





#### **Arrival - Damascus**

Meet our representative in the place and time you choose in Beirut &

transfer to Damascus, Pick up rooms at the hotel

You might like to try some

local ice cream or have a shawarma, and shisha is available just

about everywhere.







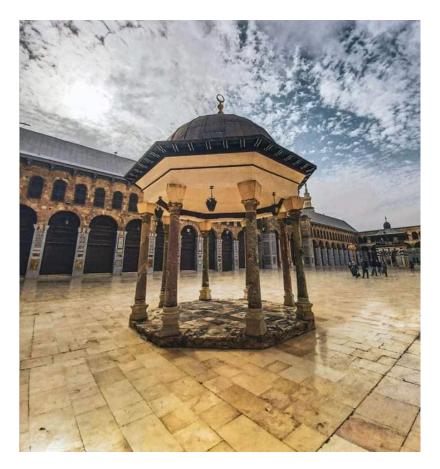


<u>The National Museum</u>: Its visit provides an overview of the civilizations that have succeeded in Syrian soil. It contains statues, seals, jewelry, masks, mosaics, tablets and weavings from the most important sites in the country.

<u>Souk Al-Hamidiye</u>: The most beautiful souk of Damascus. Its shops display all sorts of goods, especially clothes, fabrics, pastries and handicrafts.

<u>The Umayyad Mosque</u>: Located in the heart of the Medina, the mosque is distinguished

by its prayer room, its courtyard and its walls covered with mosaics.



**El-Azem Palace:** Not far from the Great Mosque, in the labyrinth of the souk is the palace El-Azem. It is considered as the sumptuous model of the Damascene house whose exterior simplicity and sobriety do not suggest anything about a beautiful and rich interior, with many varieties of flowers, fruit trees and water jets.

<u>caravanserai</u> is the largest caravanserai (khān) in the Old City of Damascus. Situated along Al-Buzuriyah Souq, it was built in 1751. Khan As'ad Pasha has been described as one of the finest khans of Damascus, and the most "ambitious" work of architecture in the city.

<u>Straight Street</u> (or in Latin, Via Recta), is the Roman street that runs from east to west in the old city of Damascus. It was visited by St. Paul as recorded in the book of Acts and contains several interesting sights from the Roman, Christian and Islamic periods. Under the Greeks, the old city of Damascus was designed after the grid pattern designed by Hippodamus. Under Roman rule, the Via Recta was widened and became a colonnaded thoroughfare (cardo). These columns can still be seen today.

<u>Saint Ananian Church:</u> It is of particular importance because it is attached to the memory of Saint Paul. Before his conversion to Christianity he had a vision here that blinded him for several days and gave him an unshakeable faith.

<u>In the afternoon</u>, you will explore Damascus' old town, bazaar, shopping areas and bar/restaurant Street. You might like to try some local ice cream or have a shawarma, and shisha is available just about everywhere.





# Damascus — Maaloula — Crack of the Knights — Al-Mishtaya

- •Breakfast at the hotel.
- •Departure towards Maaloula, a village famous for its houses dug in the rock like beehives and especially because it still speaks Aramaic, the language of Christ! Lunch.
- •Continue to the Crack des Chevaliers, the most famous fortress of the Middle Ages. The crusaders made it the basic element of their system of strongholds on the coast. It is so vast and so impregnable that it has become the symbol of a whole era of bloody struggles between Muslims and Crusaders ...
- •Dinner in Al-Mishtaya, is a village near Crack and overnight at the hotel.





## Al-Mishtaya — Safita tower — Ugarit — Lattakia

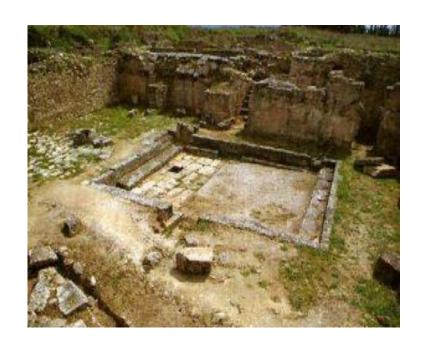


Breakfast at the hotel.

Departure towards Safita Tower, is located on a site where remains of the Phoenician settlement were discovered. It's square is a chapel dedicated to St. Michael and serving the Greek Orthodox community of the city

Continuation to Ugarit, a coastal town north of Lattakia.

Ugarit became famous thanks to the discovery of tablets of the oldest consonantal alphabet known to date. The first habitat, a large fortified village, dates back to the 8th millennium BC. The two immense palaces, later constructions, yielded archives and literary archives, attesting to an astonishing diversity of languages and five writing systems, including the consonantal alphabetical or Ugaritic script which dates from the 14th century BC AD



Dinner and overnight in Lattakia.



## Lattakia — Saladin castle — Amrit — Tartous



- •Departure towards the Château de Saladin .
- •Beautiful citadel built by the Franks in the middle of the forests, on a rocky peak. It allowed to control the roads coming from and going towards Lattakia. The history of this stronghold is long: the Phoenicians had already fortified the place, Alexander the Great seized it, as well as the Byzantines a few centuries later. It is the Crusaders who, in the twelfth century, will give the castle its current appearance. At the time, it was called "Château de Saône" (named after a crusader). Its current name was only awarded in 1957, commemorating Saladin's seizure of the place in 1188.
- •Resumption of the road direction to Amrit, the classical Marathus, was a Phoenician port located near present-day Tartous in Syria. Founded in the third millennium BC, Marat was the northernmost important city of ancient Phoenicia and a rival of nearby Arwad
- •Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Tartous.







## Tartous — Palmyra — Damascus

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Palmyra: The one that the Romans baptized Palmyra (the city of palms) and that the Syrians call Tadmor (miracle in Aramaic) is the most important oasis of the Syrian Desert.Located 240 km from Damascus, Palmyra is the city of all superlatives. It arises in the midst of golden sands that extend to infinity. An oasis of columns remains and palm trees that testifies to the splendor of this city that made, one day, tremble Rome.

- The temple of Bel: It was for the Palmyrenes what Zeus was for the Greeks. Its temple is the largest and most majestic building in Palmyra, a unique example of fusion between Greco-Roman and oriental-inspired architecture.
- The theater and the big colonnade: It crosses the city on more than one kilometer by which the caravans arriving from the desert passed.
- Tombs: including tombs towers, tombs dug tombs temples or individual tombs.
- Back to Damascus Dinner and overnight at the hotel.









#### Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer to the airport according to flight schedule, flight on scheduled flight.



### The price includes:

- Accommodation.
- Breakfast.
- 2 Transfers (Airport Hotel / Hotel Airport)
- Transport by tourist car.
- Professional guide.
- Approvals for visit and visa.
- Entrance fees for all sites in Syria.
- Departure tax.
- Assistance 24/24 on mobile phone, in Syria (+963988 265 319 ).

#### The price does not include:

- Drinks.
- Lunch
- Diner
- Cost of visa in Syrian borders
- Personal expenses.
- PCR test before departure (100\$)