

Travel Protection

Tripmate Travel Protection Plan

We strongly encourage you to have some form of travel protection. ETS offers an excellent travel protection program. Please review the type of program you will be traveling on below for further information. For other Travel Protection Plans please contact your Travel Agent for information.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WHY YOU SHOULD PURCHASE TRAVEL PROTECTION

<http://www.tripmate.com/wpF429E/why.htm>

2017 Travel Protection Pricing

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-------|
| \$0 to \$1000 | - | \$99 |
| \$1001 to \$1500 | - | \$149 |
| \$1501 to \$2000 | - | \$199 |
| \$2001 to \$2500 | - | \$249 |
| \$2501 to \$3000 | - | \$299 |
| \$3001 to \$3500 | - | \$349 |
| \$3501 to \$4000 | - | \$399 |
| \$4001 to \$4500 | - | \$449 |
| | | |
| \$4501 to \$5000 | - | \$499 |
| \$5001 to \$5500 | - | \$549 |
| \$5501 to \$6000 | - | \$599 |
| \$6001 to \$6500 | - | \$649 |
| \$6501 to \$7000 | - | \$699 |
| \$7001 to \$8000 | - | \$799 |
| \$8001 to \$9000 | - | \$899 |
| \$9001 to \$10,000 | - | \$999 |

How to Submit a Claim

Step 1: Inform your Travel agent of your claim.

Step 2: Put your claim in writing.

Step 3: Contact Trip Mate to complete paperwork

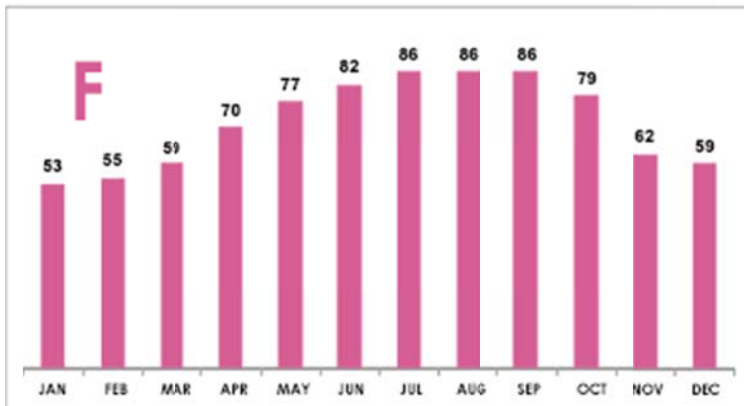
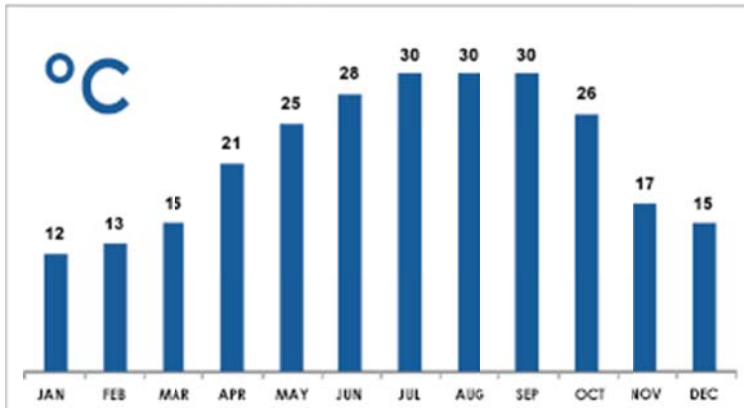
Trip Mate: 1-800-888-7292 (Plan Number 429E)

All Cancellations must contact Trip Mate. Visit the Trip Mate web site for further details

Destination Weather

When planning for your trip to Israel, the following weather information and packing guidelines will be very helpful.

ANNUAL AVERAGE TEMPERATURES IN ISRAEL



WEATHER IN ISRAEL

SUMMER (June-early Sept)

Israel temperatures are usually in the high 80's (27C), 90's (32C). Tel Aviv, and Tiberias will be hot and humid (like New York or Miami). Jerusalem is dryer and cooler, particularly at night. Massada & Eilat are extremely hot (possibly above 110F (43C), but dry. Not a drop of rain.

SPRING (late Mar-May) and AUTUMN (late Sept-Nov)

Daytime Israel temperatures are very pleasant; around 60-70F (15-25C) degrees in most of the country (still hot, though, around the Red Sea and Dead Sea). Jerusalem will be in the 40-50F (5-10C) in the evening. There will be some rain – nothing torrential.

WINTER (Dec-early Mar)

Israel's winter weather fluctuates. Some winters are mild and sunny, while some are severe and

overcast. There's often heavy rain. In January and February it may even snow in parts of the country. Temperatures range in the 50-60F (10-15C) in most places, but in the 40's (5C) in Jerusalem and the Galilee hills – where it can be very cold at night.

What to Pack for a Israel Tour

Spring/Summer Travel in Israel Packing Guide – April to October

- Light weight and loose fitting clothing
- Short-sleeved and sleeveless shirts
- Shorts
- Comfortable walking shoes, sneakers and sandals
- Skirts/Dresses (below the knee length for Shabbat and the Western Wall)
- Bathing suit, water shoes and towel (Dead Sea)
- Pajamas
- Evenings, Jerusalem and the north can be cool. It is a good idea to pack a sweater or lightweight jacket/layers
- Hat for the sun – really important
- Undergarments
- From **May – September** the sun is most intense. Long shorts, skirts and even long-sleeved shirts will help you stay protected

Winter Travel in Israel Packing Guide – November to April

- Winters in Israel are mild compared to North America but can get quite cold
- Jeans/pants
- Pack a shell or rain jacket as well as other layers
- Sweater, fleece jacket, hat and gloves
- Pajamas
- Undergarments
- You may start the day out with a jacket, by midday take it off and put it on again come evening.
- From **October – April** temperatures range from the high 40s to the high 60s. Showers may fall during this period, so an umbrella is wise. Bring a jacket, a few sweaters and long pants for visits between these months

Year-round in Israel Travel Packing Guide

- Sunglasses and a hat. You'll find the sunlight is stronger than what you're accustomed to, even in the winter. A hat is also useful sun protection, year-round

- For women – have an easy, packable skirt, scarf and/or shawl for covering up in Israel’s holy places. Throw it in your bag in the morning and you’re ready for whatever stops you make
- Comfortable walking shoes, sneakers and sandals
- Swimwear is appropriate year-round, whether it’s to splash in the hotel’s indoor pool or hit a beach on a warm, winter day in the southern part of the country
- Sunscreen and insect repellent are useful items as well
- Water bottle – it’s a dry country and you should be drinking regularly
- It is a good idea to bring a small bag for day trips, especially for trips to the Dead Sea or Eilat
- For hiking, you will need good shoes and a lot of water. Be sure to have either a canteen or several bottles

Items to pack in Carry-on Bag

Unfortunately, luggage occasionally gets lost or misplaced. Pack a carry-on bag including your necessities for a few days.

- Airline ticket
- Passport Copy
- One-day change of clothes
- A good book
- Medication
- Spare contact lenses or glasses
- Money and important documents
- Neck pillow, sleeping mask, sleeping pills & earplugs (for sleeping on airplane)

NOTE: Please check each airline for carry-on restrictions.

Toiletries/Medications

- Aspirin or other nonprescription medications
- Cold remedy or decongestant tablets
- Comb and hairbrush
- Copies of any prescriptions (in case you need them filled)
- Deodorant
- Diarrhea medicine
- Earplugs (very handy for airplane and sleeping in hotel)
- Motion sickness pills
- Nail clippers, file (remember not to pack clippers or files in your carry-on bag)
- Other personal hygiene products

- Facial Tissues/Toilet Paper
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Shaving equipment
- Sleeping pills
- Toothbrush and paste, dental floss
- Eye drops or contact lens solutions and cleaners
- Sunscreen lotion (sunburn medication/ointment)

Additional Items

- Adapter or converter for electrical appliances*
- Camera, film, extra batteries
- Extra pair of eyeglasses (or prescription)
- Handkerchiefs or tissues
- Plastic bags (to wrap wet washcloth, laundry, etc.)
- Small umbrella
- Tiny flashlight
- Travel alarm
- Washcloth
- Laundry detergent (small supply)
- Small sewing kit
- Hebrew translator dictionary – it's great to have along although most Israelis can speak English.

Fit To Travel

FIT TO TRAVEL STATEMENT:

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged, those needing wheelchairs, oxygen, or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting in their experiences. If you have questions, please contact your Travel Agent or ETS for more details.

Visa Requirements

Visas for US or Canadian Citizens:

US and Canadian citizens do not need a Visa to visit Israel. If you are traveling to Egypt or Jordan, ETS will obtain the necessary Visas for you.

Visas for All Other Citizens:

If you are not a US or Canadian citizen, ETS is not responsible to provide any necessary travel or entry documents, such as Visas. It is your responsibility to check with the consulate for each country they are visiting and obtain any necessary documents required to enter those countries. You may also contact your travel agent.

Currency

From *goisrael.com*

The State of Israel's currency is the New Israel Shekel (NIS) or shekel for short (pluralized as shkalim in Hebrew or shekels in English). There are 100 agorot (agora in singular) in each shekel. Bank notes are in denominations of NIS 20, 50, 100, and 200; coins are in denominations of NIS10, NIS5, NIS2 NIS1 and 50 and 10 agorot.

Changing Money

Unlimited sums of local and foreign money may be brought into Israel as cash, travelers' checks, credit cards or State of Israel bonds. Foreign currency of all kinds may be exchanged at the airport, banks, post offices, most hotels or licensed exchange agencies in large cities. A passport is required when exchanging travelers' checks. The rates vary from place to place, and banks charge a commission. It is recommended, though not obligatory, to carry a small amount of US dollars, since certain tourist sites, especially in the Old City of Jerusalem, take payment in dollars. More Information is available [here](#).

Cash Withdrawal

Holders of international credit cards can withdraw local or foreign currency at banks which accept their credit cards. There are Automated Teller Machines outside most banks.

Purchases and Payments

All goods and services may be purchased with the following currencies, which can be freely exchanged:

Euro; Australian Dollar; US Dollar; Hong Kong Dollar; New Zealand Dollar; Singapore Dollar; Canadian Dollar; Japanese Yen; Danish Krone; Norwegian Krone; Swedish Krona; Pound Sterling; Swiss Franc; South African Rand.

Nevertheless, storeowners and service providers are not required to accept foreign currency and are permitted to give change in shekels even if payment was made in foreign currency.

The following are all the conditions which must be fulfilled in order to receive the V.A.T. refund upon departing from Israel. Please make sure that all the following conditions are fulfilled:

- Non-Israeli citizens are entitled to receive a V.A.T. refund if they do not hold an Israeli passport and if they are visiting Israel as a tourist as per the visa stamped in their foreign passport. If it is preferred not to have your passport stamped on your entry to Israel, please keep the form handed to you when entering Israel for inspection at the V.A.T. refund counter.
- The goods must have been purchased in a store included in the V.A.T. refund program and the purchase amount in one tax invoice including V.A.T. must exceed NIS 400.
- The goods were purchased for personal use only and in a quantity which is not commercial.
- The goods are for export from the State of Israel.
- The goods are not food, drink or tobacco products.
- In order to obtain the V.A.T. refund, the goods should be packed in a closed bag together with the special invoice for the purpose of V.A.T. refund and presented to the official at the 'MILGAM' counter.

Major credit cards – American Express, Diners, Visa, Mastercard/Access/Eurocard – are widely accepted in Israeli restaurants, stores, hotels, museums, etc.

Tips and Bargaining

In Israel it is customary to tip primarily in restaurants. When the bill does not include service, a 12% tip should be added to the payment. In hotels, one tips the bellhop or any other service provider. Taxi drivers are generally not tipped.

Bargaining is acceptable in Israel, but not everywhere. In the open-air markets, do not hesitate to bargain as it is part of the experience and doing so can lower the price. Storekeepers are legally required to display prices and for the most part are not open to bargaining. This is also true of restaurants and public transportation. Passengers are advised to ask cab drivers to turn on the meter, thus avoiding unnecessary haggling.

Banks

Various banks have branches in the large cities and in smaller communities. Most banks are open from 8:30 am until 12 noon Sunday to Thursday, and 4–6pm on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. On Fridays and Jewish holiday eves, banks are open from 8:30 am until 12 noon. All banks are closed on Shabbat. Most of the large hotels have banks which often offer additional, more convenient hours.

[Click here for CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES](http://themoneyconverter.com/USD/ILS.aspx) <http://themoneyconverter.com/USD/ILS.aspx>

Passports

Click here for PASSPORTS <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html>

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a passport?

A valid passport is required to leave the USA. It should be valid for a minimum of six months after your return date. If you do not have a passport apply for one immediately; it normally takes four to six weeks to be issued. Your passport information must be submitted to our office no later than 90 days prior to departure. You should make a copy of your passport and keep it with you while traveling.

How do I obtain a passport?

Obtain an application at your nearest passport office, courthouse, or post office. You will need a certified birth certificate (with raised seal and file number) and 2 duplicate non-glossy photographs measuring 2" x 2" taken within six months of application. For more info regarding passports you can go online to: www.travel.state.gov

What if I do not have a roommate?

While we will try to match you with a roommate, we cannot guarantee one will be available. Therefore, you should try to find a roommate and notify us of your selection no later than 90 days prior to departure. If no roommate can be found, you will receive an invoice for the single room supplement charge(s) as listed in the Fine Print under Accommodations. This notification may come as late as 30 days prior to your departure.

What air carrier do you use?

We use many airlines, it will depend on your destination, how many people are traveling from your departure city etc.

When will I receive my flight information?

Flight information will be available approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure. As you can imagine, coordinating flights for so many people can be a challenge. Please bear with us as we work to prepare your group's travel arrangements.

What if I do not have a roommate?

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What should I expect upon arrival at the airport?

After going through passport control, you will need to collect your luggage (luggage carts may be free or available for an extra charge) and go through customs. You will be met by an airport representative outside the baggage claim area. Please follow instructions from our representative.

When will I receive my flight information?

Flight information will be available approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure. As you can imagine, coordinating flights for so many people can be a challenge. Please bear with us as we work to prepare your group's travel arrangements.

Can I buy my own domestic tickets to the international departure city?

We strongly recommend that passengers DO NOT purchase their own tickets because of unforeseen schedule changes that may result in high cancellation fees. All flight times are subject to change without advance notice. Airlines have been known to change flight times by five or more hours or cancel flights completely. If tickets are purchased through us, we are able to help with changes and cancellations, otherwise we have no power with the airlines.

May I purchase my own international flights?

Yes, but remember, airport / hotel / pier / airport transfers are not provided to passengers who are handling their own transportation. If you are a "ground only" passenger, you will meet the group at the first hotel or ship (depending on your itinerary) and leave the group at the last hotel or pier (depending on your itinerary). If you purchase your own air transportation, you will be responsible for making your own ground transfer arrangements to/from the international airports. NOTE: Due to increased security at the airports, we recommend arriving at least two to three hours prior to departure for domestic flights. Arrive at the departure airport at least three hours prior to departure for international flights (whenever possible).

May I request special seating or meals on the flights?

Yes, requests should be submitted in writing no later than 90 days prior to departure. We cannot, however, guarantee your request will be honored by the airline.