



Oasis of
Peace

واحة السلام
נווה שלום

Wahat al-Salam
Neve Shalom

Visitors Center

Proposed activities in NS/WAS

The Basic Program:

- Acquaintance with the Jewish/Arab cooperative village, its history, ideology, and a discussion with a village member, to be followed by a guided tour of the village.

For details about the village please see www.nswas.org

This program lasts for about two hours, and costs 35 Shekels per person + VAT, minimum charge for small groups, 600 NIS + VAT, including refreshments.

Topics for Lectures and Debate:

- **Palestinians citizens of Israel.**
- **Bi-national and bi-lingual education** in Neve Shalom/Wahat As-Salam elementary school.
- **The first school of its kind** in the country in the country. Includes a visit to the school for people in the education profession; teachers and students.
- **The community**, structure, decision-making, dilemmas of joint management.
- **History of the Jewish-Palestinian conflict.**
- **The Zionist project** from a critical perspective.
- **The developments** and changes through the years, in working with groups in conflict in Israel.
- **Challenges of educating** for critical thinking about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- **Solidarity or co existence**, how to work for political and social change?
- **A diary of a Neve Shalom/Wahat al Salam mother**: what I learned from my children.
- **Meeting with the NGO** representative at NSWAS.

- **A hike in the area: visit sites of destroyed Palestinian villages.**

The Tour includes:

Brief history and introduction to the three destroyed Latrun villages, (Emmaus, Beit Nuba and Yalo) with a display map showing their location in the occupied West Bank in 1967. The link between the occupation in 1967 and the attempt to occupy the area in 1948

The process of obliterating the Palestinian identity by creating a public park belonging to the Jewish National Fund

The Walking Tour:

Follow a path to the centre of the village, visit the Emmaus central Cemetery and the shrine of Sheikh Ubeid. Photo display of Emmaus village before and after demolition. Visit some of the few remains that still exist of two houses and the Bayader area (Bayader is where the farmers brought their harvested wheat for processing), where now stands a wall with names of donors to the Jewish National Fund. The tour also includes a visit to the wells in lower Emmaus.

The tour is on foot but does not include the villages of Yalo and Beit Nuba due to difficulty of access to them. Duration of the visit is about 2 hours.

- **Archaeological Tour:** From WAS/NS to Latrun monastery, with a professional archaeologist from the village.
- **"Living off the maps"** - how the State deals with its citizens, the example of the Bedouins in the Naqab.
- **"From equality to solidarity"** a glimpse at the role of Jews and Arabs, in reaching justice and equality: the example of NS/WAS
- **The role of NGO's in ending the conflict.** WAS/NS and other NGO's as examples of what is possible and what is not possible.
- **Who will bring the change?** The role of women and Mizrachim, as two example in Israeli-Jewish society, what is their contribution in the dialogue process, and how do they effect the relations between the two peoples.

Study tour to the South

- Visit to unrecognized villages in Southern Israel – one day program including meals and transportation.

Study tour to the North:

- Wadi Ara, Um al Fahem, Nazareth, and upper Nazareth. Visit the church of annunciation.
- Ilaboun the alternative planning committee.
- Sleep over in an Arab village.

Study tour to Jerusalem:

- . Tour of the separation wall with the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions
- Or with other organizations.
- Visit Jerusalem Municipality and meet with officials who will explain about the city and its future development.
- Alternative Archaeological Tour of Ancient Jerusalem – “From Shiloah to Silwan”
- <http://www.alt-arch.org/index.html>

Study tour to Jaffa

- Introduction and visit to the Arab-Jewish Theatre in Jaffa and guided tour of old Jaffa.

Study tour to Bethlehem

- Visit Bethlehem municipality and meet with officials who will explain about the current situation in the city. Visit to the Nativity Church, Bethlehem University, the separation wall and confiscated villages, Dehasheh refugee camp.
- **Activities and Lectures at the Bruno Hussar Pluralistic Spiritual Center:**
- Bruno Hussar and the history of Neve Shalom ~ Wahat al-Salam
- Celebrating our differences- how the children in Neve Shalom ~ Wahat al-Salam school learn and celebrate the three faith traditions
- Experiencing Doumia~Sakinah -The space of silence
- A guided meditation for peace- followed by a silent walk and a silent sitting in the house of silence
- Prayers for peace .A guided meditation for peace followed by reading from the scriptures and/or chanting.

Story-telling workshop:

A workshop conducted by a village member who is an actor and story teller, in Hebrew or English. The workshop offers an opportunity to learn about conflicts between cultures through stories; it also encourages participants to share personal stories and experiences.

The School for Peace at Neve Shalom/Wahat As-Salam:

List of Lectures:

- Introductions to the School for Peace
- The approach to working with groups in conflict
- The role of language while working with group in conflict
- Post colonialism and the dialogue approach

In addition to the lectures, the School for Peace offers the following workshops:

- **Identities in Dialogue**

A Glimpse of the School for Peace Work

Goals:

- a. In the workshop we will conduct a dialogue between the group members on the relations between the participants and the Jewish-Arab conflict and the dilemmas that they face when they deal with this issue in their home countries.
- b. The workshop will give the participants the opportunity to get to know the working method of the School for Peace.

Staff: from the School for Peace

I would like to clarify that all our programs are related to the Palestinian/Israeli conflict, human rights, and discrimination, thus our programs are educational and we can offer accommodations and meals at our guesthouse.

Respectfully,
Rita Boulos,
Visit Programs Director,
Communications & Development Office
Wahat al-Salam ~ Neve Shalom