Damascus City Stay **4 days**

Take a break in the oldest inhabited city on earth. Walk the winding alleys of this living museum, explore ancient mosques, palaces and ruins and soak up the views from Mt Qassioun.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Damascus / Ends in: Damascus
- Departs: Any day of the year
- No local payment required
- Breakfast:3, Lunch: 0, Dinner: 0
- Hotel Rating: 4 or 5 star (Specific to your chosen itinerary)
- Tour Guide: Yes for guided sightseeing

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - click here
- To book this trip - click here
- To enquire about this trip - click here

TOUR MAP:

QUICK WEB LINKS

Lebanon Tour Prices ::: Why Us for Lebanon? ::: Lebanon Top Spots ::: Lebanon Useful Info ::: Lebanon Visas ::: FAQ's on Lebanon

Damascus City Stay **4 days**

Day 1: Damascus

Welcome to Syria and the start of your city stay in the nations ancient capital! Arrive Damascus, included transfer to your hotel and overnight. Overnight - Damascus

Day 2: Full day city tour

Today take a full days tour of reputedly the oldest inhabited city on earth. Lying about 80 km inland from the Mediterranean Sea, Damascus has a wealth of historical sites dating back to many different periods of the city's history. Since the city has been built up with every passing occupation, it has become almost impossible to excavate all the ruins of Damascus that lie up to 8 feet below the modern level!

Damascus is made up of a sizeable Old City, divided into the market area, Muslim area, Christian area and the Jewish area. All three groups are still represented in Damascus, even if the Jewish community now only counts a few thousand. In the centre of the city is Martyrs Square. In the side streets just off the square, there are lots of eateries serving shawarma and falafel and pastry shops serving sweetmeats. The Old city is surrounded by what was once a Roman wall and rebuilt several times over the last 2000 years, the Old City boasts a main thoroughfare, Straight Street which has been here since Graeco-Roman times.

Just beyond the Citadel is the colourful Souk al-Hamidiyya, whilst just a stone's throw from here is the Umayyad Mosque. Built in 705AD, the facades around the central courtyard are adorned with golden mosaics. South of the mosque is the beautiful Azem Palace, built in the 18th century, it is considered a great example of Damascene houses. We finish our tour of Damascus at Mt Qassioun, where you can soak up the incredible views. This evening, consider a traditional hammam at a Damascene bath house. Overnight - Damascus

Day 3: Free time

Free day to explore Damascus independently or perhaps take one of many optional day trips. You could head north to visit the ancient town of Ma'alula and Krac des Chevaliers - a crusader castle of epic proportions, that stands 650 metres above sea level and commands the strategic valley between Homs and Tripoli.

Alternatively visit the incredible ruins of Palmyra which include the beautiful Temple of Bel, tombs, the baths, a theatre and museum. Or journey south to see the ancient Roman Decapolis city of Bosra, which boasts possibly the best preserved Roman theatre in the Middle East. With so many wonderful ancient sites to visit perhaps consider extending your stay! Overnight - Damascus

Day 4: Damascus

Hotel check out and included onward transfer to airport.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- Damascus - the oldest continuously inhabited city
- National Museum and its 2nd century synagogue
- Handicraft Market and Souk al-Hamidayya
- Umayyad Mosque - a sacred site from 2000 BC
- The Tomb of Saladin
- 18th century Azem palace
- Straight street
- St. Ananias Church and St Paul window
- Panoramic views from Mt Qassioun

What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- 3 nights - 4 or 5 star hotel (specific to your chosen itinerary)
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 4
- English speaking guide
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air

conditioned vehicles
- Entrance fees to all included sightseeing
- Full day sightseeing tour of Damascus
- Syrian Tourist Visa, (excluding service fee - USD$10)and excluding USA passport holders.

What's Not Included

- International flights
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Laundry, drinks and items of a personal nature

PRICES AND DATES: from USD $859

Prices shown are 'per person', based on a travelling party of at least 2 adults. The single supplement price needs to be added to the twin/double price if single rooms are required. If travelling solo, an additional '1-person' supplement will apply Prices are indicative and will vary depending on your chosen hotels, room availability as well as time of travel. Please bear this in mind if comparing prices as we always aim to deliver exceptional value. Please note that discounts will apply if there are more 4 our more people in your travelling party, since fixed costs like transportation and guiding are shared across the group.

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.

POSTCARDS:

Here's what some of our past travellers have written in to us and said about their experiences on this trip.

Due to having travelled throughout Jordan and Lebanon I only had a few days spare before heading back to London so I decided to do the on the go Damascus city stay. I am so happy I did this as it was excellent. Damascus is an incredible city, the food was great and the atmosphere was surreal. It truly felt like I had stepped back in time. Thanks for giving me such a wonderful experience on the go.

John L, Nov 2010

I was absolutely blown away by Damascus. I loved that it is not as popular with tourists as Egypt and to a slightly lesser extent Jordan. It truly felt like a cultural experience unobtainable elsewhere. Thanks On The Go for a great experience.

Julia, Nov 2010