

# Israel

## 14 Feb 2020



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Acknowledgements:

for inviting me on this adventure, and for some of the images here:

John Shipe, my good friend since 1972, when we were in the Air Force at Kirtland AFB.

Ligia Maria Shipe. 14 Feb 2020 was John and Ligia Maria's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Laura Shipe Whitehead, John's daughter

Col (sel) Ryan (Rye) Whitehead



Mediterranean Sea ... Tel Aviv, Israel





כל הנוסעים  
All Passengers







جمرك | Customs | מכס

DECLARATION  
מכס - מסלול אדום  
טובין להצהרה

CUSTOMS - RED LANE  
ITEMS TO DECLARE  
מכס - מסלול אדום  
טובין להצהרה

יציאה

!?

אזהרה: אין להניח אוכל, משקה, תרופות, ציוד אלקטרוני, או כל פריט אחר שאינו מותר לייבוא, על המסלול האדום.

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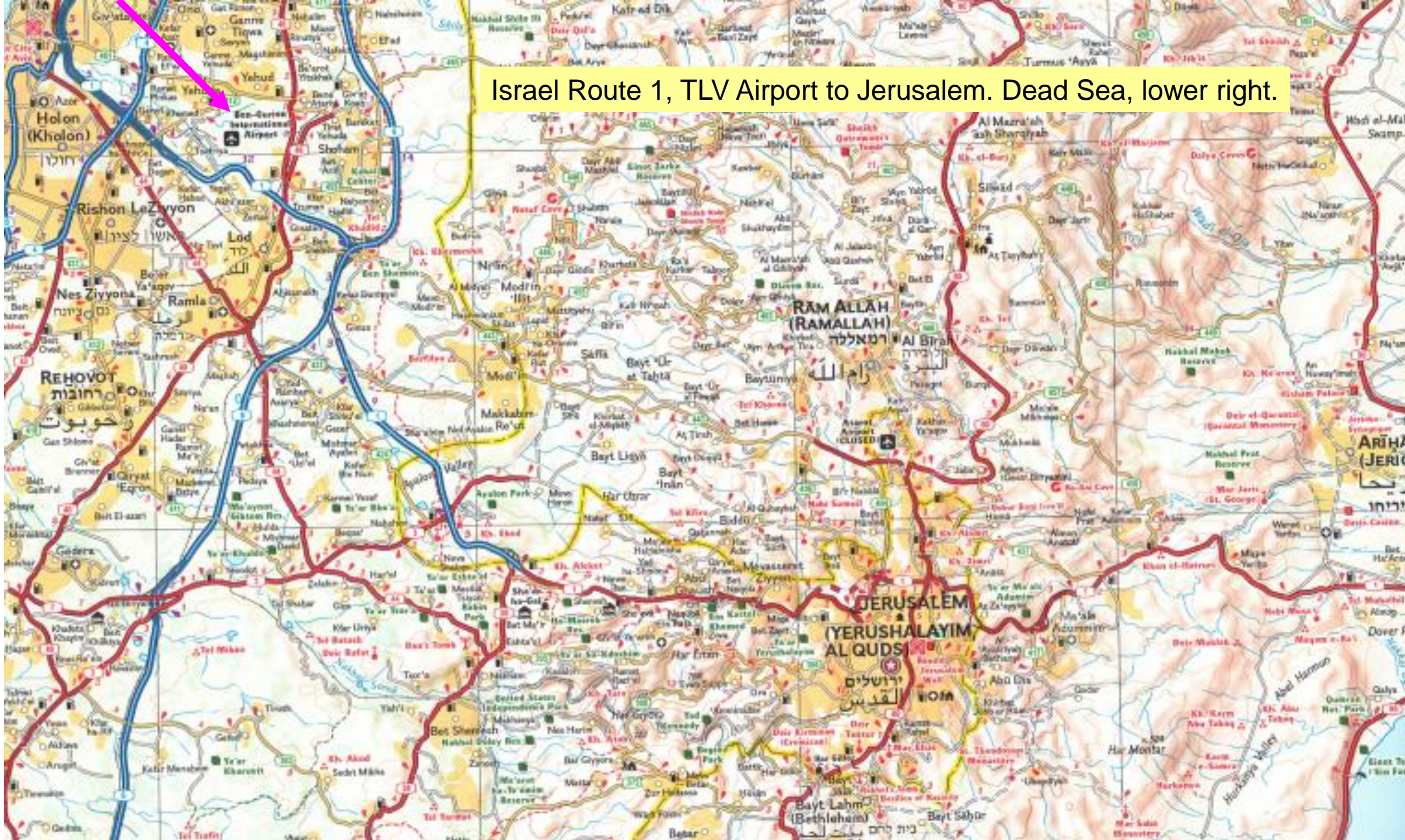








Israel Route 1, TLV Airport to Jerusalem. Dead Sea, lower right.







Foothills enroute to Jerusalem on Route 1



Foothills on Route 1, West Jerusalem in the distance.



Government Center, West Jerusalem















Our Residential area, West Jerusalem



# Embassy of the United States











First view of the wall surrounding the Old City of Jerusalem



View north, across the Valley of Ben Hinnom to Mt Zion and the Old City Armenian Quarter











View across the Valley of Ben Hinnom to Mount Zion, highest part of the Old City of Jerusalem



<https://jr.co.il/pictures/israel/maps/jerusalem-detailed-map-english-2008.jpg>





View SE down the Valley of Ben Hinnom and Valley of Kidron to East Jerusalem and the Dead Sea Desert in the far distance



View South across the Valley of Ben Hinnom into East Jerusalem







View Southeast across the Valley of Ben Hinnom into East Jerusalem



View across the Valley of Kidron to East Jerusalem, the Jewish Cemeteries, and the Mount of Olives







SANT PIERRE EN GALLICANTE  
+ +  
SANT PETER IN GALLICANTU

סַנְטָּ פִּיטֵר לַגְלִיקָנְטוּ  
+ + +  
ماربطرس "كان صياح الديك"



25  
87







Roman Catholic Church of Saint Peter in Gallicantu, eastern slope of Mount Zion, just outside the Old (walled) City.



Ancient staircase, L, leads down towards the Kidron Valley, may have been a passage from the upper city to the lower city during the First Temple period.

Many Christians believe that Jesus followed this path down to Gethsemane the night of his arrest.

















View NNE up Valley of Kidron. Mt Zion Left, Temple Mount Center, then Garden of Gethsemane, & Mount of Olives, R. Al-Aqsa Mosque (black dome) and golden Dome of the Rock on Temple Mount; Jewish Cemeteries Right.





Bell Tower of the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition on Mount Zion, just outside the Zion Gate, adjacent to the Church of the Dormition (of the Virgin Mary).





## Zion Gate

Gate nearest Mount Zion, highest hill in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Bullet holes are from the 1948 War of Independence.



Church of the Dormition on Mount Zion.

Location where Virgin Mary died (fell asleep, The Dormition)

During the Byzantine Period, the Church of Holy Zion was built here and subsequently destroyed by the Persians, in 614 AD.

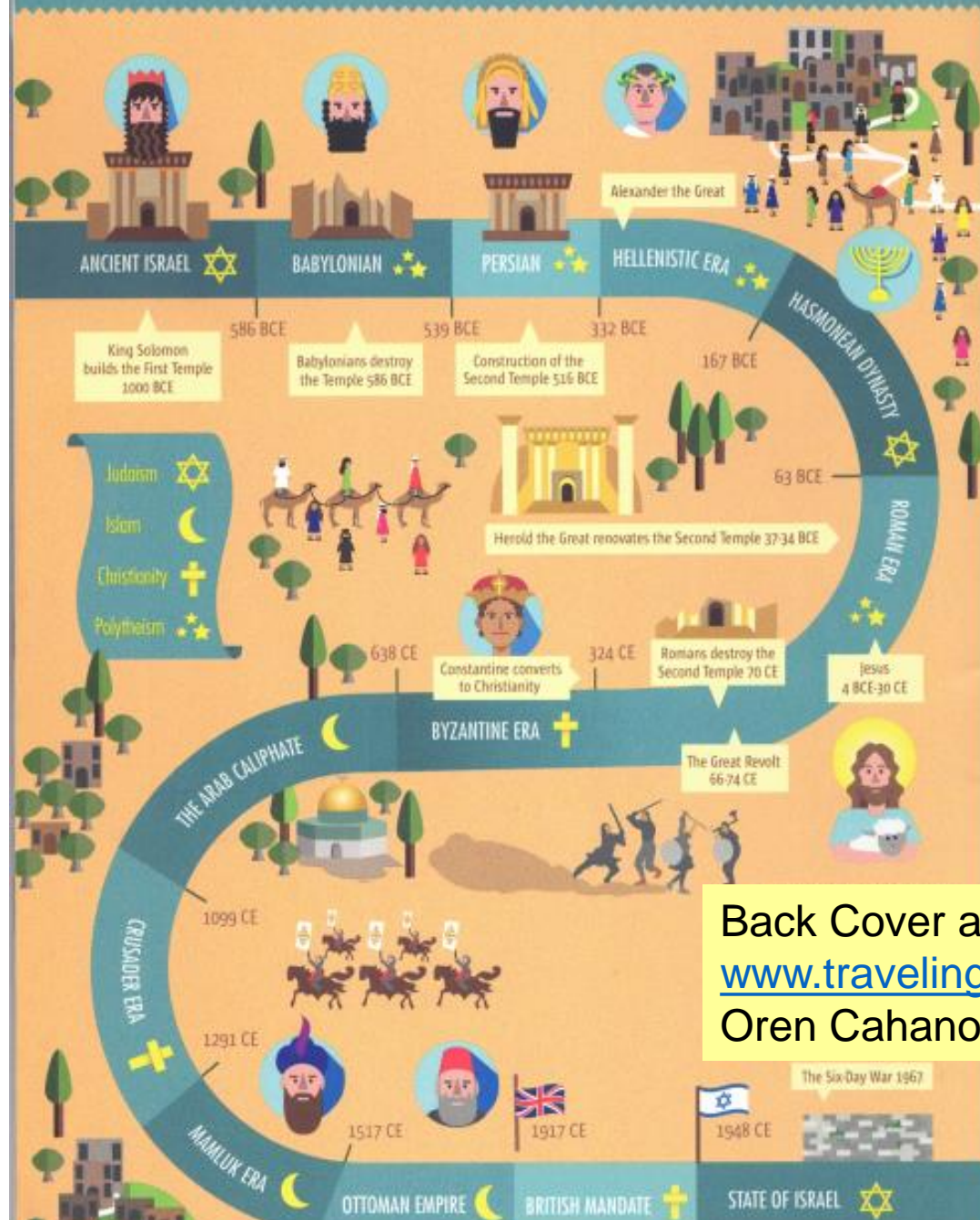
Larger Crusader Church was built here but destroyed in 1187.

Present church was built in 1910.





# TIMELINE OF THE LAND OF ISRAEL



Back Cover art, [Day Tour Jerusalem,](http://www.travelingisreal.com)  
[www.travelingisreal.com](http://www.travelingisreal.com)  
Oren Cahanovitch





בית הכנסת הספרדי  
הר ציון  
נוסד מלחמת קוממיות התש"ח  
1948

בס"ד  
THE SEPHARDIC SYNAGOGUE  
OF MOUNT ZION  
ESTAB. DURING  
THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE  
1948



During the War for Independence in 1948, common people took refuge in this synagogue, hoping to escape the carnage of the battle.



בית הכנסת הספרדי  
הר ציון  
נוסד מלחמת קוממיות התש"ח  
1948

בס"ד  
THE SEPHARDIC SYNAGOGUE  
OF MOUNT ZION  
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THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE  
1948













This is emblematic of the common circumstance in the Holy Land.

A hall, church, mosque, other structure is constructed on the location where, by history or tradition, an important event occurred.



Chamber area where Jesus was held, in the domicile of Simon Caiaphas, the high priest in Jerusalem at the time.







Chamber area where Jesus was held, in the domicile of Simon Caiaphas, the high priest in Jerusalem at the time.





Chamber area where Jesus was held, in the domicile of Simon Caiaphas, the high priest in Jerusalem at the time.





View across the Valley of Kidron to the Mount of Olives, in East Jerusalem.





Walkway along the outer wall. Northern Mount of Olives to the right.



Zechariha's Tomb, on  
the Mount of Olives  
side of the Kidron Valley





Church of All Nations in Garden of Gethsemane

Church of Mary Magdalene

Mount of Olives







Walls of the Old City were built in 1535–42 by the Ottoman Turkish sultan Suleiman the Magnificent.

Golden Gate to the Old City, walled up since the Medieval Period.

Note the arrow slits in the wall for use by defending archers.





Lions Gate. Note wall shape in middle distance for geolocation







Romanesque Church of Ste Anne, built originally as a Byzantine shrine on the Pools of Bethesda in 5<sup>th</sup> Century. Dating from 1135, this French Roman Catholic church is intact from the Crusader Period. It is located inside Lions' Gate. Outside, on Lion's Gate Street, the Via Dolorosa begins.







We enter the Church of Ste Anne.



One of the Pools of Bethesda, a healing pool that dates from Ancient Israel, 8 centuries BC. Traditional home of Joachim and Anne, parents of Saint Mary, and her childhood home.



Ruins in this pool, other ruins here, likely remains of the Byzantine Church destroyed by the Persians in 614 AD



Model of the two pools of Bethesda, during the Second Temple Period, the time of Christ.

This pagan healing shrine was built by the Romans.

A Byzantine basilica was built here in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, but it was partially destroyed by the Persians in 614 AD

Next slides show some remains of that basilica.





Ruins of the Byzantine  
basilica partially destroyed  
by the Persians in 614 AD









Church of Ste Anne



Ruins of the Byzantine basilica from the 5<sup>th</sup> century.





“The church's acoustics are particularly suited to Gregorian chant, which makes it a pilgrimage site for soloists and choirs.”









Just outside the Church of Ste Anne, the beginning of the Via Dolorosa. Bab Al-Asbat Minaret, built in 1367, background.



















Temple Mount and portions  
of the Old City

Church Ste Anne

Lions Gate

Bab Al-Asbat Minaret

Exit and souk

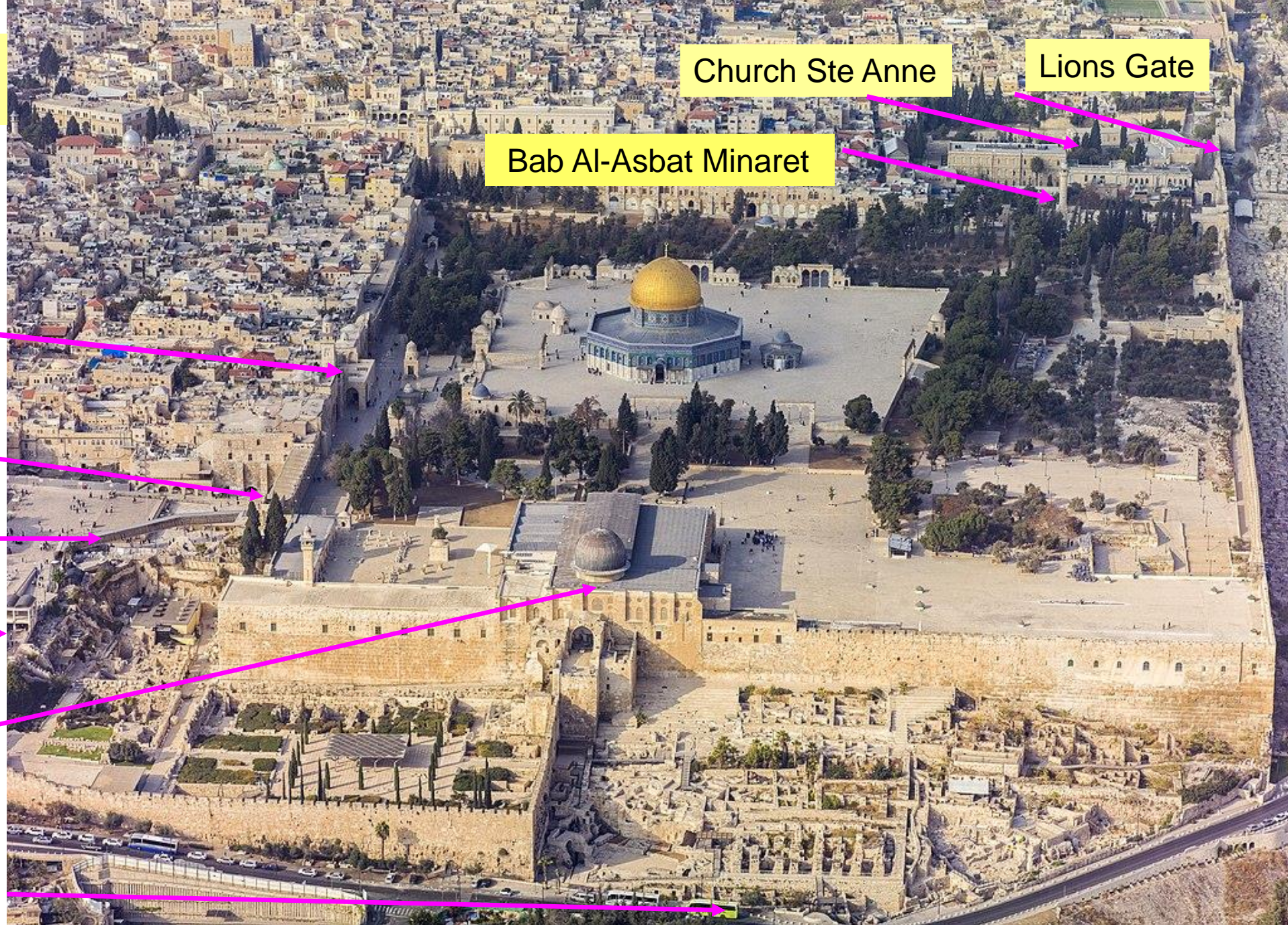
Western Wall Plaza

Elevated Sidewalk

Security Checkpoint

Al Aqsa Mosque

City of David, both sides  
of road near chartreuse bus







Muslim Quarter; Star of David for Jewish household.





Passage enroute to Western Wall



Western Wall, holiest site in Judaism. This retaining wall was built by King Herod for the Second Temple. The Second Temple, on the Temple Mount, was destroyed by the Romans in 67 AD. This Western Wall Plaza was established by Israel in the days following the Six Day War in 1967. Evening, beginning of Shabbat (Sabbath)







Western Wall, Friday Evening, 14 Feb 2020, just as Shabbat begins. We took the elevated walkway to the Temple Mount on 16 Feb 2020.





Western Wall Plaza, facing west, 14 Feb 2020





Western Wall Plaza, Western Wall, and elevated walkway to Temple Mount, right, evening of Friday, 14 Feb 2020. Above, Bab al-Silsila minaret, dates from 1329, is part of Al Aqsa Mosque, and built by the Mamluks (post-Crusaders)