Recommended reading list for trips to Israel

**Alex: Building a Life** - Alex Singer
The story of an American who fell defending Israel. To learn more about Alex and his story, please visit the website of the Alex Singer Project.

**Aliya: Three Generations of American-Jewish Immigration to Israel** - Liel Leibovitz
"With a keen writer's eye and unfeigned passion for his subject, Leibovitz explores the fears, hopes, and dreams of the American-Jewish immigrants to Israel and the journey they undertook, a journey that lies at the very heart of what it means to be a Jew."

**The Blue Mountain** – Meir Shalev
Passionate, ribald and tender, bursting with dozens of interwoven tales, this lushly nostalgic novel records the loves, hates, infidelities, feuds and enterprises that fuel one community over three decades. It also gently laments the eclipse of the pioneer spirit in modern Israel.

**Exodus** - Leon Uris
A riveting story about Israel's War of Independence in 1948.

**From Beirut to Jerusalem** - Thomas L. Friedman
The book chronicles Friedman's days as a reporter in Beirut during the Lebanese Civil War and his journey in 1984 from Beirut to Jerusalem to cover unfolding events.

**History of Israel** - Howard M. Sachar, v.1 1976, v.2
A history of the modern state.

**In the Land of Israel** - Amoz Oz
Israel's celebrated novelist Amoz Oz traveled throughout his country, recording its history as spoken by its inhabitants.

**The Israelis: Founders and Sons** - Amos Elon

**The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land** - Donna Rosenthal
"Interweaving hundreds of personal stories with intriguing new research, The Israelis presents the country the way its own people see it. Lively, irreverent, and always fascinating, it's one of the most original books about Israel in decades."

**My Life** - Golda Meir
The former Prime Minister's autobiography about her journey to Israel and her ascent through the ranks of the government.

**O Jerusalem** - Larry Collins, Dominique Lapierre
A minute by minute history of the struggle for Jerusalem and the State of Israel.

**Poems of Jerusalem** - Yehuda Amichai
The treasures and conflicts of Jerusalem as related by the city's poet laureate.

**The Source** - James Michener
A fictionalized history of Israel from ancient times through the 20th century.

**The Zionist Idea** - Arthur Hertzberg
A historical narrative and anthology. Hertzberg's introduction is considered to be unsurpassed.

**1949, The First Israelis** - Tom Segev
Reveals the lofty aspirations that guided the state's leaders as well as the darker side of the Zionist utopia.

A Child of the Century — Ben Hecht
The Brigade: An Epic Story of Vengeance, Salvation, and World War II — Howard Blum
The Case for Israel — Frank Gervasi
The Case for Israel by Alan Dershowitz
The Conquest of Acre Fortress — Jan Gitlin
The Deed — Gerald Frank
The Four Front War: From the Holocaust to the Promised Land — William R. Perl
The Hill of Life: The Story of Joseph Trumpeldor — Roman Freulich
The Holocaust Conspiracy: An International Policy of Genocide — William R. Perl
The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land by Donna Rosenthal
The Jewish Revolution — Dr. Israel Eldad
The Jewish State: The Struggle for Israel’s Soul — Yoram Hazony
The Lady was a Terrorist — Doris Katz
The Magicians — Paul Gropman (a novel)
The Mideast Peace Process: An Autopsy — by Neal Kozodoy (Editor), Mark Helprin (Afterword)
The Political and Social Philosophy of Ze’ev Jabotinsky: Selected Writings—Ze’ev Jabotinsky, ed. Mordichai Sarig
The Rape of Palestine — William Ziff
The Revolt — Menachem Begin
The Stern Gang: Ideology, Politics and Terror, 1940-1949 — Joseph Heller
The Story of the Jewish Legion — Ze’ev Jabotinsky
The Tenth Prayer — Steven G. Esrati (a novel)
The War and the Jew—Ze’ev Jabotinsky
They Came Up From Blood — Elimelech
Thieves in the Night — Arthur Koestler
To Whom Palestine — Frank Gervasi
To Win or to Die: A Personal Portrait of Menachem Begin — Ned Temko
Toward a New Israel: The Jewish State and the Arab Question — Mordechai Nisan
Triumph on the Gallows — Yitzhak Gurion
Violent Justice: How Three Assassins Fought to Free Europe’s Jews —
Voices of Israel: Essays on and Interviews With Yehuda Amichai, A.B. Yehoshua, T. Carmi, Aharon Applefeld, and A (Jewish Literature and Culture) by Joseph Cohen
Wanted — Yaacov Eliav
What Went Wrong: Western Impact and Middle Eastern Response —Bernard Lewis
White Nights — Menachem Begin
Why Jews Should Not Be Liberals — by Larry F. Sternberg
With all Their Might — Chaim Applebaum (Elimelech)
Woman of Violence — Geulah Cohen (Voice of Valor)
Years of Wrath: Days of Glory — Yitshaq Ben-Ami

Great movies to rent

- *Walk on Water* by Lior Ashkenazi, Knut Berger, Caroline Peters, and Gideon Shemer
- *Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi* by Oshri Cohen, Arieh Elias, Esti Zakheim, and Aya Steinovitz
- *Broken Wings* by Orly Silbersatz Banai, Maya Maron, Daniel Magon, and Nitai
- *Nina’s Tragedies* by Ayelet Zurer, Yoram Hattab, Alon Abutbul, and Aviv Elkabeth

News

- Ha’aretz Daily
- YNet