

Travelling The Unknown

N.E. SYRIA ROJAVA TOUR

5 Days/ 4 Nights

Introduction:

- Unlike any other tour we have run before, this tour takes you to North-East Syria - areas controlled by the SDF with a mostly Kurdish leadership. This region is also known as Rojava. You'll experience a variety of places such as Raqqa, the former capital of ISIS, to the Kurdish town of Kobane, on the border with Turkey, with a rough recent history.

Highlights:

- Sunset by Jaabar Castle, one of our favourite historical sites in all of Syria, located next to a lake. Our favourite sunset spot in the country.
- Wander through the bustling marketplaces of Hasakah and visit its political monuments.
- Explore the diversity of Qamishli, from its churches to historic Jewish market and synagogue, to Kurdish dancing.
- The city of Raqqa - former capital of ISIS now recovering.

DAY 0 (PRE TOUR) DAMASCUS



- Meet and greet in Damascus, where we will give a pre-trip briefing. The location will be sent to you nearer the time. We can arrange an airport pickup or assist with a safe transfer from Beirut or Amman.
- Here, we will also collect the remainder of the money required for the tour (deposit paid to bank account, remainder in cash on arrival), which you will have to give us in cash.
- We will go for dinner together in Damascus to get to know each other and perhaps explore the local area for those not familiar with the city.

Accommodation IS NOT included for this night in Damascus - if you'd like us to arrange your accommodation, let us know.

RAQQA, JAABAR CASTLE

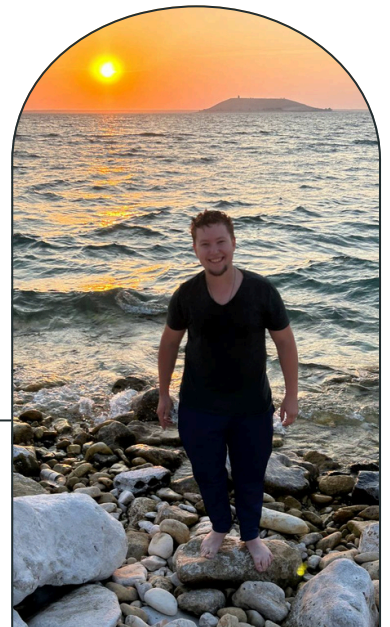
- Wake up early before gathering at 6am at a predetermined location. We will leave Damascus to drive to Raqqa, crossing into SDF controlled areas on the way and picking up our permission slips.
- The drive will take around 6 hours - feel free to sleep on the way as it is quite a long ride. If you're already in Syria and you'd like to start the tour somewhere else, please let us know.
- Check into our hotel in Raqqa where you'll have a short time to wash and unpack. We will then go on a city tour, visiting the local markets, a local museum about the harsh reality under ISIS, the Euphrates river, local library and more.
- Before sunset time, we will drive to Jaabar Castle, an impressive 11th Century castle on the banks of a lake. We will then watch the sunset over the shores of the lake (our favourite sunset in Syria).
- We will then return to Raqqa and have dinner together and a short evening tour before returning to the hotel to get some sleep.



JINWAR WOMEN'S VILLAGE, QAMISHLI CITY

- In the morning, we will depart towards Qamishli, visiting the women only village of Jinwar (don't worry men, you'll be allowed to visit but can't live there!) to learn about their ideology and way of life.
- Then, we will continue to the city of Qamishli. Here, we will visit the Assyrian Christian community and their churches, as well as a Jewish synagogue and views of the Turkish border.
- Around sunset time, we will visit Azadi Park, a great place to people watch with funfair rides and Kurdish vibes.
- We will then return to our hotel, where we will spend the night.

DAY 1



DAY 2

DAY 3



HASAKAH CITY & ABDULAZIZ MOUNTAIN

- After breakfast, we will leave Qamishli and head to Hasakah. Depending on the group size, we may be able to have a homestay experience with a local Kurdish family.
- We will walk through the bustling marketplaces of the city, before having lunch in a traditional restaurant. We will visit some iconic monuments in the city. Hasakah is filled with an ethnic mix of Kurds, Assyrian Christians and Arabs - it is an interesting vibe.
- Before sunset, we will drive to the nearby mountain of Jebel Abdulaziz, which is home to the historic citadel of Sukare. We will visit the citadel and enjoy the natural views, before having a barbeque in the middle of the nature. Please help us out prepare the meat and salads and more!

KOBANE AND OVERNIGHT IN RAQQA

- In the morning, we will depart Hasakah city and head to Kobane, a Kurdish town on the border with Turkey. We will be received by local families who will show us their town, which suffered greatly during the fight against ISIS. We will also visit some local monuments in the village, such as the Resistance Monument.
- We will have lunch in the town whilst learning about the local residents' culture and what they have put up with in recent years.
- Before sunset, we will return to Raqqa, where we will spend the evening beside the Euphrates river and enjoying the local atmosphere.

RESAFA -> DAMASCUS

- After breakfast in Raqqa, we will start to make our way back down to Damascus at around 8am, leaving SDF controlled areas. However, we have an exciting place to visit on the way!
- Not far outside the city of Raqqa is the ancient city of Resafa, an old Roman city. We will have a tour of this ancient site before continuing to Damascus.
- We will arrive back in Damascus at around 4pm. End of tour.
- If you would like us to organise a transfer to Damascus airport, Lebanon, Jordan or elsewhere, or to book a hotel for you, let us know!

PRICE: (SENT SEPERATELY)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: 300 USD



INCLUDED:

- SDF area entry permission
- Twin-share accommodation (single supplements are available at an additional cost) for every night of the tour that is spent in NE Syria. Accommodation in Damascus **IS NOT** included!
- Entry costs to all museums, historical sites and places that we visit.
- Tourist permits and all required permissions.
- Transportation between the places mentioned in the itinerary.
- English speaking guides licensed guides
- Breakfast

EXCLUDED:

- Syrian visa support to get to Damascus (extra fee if required)
- Accommodation in Damascus
- Transport to and from Damascus before or after the tour
- Single supplement for those who do not want to share a room (300 USD)
- Tips for the guides (not mandatory)
- Lunch, dinner, drinks and souvenirs

DAY 4



DAY 5

