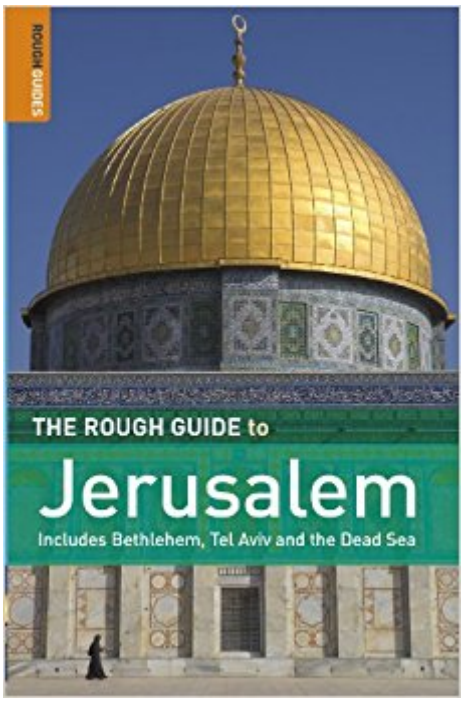
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The Rough Guide To Jerusalem



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Synopsis

"The Rough Guide to Jerusalem' is the ultimate travel guide with clear maps and detailed coverage of all the best attractions the holy city has to offer. Find practical advice on what to see and do in Jerusalem whilst relying on up-to-date descriptions of the best Jerusalem hotels, restaurants, bars, cafes and shops from bare-bones budget to lap-of-luxury deluxe. "The Rough Guide to Jerusalem" gets under the skin of the city, with expert background on everything from Jerusalem's history to the political controversies surrounding it. The guide features a chapter on each of the Old City's four traditional quarters with explanations of all Jerusalem's holy sites, historical buildings and contentious hotspots. Travellers wanting to venture out into Israel or the West Bank will find a section on excursions including places with biblical resonance such as Bethlehem, Hebron, Jericho, the Dead Sea as well as Israel's brash and exciting commercial capital, Tel Aviv. Make the most of Your time with "The Rough Guide to Jerusalem".

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Customer Reviews

When to visit Jerusalem can be pretty hot in summer, but not as hot as you might expect, while in winter it can be downright cold and often sees snow. The reason is the city's altitude - though located between the sunny Mediterranean and the scorching Judaean desert, it stands atop a limestone ridge at 780m above sea level, which makes it a good 3C lower in temperature than the coastal plain to its west. Jerusalem is sufficiently mild that the climate is not really a problem at any time of year, and visitors in any season would be well advised to carry at least a light sweater with

them. In mid-summer it’s dry rather than humid during the day, and pleasantly cool in the evenings. In winter, the city can be wet and cold; temperatures rarely drop below freezing however, and the days often enjoy some pleasantly crisp sunshine. In spring and autumn the evenings can be nippy, but if you want the best weather conditions, late spring or early autumn are the times to visit, between the winter rains and the summer heat. A more important consideration is the number of other visitors you are likely to encounter, which depends very much on religious festivals. If your reasons for visiting Jerusalem aren’t religious, you may well want to to avoid those times of year, since not only are the sights more crowded, but you will find accommodation full and hotel prices extra high. For Christians, Easter is the prime time of year to be here, with all the sights relevant to Holy Week close at hand, and the time when you may feel it most significant to follow in the steps of Jesus along the Via Dolorosa, and celebrate the Resurrection in the city where it happened. Most of Jerusalem’s Christian residents celebrate the Orthodox Easter, which has a rather different flavour to the Western Easter. Christmas is also a popular time to visit, with Bethlehem just down the road and Jerusalem an excellent base to visit from (accommodation in Bethlehem itself will need booking well in advance). From a Christian point of view, the true date of the millennium is December 25, 2000, as opposed to January 1, and those who want to celebrate the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Christ will aim to be here then. If you are a practising Jew, then to celebrate Rosh HaShannah (the Jewish New Year, usually in September) at the Western Wall is, of course, something very special, but historically the three "foot festivals" of Passover (Pesah), Shavuot (Pentecost), or Succot (Tabernacles) were when the Israelites would come here on foot to worship together in the Temple, of which the Wall is held to be the last remnant. Passover (usually in March or April) is especially popular, as for centuries, Jews at the Passover feast (seder) have promised themselves that they would celebrate it "next year in Jerusalem", and for many the chance to do that is a dream come true. Strangely, even if celebrating seder here, you still say the phrase. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

i liked it, gave a more balanced approach to the whole ethnic divide thing

I found this guide to be very useful. I just returned from an 11-day trip to Jerusalem in which I traveled throughout the city and outlying areas. The details in the maps are accurate and essential to finding destinations. The historic, political, and cultural aspects are presented with, I believe, a slightly Palestinian biased approach. Look, there is no way you can visit Israel and especially Jerusalem without an opinion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; if you do not come with an opinion,

you will certainly leave with a few. The issues are highly complex and layered and not to be taken lightly. Any author writing about the city must assert some positions, to do otherwise would be intellectually dishonest. Author Daniel Jacobs does his best to navigate these treacherous waters, although you may detect a well-informed bias. Don’t let this stop you from buying/using this wonderful guide.

The Rough Guide is comprehensive without being overwhelming - a truly useful pocket guide to a city which defies unilateral description. I have found this the most portable, versatile guide for city travel and expansive, reflecting quality writing and research.

I had been preparing for my first visit to Israel, and wanted to find a practical and not overtly politically-slanted travel. I was surprised how hard that actually was. By all means avoid the blantanly anti-Jewish-slanted travel guide issued by the otherwise reliable Eyewitness Travel Guides. This book at times also felt slightly biased (see for example its comments on the Jerusalem Post and Haaretz newspapers), but I checked it out nevertheless."The Rough Guide to Jerusalem (2009 Edition)" (320 pages) starts with about 50 pages of "the basics" such as getting there, getting around, culture and etiquette, etc. I thought that was very helpful. After that the book dives into a detailed overview of Jerusalem. The commentary in the book on Jerusalem is quite useful but ultimately too much, as it takes up almost 200 pages of the book. It leaves only 40 pages dealing with the rest of Israel (Tel Aviv/Jaffa, Masada and the Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Jericho, etc.). In the end, I found that this book is too unbalanced and too heavily Jerusalem-focused, and I would not recommend it if you are going to spend a lot of time outside of Jersusalem. As an alternative, I might suggest "Fodor’s Israel" which covers all of Israel in great depth, and not just Jerusalem.Apart from the travel guide, I can’t say enough about my recent visit to Israel, my first time there. I spent most of my time outside of Jerusalem (Tel Aviv, Haifa, Masada/Dead Sea/Negev desert), reason I would not recommend this particular travel guide. Prior to getting there, I had high expectations, and they were met, and then some. One of the most pleasant surprises in my long travel history. Just a beautiful country, with so much to offer on so many levels. One of the most striking things is that in the 7 days I was there, I hardly saw any military, police or security personnel, which absolutely amazed me (in the most pleasant way). Can’t wait to go back there at some point.

The author of this book is extremely biased against Israel. he seems to practically bendover backwards to put a pro Arab slant to just about everything in the book. I couln’t understand why he

would not just simply describe the scene or location with out finding something nasty to say about israel. I was almost expecting him to blame any bad weather on the Israeli government.I was extremely disapointed , and to me it seemed that he found himself a soap box , at my expense. It’s a shame that he put so much effort into trashing a country , instead of concentrating his efforts on presenting the beauty of such a pretty and culturally rich land. My suggestion, find another tour book. if you want to sunscribe to the authors sentiments , you can find the same stuff on Al Jezzira.

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