



SHOUF BIOSPHERE RESERVE  
محمية الشوف المحيط الحيوي

# **RURAL TOURISM PACKAGES**

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## **FOR HERITAGE LOVERS ONLY**



**USAID**  
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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



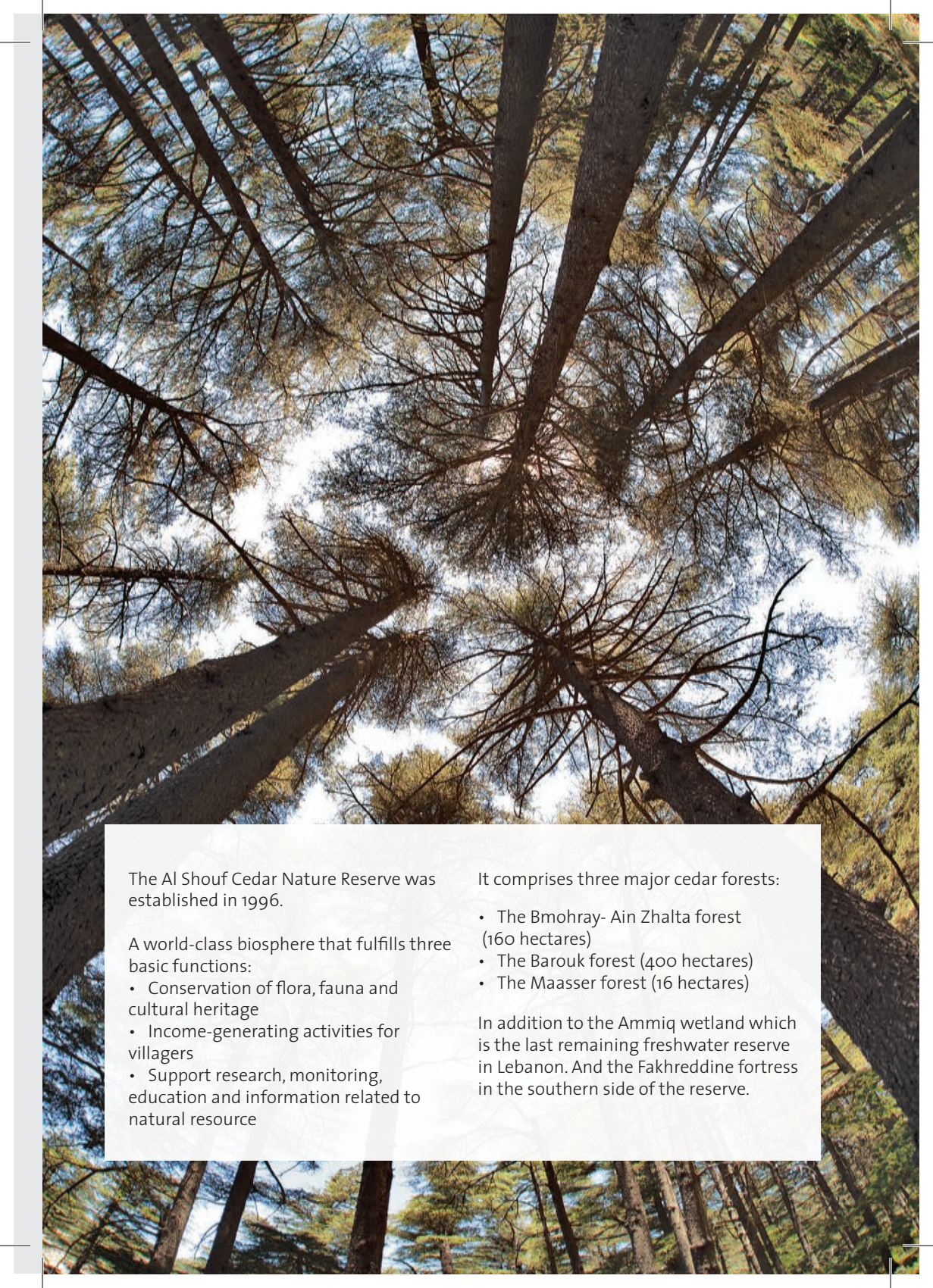
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برنامج تنمية  
القطاعات الانتاجية  
في لبنان (LIVCD)

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*The content of this booklet is the sole responsibility of the Shouf Cedar Reserve and does not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government*





The Al Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve was established in 1996.

A world-class biosphere that fulfills three basic functions:

- Conservation of flora, fauna and cultural heritage
- Income-generating activities for villagers
- Support research, monitoring, education and information related to natural resource

It comprises three major cedar forests:

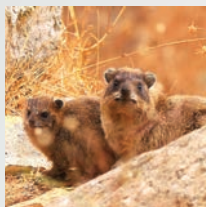
- The Bmohray- Ain Zhalta forest (160 hectares)
- The Barouk forest (400 hectares)
- The Maasser forest (16 hectares)

In addition to the Ammiq wetland which is the last remaining freshwater reserve in Lebanon. And the Fakhreddine fortress in the southern side of the reserve.



In 2005 UNESCO declared the reserve and the surrounding villages as the Shouf Biosphere Reserve, in recognition of its successful efforts over a decade in preserving its environmental and cultural identity.

## FACTS AND FIGURES



**1398**

fauna and  
flora species  
protected



**3750**

cedar trees  
adopted



**70**

rural products



**500** km<sup>2</sup>

5% of the area of  
Lebanon



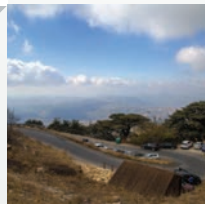
**22**

villages  
surround the  
reserve



**10**

major activities  
organized in  
2016



**86,000**

visitors to the  
reserve



**150**

engaged and  
committed  
volunteers



**11,000**

visitors to Tawlet  
Ammiq



# Packages

*To make the most of your vacations, we created special customized packages which meet everyone's taste and style.*

# Ecotourism

Ecotourism is travelling to natural areas in a way that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people.

A network of ecotourism services to guarantee the genuine conservation and sustainability efforts has been established.

Moreover, New and appropriate accommodations were created to serve those needs:

A guesthouse is a private house offering authentic accommodation (bed and breakfast) to tourists. Found in almost every village, and owned by locals with close attention from the reserve specialists ensuring higher-quality services.

A hosting table is equally a private house, offering meals (lunch or dinner). The reserve specialists also ensure close attention to quality standards.

Eco-friendly transportation is provided, offering visitors convenient ways of getting around the area with minimal disturbance to the environment.



## Ecotourism Activities

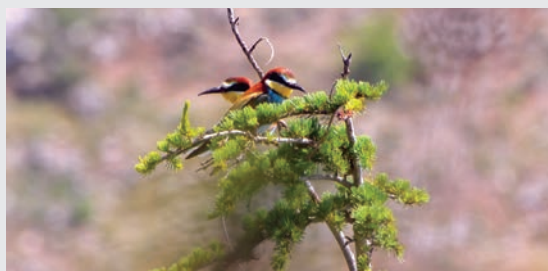
- Reforesting
- Hiking in the reserve (different lengths and strengths to suit your needs)
- Snow shoeing
- horse riding
- camping
- Biking along designated roads or trails
- Winetasting in award-winning Chateau Kefraya
- Helping local producers in daily activities such as olive-picking, depending on the season
- Visiting local artisans in their workshops



## ONE-DAY PACKAGE

Spend a wonderful day with your family and friends

- Go on a short hike in one of the three cedar forests to discover the fauna and flora
- Have lunch at one of the guesthouses or hosting tables in the villages
- Visit a local landmark



## TWO-DAY PACKAGE

*Prolong your stay and enjoy the peace and authenticity of the region*

### Day 1

- Go on a hike in one of the three cedar forests to discover the fauna and flora
- Have lunch at one of the guesthouses or hosting tables in the villages
- Visit a landmark or do an ecotourism activity
- Have dinner and spend the night in a guesthouse



### Day 2

- Have breakfast at the guesthouse
- Participate in a farming activity in one of the villages or visit local artisans
- Have lunch in a different guesthouse or hosting table
- Visit one of the landmarks of the region

*Packages designed to meet your tastes and needs*

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# Main Stream Tourism

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Main Stream Tourism is visiting cultural sites and touristic landmarks. It uses the already existing touristic attractions of the region.

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## ONE-DAY PACKAGE

Spend a wonderful day with your family and friends

- Visit the cultural and touristic attractions of the region (old villages, historical sites...)
- Have lunch at one of the main restaurants in the region



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## TWO-DAY PACKAGE

### *Day 1:*

- Visit the cultural and touristic attractions of the region (old villages, historical sites...)
- Have lunch at one of the main restaurants in the region
- Visit a museum or a local attraction
- Enjoy a quiet or live dinner of your choice in a renowned restaurant
- Spend the night in one of the hotels of the region

### *Day 2:*

- Have breakfast at your hotel
- Enjoy a short walk in one of the three forests
- Drive to the West Bekaa and experience wine tasting at Chateau Kefraya
- Have lunch in Kefraya or Tawlet Ammiq near the Ammiq Wetland





# Adventure Tourism

Adventure tourism means challenging activities, especially destined for young people and student groups

In addition to the already mentioned facilities, two youth hostels or centers can now accommodate large groups:

- Maasser Auberge St. Michael: 13 rooms and 4 dorms
- Ramlieh, Aley hostel with 22 double rooms



## ONE DAY PACKAGE

- Short hike in one of the three forests
- Adventure activity (customized to meet the needs and size of the group)
- Lunch at one of the centers





## TWO DAY PACKAGE

### *Day 1:*

- Short hike in one of the three forests
- Adventure activity (customized to meet the needs and size of the group)
- Lunch at one of the centers
- Team building group activities
- Visit of a local artisan atelier
- Dinner and night at designated center



### *Day 2:*

- Breakfast at the center
- Cycling in the Shouf Biosphere
- Lunch in one of the guest houses or hosting tables

\*\* Awareness raising activities within guided tours in the forest, or in the Park House conference room can be made available for students and other groups



You are a nature lover,  
Seeking peace and tranquility,  
Amusement,  
Adventures,  
You want to spend memorable moments,  
get to meet local communities in an authentic context,



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