5 Facts
about the City of David you might not hear from your tour guide
The City of David is one of the most significant archeological sites in our region. Each year, hundreds of thousands of visitors enter the site and enjoy a fascinating journey through ancient Jerusalem. Only a few realize that this important site is being used to promote the highly controversial Jewish settlement in East Jerusalem. The extremist settlers who run the site take advantage of visitors like you to promote and fund their political agenda, first and foremost the prevention of a negotiated solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

1 You’re in Silwan

The City of David site is nestled at the heart of the Palestinian village of Silwan, a home to more than 40,000 Palestinians. Silwan's Palestinian residents are proud of their village's heritage and were always glad to welcome tourists and researchers from all over the world. But during the 1990's the City of David site was handed over to "Elad" - a private organization of extremist settlers - against the professional opinion of the Israeli Antiquities Authority. Elad was founded in the 1980's with the unconcealed objective of overtaking lands and houses in Silwan for the purpose of setting up Jewish enclaves inside this heavily populated Palestinian village.

2 The settlers in Silwan oppress their Palestinian neighbors

Under the guise of archeology, Elad seizes public areas and prevents Silwan's residents from entering them. Their private security guards terrorize the local population. Last September a resident of Silwan was even killed by a security guard in questionable circumstances.

3 Archeologists want Israel to take ancient Jerusalem away from Elad

Hundreds of archeologists and scientists from leading universities around the world call on the Government of Israel to take archeology in the City of David out of the hands of Elad.

4 Excavations take place under resident's houses, without their consent

Before entering the site you should know that locals are terrified that their houses might collapse due to extensive diggings underneath them.

5 Elad aims to thwart negotiations over Jerusalem

Adi Mintz, a member of Elad's board of directors said that the organization aims to "implant outposts in East Jerusalem and create an irreversible situation in the Holy Basin around the Old City."
It is important to realize that Elad exploits The City of David site, and sightseers like you, to whitewash its controversial political agenda. By touring the Elad-controlled City of David site, you unintentionally support violence and discriminations and help Elad rob Israelis and Palestinians of a possible future of peace and co-existence.

For further information:
www.en.justjlm.org
silwanic.net
www.alt-arch.org
www.ir-amin.org/eng