

## *Syria 9 Days– 8 Nights*

*"From Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>"*



### *Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October*

Arriving at **Damascus International Airport**, transfer to your hotel in Damascus.

**Overnight Damascus.**

### *Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October*

After breakfast the guide will meet you at the hotel to begin a full day tour of **Damascus**.



Visit the **National Museum**, the **Umayyad Mosque**, **Azem Palace**, **Straight Street**, the **Chapel of St. Ananias**, the **Window of St. Paul**, **Saladin's Mausoleum**, and stroll in **Souq Hamadiyah**.

**Overnight Damascus.**

### *Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October*

After breakfast, the driver and guide will meet you at the hotel to start the journey to the ancient ruins of **Palmyra "Queen of the Desert"**: visiting the **Temple of Bel**, the **Monumental Arch**, the **Colonnade**, the **Theatre**, the **Agora**, the **Tombs**, and the **Regional Museum**.



**Overnight Palmyra.**

### *Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October*



Depart **Palmyra** after breakfast, heading north to **Aleppo**. On the way, visit **Hama** and its famous **Norias**, the evocative remains of **Apamea**, and the Dead City of **Serjilla**.

**Overnight Aleppo.**

## *Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October*

After breakfast, the guide and driver will meet you at the hotel to begin the tour of **Aleppo**. Visit the **Archaeological Museum** and continue on to the **Citadel**, the **Grand Mosque**, the **Caravanserais** "Khan al-Wazir, Khan al-Sabun & Khan al-Gomruk", the **Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili** "once psychiatric hospital in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century and now a museum", **Jdayde quarter**, and stroll in the **old famous souks and bazars**.



**Overnight Aleppo.**

## *Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October*



The start of the day with an excursion to the **Sanctuary of St. Simeon**, then continue to visit the Bronze Age remains of **Ain Dara**.

After the visit, your guide and driver will join you back to Aleppo.

**PM:** Free at leisure for exploration of the souks.

**Overnight Aleppo.**

## *Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October*

Departure from **Aleppo** to return to **Damascus**. En route, visit the spectacular Crusader castle of **Krak des Chevaliers**. Continue to the small Christian mountain village of **Maaloula** "where the locals still speak the Aramaic", with its convent of **Mar Sarkis**, and monastery of **Mar Takla**.



**Overnight Damascus**

## *Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October*



Excursion to the south of **Damascus** to visit the "Plateau du Leja", **Shahba**, **Qanawat**, and Roman and Nabatean **Bosra** with its magnificently preserved Roman Amphitheatre.

**Overnight Damascus**

## *Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October*

Transfer to **Damascus International Airport** for final departure.

## **HOTELS**

### ***DAMASCUS***

**TALISMAN:** 5 stars - This Jewish Palace in Damascus old city has been renovated with a beautiful palette of warm colors and traditional furnishings.

[www.talismanhotels.com](http://www.talismanhotels.com)

**OR**

**BEIT ZAMAN:** 5 stars, located in the Straight Street - Four traditional Damascene houses have been combined to offer 28 rooms & suites. Dispersed on two floors, overlooking the courtyard with fruity trees. An authentic in-house Hamam (Turkish bath) makes it a plus.

[www.beit-zaman.com](http://www.beit-zaman.com)

**OR**

**OLD VINE:** This luxurious 17th century 9 bedroom boutique hotel is built around a central courtyard with lemon trees, magnificent old vine and fountains.

[www.oldvinehotel.com](http://www.oldvinehotel.com)

### ***PALMYRA***

**DEDEMAN PALMYRA:** 5 stars, located just minutes away from the ancient city

[www.dedeman.com/palmyra](http://www.dedeman.com/palmyra)

**OR**

**ZENOBIA CHAM PALACE:** 4 stars - with excellent location right on the edge of the ruins, overlooking the archaeological site.

[http://www.chamhotels.com/zenobia\\_palace.html](http://www.chamhotels.com/zenobia_palace.html)

### ***ALEPPO***

**YASMEEN D'ALEP:** This luxury hotel in a restored 17th century Aleppian house in the Jdaydeh area, a few steps from the main attractions. Personal and intimate with only 8 rooms and suites. [www.yasmeenalep.com](http://www.yasmeenalep.com)

**OR**

**ORIENT HOUSE:** Situated in the heart of the Jdaydeh district, a short walk from the city's 12 Century Citadel and the souks. Just doors away from the best restaurants.

[www.darzamaria.com](http://www.darzamaria.com)