

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ISRAEL

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends.

**Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Israel for stays of up to 90 days.** You will be issued entry and exit cards for Israel upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport (TLV) in Tel Aviv. It is recommended that you bring a large paperclip or binder clip to secure these cards to your passport during the course of your journey.

Entry and exit cards will also be issued to travellers entering Israel via the following land border crossings from Jordan:

- Allenby Bridge in central Israel, near Jerusalem
- Arava crossing (Wadi al-'Arabah) in the south near Eilat
- Jordan River crossing via the Sheikh Hussein Bridge near the Sea of Galilee

Please be aware that the border crossing between Jordan and Israel is a secured terminal. A&K personnel are not allowed to enter this area. You will be required to pass through some portions of the immigration process on your own before being met by a VIP service member who escorts you outside to meet the A&K representative. During this entire process, your A&K representative is in telephone contact with the VIP service to monitor your progress.

Customs officials may ask to see copies of your travel documents, such as your air schedule and tour itinerary.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## VACCINATIONS

There are no required vaccinations to enter Israel.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions should be made in local currency. Major credit cards are widely accepted for goods and services. Access to ATM machines is widespread in cities and towns, but may be limited in rural areas.

## OF SPECIAL NOTE: FOOD & DRINK

Most restaurants in Israel (including those located within hotels) observe kosher dietary laws which forbid the mixing of meat and dairy products in the same meal/restaurant. Some of these restaurants are also closed on Friday evenings and all day Saturday in observance of Shabbat. As a result, these factors will limit available menu and dining choices during your time in Israel.

# PACKING LIST

## ISRAEL

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Temples, mosques and other religious sites require conservative dress. Both sexes should cover their arms, legs and shoulders (women should pack a scarf for this purpose.) Wear or carry a pair of socks when sightseeing, since shoes must be removed when visiting certain religious sites.

### Clothing

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long comfortable skirts for women
- Scarf large enough to cover neck and shoulders for women
- Sweater or lightweight jacket
- Comfortable walking shoes with traction
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Foldable umbrella to use as sun shade
- Sleepwear
- Personal garments
- Socks
- Swimwear/cover-up

### Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Sun block / Insect repellent
- Simple first-aid kit
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Small daypack or fanny pack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES ISRAEL

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey.

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made and Signature Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guide (driving own vehicle)	Not applicable	\$40 per person, per day (full day)
Local Guide (with separate driver)	Not applicable	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.