



## Cultivating Hope | Friends of the Arava Institute Study Tour

**Dates:** September 10 - September 16, 2025

**Included:** 6 nights' accommodation at the following hotels (double occupancy), or similar hotel as necessary:

- 2 Nights: Prima Kings, Jerusalem
- 2 Nights: Prima TLV / Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv
- 2 Nights: Kibbutz Ketura Guest House, Kibbutz Ketura

1 MEJDI-Trained Logistics Staff available throughout

Private bus transportation as mentioned in itinerary, including private arrival transfers + 1 group departure airport transfer

1-way flight Eilat-Tel Aviv

Meals listed in the itinerary: 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 6 dinners

Water on bus throughout tour

Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support

**Not included:** International airfare

Travel and Medical insurance-**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**

Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

Honorariums for speakers

Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff

Individual departure airport transfers outside of the group transfer

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

**Pricing:** \$3,900 per individual in a double room

\$4,750 per individual in a single room

### Itinerary:

#### Day 1: Wednesday, Sept 10, Arrival in Jerusalem (Private airport transfers)

- Welcome to Israel!
- After settling into our hotel in Jerusalem, we'll kick off the trip with a welcome dinner and introductions with Friends of the Arava and Arava Institute staff. We'll get to know one another, and prepare for the week ahead.

*Overnight: Prima Kings, Jerusalem (Dinner included)*



**Day 2: Thursday, Sept 11, Jerusalem and the West Bank (Private Transportation)**

- After a morning conversation with a local social leader, we'll travel to Ramallah and to Area C of the West Bank to see Arava Institute projects in the Jordan Valley and meet Palestinian civil society partners.
- We'll return to Jerusalem for the night.

*Overnight: Prima Kings, Jerusalem (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Included)*

**Day 3: Friday, Sept 12, East Jerusalem and Tel Aviv (Private Transportation)**

- Learn about the environmental challenges facing East and West Jerusalem with journalist and filmmaker Eliezer Yaari and Arava Institute Executive Director Tareq Abu Hamed.
- From there, we'll head to Tel Aviv, where we'll meet Arava Institute alumni for dinner and conversation.
- An optional Shabbat service will be available.

*Overnight: Prima Tel Aviv / Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)*

**Day 4: Saturday, Sept 13, Tel Aviv (Transportation according to Shabbat group activities)**

- This will be a day of optional activities.
- In the morning, we will offer a dual narratives tour of Jaffa.
- There will be free time in the afternoon.
- In the evening, we'll come back together for a conversation with guest speakers.

*Overnight: Prima Tel Aviv / Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)*

**Day 5: Sunday, Sept 14, Al-Furaa and Arava Institute (Private Transportation)**

- We'll head south to visit the local school in the unrecognized Bedouin village of Al Fura'a near Arad, where the Arava Institute is implementing off-grid solutions, including Israel's first off-grid classrooms.
- We'll continue on to the Arava Institute, which is located on Kibbutz Ketura, where we'll settle in for the night.

*Overnight: Kibbutz Ketura Guest House, Kibbutz Ketura (Breakfast, lunch and dinner Included)*



**Day 6: Monday, Sept 15, Arava Institute (No Transportation)**

- Today, we'll take a deep dive into the work of the Arava Institute.
- We'll tour the campus, hear from staff about their research and projects, and meet with students to learn about their experiences living and studying together.
- In the afternoon, you'll have time to explore the Institute and see the renowned Methuselah, the first date palm germinated from a 2,000-year-old Judean seed.

*Overnight: Kibbutz Ketura Guest House, Kibbutz Ketura (Breakfast, lunch and dinner Included)*

**Day 7: Tuesday, Sept 16, Departure from Israel (Private Transportation)**

- After breakfast, we'll travel to Eilat to visit the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences to learn about some of the transboundary marine challenges and opportunities
- We'll then gather for a closing lunch to reflect on our time together before heading to Ramon Airport for flights to Ben Gurion Airport and the next stop of your journey.

*Overnight: N/A. (Breakfast and lunch Included)*

