

Christian Jerusalem Tour: In the Footsteps of Jesus

📍 Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem



Walk where Jesus walked. This Christian Jerusalem tour takes you to the most sacred sites in Christianity, from the Mount of Olives where Jesus ascended to heaven, through the Garden of Gethsemane where He prayed before His arrest, along the Via Dolorosa where He carried His cross, to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where He was crucified and buried.

Unlike a general Jerusalem tour that covers Jewish, Muslim, and Christian sites in a broad overview, this Christian Jerusalem tour is designed exclusively for pilgrims and travelers who want to experience the New Testament in person. Every stop on the itinerary connects directly to the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Your licensed guide brings each site to life with biblical context, historical background, and spiritual insight. Visit the Church of the Ascension with its imprint of Jesus' foot in stone. Stand inside the Church of Pater Noster where He taught the Lord's Prayer. See the ancient Pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed the paralytic man. Walk the Via Dolorosa from the Third Station of the Cross to Calvary. The Christian Jerusalem tour ends inside the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](#), the holiest site in Christianity. Touch the Stone of Unction where Jesus' body was anointed, climb to the Chapel of Calvary where He was crucified, and visit the Aedicule that contains His empty tomb.

This Christian Jerusalem tour operates on Tuesdays and Fridays with hotel pickup from Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. The tour covers over 5 miles of walking on hilly terrain. Modest dress is required at all holy sites.

Tour Facts

Group Size:
30

Duration:
10

Language:
English

Tour Type:
continuous

Tour Itinerary

06:40 AM : Hotel Pickup

Your Christian Jerusalem tour begins with pickup from your hotel or a central meeting point. Pickup times vary by city: Tel Aviv approximately 06:40 AM, Jerusalem approximately 07:50 AM. Board the air-conditioned bus and head to Jerusalem.

08:30 AM : Mount of Olives: Church of the Ascension

The Christian Jerusalem tour starts at the highest point on the Mount of Olives, where Jesus ascended to heaven forty days after His resurrection (Acts 1:9-12). Visit the Chapel of the Ascension, originally a 4th-century church, now a small Crusader-era structure. Inside, see the stone slab bearing what tradition identifies as the imprint of Jesus' left foot, the last place He touched the earth before ascending.

Duration
30 Minutes

09:00 AM : Church of Pater Noster

Walk to the nearby Church of Pater Noster, built on the site where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). The walls and cloisters are covered with over 140 ceramic tiles displaying the Lord's Prayer in different languages. Your guide reads the prayer in the place where it was first spoken. Stand in the original grotto where, according to tradition, Jesus instructed His followers.

Duration
20 Minutes

09:20 AM : Descent from the Mount of Olives

The Christian Jerusalem tour descends the Mount of Olives on foot along the ancient path Jesus walked on Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-11). The panoramic views are breathtaking: the 3,000-year-old Jewish cemetery stretches across the slope below, the Kidron Valley separates you from the Old City walls, and the golden Dome of the Rock gleams on the Temple Mount. Your guide identifies key landmarks visible from this vantage point including the City of David, the Hinnom Valley, and the Mount Zion churches.

Duration
20 Minutes

09:40 AM : Garden of Gethsemane

Enter the [Garden of Gethsemane](#), the sacred garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives where Jesus prayed in agony the night before His arrest (Luke 22:39-46). Ancient olive trees in the garden, some estimated to be over 900 years old, are among the oldest living trees in Jerusalem. Franciscan monks have tended this garden for centuries.

Duration
20 Minutes

10:00 AM : Church of All Nations (Basilica of the Agony)

Adjacent to the Garden, the Christian Jerusalem tour visits the Church of All Nations, built in 1924 over the rock where Jesus prayed "Let this cup pass from me" (Matthew 26:39). The church interior is deliberately kept dark to evoke the atmosphere of Jesus' night of anguish. Stunning golden mosaics depict Jesus' agony, His betrayal by Judas, and His arrest. The exposed bedrock in front of the altar is the traditional stone where Jesus prayed.

Duration
20 Minutes

10:20 AM : Kidron Valley and Enter the Old City

Cross the Kidron Valley, passing monumental Jewish tombs from the Second Temple period including the Tomb of Absalom and the Tomb of Zechariah. Enter the Old City through one of the ancient gates. The landscape shifts from the open hillside of the Mount of Olives to the narrow, bustling streets of Jerusalem.

Duration
15 Minutes

10:35 AM : Pools of Bethesda and Church of St. Anne

The Christian Jerusalem tour arrives at the Pools of Bethesda, the site where Jesus healed a man who had been paralyzed for 38 years (John 5:1-15). The excavated ruins reveal the ancient double pool surrounded by five porticos exactly as described in the Gospel of John. Archaeological evidence confirms the pool's use for ritual purification in the Second Temple period.

Next door, visit the Church of St. Anne, widely considered the finest example of Crusader architecture in

Jerusalem. Built in 1138, the church marks the traditional birthplace of the Virgin Mary. The church is famous for its extraordinary acoustics. If your group sings a hymn inside, the sound resonates beautifully through the stone vaulting.

Duration
30 Minutes

11:05 AM : Via Dolorosa: The Way of the Cross

The Christian Jerusalem tour walks the Via Dolorosa, the route Jesus took carrying His cross from Pontius Pilate's judgment to His crucifixion on Calvary. Begin at the Third Station of the Cross (where Jesus fell for the first time) and follow the marked stations through the narrow Old City streets. Your guide explains each station's biblical significance and historical tradition, pausing for prayer and reflection where appropriate.

The Via Dolorosa passes through the Muslim and Christian Quarters of the Old City, weaving through markets, past ancient doorways, and under stone arches. The route is approximately 600 meters and takes about 30-40 minutes with stops at each station.

Duration
40 Minutes

11:45 AM : Church of the Holy Sepulchre

The culmination of the Christian Jerusalem tour. The [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](#) encompasses the last five Stations of the Cross and is considered the holiest site in Christianity by Catholics, Orthodox, and many Protestant denominations.

The Stone of Unction: Just inside the entrance, the slab of stone where tradition says Jesus' body was anointed with oils and spices after being taken down from the cross.

The Chapel of Calvary (Golgotha): Climb the steep stairs to the rock of Calvary where Jesus was crucified. A glass panel in the floor reveals the natural rock. Touch the spot where the cross stood (Station XII). The golden mosaic above depicts the crucifixion.

The Aedicule (Tomb of Christ): The small structure in the center of the Rotunda that encloses Jesus' empty tomb. This is the site of the resurrection. Lines can be long, but your guide positions the group for the best access.

Additional chapels: The Chapel of Adam (beneath Calvary), the Prison of Christ, the Chapel of the Finding of the True Cross (underground), and the Greek Orthodox Catholicon with its dome.

Your guide explains the complex history of the church, from its construction by Emperor Constantine in 326 CE to the current status quo agreement between six Christian denominations that share custody.

Duration
1 Hour

12:45 PM : Free Time for Lunch in the Old City

Break for lunch at your own expense. The Old City offers dozens of options from traditional falafel and hummus to sit-down restaurants. Your guide recommends spots based on your preference and budget (50-80 NIS).

Duration

45 Minutes

13:30 PM : Additional Old City Exploration

After lunch, the Christian Jerusalem tour continues with a walk through the Old City. Depending on time and group interest, the guide may include a visit to the Christian Quarter market, views of the Western Wall plaza from above, or additional historical context about the city's layers of history spanning 3,000 years.

Duration

30 Minutes

14:00 PM : Depart Jerusalem

Board the bus for the return journey. The Christian Jerusalem tour heads back to your pickup city.

If you're inspired to see more biblical sites, check our [Bethlehem, Jericho and Qasr el Yahud tour](#) to visit where Jesus was born, baptized, and tempted. Our [Jerusalem Full Day Tour](#) covers the Western Wall, Yad Vashem, and broader Jewish and Muslim sites. For the Galilee region, our [Sea of Galilee and Nazareth tour](#) visits where Jesus grew up and performed miracles.

Duration

2 Hours

16:00 PM : Drop-off at Your Hotel

Return to your hotel or central drop-off point in your pickup city.