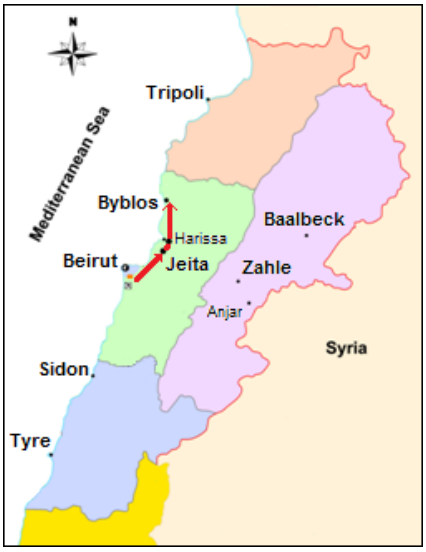
LEBANON IN 7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

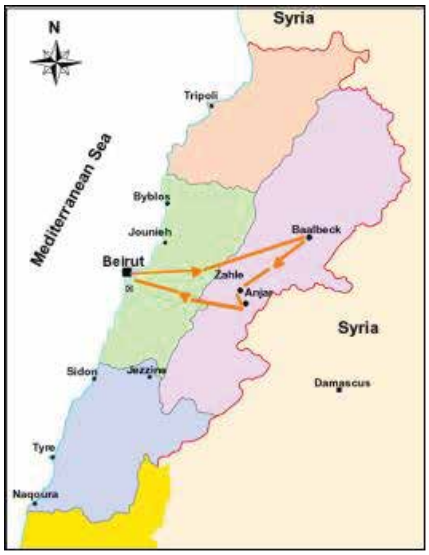
Beirut, National Museum, Byblos, Harissa, Jeita Grotto, Baalbeck, Ksara Winery, Anjar, Deir El Qamar, Beiteddine, Sidon, Tyre, Echmoun

Day 1: Arrival at Beirut Int'l airport and transfer to your hotel. Check in. Overnight in Beirut.

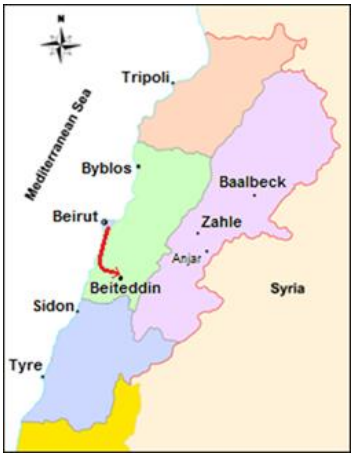
Day 2: Breakfast at hotel. Proceed for **Beirut City Tour**. Depart from the hotel and drive through the seaside Corniche to the Raouche area that features Beirut's landmark Pigeon rocks. Photo stop at Raouche then the tour proceeds around Beirut on a panoramic tour of the city, capital of Lebanon and heart of the Orient. Arrival to the city centre, visit on foot the newly built streets with their beautiful brick apartments, side-walk cafes, restaurants and boutique shops with international brand-names, also explore the discovered Roman ruins of the city and then visit the **National museum** which houses some of the finest treasures recovered in Lebanon. Return back to the hotel. Overnight.
Remark: National Museum is closed on Mondays



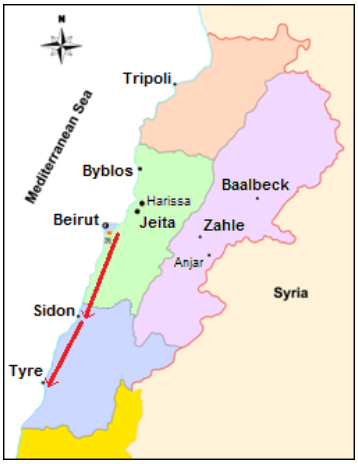
Day 3: Breakfast at hotel.
From Beirut, drive via the North coastal road to **Byblos** one of the oldest cities in the world, going back at least 7,000 years. The tour starts with a visit of St. John-Marcus cathedral, then the Crusader's castle with Phoenician, Roman and Byzantine ruins, free time in the old Souk and then visit the old Harbor. Drive back to **Harissa** for visiting the famous shrine of the Holly Virgin Mary "Our Lady of Lebanon" and enjoy a wonderful view over the bay of Jounieh. Proceed to **Jeita** for the visit the spectacular grottos in Jeita; a short ride by cable car leads to the upper grotto, which can be visited on foot, a cathedral of stalagmites and stalactites which took millions of years to develop. The lower cave can be visited by a small boat. Return back to the hotel. Overnight.
Remark: Jeita Grotto is closed on Mondays



Day 4: Breakfast at hotel.
From Beirut, climb Eastward passing Dahr El Baidar and Chtaura. A magnificent view of the fertile Bekaa valley stretches ahead, then to the North-East until we reach the **city of Baalbeck**. Visit the largest and the greatest, ever built, well preserved Roman temples of Bacchus & Jupiter. See, also, one of the biggest stones ever quarried for building purposes. Drive South-East towards **Anjar** to explore the ruins of the only Umayyad town discovered in Lebanon. Drive back to Zahle for visiting **Ksara Winery** and its underground caves dating back to the Roman period besides to taste and discover one of the best undiscovered wines. Return to the hotel in Beirut. Overnight.



Day 5: Breakfast at hotel.
From Beirut, drive south to the Shouf Mountain via the coastal road then up towards **Deir el Qamar**, enjoying the beautiful scenery and the green mountain.
Deir el Qamar. A village with white houses and red tile roofs built on steep slopes of the mountain. This town was the residence of governors of Lebanon in the 16th to 19th century.
The tours continue towards **Beiteddine** and visit the Palace which was built by Emir Bechir II (1788-1840) and serves today as the summer palace of the Lebanese presidents since 1943.
Return back to the hotel. Overnight.
Remark: Beiteddine Palace is closed on Mondays



Day 6: Breakfast at hotel.
From Beirut, drive via the South coastal road to **Tyre**. Visit one of the largest Roman sites in the region (announced a world heritage site by UNESCO), the "imperial city" on the semi-island, then short drive to the main land for visiting the Roman hippodrome, the Roman-Byzantine necropolis and a triumphal arch.
From Tyre return through the same coastal road back to **Sidon** for visiting the sea castle dating back to the Crusaders period and walk through the old Mamluk souk; visit the soap museum then the caravanserai "Khan El Franj". On the way back to Beirut visit the Phoenician temple dedicated to the healing god **"Echmoun"** which was built by the King of Sidon Echmounazar II. Return to Beirut. Overnight in Beirut.

Day 7: Breakfast at hotel. Check out from hotel and proceed to airport for final departure.

7 Mezher Street-Antelias - Beirut – Lebanon
T: +961 4 712 037 Fax: +961 4 715 196 P.O. Box: 60-233 Zip Code: 1241 2020 R.C. 1035 Baabda VAT No 8721-601
http://www.ventnouveau.com info@ventnouveau.com