

Consulate General of Israel in Houston

Due to the recent COVID-19 situation, there have been major requirements and restrictions made for persons traveling into Israel. The Consulate here in Houston would like to ensure that the community in Dallas is fully informed on these updated travel regulations.

For your convenience, we have listed the most current information regarding requirements for traveling to Israel, as well as changes to the Consulate General of Israel in Houston's consular services below. Please read the updated regulations to avoid any issues when entering Israel.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Changes to Consular Services

- In light of the circumstances, admission to the Consulate and the Consular Department will be possible only in urgent cases and with advance coordination by telephone or e-mail. In such cases where admission to the Consulate and Consular Department is coordinated in advance, entry will only be permitted with a protective mask and gloves.
- Tourist visas will only be issued under special circumstances.

Urgent notary approvals – must be coordinated in advance with the Consular Department by e-mail or phone.

Israeli Passports – with the exception of minors, will only be done at this time by mail delivery.

In emergency situations only, such as the case of a lost or stolen passport, please contact us by phone for detailed instructions regarding how to proceed.

Renewal of a passport for minors or first passports for minors – we recommend that you postpone passport requests. In urgent situations, please contact us by phone in order to receive detailed instructions regarding how to proceed.

Military service applicants and persons exempt from military service – all requests will be handled by mail only, and only after receiving detailed instructions by phone or e-mail.

Updates for All Travelers Going to Israel

The Israeli Ministry of Health, together with the Population and Immigration Authority and Border Control of the State of Israel, are continuing to take measures in an effort to prevent the spread of the COVID 19 (coronavirus) epidemic in Israel.

Accordingly, and in addition to the decisions that were published and implemented earlier, starting on **Thursday March 12 2020, at 8:00 PM Israel time** all foreign nationals arriving to the state of Israel will be permitted entry subject to proof and a signed declaration that they can stay in home quarantine **for the duration of 14 days upon arrival in Israel. Hotels and dormitories are not considered as “home quarantine”**. Please find the declaration form attached to this email.

The form should be submitted in advance, five working days prior to the planned date of arrival and should be sent to the **Consular Department of the relevant Israeli embassy or consulate in the source country**. For the Consulate General of Israel to the Southwest, please send your email to: Consular3@Houston.mfa.gov.il

After we receive your email, we will forward it to the relevant authorities in Israel. Upon approval of all relevant parties, a confirmation letter will be sent to the visitor/s, confirming boarding of their flight to Israel.

We would like to emphasize that in any case of doubt, the decision whether or not to permit entry into Israel of the visitor lies with the Border Control official and with the Population and Immigration Authority, according to their opinion regarding the reliability of the visitor's declaration and paperwork submitted in each individual case.

Israeli citizens, including their spouses and children, as well as **residents that can present an Israeli I.D. (Teudat Zehut) stating their status of residency or citizenship** will be permitted entry into Israel subject to their meeting the demands for home quarantine for 14 days from the day of entry to Israel.

Please refer to the "Consular Services" page or the "News" tab on the Consulate General of Israel in Houston's website for further updates. Our website can be reached at the following link:
<https://embassies.gov.il/houston/ConsularServices/Pages/consular-services.aspx>

We will also continue to give updates on our Twitter and Facebook Pages. Please find our Twitter and Facebook information below:

Twitter: @IsraelinHouston

Facebook: @IsraelinHouston

We appreciate you sharing the following information to keep the community well informed.

Best,

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