



## Final Travel Instructions

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Your trip from the US to Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion Airport. Although you have already received some Group Travel Information, the directions below are more detailed. You will probably want to have these instructions with you when you arrive at Ben Gurion. Providing us with your personal cell number will be helpful in communicating on the day of your arrival via texting. It is a great way to keep track of time, possible lost baggage, and a sudden delay in flight that a pilgrim might be arriving on. If you have any questions, please email us <http://iqumri@iyadqumripilgrimages.com>.

### **Arriving in Tel-Aviv**

All international flights arrive in terminal 3

**Exiting the Aircraft:** Once you disembark the plane and as you make your way to passport control. You may notice a few travel agents holding signs and standing either throughout the corridor hall past the gate, or near the escalators. Please do not mind those signs and continue straight to passport control. Our meeting point will be inside the arrival hall after you claim your luggage and clear customs.

**Passport Control:** Being part of a group makes clearing Passport Control easier. (If you are not traveling with a group, follow the same arrival procedures.) At Passport Control, please mention that you are part of a pilgrimage group (or here to join a group) to visit holy places and will be accommodated in churches throughout Jerusalem or Nazareth. With today's high security measures especially at Ben Gurion Airport, traveling as a "Group" is the magic word. Being part of a group and a pilgrimage reduces the level of alertness with security and allows the arrival procedure to flow smoothly.

Once you reach the passport control booth, your passports will be reviewed, and you will be given a small blue slip with a stamp on it. The slip contains your passport information and grants you entry to the Baggage Claim area. Please Keep this blue slip in your passport at all times! This slip also acts as an entry/exit visa and you are required to present it to customs when you exit Israel. This slip of paper is issued in lieu of a stamp on your passport.

**Baggage claim:** If you wish to have a cart to collect your baggage, luggage cart(s) are 10 NIS each. Beside each conveyer belt, there are machines that accept credit cards, bills, and coins that will dispense your luggage cart. If part of a group, you will want to assemble before you leave the baggage area and then exit together to the Arrival Hall.

**Customs and Exiting:** Exit beneath the green “Nothing to Declare” Customs sign. Your guide will meet you in the Arrival Hall and escort you to your bus for Jerusalem. (If not traveling with a group, meet your pre-arranged driver or taxi just outside).

If your baggage does not arrive, fill out a form at the counter in the Baggage Claim area and give it to Customs personnel on your way out. Ask that the lost bag be delivered to St. Georges’ Pilgrim Guest House, 65 Nablus Road, East Jerusalem. Then meet your guide in the Arrival Hall.

### **Transfer from Tel Aviv to St. George’s Guest House, East Jerusalem:**

**Group Transfer:** We always encourage and strongly recommended our tourists or pilgrims to arrive together as a group, it is always more organized and creates way less confusion and minimizes error. However, we do understand that flight schedules can vary significantly especially from one coast to the other. If you plan to travel individually and intend to transfer with the group to St. George’s Guest House, please arrive roughly between 2:00 and 5:00 pm on the dates of arrival and gather in the Arrival Hall. (If you arrive earlier you may wait in the airport until the group arrives and then transfer together.) Group transportation is included in the price of the pilgrimage. Your destination is St. George’s Cathedral and Guest House, 65 Nablus Road (aka Shechem Road). It is located in East Jerusalem, half a block opposite the Leonardo Hotel and two blocks from the American Colony Hotel.

St. Georges’ Guest House number is [\(02\)-627-1842](tel:(02)-627-1842).

**Arriving Individually:** If you wish to arrive at St. George's Guest House prior or after the stated time as mentioned above, please choose one of the options or methods below:

- a. Make arrangements by sending us an email to [iqumri@iyadqumripilgrimimages.com](mailto:iqumri@iyadqumripilgrimimages.com). In your email, please include your airline, flight number, and time of arrival. A driver holding a sign with your name will meet you inside the arrival hall once you exit luggage and customs. Cost \$100 for up to three people. American \$\$ accepted. You will pay at the Guest House, you may give a tip to the driver.
- b. Use the shared taxi called Sherut (sher-Root.) Up to eight passengers can be dropped off at the address of their choice. Cost \$18-20 per person. American \$\$ accepted. (Caution: dropping off several passengers can lengthen the time of the trip to St. George's.) Be sure the driver understands that you are going to St. George's Guesthouse on Nablus Road, not St. George's Hotel.

**IMPORTANT!** When you exit the arrival hall and if you have a scheduled a taxi to come pick you up, PLEASE make sure you are with the correct driver. If you are uncertain and have been waiting for a long while inside the arrival hall with no driver present, please contact the following emergency numbers:

- 1) **St. George's Guest House (Reception Desk): +972 (2)-627-1842**
- 2) **Sami Qumri: +972 (52)-6869787**
- 3) **Rami Qumri: +972 (54)-8854051**
- 4) **Iyad Qumri: +972 (50)-5216280**

**Your Destination:** St. George's Cathedral and Guest House, 65 Nablus Rd aka (Shchem Rd) in East Jerusalem, half a block opposite the Leonardo Hotel (NOT St. George's Hotel, which is three blocks away).

### **Separate Flights and Same Day of Arrival:**

If not all on the same flight, individual travelers should have a scheduled arrival time no later than 45 minutes after the group scheduled arrival time. Those coming later than 45 minutes after the group arrival time must make independent arrangements to join the group. A separate document, INDIVIDUAL ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS, should be given to those not traveling with the group.

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We appreciate your full attention to these instructions. If you have any questions, please email us and we are more than happy to assist.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Land of the Holy One.

Peace and Salaam,



Qumri Pilgrimages

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