

## WHAT ARE THE FIRST STEPS TO PLANNING A TRIP TO PALESTINE?



We are waiting to share all the ways to make your trip one you and your travelers will always remember. Please contact us at Bright Stars of Bethlehem and let us assist you in developing an authentic travel experience. Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, Dar al-Kalima University Founder and President, is waiting to welcome you to Palestine!



[travel@brightstarsbethlehem.org](mailto:travel@brightstarsbethlehem.org)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

You may have a number of questions regarding traveling to the Holy Land. Click on the above title to read answers to some of the most commonly asked questions that arise when preparing for such a life changing trip.



## RECOMMENDED READING LIST AND VIEWING LIST

Click on the above title to learn of a list of resources in preparation for your trip to Palestine. In no way exhaustive, it offers books for the first-time traveler to Palestine, including a number of books written by Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, Founder and President of Dar al-Kalima University. We are happy to tailor a reading list specific to your trip.

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# TRAVEL TO PALESTINE

## A Life Changing Experience

Each year, many individuals and church groups use Bright Stars of Bethlehem as a resource to either find a trip to join or organize a trip of their own. Let us help you find a trip that works for you! We are waiting to share all the ways to make your trip one you and your travelers will always remember.





Have genuine encounters with the “living stones” of the Holy Land. This includes meeting and visiting with Palestine’s next generation of creative leaders, the students of Dar al-Kalima University.

By including a tour of Dar al-Kalima University on your trip, you will be able to meet emerging artists, tour their classrooms, enjoy cuisine prepared by the loving hands of Palestinian chefs, and take in the warmth of Palestinian hospitality. Tours can also include a presentation by visionary and world changer Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, Founder and President of Dar al-Kalima University.

Our mission is to raise awareness and support for Dar al-Kalima University, the first and only university of arts and culture in all of Palestine. Through supporting the University, you help to empower young Palestinian artists. Follow us on social media or join our newsletter to receive ongoing updates about the community of which you have become a part.



## WHAT DOES AUTHENTIC TRAVEL LOOK LIKE?

One of the best ways to experience the work of Bright Stars is to travel to Palestine and the Holy Land. Millions of people visit the Holy Land each year, many for religious pilgrimages, but often these visitors explore ancient sites and historical monuments without experiencing deep engagement with the people whose land they are visiting.

Rather than simply sending tourists to see these “dead stones” and sites of the Holy Land, we want you to meet the “living stones” through authentic, life-changing travel.

Authentic travel provides an engaging, meaningful experience by moving beyond the typical tourist sites and events to a richer exchange with the people and culture of a destination. Authentic travel also helps support the Palestinian economy. Dar al-Kalima University offers hospitality and tourism education as a means of providing careers to young Palestinians in what promises to be a lucrative and growing market.



## BOOKS TO BETHLEHEM

Traveling to Bethlehem and planning to visit Dar al-Kalima University? Dar al-Kalima University is in need of books and resources for their ever-growing library. These educational resources are helping to establish a learning center with the latest research and information for our students. This is where you can make a difference. Please consider participating in the Books to Bethlehem program. It’s easy!

- Visit [this list](#) at Amazon. Please use AmazonSmile in order to give back to Bright Stars with every Amazon purchase you make!
- Purchase the materials and have them shipped to you.
- Write your name and where you are from on the inside cover.
- Pack in your suitcase and bring with you to Bethlehem.
- Drop them at Dar al-Kalima University in Bethlehem.

You may ask, “Why not just ship it directly there instead of adding to the weight of my luggage?” Unfortunately, shipping books directly to Palestine is not the best option. Often mail and packages never arrive at their destination.

Thanks for remembering not to pack light and for bringing needed materials to further the education of our students at the University. We appreciate you, and so do our students!