

## Practical information:

### ACCOMODATION:

Betharram Monastery  
2 and 3 bed rooms available

### DURATION:

10 - 17 July 2016  
14 - 21 August 2016

### COSTS: 300 Euro

The price includes meals, accommodation, excursions, entrance fee and all the expenses of the meetings. The flight to Tel Aviv (Ben Gurion Airport) must be booked by the participants themselves. Likewise the transport to Bethlehem.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Individuals or groups in the age between 18 and 30 years.

**VENUES:** The workshops will take place at the Betharram Monastery.



Betharram Monastery

## About us

### INFO

AEI-Open Windows is an Arab-Palestinian NGO. Working with youth, women and educators, it is engaged in the field of community education.

### CONTACT

Contact: +972 2 2744030  
E-mail: [aei@p-ol.com](mailto:aei@p-ol.com)  
Internet: [www.aeicenter.org](http://www.aeicenter.org)



### ARAB EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE

Youth Media House  
Paul VI Street near  
Grand Hotel  
Bethlehem, Palestine

*8 days and 7 nights  
for 300 Euro*

## Spirit of Sumud

### Pilgrimage to Palestine



10 - 17 July 2016  
14 - 21 August 2016



Tel Aviv  
Airport

Jerusalem



Jericho



Bethlehem



Dead Sea



Hebron



## SPIRIT OF SUMUD

### Pilgrimage to Palestine

*Warm your heart, refresh your soul  
and meet new friends in Palestine.*

We invite you to join a youth pilgrimage to Palestine. This youth pilgrimage will help you to seek communion with God but also to discover the Palestinian land – its colorful culture, the spirit of *sumud* (resilience), the dabkeh dance, and ecological diversity (picnic in the desert!). You will stay together with people from different countries at the friendly Betharram Monastery in the warm heart of Bethlehem.

### What makes this pilgrimage unique?

#### You will:

- ❖ Travel on centuries-old paths that Jesus walked
- ❖ Engage with youth from different fascinating cultures
- ❖ Meet Palestinian families whose lifestyle is an emblem of *sumud*
- ❖ Experience incredibly friendly hospitality
- ❖ Share traditional, unknown cultural and spiritual customs as well as hands-on workshops
- ❖ Reflect upon real peace in the land associated with peace
- ❖ Observe present-day situations which you may know from the news, like the Separation Wall and a Palestinian refugee camp



## PROGRAM

You will explore the streets of **Bethlehem** center and visit the Church of Nativity, the traditional birthplace of Jesus. There will be a visit of Aida refugee camp and a walk along the 8-9 meter high Wall erected around Rachel's Tomb.

The Mount of Olives will show you a grand panorama of **Jerusalem**. We will walk downhill to Gethsemane, further into the Old City of Jerusalem, with its famous Via Dolorosa, Holy Sepulchre, Western Wall and Dome of the Rock.

In ancient **Hebron** we will visit the divided Cave of Machpela/Ibrahimi Mosque, and walk in the center and the suq, encountering local youth. On the way back a meeting at the Tent of Nations, a Palestinian agricultural and ecological project on a hill top south of Bethlehem, showing the deep human principles of *sumud*.

On a visit to **Bedouins** and the desert to the east of Bethlehem, you will learn how desert people take care of animals, and share a lunch with Bedouins. Of course, you will have a chance to float on the **Dead Sea**.

In **Jericho** you will visit desert monasteries, Nebi Musa (Moslem holy place), and the traditional Baptism place at the Jordan River. Plus the old city of Jericho, enjoying a glass of a cold fresh orange juice!

Back in **Bethlehem** there will be relaxed meetings with Palestinian youth about youth life, a picnic/barbecue in open nature, and music performances, topped off by the Palestinian dabkeh dance.



*Women's choir performing next to the Wall in Bethlehem*

## SUMUD

Many citizens of Palestine have developed in their individual daily life the idea of *sumud*. Literally the Arabic word of *sumud* means 'steadfastness' or 'perseverance', but it is sometimes also translated as Palestinian 'resilience'.

## NOTICE

The program will sometimes start early in the morning or end in the evening to avoid the midday sun. AEI accompaniers will be present throughout the program to provide basic information about sites visited. The program may be adapted when the situation on the ground requires it.

## Are you interested?

If yes, please register at [www.aeicenter.org](http://www.aeicenter.org). Registration and online payment should be at least 3 months before arrival. When you learn about the journey at a late moment, please contact us to see possibilities of joining.



*Dead Sea*