



Anglo Indiago Travels (P) Limited

IT IS ALL IN OUR NAME

**LEBANON TOURS**

**ITINERARIES**

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# BEIRUT CITY TOUR / HALF DAY / 3-5 HOURS

Be enchanted by the capital of modern Lebanon, the country's cultural and commercial center. See the city's top attractions while discovering how Beirut was built on a rocky headland, and has risen and fallen over the centuries. See the Martyrs' Statue, the **Nejmeh Square** in **downtown Beirut** and the **Beirut National Museum**.

You will start with a picture stop at the **Pigeon Rocks**, the most famous arched rock formations along the coast of Beirut.

Then to **Zaitunay Bay**, Beirut's new entertainment destination has opened since December 2011. Located around Beirut Marina at Minet El Hosn, Zaitunay Bay offers the Lebanese and foreign visitors an unrivaled destination in terms of location, scenery, accessibility and entertainment.

Next, you will go to the trendy Downtown area where you will visit **Al Amin Mosque** and historical churches in addition to the **Roman Baths ruins**. Then you will go the restored **souks** area where you can find all the brands for shopping and some small cafés to have an afternoon coffee.

**3 HOURS PANORAMIC CITY TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE THE NATIONAL MUSEUM. TO ADD A VISIT TO THE MUSEUM THE TOUR DURATION WILL BE 4.5-5 HOURS INCLUDING ADDITIONAL BUS AND GUIDE TIME.**

# BEIRUT CITY TOUR - 5 HOURS

HALF DAY TOURS

- 10:00 Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut)
- 10:30 National Museum visit
- 11:30 Transfer to Pigeon Rocks
- 11:45 Photo stop at the famous Pigeon Rocks
- 12:00 Transfer to Zaitunay Bay
- 12:15 Start the walking tour with first visit to Zaitunay Bay
- 12:30 Walk around Beirut's Downtown area with stops including Martyrs Square, Mohamad el Amin Mosque, Nejme Square, Saint George Church
- 14:30 Return transfer to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

# BEIRUT CITY TOUR



# CHOUF MOUNTAINS / HALF DAY / 5 HOURS

You will go up to the **Chouf Mountains**, around 45 minutes drive south of Beirut.

First, you will visit **Deir Al Qamar** village to witness its distinctive narrow streets, stone steps, and historic, buildings and palaces. **Deir Al Qamar** resembles an open-air museum. From the 16th to 18th centuries, the picturesque village served as the residence of the Ottoman appointed governors of Lebanon, beginning with *Fakhreddine II*.

Then you will go to **Moussa Castle**, which demonstrates Lebanon's traditional way of life and moments in history. Animated scenes and statues depicting Lebanese culture comprise three floors of the castle, while the other two floors hold Eastern and Arabic weapons collection that date from as recently as 1945 to more than 4000 years old.

You will continue your journey to **Beiteddine** built by the Emir's 3 sons: *Qassim, Khalil* and *Amine*. Today Emir Khalil's palace is used as the Serail of Beiteddine, the seat of local administration. As for the palace of Emir Amine, which dominates the Beiteddine complex; it was beautifully restored and converted into a luxury hotel by the Ministry of Tourism.



# HALF DAY CHOUF MOUNTAINS TOUR 5 HOURS

- 10:00 Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut)
- 11:00 Walk around Deir el Qamar Village
- 11:30 Transfer
- 11:45 Moussa Castle Visit
- 12:30 Transfer
- 12:45 Beiteddine Palace visit
- 14:00 Return transfer to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

# BAALBEK TOUR / FULL DAY / 10 HOURS

You will start with **Baalbek**, which is also known as the City of the Sun. It is located in the **Beqaa Valley** (3000 ft above sea level) and holds some of the world's greatest historical and best preserved Roman sites. Its remains include a gigantic complex of Roman temples with the tallest columns ever erected. The Roman gods were worshipped in its Acropolis (constructed between 1st –3rd Century AD). In **Jupiter Temple**, only six columns remain out of the 54 giant columns that originally surrounded the sanctuary. The temple was built over a Phoenician podium dating from around 3000 BC.

The city of Baalbek has major remains from Islamic times including the **Grand Mosque** built by Omayyad Caliphs, with material borrowed from ancient monuments, and Mameluk Mosque.

Then you will continue to **Anjar** located in the Bekaa valley, 58 km from Beirut. It was built by the Omayyad caliph al-Walid Ibn Abdel Malek in the early 8th century A.D. Inside the city's strong fortifications are the remains of streets, three palaces, souks, two hammams and a Mosque.

Located on the old route linking the Bekaa with Damascus, Anjar was built in the neighborhood of an ancient stronghold called Gerrah. Today the name of Gerrah is retained in the word Anjar which means source of Gerrah (Ain Gerrah).

At the end you will have a tour of **Ksara Winery** where you will visit the caves and have a wine tasting.

# BAALBEK - ANJAR – KSARA WINERY 10 HOURS

- 09:00 Departure from the hotel ( inside Beirut)
- 11:00 Baalbek visit
- 12:30 Transfer to Anjar
- 13:30 Anjar Temples
- 14:15 Transfer
- 15:30 Ksara Winery visit including cave tour and wine tasting
- 17:00 Return transfer to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**



# BAALBEK / ANJAR

As early as 9000 BC, Baalbek was a place for worship and became a cornerstone of ancient civilizations. The ruins stand tall as an archaeological wonder with towering monuments and impressive columns.

The city of Anjar was founded by Caliph Walid I at the beginning of the 8th century. The ruins reveal a very regular layout, reminiscent of the palace-cities of ancient times and are a unique testimony to city planning under the Umayyads.



# KSARA WINERY



# JEITA - HARISSA – TELEFERIQUE - BYBLOS

## FULL DAY / 8 HOURS

You will start by visiting the *Dog River* where you can see the inscriptions left by armies throughout the ages; from the cuneiform inscription of *Nebuchadnezzar II* to the Latin inscription of the Roman emperor *Marcus Aurelius Antonius* to the British-led Desert Mountain Corps.

You will continue to visit **Jeita**, the magnificent limestone cave in Lebanon. It is the largest cave in Lebanon. First discovered in 1836, the cave serves as the source of the river *Nahr El Kalb*.

Afterwards, you will continue your trip to **Jounieh**, a bustling city with modern buildings and active night life almost stealing the show from Beirut. From there you will take a cable car to go to **Harissa**.

**Harissa** is the seat of the *Papal Nuncio* in Lebanon and it is the most important site for religious pilgrims in Lebanon. **Harissa** is most famous for its large statue of the Virgin Mary, opened in 1908. There are about 20 churches and monasteries of several denominations in the area.

Then you will then go to **Byblos**, a mix of sophistication and tradition. **Byblos** is a contender for the title of oldest continuously inhabited city. Next, you will visit the castle and then you can take a walk through the medieval quarter of the city and explore the old *souks* (markets), the medieval ramparts, and several beautiful old churches.

# JEITA - HARISSA– TELEFERIQUE –BYBLOS TOUR

## 8 HOURS

- 09:00 Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut)
- 10:00 Jeita Grotto
- 11:30 Transfer to Harissa
- 12:00 Harissa
- 12:30 One way cable car down to Jounieh
- 12:45 Transfer to Byblos
- 13:30 Byblos Castle visit
- 14:30 Free time in Byblos Souks
- 16:00 Return transfer to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

# JEITA GROTTO

A contender for the Seven Wonders of the World. One of the world's most beautiful caverns where water and time has sculpted cathedral-like vaults and splendiferous formations.



# HARISSA & TELEFERIQUE

Our Lady of Lebanon Sanctuary, one of the most important centers in the world for honoring Virgin Mary, draws thousands of believers from all over the world each year. One of Lebanon's oldest and most visited tourist attractions, the gondolas of the Teleferique aerial cableway are a trip down memory lane, offering breathtaking views of the bay of Jounieh and the surrounding city.



# BYBLOS

Byblos, (Jbeil in Arabic) is the largest city in the Mount Lebanon Governorate of Lebanon. It is believed to have been occupied first between 8,800 and 7,000 BC and is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



# QADISHA VALLEY / CEDARS FOREST TOUR / 10 HOURS

Your journey will start by heading north up to the mountain to reach the Famous Cedars.

The **Cedars forest** is one of the main tourist attractions in Lebanon; the forest has been mentioned and referred to many times in the Bible, its rich history has made this area one of the most important tourist destinations in the Middle East. Today, it is a preserved area and has been turned into an open art museum through the work of artist Rudy Rahme who is transforming dead cedar trees into works of art.

The nearest village to the cedars is **Bcharre**, famous for its Grotto, Valley of the Saints, Monasteries, Churches, hermitages and Museums. **Bcharre**, is the home-town of *Gibran Khalil Gibran*. This famous writer and artist is the author of “The Prophet”. The **Gibran Museum** is dedicated to his life and works, located at the entrance of the village, in the forest of Saint Sarkis, next to ancient monasteries and a Phoenician tomb.

The **Qadisha Valley** known for its steep slopes and high peaks, throughout time, was a refuge for persecuted monks, and hermits who hid in its caves and grottos where they built their monasteries.

The last stop will be **Kozhaya**. This beautifully preserved city, part of the Holy Valley, is where Maronites once hid during the turbulent Ottoman period. Visit the Monastery of St Anthony, which was built partly into the mountain and boasts beautiful vistas of the forest and valley.



# QADISHA VALLEY – CEDARS - KOZHAYA TOUR

## 10 HOURS

- |       |                                          |
|-------|------------------------------------------|
| 09:00 | Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut) |
| 11:30 | Visit to Gibran Museum                   |
| 12:30 | Transfer                                 |
| 13:00 | Cedars Forest                            |
| 14:00 | Transfer to Qadisha                      |
| 14:45 | Qadisha Valley                           |
| 15:45 | Transfer to Kozhaya                      |
| 16:00 | Kozhaya tour                             |
| 17:00 | Return transfer the hotel                |

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

# QADISHA VALLEY / CEDARS FOREST TOUR

Nature lovers will find paradise on earth in this region endowed by breathtaking landscape and natural wonders for the eye.



# SOUTH LEBANON TOUR / FULL DAY / 8 HOURS

Travel down Lebanon's coast for an amazing journey through history that takes you from the ancient days of the Phoenicians to the Crusader period. This day trip from Beirut explores the UNESCO-listed city of Tyre, the medieval architecture of Sidon, and the hilltop pilgrimage site of Maghdouché.

After a one-hour drive from Beirut by comfortable coach, your day trip starts in the village **Maghdouché**, which is famous for its shrine that marks the sacred cave where the Virgin Mary is believed to have waited for Jesus while he preached in Sidon. At the town's entrance, on a high hill looking back at the city of Sidon, stands the statue of Lady Mantara, Maghdouche's most famous landmark.

From here, you head to the coast to visit **Sidon**, another important commercial center with a wealth of history. The city's narrow alleyways and traditional *souks*, or markets, sweep you back to the Middle Ages, when its imposing crusader castle was built overlooking the harbor. Explore the impressive Great Mosque and hear how it was built in the 16th century on the foundations of a Crusader building.

Your final stop will be in the magnificent city of **Tyre**, built by the Romans. Listen to the stories of the ancient city's prosperity, which was based on an industry of purple-dyed textiles, and visit the UNESCO-listed ruins built during Roman times.

# SOUTH LEBANON TOUR

## 8 HOURS

FULL DAY TOURS

- 09:00 Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut)
- 10:00 Maghdoushe and Lady Mantara visit
- 11:00 Transfer to Sidon
- 11:30 Sidon Castle Visit
- 12:00 Old Souks visit
- 13:30 Transfer to Tyre
- 14:30 Tyre Ruins
- 15:15 Tyre Hippodrome
- 16:00 Return transfer to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

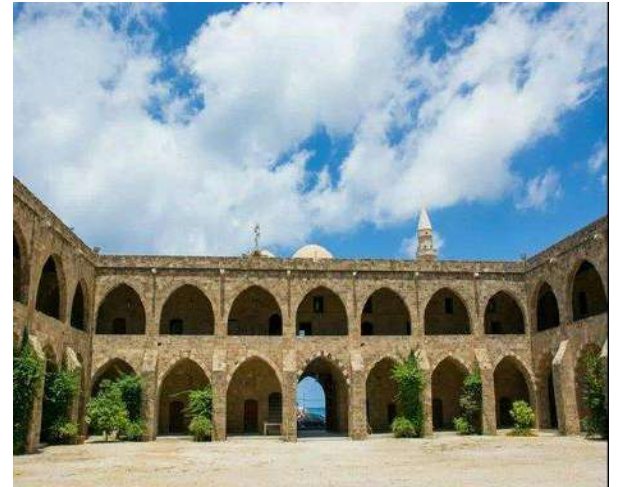
# MAGHDOUCHE

Located in South Lebanon, Maghdouche is a town with a beautiful story to tell. Recognized as an important destination for pilgrims, it is also a place where agricultural traditions remain strong and where visitors can enjoy a snapshot of true village life.



# SIDON

Set amid thick citrus and banana groves, the port town of Saida, also called Sidon, was once a rich and flourishing Phoenician city, with tight trade links to ancient Egypt and a globally renowned glass-making industry.



# TYRE

Tyre was built for the most part on an island reportedly impregnable, considered one of the oldest metropolises of the world, and according to tradition founded in 2750 B.C. According to legend Tyre was the place of the discovery of purple pigment.



# CHOUF MOUNTAINS / FULL DAY / 8 HOURS

Tour includes Deir Al Qamar, Moussa Castle and Beiteddine Palace.

## **FULL DAY TOUR INCLUDES SHOUF BIOSPHERE RESERVE VISIT:**

The largest of Lebanon nature reserves, **Al-Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve** stretches from Dahr Al-Baidar in the north to Niha Mountain in the south, blanketed with oak forests on its northeastern slopes and juniper and oak forests on its southeastern slopes. The reserves most famous attractions are its **3 magnificent cedar forests of Maasser Al-Shouf , Barouk and Ain Zhalta – Bmohary**. These Cedar forests account for a quarter of the remaining cedar forest in Lebanon and some trees are estimated to be 2,000 years old.

The **cave fortress of Niha** is carved into the rock of a cliff overlooking the Bisri and the Aray valley and its strategic location monitors the road between Sidon and the Bekaa. Rooms were dug in the living rock to serve as shelter for soldiers, as depots, and for domestic use. It was well fortified and closed off to intruders.

The Al-Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve is a popular destination for hiking and trekking, with trails matching all levels of fitness. Bird watching, mountain biking and snow shoeing are also popular. From the summit of the rugged mountains, visitors will have a panoramic view of the countryside, eastward to the Beqaa Valley and Qaraoun Lake, and westward toward the Mediterranean.



# FULL DAY CHOUF MOUNTAINS TOUR

## 8 HOURS

- 09:00 Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut)
- 10:00 Walk around Deir El Qamar Village
- 10:45 Transfer
- 11:00 Moussa Castle Visit
- 11:45 Transfer
- 12:00 Beiteddine Palace visit
- 13:00 Transfer
- 13:45 Shouf Biosphere Reserve
- 16:00 Return to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

# CHOUF MOUNTAINS

The southernmost part of the Mt Lebanon Range, this mountainous region southeast of Beirut is wild and isolated in some parts, and covered with small villages and terraced agricultural plots in others. It used to be the center of power for Fakh el-Dine Maan II and Emir Bashir Shehab II, ruling from Deir el-Qamar and Beiteddine respectively.



# SHOUF BIOSPHERE RESERVE

**Al Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve** is a nature reserve in the Chouf District of Lebanon. The reserve contains the Lebanon cedar forests of Barouk, Maaser el Shouf and Ain Zhalta-Bmohray. It is an Important Bird Area (IBA) and Eco-tourism area. It hosts 32 species of wild mammals, 200 species of birds, and 500 species of plants.



# TRIPOLI & BATROUN TOUR / FULL DAY / 8 HOURS

You will start with **Tripoli**, is the second-largest city in Lebanon. The history of Tripoli dates back at least to the 14th century BCE, the city is famous for having the largest crusader fortress in Lebanon (the **Citadel of Raymond de Saint-Gilles**), and it has the second largest amount of Mamluk architectural heritage on earth (behind Cairo).

Tripoli houses plenty of heritage sites and traditional soap, copper, and pottery factories that have sustained its economy throughout history. A few highlights are the **old souk**, which sells all types of vintage, culinary and commercial products, the **olive oil soap factory Khan Al Saboun**, and **Qasr el Helou** a traditional Arabic sweets shop founded in 1881 and owned by the Hallab family, whose high reputation is known all over the country.

The head to the charming coastal town of **Batroun** was a flourishing city and port in Phoenician times (3000 - 64 BC). Batroun is likely the 'Batruna' mentioned in the 14th-century BC Tal el-Amarna tablets of Egypt, and its one-of-a-kind ancient Phoenician wall still stands guard over the city against the Mediterranean Sea.

Take a stroll though the **19<sup>th</sup> century souk** where a showcase of sandstone arches and vaults is at display, to the **225m marine Phoenician wall** sculpted in the nearby beach rocks more than 2,000 years ago, to the **100-year old Saint Stephan Cathedral**, a masterpiece of roman-byzantine architecture, next **Lady of the Sea Chapel** (Saydet el-Bahr), to the old Phoenician fort damaged by the powerful earthquake of July 551, the remains of the **ancient Roman theater's 11 tiers** and last but not least, the **Roman stadium** sculpted in the rocks of Mrah El Cheikh.

# TRIPOLI – BATROUN TOUR 8 HOURS

FULL DAY TOURS

- 09:00 Departure from the hotel (inside Beirut)
- 10:45 Tripoli Citadel tour
- 11:45 Tripoli Old Souks visit
- 13:00 Transfer
- 13:30 Nabu Museum visit
- 14:00 Transfer to Batroun
- 14:30 Batroun Phoenician Wall and Old Souks
- 16:00 Return transfer to the hotel

**\*\*\* LUNCH CAN BE ADDED TO THE TOUR.**

# TRIPOLI

Let's discover together the neglected and forgotten jewels of the Old City of Tripoli, once capital of the Crusader County of Tripoli & the only Mamlouk city in Lebanon. Discover mosques, churches, khans, hammams, madrassas (Coranic schools), and souks dating back to the 13th century.



# BATROUN

Batroun is famous for its summer season attractions - water sports, beach clubs and nightlife -but the town retains much of its older splendor, with narrow, winding alleys making up its inner neighborhoods of dense housing, incorporated into the walls of its Crusader castle.

