



MEJDI TOURS



HAARETZ

**Beyond the Headlines:
Explore Israel & Palestine with Haaretz in 2026**

Tour Dates: November 14-21, 2026 & March 13-20, 2027

Included: 7 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar

- 3 Nights: Tal Hotel, Tel Aviv
- 4 Nights: Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem

2 MEJDI-Trained Guides for 2 days
1 MEJDI-Trained Guide for 5 days
8 days of private transportation, including individual arrival and departure transfers
Meals listed in the itinerary: 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers¹
Water on bus throughout tour
Audio headsets for personal daily use
US-based and local customer service representatives

Not included: International airfare
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

Pricing: \$ 4,995 per person (double room)
\$ 5,970 per person (single room)

¹ Subject to confirmation based on availability

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival - Setting the Stage

(1 Guide, Private Airport Transfers)

Arrive in Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion airport and transfer to your hotel. Check in, rest, and prepare for the journey ahead.

In the afternoon (4-5pm), meet your **guide** for introductions, a review of current events and an opening session with a **prominent Haaretz journalist (Aluf Benn or Noa Landau)**, both of whom are not only top editors but influential voices shaping Israeli media and public discourse.

Continue into an **Active Listening Workshop** as preparation for the challenging discussions ahead (Light dinner offered throughout).

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

Hotel: Isrotel Gymnasia Hotel, Tel Aviv (Dinner included)

Day 2: Journalism, Protest, and Margins of Society

(1 Guide, Private Transportation)

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

Visit the **Haaretz** building and see the news desks in action.

Then, head to **Hostage Square** for a short tour and discussion with **Bar Peleg** about how the square evolved from a symbol of unity for hostage families into a focal point of renewed protest energy, echoing the massive election-related demonstrations that swept the country in early 2023.

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 guide 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 a **Palestinian Journalist or Political Activist**, exploring the history, identity, and current social status of Palestinian citizens of Israel, including reflections on the Nakba.

Hotel: Isrotel Gymnasia Hotel, Tel Aviv (Breakfast included)

Day 3: Suffering, Solidarity & Shared Futures

(1 Guide, Private Transportation)

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

Meet with a **Haaretz Reporter / Expert** to discuss the Palestinian Citizens of Israel community - Dialogue on crime, discrimination, and civil society responses

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 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: Isrotel Gymnasia Hotel, Tel Aviv (Breakfast and Lunch included)

Day 4: At the Edge – Life in Gaza and the Gaza Envelope

(1 Guide, 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.

Meet with a **Haaretz Journalist** to hear their experience in Gaza and the West Bank, reflections on life under siege. Possibly have an online conversation and briefing with a former **Gaza resident** on the current situation there.

Continue to a **Kibbutz** for a firsthand look at frontline communities deeply affected by recent conflict. Learn about the kibbutz's history, the October 7 attacks, and current challenges through a guided tour and personal testimonies.

Then, visit the **Nova Music Festival site**, where you'll engage with stories of trauma, survival, and collective memory.

Travel to **Jerusalem** and check in to your accommodations.

Hotel: Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem (Breakfast included)

Day 5: Divided Cities – Jerusalem in Layers

(2 Guides, Private Transportation)

Begin the day with a guided tour with **MEJDI Dual Narrative™ guides** – one Israeli and one Palestinian – who will each share contrasting historical, political, and cultural perspectives as you explore key sites in Jerusalem's Old City.

Meet **Nir Hasson** and continue the tour in the New City, focusing on contested geographies, planning, and demographic realities in East/West Jerusalem.

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

Day 6: Institutions & Identity – A Day in Ramallah

(1 Guide, Private Transportation)

Cross into the **West Bank** and begin your day with **Amira Hass** in **Ramallah**, the political and administrative center of the **Palestinian Authority**.

Tour the city's main sites. Then, meet with a **Palestinian journalist** or **academic** to explore the media landscape under occupation, discussing press freedoms, censorship, and international coverage.

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.

Conclude with a **guided reflection** and **facilitated discussion** on **freedom of movement** and the **future of Palestinian leadership**, followed by time for questions and group discussion.

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

Day 7: Living Realities and “The Day After”

(2 Guides, Private Transportation)

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.

Back in Jerusalem, meet with an **Israeli speaker** to gain the **right-wing political perspective**.

Conclude the day with a dialogue session led by a **Haaretz expert** 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 8: Departure

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

(Breakfast included)