



The Lebanese Mosaic

6 nights

28 September 2019 — 04 October 2019



Summary

Lebanon is fascinating nexus point of the Middle East and the West; of Christianity and Islam; of tradition and modernity. It's a place where culture, family and religion are all-important. With this tour, you will discover Lebanon famous cultural and religious sites, the beautifully restored downtown and the most iconic of all Lebanese trees, the Cedars forest.

Prices Include

Meet & Assist at Beirut Rafic el Hariri Airport by our driver
Transportation in a modern air conditioned vehicle as per program
Services of our accompanying English/French speaking guide
Accommodation for 6 nights in 4*stars hotels on BB basis
Lunches as specified in the program (5 lunches)
Entrance fees to the visited sites : Jeita grottoes, Harissa, Byblos, Beiteddine Palace, Deir el Qamar, National Museum, Tyre, Sidon, Echmoun sites, Gibran museum, Cedars & Qadisha valley, Baalbeck, Ksara & Anjar
Service charge & VAT (currently at 11%)

Overview

Interest: group - family- couple
Level of Comfort: 4
Minimum # of passengers: 2
Maximum # of passengers: 20

Prices Exclude

Airfare ticket
Visa fees
Portage at the airport & luggage handling at the hotels
Personal expenses (telephone, mini-bar...)
Tips for driver and guide
Insurance
Any item not mentioned in the included table

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Saturday 28 September:

Beirut (Arrival)

Meet & greet at the airport by our driver. Transfer to the hotel. Check in. Overnight at the hotel.

Sunday 29 September:

Beirut — Beiteddine — Deir el Qamar — Beirut

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the Chouf region. Visit the Beiteddine Palace (meaning “house of faith”). A perfect example of classic Lebanese architecture of the time, it has decorated ceilings, colorful marble mosaic floors, luxurious Turkish Baths and harem suites, in a setting of beautifully groomed gardens, a guest house in which the French Poet "Lamartine" once dwelt, water jets and colonnades.

Return to Beirut. Visit the capital of Beirut, home of the first law school in the world, dating back to the Phoenician Era. Visit the National Museum, the principal museum of archeology in Lebanon. Have a photo stop at Pigeon Rock and take the Corniche to reach the Downtown. The trendy Solidere area of downtown Beirut has been beautifully restored. Solidere is also home to several Roman ruins sites that have been uncovered and preserved, several notable mosques and churches, and the National Parliament Building. The ruins of the extensive Roman Bath complex are located just west of the Solidere (Beirut Central District) region, below the Grand Serail. Have a walk around “La Place de l’Etoile” and Clock Tower.

Overnight at the hotel in Beirut.

Monday 30 September:

Beirut — Echmoun — Sidon — Tyre — Beirut

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the South region. Short stop to visit the Phoenician temple of Echmoun, dedicated to the healing god Echmoun. Continue to visit Sidon, said to mean "fishing". Sidon was the third great Phoenician city-state, rivaling Byblos and Tyre as a naval power. In the old town more recent buildings worth a visit are Khan as-Sabun & Khan el-Franj. Proceed to Tyre. Lunch in a local restaurant then visit the Phoenician Sour (Tyre), queen of the seas, an island city of unprecedented splendor. There are two major archaeological sites in the town that can be seen. The Al-Bass Site consists of an extensive necropolis, a three bay monumental arch, and one of the largest hippodromes ever found. All date from the 2nd century A.D to the 6th century A.D.

Return to Beirut & overnight at the hotel.

Tuesday 01 October:

Beirut — Jeita — Harissa - Byblos — Beirut

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the North to visit Jeita Grotto. The caverns is on two levels: the lower caverns is visited by boat over a subterranean lake 623 meters long, while a dry upper gallery can be seen on foot. Continue to visit Harissa “Our Lady of Lebanon”, an immense immaculate statue overlooking the bay of Jounieh. Erected at the end of the 19th Century, the statue of the Virgin dominates a sanctuary (a chapel in the pedestal).

Lunch. Continue to visit Byblos, the oldest continuously inhabited town built upon multiple layers of ruins. Modern scholars believe the site of Byblos dates back at least 7,000 years (5,000-4,000 BC). Visit St John the Baptist church and explore the old souqs (markets) & the medieval ramparts.

Return to Beirut & overnight at the hotel.

Wednesday 02 October:

Beirut — Baalbeck — Ksara — Anjar — Beirut

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the Beqaa valley. Visit Baalbeck, Lebanon's greatest Roman treasure, can be counted among the wonders of the ancient world. The largest and most noble Roman temples ever built, they are also among the best preserved. Towering high above the Beqaa plain, their monumental proportions proclaimed the power and wealth of Imperial Rome. Lunch in a local restaurant. Stop at Ksara, a famous winery of the region dating back to the 19th century, for wine tasting. Continue to visit Anjar, the only remaining Umayyad site in Lebanon. Return to the hotel in Beirut.

Return to the hotel and overnight.

Thursday 03 October:

Beirut — Bsharre — Cedars — Qadisha — Beirut

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the North region. Stop at Bsharre, hometown of Gibran Khalil Gibran, the Lebanese author, poet and painter. Visit his museum. Proceed to the Cedars forest. The reserve constitutes what remains of Lebanon’s once vast

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cedar forest mentioned in the Old Testament. Lunch en route. Then visit the Qadisha Valley, one of the deepest and most beautiful valleys in Lebanon. The Qadisha Valley houses some of the most important early Christian monastic settlements in the world. Rock-cut chapels, grottoes, and hermitages, many painted with frescoes dating back to the 12th and 13th centuries, are tucked into the steep walls. Among the notable monasteries located in the valley are the Monastery of Mar Antonios Qozhaya & the Monastery of Mar Lisha. Return to Beirut. Overnight at the hotel in Beirut.

Friday 04 October:

Beirut (Departure)

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport for departure.

Pricing per person in US\$

	Double	Single
4* Hotel	955	1205

- *Prices may change without prior notice and subject to availability at time of booking*

CODE: LEB-SCHEDULED19-LEBANESEMOAIC

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