

Colored lines (top of the rightmost column) are routes blazed with a colored line between two white lines. Unmarked paths are also shown on the maps, but are often shown inaccurately, and we do not recommend hiking off of marked routes without GPS or a good knowledge of the area.

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| | Road for all vehicles | | Water channel | | Road |
| | 4x4 track | | Stream or streambed; circle = water mill | | 2-Lane Highway |
| | Hiking route | | Pit, well, spring | | Tunnel |
| | Short walking trail | | Lake, pool or reservoir | | Other, paved road |
| | Short, signed footpath | | Water container, water tower | | Gas Station |
| | Mountain bike paths, marked with a purple dot or blaze | | Pumping station | | Railroad, railroad spur |
| | Urban trail | | Swamp, flooded area | | Dirt Road |
| | Cars/bicycles permitted/prohibited on route | | Contour lines showing elevation at 10-meter intervals | | Airport, airfield, runway |
| | Long-distance trail (colored line over other trails) | | Height mark | | Port |
| | | | Cliffs | | Expressway, main road, secondary road, local road, toll Road |
| | | | Steep slope | | Toll Road |
| | | | Cemetery | | High voltage line |
| | | | Fence or Stone Wall | | Oil pipeline |
| | | | Relay station, antenna, lighthouse | | West Bank/Gaza separation barrier |
| | | | Memorial | | Checkpoint in separation barrier |
| | | | Cave, industrial pit, tower, mill | | Quarry |
| | | | Ancient or historic site | | Transformer station |
| | | | Boundary of nature reserve | | General, industrial, agricultural (structures) |
| | | | Hospital (on older maps the symbol is a blue Star of David) | | Chimney |
| | | | Swimming beach | | Ruins |
| | | | Sand or dunes | | Built-up area |
| | | | Flood plains at a stream mouth | | Synagogue |
| | | | Park | | Church or monastery |
| | | | Forest | | Mosque, tomb of notable Sheikh |
| | | | Plantation or orchard | | Ancient church or synagogue |
| | | | Military firing area - entry forbidden | | |

Pink: Israel National Trail (shown here)
 Blue: Golan Heights Trail
 Orange: Jesus Trail and Springs Valley Trail

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| | Israel National Trail information board | | Museum (in box: with entrance fee) | | National park or nature reserve |
| | Nature site | | Jewish National Fund site | | Historic, pre-historic or archaeological site |
| | Site pertaining to Israel's independence | | Site related to pre-1948 Jewish settlement in Palestine | | Lookout tower, lookout point |
| | Lookout point to the direction indicated | | Youth hostel, field school | | Zip-lines |
| | Visitor center with amenities | | Picnic area (with drinking water) | | Campground (in box: with entrance fee) |
| | Camping forbidden, night parking, day parking | | Natural mineral spring | | Magen David Adom (ambulance/first aid service) |
| | Police station | | This mark (in one of several colors) is painted on natural features along marked hiking routes to show the path | | |

Borders

| | | | |
|--|---|--|----------------------|
| | Lebanese border | | International border |
| | Israeli front | | Jordanian border |
| | Syrian front | | |
| | Border of Naharim area (an island shared with Jordan) | | |

Wye Accord Areas (West Bank)

| | |
|--|---|
| | Area A—Palestinian Authority control |
| | Area B— Joint Israeli and Palestinian Authority control |
| | Nature Reserve |

Translation and Pronunciation of Common Geographical Terms

Note: A word ending in ה, in some grammatical forms, will have its last letter changed to ת. The resulting word has the same meaning and is pronounced with a T on the end. For example, "Giva" (hill) becomes "Givat" in proper names such as "Givat Yehonatan" (Hill of Jonathan).



These common terms are listed by Hebrew spelling, approximate pronunciation ("kh" is the guttural "h" sound), and meaning.

| | |
|--|--|
| עין – En – Spring | מערהות – Mara – Cave |
| מעין – Mayan – Spring | יער – Yar – Forest |
| באר – Be'er – Well | גשר – Gesher – Bridge |
| נחל – Nahal – River (stream, dry bed, or the canyon created by a stream) | ברכהות – Birka – Pool |
| ואדי – Wadi – The Arabic equivalent of Nahal | שער – She'ar – Gate |
| הר – Har – Mountain | חורבהות – Khorva – Ruin |
| גבעהות – Giva – Hill | תל – Tel – Archaeological site (lit. "Hill") |
| עמק – Emek – Valley | צומת – Tsomet – Junction |
| בקעה – Beka – Valley | שביל ישראל – Shvil Yisrael – Israel National Trail |
| רמהות – Rama – Plateau or high place (pl. רמות – Ramot) | שביל הגולן – Shvil HaGolan – Golan Heights Trail |
| גן – Gan – Park or Garden | דרך הבשורה – Derekh HaBisura – Jesus Trail (lit. "Gospel Trail") |
| גן לאומי – Gan Le'umi – National Park | שביל עמק המעינת – Shvil Emek HaMayanot – Valley of Springs Trail |
| שמורהות – Shmora – Nature Reserve | שביל אזורי – Shvil Azori – Regional mountain bicycle trail |

Hebrew Alphabet Guide

Learning the whole Hebrew alphabet can be difficult, but this guide should allow you to roughly sound out the names of towns and other sites shown on the map. Some letters have a final form (left column), which is used when they appear at the end of a word.

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| א | Aleph—Glottal stop (the sound in the middle of the word "mitten"), or at the beginning of a word starting with a vowel | ע | Ayin—Glottal stop or silent |
| ב | Beit—B or V | פ | Pe/Fe—P or F |
| ג | Gimel—G. With an apostrophe, J | צ | Tsade—Ts (as in pizza), "ch" with an apostrophe |
| ד | Dalet—D | ק | Kof—K |
| ה | Hei—H | ר | Resh—R |
| ו | Vav—V or W as a consonant, O or U as a vowel | ש | Shin—Sh or S |
| ז | Zayin—Z | ת | Tav—T |
| ח | Khet—Kh | | |
| ט | Tet—T | | |
| י | Yod—Y as a consonant, I or E as a vowel | | |
| כ | Kaf—K or Kh | | |
| ל | Lamed—L | | |
| מ | Mem—M | | |
| נ | Nun—N | | |
| ס | Samekh—S | | |

The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel publishes a set of 20 topographical hiking maps covering the whole of Israel and the occupied territories, which are invaluable for independent hikers in the region. The maps are only in Hebrew, and this guide was created to enable foreigners to use them as well. We hope it will encourage visitors and travelers to discover the region's potential for outdoor adventure and its beautiful landscape. On this side is a list of common terms found on the maps; on the opposite side is an English translation of the map key. The key found here is from the newest edition of the maps; as of January, 2011, only map 9 (the Jerusalem area) has the new system. However, almost all symbols are the same and this guide will allow you to use any of the maps.

This guide was created by Julian Bender, with translation help from Kent Barshov, and published and distributed by the Jesus Trail (www.jesustrail.com), based in Nazareth, Israel. With questions about this guide, email julian@jesustrail.com.

The Israel Trails Committee (www.teva.org.il/english/itc) maintains hiking trails and sells maps; they are located within the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel's offices in Jerusalem, on Heleni HaMalka St., just off Jaffa St.