

Day 9

Saturday March 11, 2023

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Christ Church

Christ Church, Jerusalem, is the oldest Protestant church building in the Middle East. Its congregation is mainly composed of English-speaking Jewish Christians, with both Christian and Jewish festivals being celebrated. Christ Church was consecrated on 21 January 1849, originally named the Apostolic Anglican Church, in a small compound just inside the Jaffa Gate opposite the Tower of David. Soon after it became known as the “Jewish Protestant Church.” It is the oldest Protestant church in the Middle East and the first Jerusalem church in modern times to use bells to call worshippers. The compound was also the site of the British Consulate (the first western consulate in Jerusalem) until the outbreak of World War I. Since Ottoman law forbade building new churches, Christ Church was built under the guise of being the chapel of the British consul. This Anglican church in the Old City has a tunnel underneath that dates back to the Second Temple Period.

Models of Jerusalem

Conrad Schick constructed a series of models of the Muslim buildings of the Haram al-Sharif on the Temple Mount, and some somewhat outdated replicas of the Jewish Temple based on the information available in his time. Two wooden models of the Temple Mount he built were exhibited in the Turkish pavilion at the Vienna World Exposition of 1873. One of the models, measuring 4 by 3 meters, did not find a buyer after the end of the World Fair. It was housed at the Chrischona Mission near Basel, Switzerland for 138 years. It was recently purchased by Christ Church in the Old City of Jerusalem. This small museum in the church is dedicated to Conrad Schick’s models and images, as well as a number of 19th century architectural models and many displays and photographs. Two additional models of the Temple Mount created by Schick are located in the basement of the Schmidt School for Girls on Nablus Road, just outside the Old City of Jerusalem near the Damascus Gate. One model shows the Temple Mount as it was in the 1870s, based on his research. The other is a somewhat fanciful model of the Jewish Temple.

Valley of Ben Hinnon (Gehenna)

Gehenna is a small valley in Jerusalem. In the Hebrew Bible, Gehenna was initially where some of the kings of Judah sacrificed their children by fire. Thereafter, it was deemed to be cursed (Book of Jeremiah 7:31, 19:2–6).

Sound and Light Show Citadel of David

The walls of the Citadel serve as a stage for a night time show which is a celebration of sight and sound. Amidst the archaeological remains in the Citadel's courtyard and to the sound of original music, the story of Jerusalem unfolds through giant breathtaking, virtual reality images. The Night Spectacular uses trompe l'oeil technology – the stones of the walls and structures fade into the scenes and the screened images envelop the viewers and whisk them off to a one-of-a-kind multi-sensory experience. Innovative techniques and a sophisticated computer system operate 20 projectors, 10 video players, 14 computers and 14 loudspeakers. All this in addition to some 10 kilometers of cable and two projection rooms. The Night Spectacular, the first of its kind in the world, is for everyone – tourists from Israel and abroad, families, speakers of all languages and all Jerusalem lovers.

Information about the Show

- * Show starts approximately 30 minutes after sunset. Runtime: 45 minutes. Please dress warmly – the show is open air.
- * The show begins with a walk through the courtyard followed by the viewing of the main performance.
- * The Night Spectacular is wheelchair accessible.
- * The Night Spectacular will not take place in the event of extreme weather conditions.
- * No photography allowed during the performance in all areas of the citadel.
- * Due to the nature of the show – late entrances are not allowed.

Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall

Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall in central Jerusalem is one of those Israel destinations that won't blow you away with its beauty or antiquity, but is one of those tourist attractions where you'll probably end up window shopping and coffee guzzling. And where you'll start wondering if anybody speaks Hebrew in the neighborhood...

Ben Yehuda street is named after Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, who helped revive the Hebrew language in the late 19th century. And despite its grand origins, the street is widely known simply as one of Jerusalem's finest shopping areas, what with its very central location alongside King George Street and Jaffa Road, and not too far a walk from perhaps the ultimate Jerusalem destination. Both Jews and tourists from around the globe enjoying the local shops and cafes – Ben Yehuda street is also popular with the locals, who refer to the street as the *Midrachov*.

Shopping in Ben Yehuda street usually revolves around the regular tourist tack, such as tourist t-shirts and arty jewelry, but you can also find nice little niche shops, if you look carefully. You can also expect to be entertained by a variety of buskers down the length of the street, ranging from black folk singers to young Korean Christian choirs to street performers drumming on pipes and whatever else they can get their hands on!