



PLEASE NOTE: This price is a high-end estimate. Final price is dependent on the total number of travelers. Once registration closes, we will invoice final totals. The more travelers, the lower the cost will be. Max cost: \$3460

A \$500 deposit is due to reserve your spot by **April 20**. Full payment due by **August 26**. *Flights are not included in the above cost.*

Included in the cost of the tour:

Pre-Trip Orientation with CMEP (via video call) to learn more about the people, organizations, and places you will visit.

Post-Trip Debrief with CMEP (via video call) to discuss ways to engage your local congregation in conversations about the Holy Land and peace building between Israel/Palestine.

Registration for ASWR Summit.

Registration for the CMEP Regional Coordinators Nov 2024 Trip.

Here is the link to the registration page: <u>https://cmep.salsalabs.org/cmepregionalcor</u> <u>dinatorstrip/index.html</u> Join a group of Churches for Middle East Peace's Regional Coordinators as they venture to Israel/Palestine in November 2024.

This trip will highlight the spiritual significance of the Holy Land, the role local Christians play in the landscape of the region, meetings with religious and non-profit leaders in the region, and in depth analysis and engagement with the current realities in on the ground.

This trip also includes attending CMEP's **And Still We Rise Summit** in Jericho. The summit will be led by Palestinian women and gives international visitors the opportunity to engage with women peace-builders in their communities and in the wider Middle East.

CMEP hopes that trip participants will in return share their experiences and knowledge from this trip with their communities upon returning home — your local congregations, your denominational or organizational colleagues, and any others who may be interested in what you've learned.



Working Together: Justice can prevail. Peace is possible.

CHURCHES FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE REGIONAL COORDINATORS TRIP TO ISRAEL/PALESTINE

DATES

November 9-18, 2024

* \$500 deposit due by April 20, 2024 to reserve your spot * Full payment due by August 26, 2024

Itinerary Highlights Include:

- Dual-narrative guides through Jerusalem
- Meet with groups like Breaking the Silence, Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, Holy Land Trust
- Visiting with local peacemakers and various religious leaders
- Touring Bethlehem and Hebron
- CMEP's And Still We Rise Summit with Palestinian Christian women leaders

ITINERARY — 10 Days, 9 Nights

Day 1: (Nov 9) Arrival — Arrive at Ben Gurion airport and transfer to the hotel for check-in and welcome dinner with the group. Hotel: Jerusalem (Austrian Hospice) 3 nights, www.austrianhospice.com/en/

Day 2: (Nov 10) Jerusalem Garden Tomb — Overview of Jerusalem's religious history from the Mount of Olives. Take a full-day alternative tour of the Old City's Jewish, Christian, and Muslim holy sites with two guides, one Arab and one Jewish. Descend the road of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and visit the Holy Sites on the route—Dominus Flavit (where Jesus wept), the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Kidron Valley. Walk up toward the Old City through the Shepherd's Gate and visit the Pool of Bethesda (John 5) at the church of St. Anne. Traverse the Via Dolorosa and have lunch at a hummus restaurant in the Old City of Jerusalem. Explore the Muslim Quarter. Visit the Western Wall and Jewish Quarter. Finally, tour the Church of the Holy Sepulcher to learn about its many sectarian conflicts. Hotel: Jerusalem (Austrian Hospice)

Day 3: (Nov 11) Jerusalem — With a Jewish and Palestinian guide, explore Jerusalem's political history from an Israeli perspective. Have lunch with a renowned Israeli expert on Jerusalem, Danny Seidemann. Spend the afternoon driving/walking tour of Jerusalem with Jeff Halper of the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions (ICAHD). Dinner with Dr. Rabbi Daniel Roth. Hotel: Jerusalem (Austrian Hospice)

Day 4: (Nov 12) Hebron — Start the day with a meeting at Wi'am: The Palestinian Conflict Transformation Center in Bethlehem. Travel to Hebron to tour the Old City and the Cave of the Patriarchs. The Ibrahimi Mosque and Synagogue is the burial site of the Patriarch Abraham. Have a light lunch in the city and shop at the souk (local market) in Hebron—tour with Breaking the Silence. Hotel: Bethlehem (Sunrise Hotel www.sunrisehotel.net/index.php/en/)

Day 5: (Nov 13) Bethlehem — Begin the day in Bethlehem with a tour of the Church of the Nativity. Walk the Separation Wall.

Midmorning visit with Settler Bob at Efrat settlement. Head to the Tent of Nations for lunch, a home-cooked meal prepared by the Palestinian Christian Nasser Family, and to learn more about their ministry and engagement in peacemaking. Afternoon meet with Palestinian Christian Sami Awad of Holy Land Trust in the Old City of Bethlehem to further discuss the realities and challenges of holistic peace in the land. Savor fresh local cuisine at a Bedouin Tent Restaurant for dinner. Hotel: Option of homestay with a Palestinian family (will confirm closer to trip) or Sunrise Hotel.

Day 6: (Nov 14) Masada to Jericho — Travel to Masada. Explore Herod's mountaintop fortress of Masada, with its breathtaking views of the Judean Desert and Dead Sea. Walk the ruins at Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered and home to the ancient Essene community. Take a dip in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea. Head to Jericho, where you will remain for the summit. Hotel: Jericho (Oasis Hotel) 4 nights.

Day 7: (Nov 15) Jericho ASWR Summit (more info at: https://cmep.salsalabs.org/aswr2024/index.html) — Women and men present for Day 1. Hotel: Jericho (Oasis Hotel)

Day 8: (Nov 16) Jericho — ASWR Summit — Women at the conference, men will have alternate programming outside the hotel — planning on a day in Bethlehem at possible visit to Aida Refugee Camp with the Palestinian Prisoners Society and mothers and wives whose husbands or sons have been detained in administrative detention, interaction with the youth of the Aida Youth Program, and a tour of the refugee camp. Hotel: Jericho (Oasis Hotel)

Day 9: (Nov 17) Jericho — ASWR Summit — Women at the conference, men will have alternate programming outside the hotel — visiting a Bedouin camp that is being threatened by new illegal Israel settlements. We will be accompanied by a guide to explain the background of their displacement, and we will have lunch in the Bedouin camp. Hotel: Jericho (Oasis Hotel)

Day 10: (Nov 18) — Transfers to airport for flight back to US.