

The Way of the Cross – footsteps of Jesus

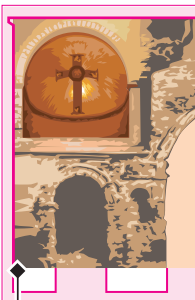
First Station of the Cross

Pontius Pilate, Roman Procurator, condemns Jesus to death. The Place of Judgement, the **Praetorium**, was in Pilate's residence at a "place paved with stone". Three locations have been proposed

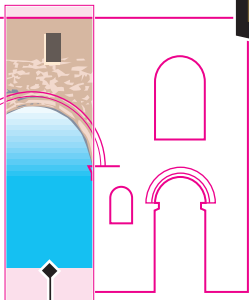
Second

Jesus takes up the Cross. Pilate presents

Jesus to the crowd proclaiming, "Behold the Man!" Two sections survive today of the **Ecce Homo Arch** (B) – built by Emperor Hadrian in the second century AD



Inside Convent of the Sisters of Sion (C)

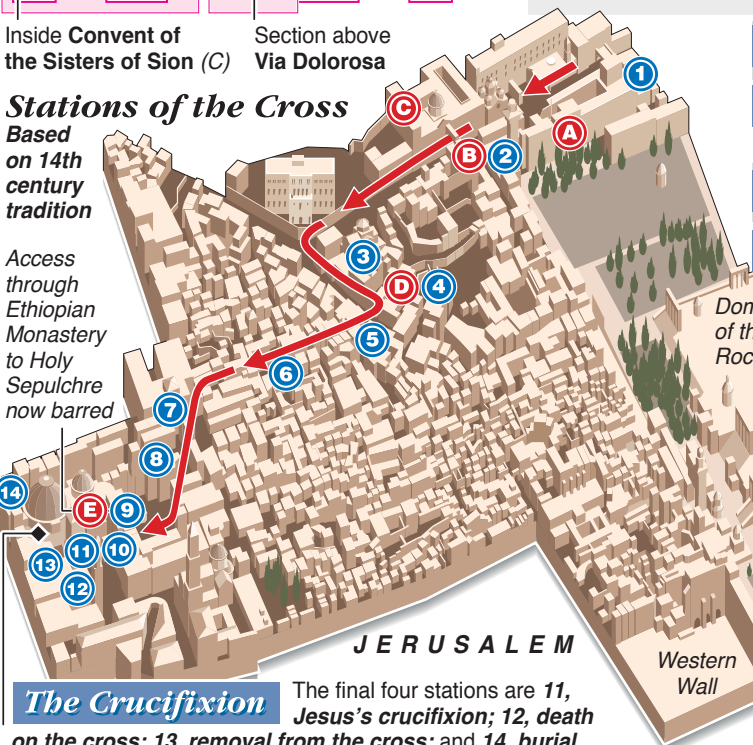


Section above Via Dolorosa

Stations of the Cross

Based on 14th century tradition

Access through Ethiopian Monastery to Holy Sepulchre now barred



JERUSALEM

The Crucifixion

The final four stations are 11, **Jesus's crucifixion**; 12, **death on the cross**; 13, **removal from the cross**; and 14, **burial**. Some pilgrims assign a 15th station to **Jesus's resurrection**

Golgotha: Site outside ancient city walls served as stone quarry, execution and burial site from 1000BC, corroborating its authenticity



33AD Crucifixion of Jesus

70AD Jewish Revolt: Romans destroy city

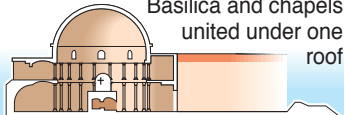
135AD Reconstruction: Hadrian has ground levelled to build Temple of Aphrodite

Constantine's Basilica: Jesus's tomb uncovered during construction in 325AD



323AD Byzantine period Under Emperor Constantine, becomes Christian city

Church of the Holy Sepulchre Basilica and chapels united under one roof



1149AD Crusader period: Church restored and dedicated after Christians recapture city, ending 400 years of Muslim rule

The Way of the Cross, or **Via Dolorosa**, marks Jesus' final path through the streets of Jerusalem to his Crucifixion. With the Gospels as our only guide, however, the precise route has for centuries remained the subject of archaeological and religious debate

Locating the Praetorium – alternative sites

Golgotha Crucifixion site. Now the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**

Judgement Gate City exit to site of execution

Citadel
King Herod's Palace Most luxurious in city – likely residence of Pontius Pilate

Extent of Old City today



Antonia Fortress Herod's fortress – traditional start of route as identified by Crusaders in 14th century. Present-day El Omariye School (A)

Temple Mount

City walls in Jesus's time

Hasmonean Palace

Remains of public buildings and Palatial Mansion discovered. Byzantine church marked site until 7th century

Enlarged area

Third

Jesus falls for the first time under the weight of the Cross

Fourth

Jesus meets his mother. Now an Armenian church (D) – Mary's sandal prints in crypt

Fifth

Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus. Jesus' handprint on nearby wall

Sixth

Veronica wipes Jesus's face. True image (*vera icon*) left imprinted on her handkerchief

Seventh

Jesus falls for a second time

Eighth

Jesus consoles the women of Jerusalem. Marked with a cross and Greek inscription **NIKA**, meaning victory



Ninth

Jesus falls for a third time. Gate of Coptic Patriarchate (E)

Tenth

Jesus is stripped of his garments

Golgotha and the tomb of Christ