# Palestinian Heritage Trail



# Walk a Path of History Experience Nature and Hospitality



Palestinian Heritage Trail is a long distance, cultural walking route in Palestine. The trail is 321 km long and extends from the village of Rummana northwest of Jenin to Beit Mirsim southwest of Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi (Ibrahimi Mosque) in Hebron. The trail passes through 53 cities and villages where hikers, walkers and travelers can experience the legendary Palestinian hospitality.

Palestinian Heritage Trail is more than just a hiking trail. It is a means of meeting and making connections between Palestinians and hikers from all over the world. It invites hikers to change their perspectives by discovering the common values they share with new acquaintances along the way, all while experiencing the beautiful natural environment of Palestine.



### Rummana to Burqin

Hike through the olive groves of the north and visit the ancient church of Burqin.

Distance: 17 km | Time: 5-7 h | Challenge: Moderate

This 17km long stage starts at the village of Rummana, which in Arabic means pomegranate. Rummana, located around 17km northwest of Jenin, is the most northern village of the West Bank. The village is located on a hill slope which conceals traces of ancient remains, including cisterns and caves carved into the rock. The village is well known for the abundance of its olive trees, some of which are said to date back to the Roman times (63 BCE-324 CE).

Further on, the trail leads towards a hill overlooking the town of Ta'anek, located just next to the ancient Canaanite site of Tel Ta'anek, strategically positioned along the ancient trade route - Via Maris. From there colorful fields of Marj Ibn Amir (or Jezreel Valley) are clearly seen in the background.

The destination of this stage is the town of Burqin, famous for its 4th century Church of St. George. The church is considered one of the oldest churches in Palestine. It was built to commemorate the spot where Jesus Christ had stopped in his path in order to heal the ten men who suffered from leprosy.

#### What to wear?

- Broken-in hiking shoes
- Suncream, sunglasses and a hat
- Comfortable and light clothes (covering arms and knees)

#### What to take in your backpack?

- At least 3 liters of water
- A snack
- Your passport
- A camera
- Personal medications
- Warmer blouse
- "Your community trekking guide will be equipped with a first aid kit."

#### You will see:

#### Tell Ta'anek

The unexcavated ruins at Tel Ta'anek show a city strategically positioned along the Via Maris, which served as a major regional center as early as the first part of the Bronze Age.



## **Burqin Church**

St. George's Church in Burqin has stood in its current location since the Byzantine era as a marker of the site where Jesus healed ten lepers. It is considered the third oldest church in the world.



#### Stage Map

