



Israeli Country Guide

Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to Israel Passport and Tourist Visa Conditions for Australian Passport Holders

Australian ordinary passport holders travelling as a tourist will usually be issued with a visa free of charge upon arrival in Israel provided they pass certain police and character checks. This visa will allow travellers to stay in Israel for up to three months. This period can be extended at an office of the Israeli Ministry of Interior for a nominal fee. Passports should be valid for six months beyond the period of intended stay in Israel. Travellers should be able to show documentation confirming their onward travel arrangements and their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay.

Several Arab countries will not allow entry to persons if they have evidence of travel to Israel in their passport. Travellers may request that their passport not be stamped by passport control and will instead receive additional documentation that will be stamped upon entry and exit, but this is at the discretion of the officer on duty. Further conditions may apply for people with Israeli or Palestinian heritage. This advice does not cover travel to the Palestinian territories. Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact an Israeli mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Israel without a visa.

Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Thu, 1st November 2018.

Exercise a high degree of caution due to the threat of terrorist attack, rocket fire and military confrontation. Terrorist attacks could occur at anytime and anywhere in Israel. Pay close attention to your personal security at all times. See [Safety and security](#). Do not travel to the Gaza Strip due to the dangerous and unpredictable security situation. See [Safety and security](#). Reconsider your need to travel to areas of Israel within 5kms of the border with the Gaza Strip due to the threat of rocket attack and spill-over from civil unrest along the Gaza-Israel border. See [Safety and security](#). Reconsider your need to travel to the West Bank, including Bethlehem, Jericho and Ramallah, due to the unpredictable security situation. See [Safety and security](#). Reconsider your need to travel to all parts of the Golan Heights to the east of Route 98 near Syria, due to the threat of terrorist attack and the activities of militants on the other side of the border. See [Safety and security](#).

There is a particular threat of rocket attack and other violence in the regions bordering Egypt, Lebanon and Syria. Violent incidents have occurred and the security situation could further deteriorate at any time. See [Safety and security](#). Wherever you travel, make sure you study emergency procedures and know how to respond to air raid sirens. Identify the location of the nearest emergency shelter. See [Safety and security](#). Avoid all protests, demonstrations and political rallies as they may turn violent. See [Safety and security](#). If you have called for, or belong to an organisation which has called for, a boycott of Israel or Israeli settlements, you may be denied entry to Israel. See [Entry and exit](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for Israel only. The sections on the Palestinian Territories (Gaza and the West Bank) have not been reproduced here. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Israel at www.smarttraveller.gov.au.

Israeli Representatives

Israeli Embassy, Canberra

6 Turrana Street
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6215 4500
Fax: (02) 6215 4555

Web: <http://embassies.gov.il/canberra>

Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Israel. Vaccination against typhoid should also be considered particularly if travelling to areas where sanitation and personal hygiene may be poor. Depending on your itinerary vaccination against hepatitis B and rabies may also need to be considered. All travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a polio booster dose and recent annual influenza vaccination.

Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Israel should also ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues visit www.smarttraveller.gov.au/tips.



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Time differences between Israel and Australia

Israel is Greenwich Mean Time +2 hours (+3 during daylight saving). The applicable time zone is Israel Standard Time (IST) or Israel Daylight Time (IDT). Daylight saving is usually observed from the Friday before April 2nd to the Sunday after Jewish New Year.

Israel, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 6pm, Darwin 7:30pm, Brisbane 8pm, Adelaide 8:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 9pm.
Israel, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 5pm, Darwin, Adelaide 6:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney, 7pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Israel: +972

To Dial Australia Call:

00 61 <City> <Number>

00 is the carrier prefix for Kod Gisha. Other carriers' prefixes include 012 - Smile Tikshoret; 013 - NetVision; 014 - Bezeq.

Australian Reverse Charges Direct:

Barak (carrier): 1809 39 6161

Bezeq (carrier): 1809 49 4610

Travelex Card Services: 1809 44 1393

Visa Global Assistance: 18009 41 1605

MasterCard: 1809 41 8873

American Express: 18009 43 8694

Emergency Services:

Ambulance 101

Fire 102

Police 100

Tourist Police (03) 516 5382 (Tel Aviv)

The Emergency services may not always have English speaking staff. In this case, you should have a local call on your behalf or contact the Australian Embassy.

Record Your Important Information

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _____

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Israel

Australian Embassy, Israel

Level 28, Discount Bank Tower
23 Yehuda Halevi Street (corner Herzl St)
TEL AVIV 65136

Tel: (+972 3) 693 5000

Fax: (+972 3) 693 5002

Web: www.israel.embassy.gov.au

Australian Office, West Bank

Level 7, Trust Building
48 Othman Ben Affan Street
El - Bireh
RAMALLAH

Tel: (+972 2) 242 5301

Fax: (+972 2) 242 8290

Web: www.ramallah.mission.gov.au

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Israel are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian Embassy in Tel Aviv, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Page 3 of 5 General Destination Information for Israel

Duty Free Allowances for Israel and Australia

Allowances when entering Israel:

Alcohol: 1 L of spirits and 2 L of wine.
 Tobacco: Up to 250 g of tobacco products or 200 cigarettes.
 Perfume: Up to 250 ml.
 Other Goods: Up to the value of US\$200.

Allowances when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 L.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Israel and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Israeli customs please visit www.taxes.gov.il, or for information on Australian customs please visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

Electrical Adaptors and Voltage

Electrical socket: Israeli (type H) and European (type C) sockets are the most common in Israel. Most H type sockets in Israel will accept either type of electrical input plugs.

Supply: 220-240 V, 50 Hz (same as Australia).

A voltage converter will not usually be required to use appliances designed for Australian use. A socket converter is generally all that is required for Australian appliances.

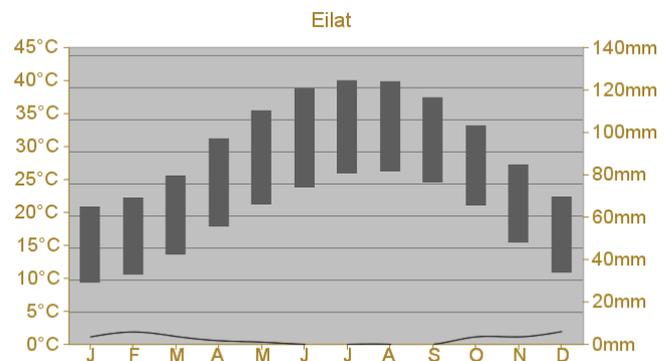
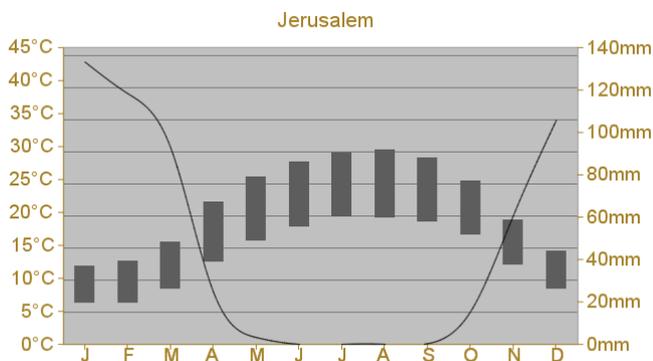


Israeli Public Holidays 2018

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 01 - 02 Mar: Feast of Purim | 10 - 11 Sep: Rosh Hashana |
| 06 Apr: Last Day of Pesach | 19 Sep: Yom Kippur |
| 19 Apr: Independence Day | 24 Sep: Sucot |
| 20 May: Shavuot | 01 Oct: Simchat Torah |
| 22 Jul: Fast of Ninth of Av | |

Holidays in Israel generally begin at sundown on the previous day. As many of the above holidays are Jewish festivals, adherence to them may alter depending on the region and other festivals may be celebrated in accordance with local tradition.

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Israel



For local forecasts from the Israel Meteorological Service please go to www.ims.gov.il.

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Page 4 of 5 Israeli Currency Information and Cheat Sheet Exchange Rate Purchasing Power Parity

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 2.64 Israeli New Shekels
 1 Israeli New Shekel (ILS) = 0.38 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 2.54 Israeli New Shekels
 1 Israeli New Shekel (ILS) will cost 0.39 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging these currencies. These currency rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Israeli New Shekel and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing power of each currency.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 15.74 Shekels
 Big Mac Israel: 16.50 (ILS) = 6.24 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Israel is therefore 5% more expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

NIS 5 = \$1.97 AUD	This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.	
NIS 10 = \$3.93 AUD	NIS 100 = \$39.32 AUD	NIS 1,000 = \$393.20 AUD
NIS 20 = \$7.86 AUD	NIS 200 = \$78.64 AUD	NIS 2,000 = \$786.41 AUD
NIS 30 = \$11.80 AUD	NIS 300 = \$117.96 AUD	NIS 3,000 = \$1,179.61 AUD
NIS 40 = \$15.73 AUD	NIS 400 = \$157.28 AUD	NIS 4,000 = \$1,572.81 AUD
NIS 50 = \$19.66 AUD	NIS 500 = \$196.60 AUD	NIS 5,000 = \$1,966.02 AUD
NIS 60 = \$23.59 AUD	NIS 600 = \$235.92 AUD	NIS 6,000 = \$2,359.22 AUD
NIS 70 = \$27.52 AUD	NIS 700 = \$275.24 AUD	NIS 7,000 = \$2,752.42 AUD
NIS 80 = \$31.46 AUD	NIS 800 = \$314.56 AUD	NIS 8,000 = \$3,145.63 AUD
NIS 90 = \$35.39 AUD	NIS 900 = \$353.88 AUD	NIS 9,000 = \$3,538.83 AUD
		NIS 10,000 = \$3,932.03 AUD

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Israel is the Israeli New Shekel or shekel for short (plural shkalim, or in English shekels). The Shekel is abbreviated using the symbol ₪. It may also be abbreviated with the acronym NIS (New Israeli Shekel) or its currency code ILS. The subunit of the shekel is the agora (plural agorot), of which there are 100 in every shekel. The following units of currency are the most common however other units are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travelers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.



