

Israel & Palestine Beyond the Headlines: MEJDI Mission 2026

(Scheduled Departure)

Dates & Pricing:

March 21-27, 2026 (\$3,750 per person, + \$900 single room supplement)

December 13-19, 2026 (\$3,750 per person, + \$900 single room supplement)

Included: 6 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar

• 3 Nights: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv

• 3 Nights: Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem

2 MEJDI-Trained Guides for 4 days 1 MEJDI-Trained Guide for 1 day 5 days of private bus transportation

Meals listed in the itinerary: 6 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners

Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers¹

Water on bus throughout tour

US-based and local customer service representatives

Not International airfare

included: Travel and Medical insurance-HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff Individual airport transfers to/from the airport

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

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 $^{^{1}}$ Subject to confirmation based on availability



Overview

Embark on an unprecedented journey with MEJDI Tours to engage deeply with the complex and evolving realities of Israel and Palestine today. Far beyond the headlines, this mission offers travelers a rare opportunity to hear from individuals on all sides of the conflict—Palestinian and Israeli guides, civil society leaders, survivors, families, cultural figures, and local residents—each offering insight into their lived experiences.

Through **MEJDI's signature Dual Narrative™ approach**, participants will explore historic and contemporary fault lines, engage with grassroots movements for peace and justice, and bear witness to both trauma and resilience. This journey amplifies voices often unheard and fosters meaningful dialogue across differences.

Come ready to listen, reflect, and connect—with empathy, curiosity, and a commitment to understanding.

"MEJDI Exclusive" Socially Conscious Experiences:

Our socially conscious model focuses on the human element of destinations—the diversity of its people and their stories—in a way that benefits local communities around the world. We specially design our itineraries to immerse you in these cultures. So you don't just visit new places; you become part of them. These human experiences and how we treat the people you meet are what sets MEJDI apart.

- Hear directly from grassroots activists, survivors, artists, and thought leaders—including members of Standing Together, Rabbis for Human Rights, a former Gaza resident, and a hostage family members—each sharing their story of struggle, resilience, or hope.
- Walk through **Bethlehem** with a local Palestinian guide, visit homes and community spaces, and engage with those navigating occupation, barriers, and restricted movement in everyday life.
- Travel to the Israeli communities most affected by the October 7 attacks and ongoing conflict—such as **Sderot** and the **Nova Festival** site—alongside **Bedouin villages** and **displaced families** whose voices are rarely heard.
- Meet people like Maoz Inon, who lost family members in the recent war and now advocates for nonviolence and shared society. Through these encounters, participants engage with stories of reconciliation and moral courage in real time.



Itinerary

Day 1: Welcome & Introduction to the Dual Narrative™ (2 Guides, Taxis)

Transfer to your hotel (on your own). Check in, rest, and prepare for the journey ahead.

In the afternoon, meet your **Israeli and Palestinian guides** for introductions, a review of current events and opening of the **Dual Narrative™** conversation you will be part of throughout this trip. Continue into an **Active Listening Workshop** as preparation for the challenging discussions ahead (Light dinner offered throughout).

Optional: Head to a **Demonstration** at the **Hostage Square**.

Hotel: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv (Dinner included)

Day 2: Humanity Beyond the Headlines (2 Guides, Private Transportation)

Begin the day with an interactive **Map Program** that offers a deep **historical overview** of the **diverse identities** within **Israeli** and **Palestinian societies**, exploring waves of **immigration** and the **political dynamics** that continue to shape both communities today.

Then, Head to the Hostage Square for a short tour and discussion about the unity and divides the hostage families are experiencing today. Continue to south Tel Aviv to view the new **graffiti murals** made to represent the experience of **Israeli children and mothers in captivity**.

On your way, drive past the corner of a major intersection where hundreds of thousands gathered weekly for months prior to October 7 in protest of judicial overhaul initiatives. Hear from your guides about the origins of those demonstrations and how they were perceived by different segments of the Israeli public.

Later, hear from an expert on how the events of October 7th impacted the communities of **foreign workers** living in Israel.

Your final stop of the day will be a guided tour of **Jaffa** with **Abed Abu Shehadeh**, exploring the history, identity, and current social status of Palestinian citizens of Israel, including reflections on the Nakba.

Hotel: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv (Breakfast included)



Day 3: Interfaith and Intercommunal Solidarity (Guide, Private Transportation)

This morning, head north and Join **Maoz Inon** on a special **journey of hope** through the captivating streets of the Old City of Nazareth.

Meet a local **Druze resident** for a discussion about their community, the recent political issues with Syria and experience as a distinct minority within a diverse social fabric.

Return to your hotel for a meeting with **Standing Together**, a grassroots movement mobilizing Palestinian and Jewish citizens of Israel in pursuit of peace, equality and social justice.

Return to Tel Aviv for the night.

Hotel: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv (Breakfast and Lunch included)

Day 4: Southern Israel and the Gaza Strip (2 Guides, Private Transportation)

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and begin the day in **Sderot**, a city just one kilometer from the Gaza border, to explore its complex history and experience firsthand the reality of life under threat. From there, head up to a **Gaza border lookout point** for broader geopolitical context and a chance to discuss the ongoing conflict and its impact on daily life in the region.

Continue to **Kibbutz Re'im** and the **Nova Music Festival site**, where you'll engage with stories of trauma, survival, and collective memory following the events of October 7.

After lunch, begin your way back north, stopping to meet with members of **Bedouin communities** deeply affected by the events of October 7. Long marginalized and living with inadequate infrastructure and access to resources, these communities faced unique vulnerabilities during the attacks. Hear directly from residents about their experiences and challenges, both past and present.

Travel to **Jerusalem** and check in to your accommodations. En route, engage in a **guided discussion** reflecting on the current realities in **Gaza**.

Hotel: Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast included)

Day 5: Reflecting on Loss, Pursuing Peace (2 Guides, Private Transportation)

Begin the day with a **walking tour of the Old City of Jerusalem**, offering panoramic views of Jerusalem's diverse neighborhoods and prompting



conversation about the city's visible and invisible boundaries—those both on and off the map.

Then make your way to a presentation on how the **Rabbis for Human Rights** organization's day-to-day work has evolved since the start of the war. Hear the Palestinian story from the Palestinian side and discuss how settler violence impacts Palestinians living in Area C.

After a short break, have an online conversation and briefing with a former **Gaza resident** on the current situation there.

Hotel: Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Lunch included)

Day 6: Palestinian Experiences and "The Day After" (2 Guides, Private Transportation)

Begin the day at the **Educational Bookshop in East Jerusalem** for a thought-provoking conversation with a prominent Palestinian cultural figure.

Then, travel to **Bethlehem** for an immersive "day in the life" experience with a local resident. Meet several community members and hear personal stories that reflect the lived reality of those navigating the current conflict.

Conclude the day with a dialogue led by a representative from **A Land for All**, exploring future visions for the region and potential pathways toward resolution.

Wrap up the program with a **facilitated reflection session** led by your guides, followed by a **farewell group dinner**.

Hotel: Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast and Dinner included)

Day 7 - May 16 - Departure

Check out and travel to the airport for your flight home OR opt for a private extension tour (by request).

(Breakfast included)