

Jordan Valley Solidarity
a network of Palestinian grassroots community groups from all over the Jordan Valley and international supporters



PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Jordan Valley Climate around the year

November-February:

10-15°C daytime temperature, 6-10°C at night

February-April:

20-26°C daytime temperature, 15-20°C at night

April-September:

30-45°C daytime temperature, 30-38°C at night

September-November:

20-26°C daytime temperature, 18-22°C at night

Rain falls from November to March, and sometimes in April.



Dress code

Independently of the weather conditions, it is necessary to respect the dress code of the country. This means that you should wear long trousers covering at least your knees, and shirts which cover at least your shoulders, have a high neckline, untransparent fabric and no tight fitting.

If you come during the summer months, light clothes which cover most of your skin will help you cope with the intense heat and sunlight.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Packing list

Be aware that, depending on the season you are visiting in, the weather conditions vary strongly. To get detailed information about the temperatures and about rainfalls read the section “Climate around the year” above. If you are unsure of what to bring with you for your stay in Palestine, here is a list of items you should definitely take along with you:



- Sunscreen
- Mosquito spray
- Towel
- Suitable work gear: light (especially in summer), long-sleeved trousers and shirts which do not need to stay clean. Keep in mind that your clothes can become dirty whilst working in the farm or on construction sites.
- Decent footwear like sneakers with good profile or even hiking shoes. Keep in mind that you will need a good grip to work and walk on rough grounds. Do not bring shoes which you want to keep clean.
- A hat or a scarf to cover your head and neck to protect from the sunlight and the cold wind.
- Warm, wind-breaking clothing for the evenings and nights which are usually very windy and can get cold even in the summer.
- Rain jacket and warm clothes - if you come during the winter months
- Small first-aid kit with plasters, disinfection spray and similar material to treat small wounds; Imodium or other medicine against diarrhea, Ibuprofen
- Hygiene products like tampons as there often are only pads sold in the shops
- Important documents (e.g. passport, health and travel insurance documents)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Travel and health insurance



It is your own responsibility to concern yourself with obtaining an insurance. We strongly advise you to purchase both travel and global health insurance contracts if they are not already included in your regular insurances.

Visa

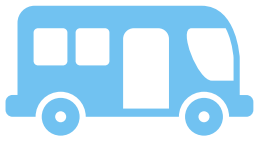


All border points to Palestine are controlled by the Israeli State Authorities which in effect means that you must get a Visa to Israel. Passport holders from European Union member countries, from Albania, Switzerland, the United States and many more (visit the [website of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) to find out about the status of your country concerning visa by downloading the file) can travel to Israel visa free for three months for tourism, business and similar purposes. This means that they do not have to apply for a visa in advance. But keep in mind that even though the entry is “visa free”, you can still be rejected entrance to the country by the border authorities at the airport in Tel Aviv or at any other border point.

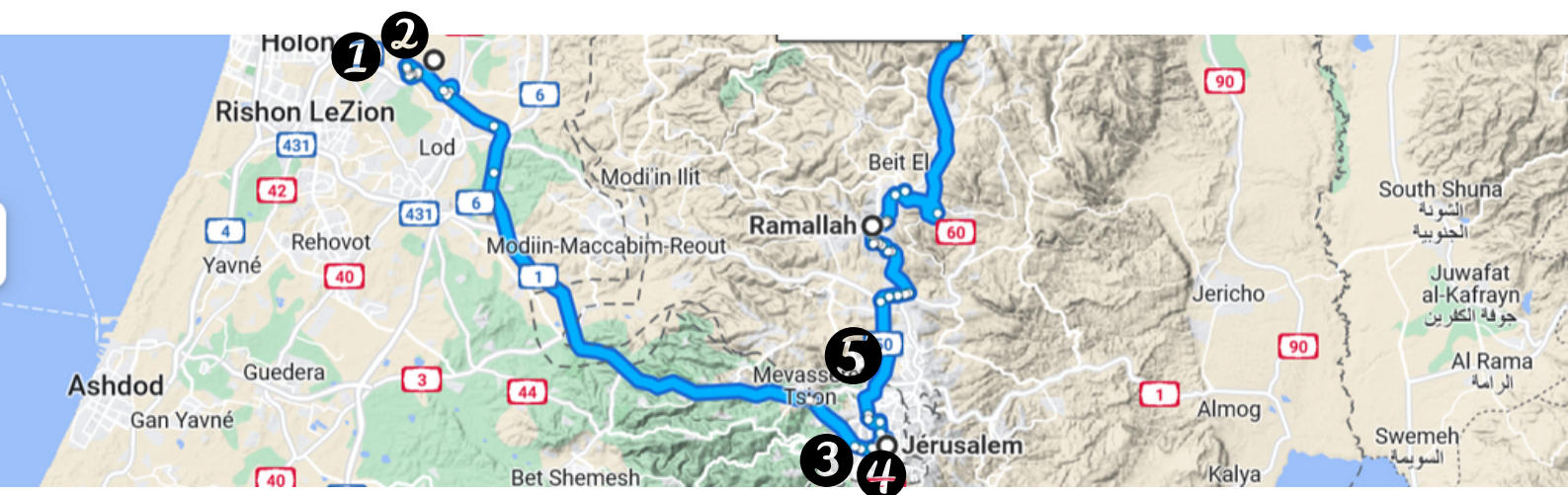
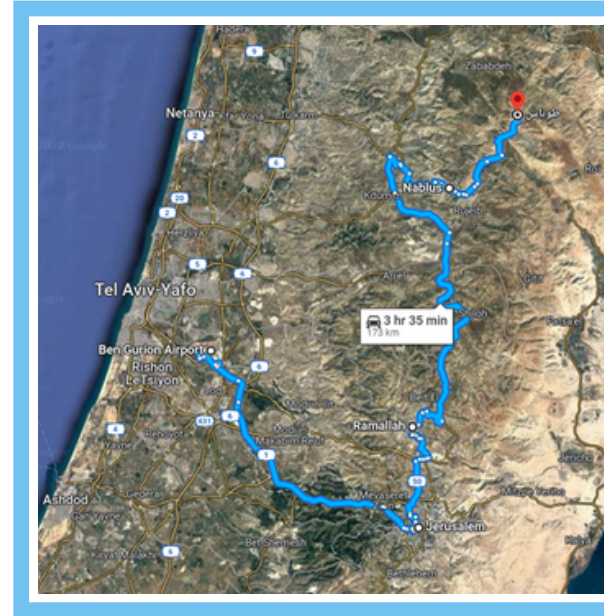
If you are a passport holder from a country not exempt from visa application, go to the [website of the Israeli embassy](#), and check the requirements for a visa application under “B/2 Visitor’s Visa” before planning your visit in Palestine.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

How to get to our center



As the transport opportunities in the Jordan Valley are very restricted, travelling to our location can be a challenge at first. Therefore, we have created a map and instructions of how to get to a meeting point in Tubas, where one of us can pick you up and bring you to our center.



- 1** Arrival at Tel Aviv Ben Gurion Airport.
- 2** There is a train which brings you from the airport directly to Jerusalem Navona Station in 20 minutes. Just walk out of the airport, following the signs saying “Trains”, and buy a ticket for 18 Shekels at the ticket office. From Sunday to Thursday, the trains go

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

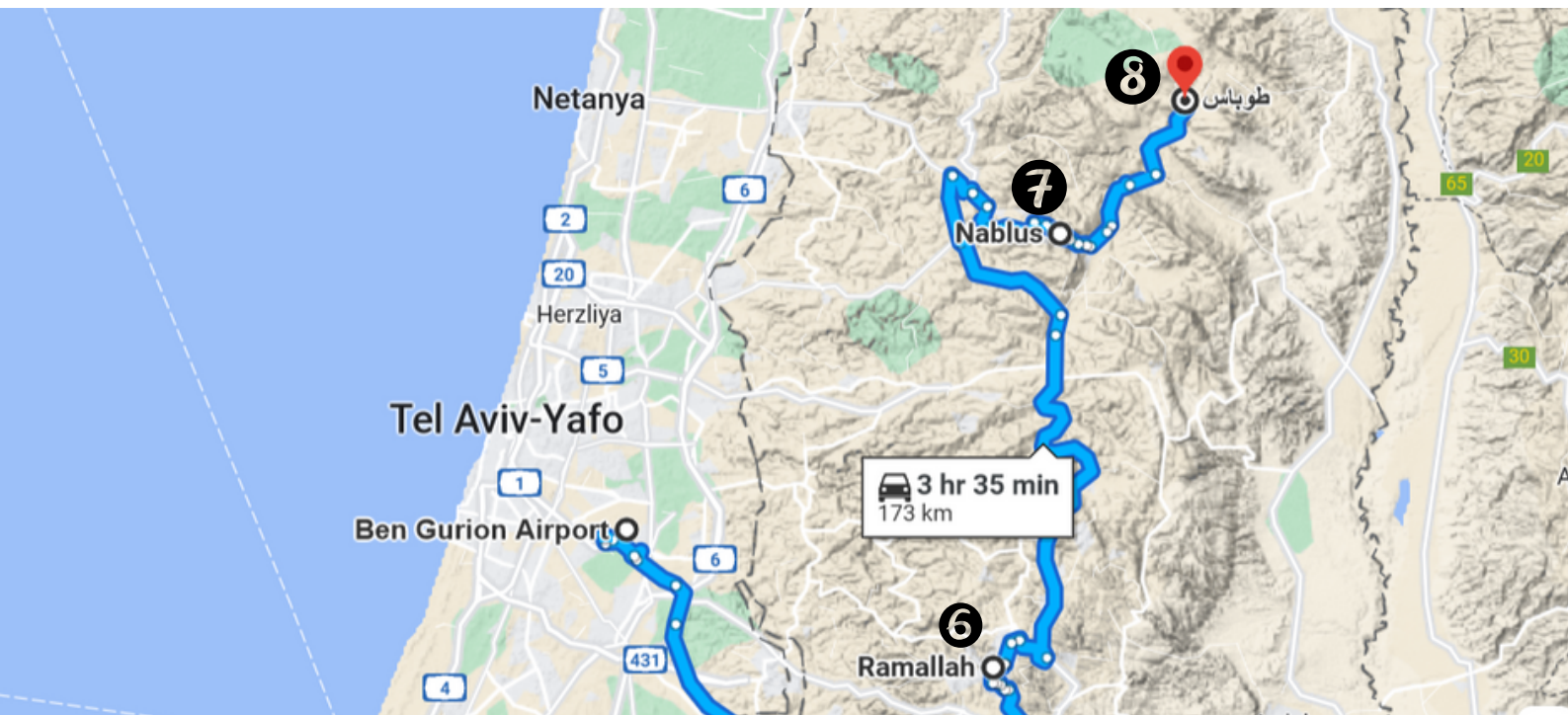
from 5am to 10pm, on Fridays from 6am to 2pm and on Saturdays from 8pm to 11:30pm. (As there can be changes in opening hours, check on the Website of “Israel Railways” before you come.)

Alternatively, you can take a Shared Taxi directly to Jerusalem. Just walk out of the airport following the signs saying “Shuttle to Jerusalem” and tell the driver that you want to go to Damascus Gate in East Jerusalem.

- ③ Once you arrive in Jerusalem, leave the station and look for the Tramway. You will need to go to the Arab Bus Stations at Damascus Gate in the Nablus Road. You can also walk from the Navona Train Station to these bus stations, it is about 45 minutes by foot.
- ④ Find the bus to Ramallah on Nablus Road. It is either the line 218 or the line 219. There are signs which give you the information you need and you can always ask someone for help to find the right bus.
- ⑤ The bus takes about half an hour, but it passes through the Qalandia Checkpoint which means that there can be delays due to security searches.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION



- 6** From the Central Bus Station in Ramallah, you can get a Service, a Shared Taxi, to Nablus. It takes about one and a half hours. When you get in, tell the driver that you want to go to Tubas, so that they drop you off at the station with Services to Tubas. This station is called Mujama Charki.
- 7** When you arrive at the Mujama Charki station in Nablus, get a Service to Tubas, it takes around 40 minutes.
- 8** Meet one of our organisation members in Tubas at a meeting point. They will bring you to our guest house.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Best days to travel



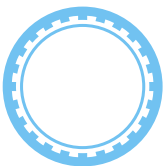
We advise you to plan your arrival at the airport any day from Sunday to Wednesday. Indeed, Friday and Saturday are respectively Palestinian and Israeli holidays, which makes transportation difficult on these days. Moreover, you might want to check whether your day of arrival is a Jewish holiday, as then transportation from the airport to Jerusalem would be more expensive.



About flying and climate issues

We understand that it can be a difficult decision for you to come here due to climate issues as there is no other way of transportation than taking the plane. If you want to compensate for the emissions that the flight is causing, you can tell us and we will arrange that you can do carbon offsetting work like planting olive trees.

Currency



The Israeli currency and therefore also of the 1967 Occupied Territories including the Jordan Valley is the New Israeli Shekel (NIS). One Shekel equals about 0.3 Euros. You can exchange money at the airport and in the bigger cities, like Jerusalem, Ramallah or Nablus.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Internet

You can buy either an Israeli or a Palestinian simcard. Israeli simcard are working in Area C of the West Bank, and Palestinian simcards work in Area A and B.



Therefore, if you take only an Israeli simcard, you won't have Internet and service in West Bank Palestinian cities. The Palestinian simcard – called “Jawal” – on the other hand works in the town areas, but not very well in the rural areas.

If you are planning on buying an Israeli simcard, we recommend you to wait until you reach Jerusalem. There are multiple shops in the airport which sell simcards, but they are much more expensive than the ones you can find in the city. For buying the Palestinian simcard, you will have to wait until East Jerusalem or Ramallah.

For any further questions, just contact us. We are happy to give you the information you need to decide whether you would like to come and volunteer with us.



Jordan Valley Solidarity

<http://jordanvalleysolidarity.org>

info@jordanvalleysolidarity.org

December 2022

