



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

Identified by Emperor Constantine's mother Helena as the site of Jesus' crucifixion and tomb in 326 AD, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre adjoins three separate constructs over these two holy sites: the basilica, an enclosed atrium (believed to be the site of Calvary), and a rotunda over the burial place of Jesus. Located within the northwest quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, this magnificent and ancient structure has been renovated several times since its original construction and remains a highlight of myriad Christian pilgrimages.

While some question the plausibility of third century Christians correctly locating the sites of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, others point to archaeological evidence indicating the sites' credibility: archaeological remains of the second north wall of Jerusalem, largely undisputed, point to the Church's location just outside the wall, in keeping with the Gospel accounts' description of Jesus being crucified and buried "near" the city (John 19:20).

