



MEJDI TOURS

Temple Micah of Denver's 10-Day, 9-Night Multiple Narrative Tour to Israel and the West Bank with Rabbi Adam Morris

Featuring an Israeli/Palestinian Guiding Team

With an Optional 5-Day, 4-Night Pre-Trip Extension for First Timers

Tour Dates:	October 22-31, 2023 (Optional Extension: October 18-22, 2023)
Included (Main):	9 nights accommodation as listed in itinerary ¹ 9 days touring with <u>two</u> MEJDI guides 1 day touring with <u>one</u> MEJDI guide (incl. w/extension) 7 days private transportation per itinerary 5 additional meals as indicated by [L, D] in itinerary Entrance, activity, and speaker fees per itinerary US and Jerusalem-based traveler service and support
Not included (Main):	International Airfare Airport Transfers Health/Medical Insurance (Required by Israel) Travel Insurance - Highly Recommended Single supplement = \$880 Meals not listed on itinerary Anything not listed under the included section
Pricing (Main):	\$3,720 x 23-24 paying travelers \$3,850 x 21-22 paying travelers \$4,020 x 19-20 paying travelers \$4,150 x 17-18 paying travelers

¹ Double occupancy, breakfast included [B]; or similar



Main Tour

Day 1: Arrival - Sunday, October 22, 2023 (1 guide)

- Upon arrival, transfer on your own to the hotel in Tel Aviv-Jaffa. A group transfer can be arranged if a large number of people arrive on the same flight.
- Gather for a welcome and orientation.

Hotel: BY14 Hotel, Tel Aviv

Day 2: Tel Aviv - Monday, October 23 (2 guides, bus)

- Travel 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 beginning under the fig and Poinciana trees of Rothschild Boulevard to learn about the city's history and to observe some of Tel Aviv's Bauhaus style buildings.
 - Begin outside the former house of Eliyahu Golomb, one of the founders of the Haganah organization, the pre-State Jewish military force that later evolved into the Israel Defense Force-the army of the State of Israel- in 1948.
 - See the Tel Aviv Founders Monument, Statue of Meir Dizengoff, and Nahum Gutman's Fountain and learn about the figures and events depicted.
 - Outside of Independence Hall, learn about the signing of Israel's Declaration of Independence and the founding of the State of Israel.
- Have lunch on your own in the Levinsky Shuk Market.
- Take a tour of the Largest Bus Station in the World with BINA: The Jewish Movement for Social Change. This tour will present the entrepreneurial spirit that led to the establishment of Neve Sha'anani and the New Central Bus Station; the vision for success and the reality of failure. It will reveal the unique sub-culture that has evolved in the empty spaces of the station and the communities which it serves. The tour will raise questions of social, financial, and racial gaps in the "White City." This will include a walking tour of the Central Bus Station and processing with BINA.
- Return to the hotel and have dinner on your own.

Hotel: BY14 Hotel, Tel Aviv [B]



Day 3: Jaffa - Tuesday, October 24 **(2 guides, bus)**

- Check out after breakfast.
- Take a shared society walking tour of Jaffa:
 - Begin by meeting a representative of the Arab-Hebrew Theater.
 - Visit Maskit to learn the story of this luxury women clothing line and its original founder, Ruth Dayan. Ruth was the first wife of Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Learn about her social activism and lifelong friendship with Raymonda Tawil, a Palestinian poet, nationalist, and mother-in-law to Yasar Arafat.
 - Next visit Hilweh Market to meet Adrieh Abou Shehadeh and her husband Jack Saba. Adrieh is the founder and curator of Hilweh Market, a local artisanal store featuring handmade housewares, textiles, jewelry and other contemporary and traditional items from Palestine and the Arab World. Jack oversees programming in Israel/Palestine for Telos, an organization that seeks to develop American Christian peacemakers to help transform conflict.
 - Have lunch on your own in the Jaffa Flea Market.
 - In the afternoon, meet students and faculty at the Tabeetha School. Jane Walker-Arnott, a mid-19th century young Scotswoman who came to Jaffa on a Christian Mission, founded the school after observing the 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.
 - Stop in for a drink (fresh juice, tea, or coffee) at the Yafa Coexistence Bookshop.
 - Visit the Bustan Yaffa Bilingual (Hebrew, Arabic) Kindergarten that operates in the spirit of the Waldorf method and meet with its director Ihab Balha. For more the 18 years, Ihab has been an Islamic cleric and a researcher of the Sufi Movement - the mythical Islamic movement. Ihab is sanctifying values of Islam for Peace and Love which constitute powerful tools to bridge and join hearts between people.
- Head to Jerusalem, check in, and find dinner on your own near the hotel.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B]



Day 4: A Four Quarter Religion, History, and Art Tour of the Old City of Jerusalem - Wednesday, October 25

(2 guides, bus)

- Check out of your hotel and ascend to Jerusalem
- 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.
- 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 have some free time to practice your haggling skills.
- 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.
- Return to your hotel and have dinner on your own.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B]

Day 5: The Musrara Neighborhood - Thursday, October 26, 2023

(2 guides, bus)

- Begin the morning at Jerusalem’s City Hall. The guides will provide an orientation to the Musrara neighborhood there. Musrara lies along the Seam Line that 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.



- In the afternoon, 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.
- Have a free evening.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B, L]

Day 6: Southern West Bank and Shabbat - Friday, October 27, 2023
(2 guides, bus)

- 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 the hotel's museum and art gallery.
- Continue south to Hebron. Have a group lunch. Then take a tour of the Old Town. Walk down Shuhada Street. See the Cave of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs.
- Then meet with a settler peacemaker in a settlement.
- Return to the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- Attend Shabbat services with Har-El, a Reform synagogue in the heart of Jerusalem, and be hosted by congregants for Shabbat dinner

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B, L, D]

Day 7: Shabbat and Mount of Olives - Saturday, October 28, 2023
(2 guides, bus)

- Begin the morning with a Shabbat morning gathering with reflections, contemplations, prayers, and songs at the hotel.
- Have the remainder of the morning free.
- Regroup in the early afternoon and drive to the top of the Mount of Olives and take in the magnificent view. For Jews and Muslims alike, the Mount of Olives is where the gates of heaven will open up on Judgment Day. This is why it is considered an important burial ground in both faith traditions. Along the slope of the hillside a series of important historical churches on the way to the Garden of Gethsemane. According to the gospels, Jesus and his disciples are said to have prayed at the site of the Garden of Gethsemane the night before Jesus's crucifixion.
- Return to the hotel, make havdallah and dinner on your own.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B]



Day 8: Northern West Bank - Sunday, October 29, 2023

(2 guides, bus)

- Join Rabbis for Human Rights, volunteers, and Palestinian farmers in harvesting olives in Palestinian olive groves.
- Continue north to the city of Birzeit. On the way to lunch in the Old Town, briefly stop outside to see the magnificent architecture of 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.
- Visit local brewery (time and circumstances permitting)
- Arrive to Ramallah for lunch
- Visit the controversial new Yasser Arafat Museum. Discuss and debate Arafat's complex legacy from multiple perspectives as both an unrepentant terrorist and a national freedom fighter, as both a revered Palestinian statesman and a politician tainted by corruption, and as both a deserving and undeserving Nobel Peace Prize recipient.
- Return to the hotel and have a free evening.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B, L]

Day 9: Street Art Tour and Mea Shearim - Monday, October 30

(2 guides)

- In the morning, take a graffiti tour in downtown Jerusalem and/or the Nachlaot neighborhood.
- Have lunch on your own.
- Travel to Mea Shearim and meet Racheli Ibenboim. Racheli is a social entrepreneur and activist in the emerging civil society movement in the ultra-Orthodox sector. She is also engaged in efforts to integrate the greater ultra-Orthodox community into Israeli society, encouraging discussion of responsibility, shared faith, and a deep sense of partnership. Racheli is the founder and director of Movilot, a vocational leadership organization for ultra-Orthodox women.
- Return to the hotel for a presentation from the Parents Circle-Families Forum, an organization of Israeli and Palestinian parents who have lost loved ones to the conflict and who have come together to work for peace.
- Have a free evening.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B]



Day 10: Jerusalem's Art Scene - Tuesday, October 31 **(2 guides)**

- Check out of the hotel after breakfast.
- Dive deeper into Jerusalem arts scene around the shuk:
 - First visit the Alliance House, an inclusive, vibrant, innovative, creative professional community in Jerusalem that works together in light of shared values and artistic cooperation. The space features 14 collections of artists working from shared workspaces and encourages original and uncompromising Jerusalem creativity. The building also hosts temporary exhibitions, conferences, classes, lectures, live performances, parties and various events that are open to the general public.
 - Then sample your way through the hustle and bustle of the Machane Yehudah shuk market. Have lunch on your own.
 - Then visit the Muslala Art Collective in the towering “white elephant” Clal Building across the street. Muslala’s artist hub is a project aiming to create a new vision for the building as an art, culture and sustainable living center. Muslala is community of artists and craftspeople who live and thrive on the rich soil of Jerusalem. Their goal is to nurture and grow a sustainable and flexible community which is sensitive and connective between one and oneself, between one and his community, and between one and the Earth.
 - Have an early closing processing session in the Muslala Workspace.
 - Have a farewell dinner at Anna, a high-quality Italian restaurant in the spectacular Ticho House, a historic building that belongs to the Israel Museum. The Dualis Yozma Fund established Anna as a social business that trains and employs youth in distress, providing them with an opportunity to acquire a profession and to change the course of their lives. The Ticho House features the art of Israel's beloved painter, Anna Ticho (1894 -1980) and contemporary art exhibitions.
- The guides will help travelers arrange transfers to the airport.

Hotel: N/A [B, D]



MEJDI TOURS

Optional 5-Day, 4-Night Pre-Trip Extension for First Timers October 18-22, 2023

Ext. Tour Dates: **October 18-22, 2023**

Included (Ext.): 4 nights accommodation as listed in itinerary²
4 day touring with one MEJDI guide
4 days private transportation per itinerary
1 additional meals as indicated by [L, D] in itinerary
Entrance, activity, and speaker fees per itinerary
Jerusalem-based customer service and support

Not included (Ext.): Airfare
Airport Transfers
Travel Insurance - **RECOMMENDED**
Single supplement = \$375
Meals not listed on itinerary
Anything not listed under

Pricing (Extension): **\$1,595** x 14-15 paying travelers
 \$1,695 x 12-13 paying travelers
 \$1,825 x 10-11 paying travelers
 \$2,025 x 8-9 paying travelers
 \$2,250 x 6-7 paying travelers

² Double occupancy, breakfast included [B]; or similar



Itinerary

Day Ext. 1: Arrival - Wednesday, October 18, 2023

- Upon arrival, transfer on your own to the hotel in Jerusalem. A group transfer can be arranged (for an additional cost) if a large number of people arrive on the same flight.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem

Day Ext. 2: Mount Herzl, Ein Kerem, and the Knesset - Thursday, October 19 (Guide, driver)

- Meet your Israeli guide at breakfast.
- Begin your pre-trip extension by visiting the Herzl Museum to learn about the history of Zionism through the perspective of Theodore Herzl, the founder of the Zionist movement.
- Visit the Mount Herzl Cemetery to learn about Israel's wars. Conclude the tour with a visit to the Memorial of Ethiopian Jews at Mount Herzl. There, learn about the waves of immigration of Ethiopian Jews to Israel via Sudan that started in the 1980s. By the end of that decade, some 17,000 immigrants arrived. The memorial site at Mount Herzl commemorates the thousands who died along the journey due to the harsh conditions that these immigrants faced.
- Have lunch on your own in Ein Kerem, the birthplace of John the Baptist and location of Mary's Well. There, hear competing narratives about the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the displacement of the local Palestinian population.
- In the afternoon visit the new Knesset Museum located in the original parliamentary house from 1950-1966.
- Enjoy a free evening along Ben Yehuda Street.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B]

Day Ext. 3: Yad Vashem and Shabbat - Friday, October 20 (Guide, Driver)

- After breakfast, be on the bus by 8:00 am.
- Take a sobering walk through Yad Vashem, Israel's living memorial to the Holocaust. Yad Vashem safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations.
- Return to the hotel and have free time to have lunch on your own, shop, and prepare for Shabbat.



- Join a liberal egalitarian congregation for Shabbat services.
- Be hosted by a Jewish family for a Shabbat dinner.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B, D]

Day Ext. 4: Masada, Dead Sea, and Qumran - Saturday, October 21
(Guide, Driver)

- Travel south to the mountaintop fortress of Masada. There, take in breathtaking views of the Judean Desert, explore the archaeological park, and learn the dramatic story of Masada's role in the Great Revolt.
- Take a dip in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea.
- Visit Qumran to see the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found.
- Return to Jerusalem and have a free evening.

Hotel: Eyal Hotel, Jerusalem [B]

Day Ext. 5: North Tel Aviv - Sunday, October 22
(Guide, Driver)

- Check out of the hotel after breakfast and travel to Tel Aviv.
- In honor of Yom HaAliyah, a new Israeli holiday celebrating Jewish immigration to Israel, start the day at the recently redesigned ANU Museum: the Museum of the Jewish People (formerly known as the Diaspora Museum). The museum presents and displays the unique and ongoing 4,000 year-old story of the Jewish people – past, present and future. The ANU Museum connects Jewish people to their roots and strengthens their personal and collective Jewish identity, while embracing an inclusive, pluralistic, and multicultural approach.
- Have lunch on your own at the museum.
- In the afternoon, visit the Yitzhak Rabin Center, a museum is dedicated to the life of the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that serves as a time-thread connecting the faces and events of modern Israeli history.
- Meet up with the rest of the group arriving that day.

Hotel: See "Main Tour" [B]