



# Jericho Pocket Guide

## ABOUT VISIT PALESTINE

### Who We Are:

Owned and managed by Alternative Business Solutions; a Ramallah based Marketing & Communications Company, visitpalestine.ps is Palestine's premier online destination travel guide. The site which was launched in 2008 provides visitor and potential visitors (foreign and locals) with a platform to learn about and plan their trips to Palestine. VisitPalestine is growing rapidly with thousands of users already connected with us via our RSS feed, social media channels, and the website. Designed and maintained by locals, the site brings you the most up to-date information on travel to Palestine.

### Our Mission:

To proactively promote Palestine as a viable and independent destination that is rich in religious, historical, cultural and natural treasures To provide visitors and potential visitors (foreign and locals) with a comprehensive online travel guide to help them plan and book their trips to and within Palestine To engage with potential visitors along every step of their experience (trip planning, actual experience, post departure) through an intricate range of interconnected products and services To support and promote the local tourism industry (directly and indirectly) through promoting Palestine as well as all the tourism service provider

### Who We Target:

VisitPalestine attracts the interests of a wide and diverse range of valued audiences: Thousands of people from all over the world who are interested in or planning a trip Palestine Locals and Expatriate living and working in Palestine Local Tourism stakeholders (hotels, tour operators, guides etc...) International travel agencies and tour operators selling the Holy Land as a tourism destination Travel journalist and media Palestine's Diaspora community (especially in South America)

*Visit Palestine Team*

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# INTRODUCTION

Jericho is a green oasis in the Jordan Valley some 30 Km east of Jerusalem, 7 km west of the River Jordan, 10 Km north of the Dead Sea It lies some 260 meters below sea level making it the lowest town on earth.

The town of Jericho is the oldest continuously inhabited town in the world dating back some 10,000 years. Jericho and its surrounding areas are filled with religious, archeological, and natural treasures. Just outside Jericho, the adventurous and eco-loving travelers can enjoy a hike in Wadi Quilt and visit the Church of St. George.

Inside Jericho, visitors can tour the ancient remains of Hisham Palace and Tel Esultan (ancient Jericho). Overlooking Jericho is the Mount of Temptation. Take the cable car ride to the summit and enjoy the beautiful panorama of Jericho and the desert from the serenity on the mount. Don't forget, the Dead Sea is just a few Km away where you also enjoy a dip in the saltiest body of the Water in the World.

## 📍 SITES & ATTRACTIONS



### NABI MUSA



Situated on one of the oldest roads along the Jerusalem and Jordan Valley. This is the site where according to Muslim tradition Moses is buried. The Tomb of Nabi Musa (the Prophet Moses) has been a site of annual pilgrimage since the time of Salah al-Din. The first structure was built in 1269 by the Mamluk. In 1470, it was enlarged and then renovated again in 1820 by the Turks. You can see a beautiful and serene mosque, with a white domed roof and glazed Mihrab.

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### MONASTERY OF ST. GEORGE



Stretching from the suburbs of Jerusalem to Jericho and the Jordan Valley, the path of the Wadi Qelt is an amazing experience for hikers and nature lovers. Besides being a breathtaking hike, you can also travel by car or bus through the narrow Wadi Qelt road and visit the beautiful Monastery of St. George in Kosiba. Clinging to the side of the Wadi Qelt and overlooking the spring, this beautiful and serene Greek Orthodox Monastery was transformed by John of Thebes from a small oratory to the monastery of today in 480 CE. It is also believed that the Monastery was damaged during the Persian invasion and restored by the Crusaders back by the 12th century with several new traditions being introduced. The present structure of today was restored by the Greek Orthodox Church back in 1878-1901. Finally, the large bell tower, was added by Timothy back in 1952.

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## HISHAM PALACE



Also known as Khirbet el Mafjar, Hisham Palace is one of the main archeological sites in Jericho. Built in the 8th century during the Umayyad period as a hunting lodge or spring winter resort, it's name is associated with the Umayyad caliph El –Hisham Ibn Abd El Malek. The site is located some 2km north of Jericho. The uncovered excavations show the remains of the a magnificent winter palace that was destroyed by an earthquake in 747 AD shortly after construction. The site contains royal buildings, a mosque, water fountains and spectacular mosaic floors.

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## TEL ES SULTAN



About 2 km northwest of Jericho, lies Tell es-Sultan or Tel Jericho. Excavation on the site have revealed layers of cities and human habitation dating back to around 9600 – 7700 BC around 10,000 years earning Jericho the name “the Oldest continuously inhabited city in the World”. The elaborate defenses include a seven meter high Neolithic Tower. It pre-dates the Canaanite sites, of which there are no remains. Very near by lies the large spring of ancient Jericho also known as “Ein es-Sultan” or “Elisha’s Well”. The story of the spring is also identified with the story of Elisha purifying Jericho’s water supply by adding salt (King 2:19-22).

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## MONASTERY OF TEMPTATION



Another one of Jericho beautiful sites is the Greek Orthodox Monastery on Mount of Temptation also known as Jabel Quruntul dates back to the 12th century. The Greek Orthodox Monastery lies about 350 meters above Jericho, perched on a rocky ledge northwest of the town. Originally, the Crusaders built two churches on the site. One was in a cave half way up the cliff and the second one on the summit. The Monastery of today dates back to 1874-1904. There are two ways to get to the monastery. Either take a cable ride up to the Monastery or climb up the bare, rocky slopes of Jabel Quruntul to the Monastery which takes only 15-30 minutes

*Opening Hours: The monastery is open from Monday - Friday from 09:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and from 08:00 - 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. The cable car is open daily from 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.*

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## QUMRAN



Located some 20 km south of Jericho is Qumran, the site where the famous Dead Sea Scroll were discovered by a Bedouin shepherd named Mohammad Al Deeb in 1947. The scrolls were hidden in clay jars inside the cliffs high above the Dead Sea. Among the findings were books of an unknown religious community identified as the Essenes. The writing of the scrolls covered a period of some 300 years. It is believed that the site of Qumran was actually occupied during the Greco Roman period (around 150BC-68AD). In 68AD, the settlement came to a sudden end when it was destroyed by Roman legion.

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## DEAD SEA 🌿



The Dead Sea known in Arabic as Al Bahr Al – Mayyeit is a salt lake bordering Jordan to the east and Israel and the Palestine to the west. It lies some 423 meters below sea level, the lowest elevation on the Earth's surface. The Dead Sea is 377 m (1,237 ft) deep and has a 33.7% salinity making it one of the world's saltiest bodies of water. The Dead Sea has attracted millions of visitors from around the Mediterranean basin for thousands of years. It was one of the world's first health resorts (for Herod the Great), and it has been the supplier of a wide variety of products, from balms for Egyptian mummification to potash for fertilizers.

Tel: +972 2 232 2522

Opening Hours: All year long 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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## SUGAR MILLS – TAWAHEEN ES-SUKKAR 🏰



Recent historical and archeological records show that the sugar industry was one of the main economic activities in the Jordan Valley as far back as the medieval period. Located in the lower foothills of Mount Quruntal (Temptation) in the Jordan Valley is the Tawaheen Es-Sukkar site which features a relatively well preserved industrial installation for manufacturing sugar. The site of is composed of three components: the water system, the refinery and the agricultural land. The remains of the industrial installations of sugar production consist of a water aqueduct, a courtyard, press, mill house, refinery, furnace, kitchen and a storage house.

Jericho, Tel Es-Sultan Tel: +972 2 232 1909

Jericho, Elisha's Spring Tel: +972 2 232 2637

Opening Hours: Tell es-Sultan: All year long 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Ein es-Sultan: 24 hours

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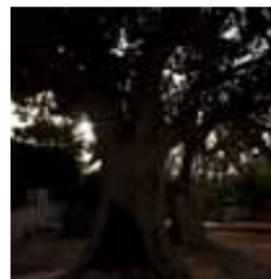
## DEIR QURUNTAL & THE MONASTERY OF TEMPTATION 🏰



Founded by St. Gerasimus in 455AD, this Greek Orthodox Monastery is one of the oldest in Palestine. The history of the Monastery is also closely linked to other Christian narratives. Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus were believed to have found refuge in a Cave here during their flight from Herod. An underground chapel was build on the spot where tradition has it the Holy Family spent the night.

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## SYCAMORE TREE 🌳



The Sycamore tree is over 2000 years old and is located at the Al-Jummezeh Square in the City Center. Tradition has it that this is the tree Zacchaeus climbed when Jesus was passing through the town.

“Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. Now a man named Zacchaeus was there; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to get a look at Jesus, but being a short man he could not see over the crowd. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, because Jesus was going to pass that way” (Luke 19:1-4)

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### THE JERICHO MOSAIC CENTER



Established in 2000 as part of the “Requalification and Valorisation of the Tourist and Archaeological Resources of Qasr Hisham” project, the main objective of the Centre was to train specialised personnel in all aspects of mosaic production, with particular attention to ancient mosaics conservation.

The Mosaic Centre is not only a handcraft laboratory, which produce and sell new mosaics in Palestine and abroad, but also a cultural promotion and training centre.

The Centre also provides special tours for groups and individuals. The Tours focuses on areas in which the Mosaic Centre- Jericho has been working since several years, such as Jericho, Sabastiya and Jerusalem

Al Quds Street, Jericho Tel: +972 2 232 6342

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### JERICHO CULTURE & ART CENTRE

Established in 1991 following extensive refurbishment of the old Rivoli Cinema, the Jericho Culture and Art Centre was gutted by a devastating fire in 1992. Since that time it has been completely rebuilt. The Centre’s goals are: to enhance the cultural, educational and artistic life of the ancient city of Jericho in particular and in Palestine in general; to develop the educational and cultural abilities of Palestinian children and to shape their talents; to create opportunities for people of different groups and ages to practice their hobbies and to experience and participate in cultural activities; and to strengthen brotherly relations and build bridges of understanding and friendship between peoples, especially in the fields of art and culture. The Centre currently comprises a 700-seat auditorium and spacious foyer which host a regular programme of music, dance and theatre activities, including the annual Jericho International Music Festival and an annual Children’s Summer Camp.

Ein Al-Sultan Street, Jericho Tel / Fax: +972 2 2321047

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### THE JERICHO CABLE CAR



A must see attraction is Jericho’s famous Cable Car ride which takes visitors to the top of the Mount of Temptation and its caves. The complex not only houses the first Cable car in Palestine, it was in the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest cable car under sea level. A ride in the cable car enables you to get a bird eyes view of Ancient Jericho and Tell As-Sultan. A restaurant, coffee shop and souvenir shops are located at the top and at the foot of the complex.

Opening Hours: Sun – Sat 08:00 a.m. -8:00 a.m. (Ramadan till 6:00 p.m.)  
Tel: +972 2 232 1596

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### THE JORDAN VALLEY TRAIL

The trail starts at Duma, a Palestinian village south east of Nablus viewing the Jordan Valley. First, you can walk in the village and meet the village lifestyle that has not changed in the past few hundred years. The journey continues on a hilly trail following a dramatic route across desert terrain inhabit only by shepherds. The steep and rocky trail descends below sea level to the Al Auja Spring, one of the largest water sources in the Jordan Valley. Desert terrain gives way to orange groves as the journey continues to Jericho, “the oldest city on Earth”. Along the way, a steep climb (or optional cable car ascent) leads to the Mount of Temptation, with its Orthodox Monastery clinging to the rocky cliffs.

It is recommended that you do the trail with a guided tour.

You can extend this trail by

Length of the trail: 25 Kms

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## PALESTINIAN EQUESTRIAN CLUB / HORSE RIDING



The First of its kind in Palestine and founded back in 1997 under the patronage of the H.E. the late President Yaser Arafat, the Equestrians Club is dedicated to teaching people of all ages and from all walks of life the principles and skills of good horsemanship. The Club is part of a large recreational complex that includes a botanical garden, a youth hostel, playing fields.

In 2008, and under the patronage of Princess Haya Bint Al –Hissein, President of the International Equestrian Club, launched a Therapeutic Riding for the Disables Program.

## THE SPANISH GARDEN PARK

Located near the town center is the Spanish Garden which was officially opened in 1999. The development of the site was funded by the Spanish Government and was established over 30 dunums of land. The site is a beautiful public garden ideal of late-night picnics. The site become alive in the evenings after sunsert with local families, small children and teenagers enjoying some nice Arabic music, coffee, and the famous nargileh.

Tel: +972 2 232 5405

Opening Hours: 09:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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# WHERE TO STAY



## FEATURED HOTELS



### JERICHO RESORT VILLAGE

Tel: +972(or 970) (02) 2321255

Fax: +972(or 970) (02) 2322189

Email: [reservation@jerichoresorts.com](mailto:reservation@jerichoresorts.com)

## HOTELS

### HISHAM PALACE HOTEL

Tel: +970(2) 232 2414

### INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL

Tel: +970(2) 231-1200

### JERICHO RESORT VILLAGE

Tel: +970(2) 2321255

### JERUSALEM HOTEL

Tel: +970(2) 232 2444

### SAMI YOUTH HOSTEL

Tel: +970(2) 232 4220

### TELEPHERIQUE & SULTAN TOURIST CENTER

Tel: +970(2) 232 1590

### CASANOVA HOSPICE

Tel: +970(2) 274 3981

### AL- ZAYTOUNA GUEST HOUSE

Tel: +970(2) 994 3038



# WHERE TO DINE

## RESTAURANTS

AL-AMARA

Tel: +970(2) 2323500

AL-RABIYAH PARK &

RESTAURANT

Tel: +970(2) 2324060

AL-NAFOURA RESTAURANT -

JERICHO RESORT VILLAGE

Tel: +970(2) 2321255

AL-RAWDA

Tel: +970(2) 2322555

GREEN VALLEY PARK

Tel: +970(2) 2322349

JABAL QURUNTUL

Tel: +970(2) 2322614

JERICHO TENT

Tel: +970(2) 2323820

OLD JERICHO TENT

Tel: +970(2) 2323820

PAPAYA PARK

(50) 286067

SAMHOURI

Tel: +970(2) 2323252

SEVEN TREES

Tel: +970(2) 2322781

SHALLAL

Tel: +970 (50) 520932

SPANISH PARK

Tel: +970 (50) 515518

SULTAN RESTAURANT -

JERICHO CABLE CAR

Tel: +970(2) 2324025

TAHHAN

Tel: +970(2) 2322600



## IMPORTANT INFORMATIONS



## USEFUL WORDS

English	Arabic	English	Arabic
I	Ana	Thank you	shukran
You (m)	Inta	You're welcome	Afwan
You (f)	Inti	Hello	Marhaba
WE	Ihna	Goodbye	ma'asalameh
He	Houweh	what is your name?	Shoo ismek
She	Hiyeh	Please	Lao Samaht
They	Houmeh	Excuse me	'An iznek
Yes	Na'am	What time is it?	Adesh el sa'aa
No	Laa	How much?	Addeysh
Please	Min fadlak (to a man)	i don't speak Arabic	Ana la ahkee Arabee
	Min fadlik (to a woman)		

English	Arabic	English	Arabic
One	Waahid	Eight	Sab'a
Two	Tinain	Nine	Tamenyeh
Three	Talaateh	Ten	'Ashra
Four	Arba'a	Left	Shmaal
Six	Khamseh	Right	Yameen
Seven	Sitteh	Straight	Dughree

Phrase – English	Arabic	Response
Good morning	SabaH 'el khair	Saba 'el Nour
Good afternoon	Masa'a 'el khair.	Masa'a 'el Nour
Peace be upon you	As Salam 'alaykom	Wa 'alaykom as Salam
Goodnight (m)	TisbaH 'ala khair	Wa inta khair
Goodnight (f)	TisbaHi 'ala khair	Wa inti khair
How are you? (m)	Keef halak	Al Hamdulillah
How are you? (f)	Keef halek	Al Hamdulillah
Congratulations	Mabrook	'Alla ybarek feek (feeky - f)
Hello	Marhaba	Marhaba, keef halak (halek -f)
Welcome	Ahlan wa sahlán or Ahlan	Ahlan beek
Goodbye	Ma'a salaama	Ma'a salaama
Thank you	Shukran	Afwan

## Useful Information:

**Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Jericho:** +972-2-232 2935

**Tourist Police:** +972-2-232 4011

**Jordan Bridge terminal:** +972-2-232 3305

**Allenby Bridge:** +972-2-994 3358

**Sheikh Hussein Bridge:** +972-6-658 6422

## Taxi Companies

**Taxi Abdo:** +972-2-232 6868

**Taxi Abu Assal:** +972-2-232 6066

**Taxi Kalify:** +972-2-232 5864

**Taxi Palestine:** +972-2-232 0040

**Taxi Petra:** +972-2-232 2525

*Dial access code, international country code (972) or (970), area code (without the zero), desired number*

## Distances Between Cities

DISTANCE IN K.M.	ACRE	ASHDOD	ASHKELON	BANIAS	BEER SHEVA	BETHLEHEM	BET SHEAN	EILAT AIR PORT	EIN GEDI	GAZA	HAIFA	HEBRON	JERICHO	JERUSALEM	LOD B.G. AIR PORT	METULLA	NABLUS	NAZARETH	NETANYA	REHOVOT	ROSH HANIKRA	SAFED	TEL AVIV	TIBERIAS	ZIHRON YA'ACOV
ACRE		160	175	79	233	190	85	475	338	192	23	219	162	182	136	98	145	46	87	141	21	52	118	57	59
ASHDOD	160		34	245	84	143	160	334	197	55	140	115	103	67	41	241	99	147	74	25	180	213	43	171	106
ASHKELON	175	34		260	68	146	174	307	170	28	161	118	116	77	55	256	114	152	89	40	195	228	64	198	121
BANIAS	79	245	260		306	276	106	559	422	280	126	270	224	227	212	20	171	100	171	225	98	52	202	70	146
BEER SHEVA	233	84	68	306		76	198	241	106	46	210	50	117	84	98	300	143	217	144	83	252	272	113	236	172
BETHLEHEM	190	143	146	276	76		191	319	153	86	168	28	38	10	61	272	72	145	105	60	211	244	73	208	137
BET SHEAN	85	160	174	106	198	191		471	334	195	67	174	128	120	135	102	75	39	86	140	104	74	117	37	70
EILAT AIR PORT	475	334	307	559	241	319	471		233	289	451	291	364	312	341	555	388	461	388	328	494	527	354	491	420
EIN GEDI	338	197	170	422	106	153	334	233		152	314	128	199	163	204	418	225	324	251	191	357	390	219	344	283
GAZA	192	55	28	280	46	86	195	289	152		179	94	136	92	75	276	134	182	109	60	211	248	82	216	141
HAIFA	23	140	161	126	210	168	67	451	314	179		194	148	159	112	120	93	35	66	121	42	72	95	69	38
HEBRON	219	115	118	270	50	28	174	291	128	94	194		73	35	88	266	99	172	132	90	238	271	97	186	164
JERICHO	162	103	116	224	117	38	128	364	199	136	148	73		39	86	220	78	126	122	85	181	192	101	118	150
JERUSALEM	182	67	77	227	84	10	120	312	163	92	159	35	39		51	221	63	157	93	53	201	192	62	157	121
LOD B.G. AIR PORT	136	41	55	212	98	61	135	341	204	75	112	88	86	51		216	61	122	49	17	155	188	18	152	85
METULLA	98	241	256	20	300	272	102	555	418	276	120	266	220	221	216		167	96	167	221	86	48	196	64	142
NABLUS	145	99	114	171	143	72	75	388	225	134	93	99	78	63	61	167		73	44	78	164	139	57	102	72
NAZARETH	46	147	152	100	217	145	39	461	324	182	35	172	126	157	122	96	73		73	127	57	56	102	29	46
NETANYA	87	74	89	171	144	105	86	388	251	109	66	132	122	93	49	167	44	73		54	106	139	29	103	32
REHOVOT	141	25	40	225	83	60	140	328	191	60	121	90	85	53	17	221	78	127	54		160	193	24	158	86
ROSH HANIKRA	21	180	195	98	252	211	104	494	357	211	42	238	181	201	155	86	164	57	106	160		62	137	76	78
SAFED	52	213	228	52	272	244	74	527	390	248	72	271	192	192	188	48	139	56	139	193	62		168	36	103
TEL AVIV	118	43	64	202	113	73	117	354	219	82	95	97	101	62	18	196	57	102	29	24	137	168		132	69
TIBERIAS	57	171	198	70	236	208	37	491	344	216	69	186	118	157	152	64	102	29	103	158	76	36	132		78
ZIHRON YA'ACOV	59	106	121	146	172	137	70	420	283	141	38	164	150	121	85	142	72	46	32	86	78	103	69		78

## WHY CHOOSE VISITPALESTINE.PS:

Are you planning a trip to Palestine and the Holy Land? Are you already in Palestine? Are you visiting on a Pilgrimage, a business trip, as part of a wider regional tour? Are you looking for leisure activities, day tours, cultural events, listing and opening hours?

Planning a trip can be a time consuming task. We are here to make it simple.... Rather than surfing through endless websites, we offer the optimal solution by providing a centralized and comprehensive travel guide to Palestine. We incorporate quality and quantity into our multifunctional and dynamic online presence with fresh and up to date content and imagery. You can surf our site, plan and book directly with our listed service providers or choose what interests you and have us do the planning and the booking for you.

Our strategy is simple... we go where our customers go... To this end, we are continuously developing and upgrading our online presence. We have just launched our new mobil website which provides visitors with a travel guide when they most need it; WHILE ON THE GO. Our new mobile site is compatible with over 5,000 mobile devices and aims to service the thousands of visitors who come to Palestine and the region every year.

Finally, we will also be unveiling Palestine's first Travel Guide iPhone and iPad application. Developing a travel application comes in an effort to capitalize on and better service the ever growing number of smart-phone users. With our travel application, users can download the app and not require any internet connectivity once they arrive (except for basic features requiring internet connection ie. Emails, sharing on social media etc...).

### ADVERTISE WITH VISITPALESTINE.PS:

While we try to ensure that all tourism service providers are listed on the site for free, we also offer various advertising opportunities for companies to better capitalize on the exposure and traffic generated through our site. For more information please check the link below:

<http://www.visitpalestine.ps/advertise>

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