone streets of the Plaka neighborhood and visit a private home for dinner and an evening of conversation with a local experts in Greek Philosophy and a local journalist who specializes in the geopolitics of Greece.



Itinerary, continued

Day 3: Athens

Embark on a morning tour of Athens, visiting the Ancient Agora and indulging in a tasting tour of the modern market. Engage in discussions on immigration with a refugee, then enjoy a private performance of an Ancient Greek Tragedy in English at a local theater, followed by a Q&A session with the actors and director.



Day 4: Chania, Crete

Fly from Athens to Chania, Crete, where you'll stroll through the maze-like alleys of Chania's Old Town, admire Venetian architecture, and explore vestiges of various historical occupations. Meet with local fashion designer Elli Lyraraki over lunch, visit the Chania Archaeological Museum, then transfer to Rethymno for hotel check-in and an evening at leisure.

Day 5: AgrecoFarms & Rethymno

Experience traditional farming methods at AgrecoFarms, an organic farm offering insight into Crete's food production. Milk goats, bake bread, and gather fresh vegetables for a farm-to-table lunch amidst olive groves. Then, return to Rethymno for a guided tour of its Medieval town, followed by dinner with a Cretan Mayor or Deputy Mayor of Culture and Tourism.

Day 6: Heraklion

Explore Heraklion, Crete's bustling capital, with a panoramic city tour, a visit to Nikos Kazantzakis' tomb, and a tour of the renowned Knossos Palace. Enjoy lunch with a conservator at the Archaeological Museum, for insights into ancient Greek artifacts. Then, delve into the museum's impressive Minoan collection before returning to Rethymno for dinner.

Day 7: Oia, Santorini

Depart early for Santorini via high-speed ferry, followed by a panoramic island tour and lunch. Upon arrival at the hotel, settle in before exploring Oia on a guided walk, taking in its iconic scenery. Enjoy free time, witness a stunning sunset, then dine with the group overlooking the caldera.

Day 8: Santorini

After hotel breakfast, meet with a local fisherwoman to learn about Santorini's fishing history. Then, embark on a catamaran sailing cruise around the caldera, indulging in a barbecue meal and sunset views before returning to the hotel.

Day 9: Santorini - Athens

This morning, visit the Prehistoric Museum, Akrotiri Bronze Age site known as the "Pompeii of Greece," and the village of Pyrgos. Visit a local winery for wine tasting and lunch before flying back to Athens. Transfer to your hotel and join the group for a farewell dinner to toast your last night in Greece.



Day 10: Departure or Extension tour to Turkey

Transfer to the airport and depart for home today or continue with an extension tour to Turkey.

Optional trip extension includes at trip to Istanbul, Turkey exploring the rich history and cultural experiences. Visit iconic landmarks such as the Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, and the Grand Bazaar.



DISCOVER SPAIN

Journey through Spain and Andalusia, where each city—Barcelona, Madrid, Toledo, Granada, and Seville—unveils a vibrant tapestry of history, culture and expression. From Moorish palaces to sandy beaches and energetic urban thoroughfares, experience a destination rich in both heritage and dynamic community life. Meet leaders, professionals, and local students for discussions on how Spain's unique history of social collaboration and conquest informs their pursuit of a prosperous future.

CUSTOM EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Each custom program is designed in collaboration with faculty.



- Meet with an activist from a popular social movement in Catalonia
- Flamenco show and conversation with performer
- Discussion with leading journalist on Spanish politics and current events
- Visit interfaith organization working to reconcile histories of conflict
- Tour of a leading national hospital to hear a unique approach to healthcare
- Tech-entrepreneur presentation on connections between academia and industry
- Explore architectural marvels of both medieval and modern times



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival to Barcelona

Welcome to Barcelona! Your Spanish adventure begins with an important orientation meeting and festive group dinner.

Day 2: Barcelona

Begin the day with a visit to the unfinished Segrada Familia church, tour the grounds and discuss Gaudi's many legacies. Explore the Gothic Quarter, passing by the Jewish Quarter, La Boqueria market, Casa Mila, and the Barcelona Cathedral, then cruise the famous La Rambla street to Plaza Catalunya. In the evening, meet a local activist to better understand Catalan identity and claims to autonomy.



Itinerary, continued

Day 3: Journey to Madrid

Check out and head to Madrid via train. Take a half day panoramic tour upon arrival including a tasting tour through one of the city markets, Almudena cathedral, Real Palace of Spain. Enjoy a flamenco show in the evening, showcasing a unique art form and cultural tradition with unique regional flare.



Day 4: Madrid

Tour city center sites including the Parque del Retiro, la Plaza Mayor, the Debod Temple and the Prado Museum. In the afternoon, meet with a local healthcare professional at their workplace for a conversation comparing their training, licensing requirements and approach with that of peer nations. Continue to dinner with a journalist who will provide an overview of current affairs and political trends.

Day 5: Toledo Day Trip

Meet with an interfaith organization over breakfast before heading to Toledo. Visit Plaza de Zocodover, Puerta de Bisagra, and Santo Tomé Church (home to the masterpiece, "The Burial of Count Yorga" by El Greco). Continue to the Synagogue Santa Maria la Blanca, the El Transito Synagogue and Sephardic Museum, The Church of San Román, the Mosque Christo de la Luz, the Moorish Art Gallery, and the Toledo Cathedral.

Day 6: Palaces and Sanctuaries

Visit the Alhambra, the Moorish palace and fortress complex, and the Sacromonte and Albayzin by foot. Meet with the Muslim community in Granada, and visit the Foundation Mosque of Granada, the first mosque that has been constructed in the city after the expulsion of the Muslim community in 1492.

Day 7: Granada

Walk Granada's Old Town including the Real Chapel (where the Catholic Kings are buried) and nearby highlights. Visit the campus of a local university to hear from students and graduates about recent start-ups emerging from their sciences and tech program. Later, meet with the founder of one company working to applying neuroscience innovations to the local classroom.

Day 8: Seville

Visit with the Three Cultures of the Mediterranean Foundation and take time for reflection before setting out on a walking tour of the town including The Real Alcazares of Sevilla, built for King Peter of Castile. Continue through Plaza de Ponce de Leon and the old town of Seville including the Jewish quarter of Santa Cruz and its central mosques. Over dinner, meet a leader from the local nursing association.



Day 9: Departure/Extension

After breakfast, check out and depart for home or continue on the post-trip extension to Morocco.

Optional trip extension to Morocco is a 2-3 day tour including Tangier, Chefchaouen "Blue City," Fez, and ending in Casablanca for departure. Along the way, drive through the Atlas mountains and enjoy a cooking class and Sufi performance.



MEJDI TOURS

Global Leader in Socially Conscious Travel.

EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

Journey through legendary South Africa, a terrain rich in natural beauty, culture, and diverse narratives. Learn of the nation's apartheid past and the triumphant movement for equality. Meet with members of government, journalists and community leaders as you explore how the country simultaneously contends with a troubled past and works to build a better tomorrow. Along the way, encounter the vistas, flora and fauna that make South Africa one of the most stunning places in the world.

CUSTOM EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Each custom program is designed in collaboration with faculty.



- Learn the history apartheid, making visits to the Nelson Mandela Capture Site, District Six Museum, Apartheid Museum and more
- Hike the picturesque trails through the Drakensberg conservation areas
- Delve into the field of Human Rights with university faculty and political leaders
- Encounter unique wildlife on land and at sea
- Briefing with a leading local journalist on economic issues and recent development trends
- Tantalizing food tour at one of Cape Town's famous markets



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Johannesburg

Welcome to Johannesburg! Your South African adventure begins with an important welcome meeting and a festive group dinner.

Day 2: History of Apartheid

Meet your guide at the Apartheid Museum for a journey back in history illustrating the 20th century history of South Africa. Visit Constitution Hill, where the infamous apartheid regime prison once stood, and stop by the Flame of Democracy to reflect on human rights and reconciliation.



Itinerary, continued

Day 3: From Separation to Unity

Travel to Pretoria, South Africa's administrative capital. Visit the Union Buildings, Freedom Park and Nelson Mandela's House Museum in Soweto township. Return to Johannesburg for a brief visit to Ellis Park Stadium and discussion with a local athlete on the role of sports in cultivating new national bonds. Enjoy an evening performance at the Market Theater.



Days 4 - 6: Drakensberg

Drive south to the picturesque mountains of Drakensberg, bordering with Lesotho, a high-elevation lockland country within South Africa. Take a 1-2 day hike across the stunning landscape then continue south, stopping at the Nelson Mandela Capture Site. Fly from Durban to Cape Town.



Optional trip extensions include spending a few days in **Kruger Park** encountering wildlife and learning about the vast biodiversity or travel to the border of Zambia and Zimbabwe to admire **Victoria Falls** - one of the worlds largest waterfalls

Day 7: Cape Town

See the city highlights including the cable car to Table Mountain, District Six Museum, Bo-Kaap neighborhood and the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Meet with a representative of an initiative bridging between neighborhoods of different backgrounds on the basis of faith.

Day 8: Day Tour to Hermanus

Begin the day with a tour at the 18 Gangster Museum, an innovative living museum led by x-offenders sharing their personal stories of redemption. Continue for an adventurous Cape Canopy Zipline tour before heading to Hermanus for a whale watching experience.



Day 9: Day tour to Cape Point

Explore the Southern African Bay area, driving south from Cape Town through Clifton Beach, Hout Bay & Mariners' Wharf, and Chapman's Peak Drive/Ou Kaapse Weg. See the penguin colony at Boulders Beach in historic Simon's Town and check out the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. Return to the city to wrap up your program in conversation with a panel of local university faculty and members of local government on human rights in historical and contemporary contexts.

Day 10: Departure/Extension

Check out and depart for the airport for your flight home or continue with a post-trip extension tour.



MEJDI TOURS

Global Leader in Socially Conscious Travel

SOUTH KOREA

Embark on a captivating journey through an enchanting landscape, and explore the vibrant culture of South Korea. This unique experience fuses ancient traditions and modern marvels, taking you from the bustling streets of Seoul, to the serene beauty of historic palaces and temples nestled in nature. See what lies at the cutting edge of engineering and tech development, meet with entrepreneurs, and collaborate with local performers. Enjoy celebrated local dishes and experience the warmth of Korean hospitality.

SAMPLE EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Each custom program is designed in collaboration with faculty.



- Tour the headquarters of a leading tech company and meet with an executive
- Meet a local entrepreneur to learn from their experience launching small businesses
- Visit **Daegu Technopark**, a hub for technological innovation and research
- Participate in a seminar on robotics, IT, smart manufacturing and visit the 3D Printing Hub
- Witness the Changing of the Guard ceremony at the iconic Gyeongbokgung Palace
- Explore the Daejeon Museum of Art with a curator illustrating the commonalities and distinct features of both contemporary and traditional Korean art



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Seoul

Welcome to Seoul! Your South Korean adventure begins with an important welcome meeting and a festive group dinner.

Day 2: Seoul: Traditional to Contemporary

Witness the Changing of the Guard ceremony at the iconic Gyeongbokgung Palace before visiting the Bukchon Hanok Village, a well-preserved area with traditional Korean homes. Stroll along Insadong, a vibrant neighborhood known for its traditional tea houses, art galleries, and antique shops and enjoy a traditional Korean lunch. Head to Namsan Seoul Tower for panoramic views of the city and meet with a local journalist or academic for an overview of Korean history and current affairs.



Itinerary, continued

Day 3: High Tech Hub

Visit Dongdaemun Design Plaza, an architectural marvel and hub for fashion and design. Tour the headquarters of a leading tech company and meet with an executive to learn how government policies encourage business development. Enjoy a walking tour at Dongdaemun Night Market for a taste of local street food.



Day 4: The DMZ

Ride to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) for insight into the history of the Korean Peninsula and architecture of the ongoing impasse between North and South. Return to Seoul in the evening for a workshop with a leading performance or visual artist exploring themes of Korean identity, peace and conflict.

Day 5: Districts & Design

Explore the neighborhood of Gangnam, tracing the development of an upscale district complete with luxury boutiques and international brands. See the famous library at the Stalfeld Coex Mall and stop next door at Bongeunsa Temple, a historic Buddhist shrine in the midst of the bustling city. Travel to the Songdo Convensia Convention Center to observe its futuristic design and take in panoramic views of the area.

Day 6: Hot Springs

Travel this morning to Daejeon and relax at its natural hot springs and spa with scenic views. Visit the Daejeon Museum of Art with a curator illustrating the commonalities and distinct features of both contemporary and traditional Korean art. Later, visit the Expo Science Park, a vast green space with walking trails and gardens.

Day 7: Strolling Sejong

Walk around Lake Park, a serene oasis in the heart of Sejong City featuring unique sculpture art. Visit the Yeongi Mun Gate at the entrance to the city and take a stroll along the Damyang River. Take the afternoon to rest and explore on your own.

Day 8: Fortress and Temple

Continue to Busan to visit the Beomeosa Temple, a historic Buddhist site nestled in the mountains. Hike or take the cable car to Geumjeongsanseong Fortress for panoramic views of the area and meet a local entrepreneur to learn from their experience launching small businesses on a competitive landscape.

Day 9: Tradition and Culture

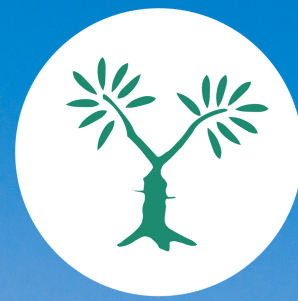
Transfer to Dubrovnik, a port city listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its renowned medieval history and striking Old City walls. Explore a captivating blend of history and natural beauty on a walking tour covering the city's resilience following brutal siege in the early '90s and fame as a filming location for the television hit Game of Thrones. In addition to stops at city highlights, visit the gallery of a prominent international photojournalist to hear tales of his travels, work, and daily life in Croatia.

Day 10: Innovation

Travel to Daegu Technopark, a hub for technological innovation and research. Participate in a seminar covering recent advancements in fields such as robotics, information technology, and smart manufacturing and visit the 3D Printing Hub. Finish the day with a walk along Suseong Lake and gather the group for a festive farewell dinner.



Optional trip extension includes cave exploration on Jeju Island and reaching the summit of an extinct volcano at Hallasan National Park.



MEJDI TOURS

Peacebuilders who accidentally became travel entrepreneurs...



Scott Cooper Aziz Abu Sarah

MEJDI was founded by two peacebuilding practitioners, Aziz Abu Sarah and Scott Cooper. After working for many years on social change programs all over the world, Aziz and Scott discovered that travel was one of the most powerful and untapped resources for building a better planet. MEJDI's deep roots in social change work inspires our mission: "We exist to create a more peaceful and interconnected world through travel."

MEJDI is one of the first global tour companies to be B Corp Certified (in 2014, years before B Corp was widely known outside of sustainability circles). For us, this meant opting for a transparent way to show that we mean what we say, and that our actions speak louder than words: We pay local vendors fair wages, prioritize small locally owned vendors in destinations, treat our partners and staff with dignity and respect, and use travel to create a more inclusive reality for all of the hard working people who bring our tours to life.

An estimated 1 billion people travel every year. MEJDI Tours sees this as 1 billion opportunities to make a difference. MEJDI Tours is dedicated to opening hearts and expanding minds, inviting clients to become cultural explorers while engaging and supporting the global communities we serve.