

Opportunities for Encounter: Christian pilgrimage and beyond

Balfour
Project

Some suggested resources to help you choose a pilgrimage with a positive impact and connect with Palestinian Christian communities from home.

Please note, this list is a starting point to spark ideas. It does not attempt to encompass all pilgrimage providers or brilliant resources on this subject.

Visit

Pilgrimage and tour providers with a positive impact

McCabe Pilgrimages

<https://www.mccabe-travel.co.uk/>

On a McCabe pilgrimage, your itinerary will include not just the places where Jesus taught and healed during His earthly ministry but also the places where a new generation of followers teach and heal today.

Tangney Tours

<https://www.tangney-tours.com/>

A family business that has been organising pilgrimages to the Holy Shrines of Europe and around the world since 1974.

Lightline Pilgrimages

<https://www.lightline.org.uk/>

Lightline's principal focus is taking pilgrims to the Holy Land, helping them encounter and support the Christian communities in Palestine and Israel, often called the 'Living Stones'.

Laila Tours & Travel

<https://www.lailatours.com/>

Owned and operated by our speaker Laila Jackaman Asfoura, a lifelong member of Bethlehem's Palestinian Christian community, and staffed by a team of local residents who are professionals in the field of tourism.

Pilgrimage People

<https://pilgrimagepeople.org/>

Pilgrimage People is a UK based charity dedicated to bringing together Christian people, both visitor and visited, to support and strengthen our common faith.

Amos Trust

<https://www.amostrust.org/>

A human rights organisation committed to challenging injustice, building hope and creating positive change. They organise tours to visit their partner projects.

ATG

<http://atg.ps/>

A Palestinian NGO specializing in tours and pilgrimages that include critical examinations of the history, culture, and politics of the Holy Land.

Zaytoun

<https://zaytoun.uk/visit-palestine/>

Run "Protective presence" trips and a "taste of Palestine" tour.

Stay a little longer

The Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI)

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/eappi>

An international programme coordinated by the World Council of Churches. It brings people from around the world to the West Bank to serve for three months as human rights monitors.

You can also invite returned "EAs" to come and speak at your church or community group.

Volunteer

Friends of the Holy Land (FOTHL)

<https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/volunteer>

Find a range of volunteering roles with FOTHL, who focus on providing direct hope and assistance to Christians in need in the Holy Land.

Pray

Friends of the Holy Land (FOTHL)

<https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/prayer>

Join Friends of the Holy Land's "prayer bank".

Pax Christi International

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/campaigns/israel-and-palestine/>

Resources and reflections for Peacemakers.

Sebeel-Kairos

<https://www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk/category/resources/prayer-and-theology/>

An advocacy-based human rights Christian charity promoting a just peace in Israel and Palestine.

Learn more

Balfour Project

<https://balfourproject.org/>

Events and webinars.

***Walking the Tightrope* Film by FODIP**

<https://www.fodip.org.uk/walkingthetightrope>

A short film exploring important issues for Christians engaging with the Holy Land.

***Justice and Only Justice* (among other titles): Book by Naim Stifan Ateek**

<https://www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk/a-palestinian-theology-of-liberation-by-naim-ateek/>

An introduction to liberation theology in the context of the Palestinian struggle for freedom and self-determination.

***Forbidden Pilgrimage* Film**

<https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/palestineremix/forbidden-pilgrimage.html#/4>

"Every year, Israel draws millions of tourists to the "Holy Land". They are told a false history of Palestine – one that airbrushes out the Christians and Muslims who have lived there for centuries."

Come and See

Justice guidelines for Christians contemplating a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, developed by Palestinian Christian activists and professionals in the tourism industry.

The PDF can be downloaded here - <http://atg.ps/study-center/publications>

Kumi Now

<https://kuminow.com/>

Working to connect activists around the world with the organisations working on the ground in Palestine and Israel, including a weekly newsletter and online events.

Embrace the Middle East

<https://embraceme.org/>

A Christian development charity tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East.