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**AIRBORNE SDN BHD**

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**12 DAYS**

**I ♥ D Damascus**



**Syria**



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EMAIL: [tour@airboretours.com.my](mailto:tour@airboretours.com.my)

**DAY 1 DEPART FOR BEIRUT, LEBANON**

Depart for **Beirut, the capital of Lebanon.**

**DAY 2 ARRIVE BEIRUT (1N)**

**(D)**

On arrival in Beirut, check into hotel. Free at leisure after checking in.

**Warwick Palm Beach Hotel 4\* or similar**

**DAY 3 BEIRUT – ALEPPO, SYRIA (1N)**

**(B, L, D)**

Early morning pick-up in Beirut and transfer to **Syria**. After crossing the Daboussieh border drive to Syria's second largest city, **Aleppo** which looks back on an impressive history of nearly 8,000 years, competing with Damascus for the claim to fame of the oldest continually inhabited city in the world. Enroute, lunch in **Homs**. Due to its key location connecting the Eastern and Western worlds, Aleppo has a reputation as a city of savvy traders and merchants. The city is slowly rebuilding from the ruins of the recent conflict. Start with **Aleppo city tour (the outside of the Umayyad Mosque – Old covered souks and bazaars).**

\*\*In case the Northern border closed, we will use the Masnaa Border: Beirut – Damascus - Aleppo road 400km

**Aleppo Palace Hotel 4\* or similar**

**DAY 4 ALEPPO – HAMA (1N)**

**(B, L, D)**

Continue with **Aleppo City Tour (Citadel – Old City – Museum – Baron Hotel)**. Visit the city of **Hama** (136km) which is laying on both sides of the Orontes's banks, adorned by its enormous wooden 'Norias' or waterwheels, which have creaked and churned since Roman times. Visit the twisting alleyways of Hama's charming old city.

**Orient House Hotel 4\* or similar**

**DAY 5 HAMA – LATTAKIA – UNGARIT – TARTUS (1N)**

**(B, L, D)**

Transfer to **Lattakia** to visiting **Saladin castle**, then continue to visit **Ugarit (remains of the old city and the Royal Palace)**. Continue to **Tartus** (100 km).

**Shahin Tower Hotel 4\* or similar**

**DAY 6 TARTUS – AMRIT – CRAC DES CHEVALIERS (1N)**

**(B, L, D)**

Visit **Amrit** (the temple, tombs and the stadium), then drive to **Al Wadi** to visit **Crac des Chevaliers (UNESCO Site)**, which was built by the Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem from 1142 to 1271. With further construction by the Mamluks in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century, Crac des Chevaliers ranks among the best-preserved examples of Crusader castles.

**Al Wadi Hotel 3.5\* or similar**

**DAY 7 AL WADI – PALMYRA – SEDNAYA (1N)**

**(B, L, D)**

Early morning drive to **Palmyra** (220km), an oasis in the Syrian desert which contains the monumental ruins of a great city that was one of the most important cultural centres of the ancient world. For a time, the so-called Islamic State or ISIS controlled the region around Palmyra, and some of the ruins at the site were destroyed. Visit the pearl of the desert with its incredible monuments (Columns Street – Remains of Victory Arch and Bel Temple – Royal Tombs – Roman Theatre. Drive to **Sednaya** for overnight.

**Sheraton Ma'aret Sednaya Hotel 4\* or similar**

**DAY 8 SEDNAYA – MAALOULA – DAMASCUS (2N)**

**(B, L, D)**

Visit **the Lady of Sednaya Monastery**. **Maaloula**, attracts visitors both for its charm, and for its importance in the history of Syrian Christianity. Homes in Maalula are gaily painted in violet and blue pastels and perched abreast an imposing gorge between two mountains. It is also home to a population that still speaks a dialect of Aramaic, the language of Jesus Christ, and to two historic Christian monasteries: one Greek Orthodox dedicated to St. Thekla, the other Greek Catholic dedicated to Saint Sergius. Continue to the capital, **Damascus**.

**Beit al Mamlouka Hotel 4\* or similar**

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**DAY 9 DAMASCUS (B, L, D)**

**Damascus** founded in the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C., is one of the oldest cities in the Middle East. Damascus boasts some 125 monuments from different periods of its history; the **National Museum** which houses the finest collection of archaeological artifacts from around the country. Among its treasures are a fragment of the oldest known alphabet in the world, unearthed at Ugarit, and an 1800-year-old synagogue transported piece by piece from Dura Europos on the Euphrates River; the **Umayyad Mosque**, which is named for Islam's first ruling dynasty, and is one of the great monuments to the ingenuity of early Islam, **the Azem Palace**, the luxurious home of the Ottoman governor; **Souq Al Hamidiyeh**, the bustling covered bazaar that fills the senses with colours and life; the legendary Street Called Straight mentioned in the Bible, which spans the old city's length from East to West; the **Chapel of St. Ananias** and **St. Paul's Window**, from which Paul the evangelist was lowered to escape the Romans; and **Bab Touma**, the Christian quarter with its charming alleyways and handicraft shops.

**DAY 10 DAMASCUS – BEIRUT (1N) (B, L, D)**

Spend time in **Damascus bazaar** before traveling back to Beirut for flight home.  
**Warwick Palm Beach Hotel 4\* or similar**

**DAY 11 DEPART BEIRUT (B)**

Free at leisure till transfer to airport for flight home.

**DAY 12 ARRIVE HOME**

**Departure date: 10 – 21 April 2022**

**TOUR FARE (base on Twin sharing):**

**RM11,500pp – 5pax**

**RM9,999pp – 6pax and above**

**Single supplement RM1,600**

**Excludes**

- **Flights from RM3,600pp Economy Class on Emirates**
- **Travel Insurance**
- **PCR tests**

**Security**

Trips to Syria do create dangers all of their own and whilst we want you to have as much freedom as possible we must state that the guide has the final word with regards to changes in the itinerary for safety reasons. Whilst the route we have chosen passes through areas that we consider to be stable things can change and we may have to alter the route or cancel sections of the trip at short notice. If there is an extra expense incurred due to the change of itinerary then you may be asked to bear part or all of that cost. For example, if we have to fly between cities rather than drive.