



reading

I S R A E L

BOOKS ABOUT ISRAEL / 1

Given that Jews are often called the People of the Book, modern Israel should perhaps be known as the Nation of the Books. Countless writers have sought to understand and depict this endlessly fascinating land and its people. Here's a brief list of suggestions designed to enlighten, inspire and provoke as you explore Israel.

Israel and Zionist History

Avner, Yehuda. *The Prime Ministers: An Intimate Narrative of Israeli Leadership* (Toby Press, 2010)

Ben-Sasson, H. H. (ed.) *A History of the Jewish People* (Harvard University Press, 1985)

Cohen, Hillel. *Army of Shadows: Palestinian Collaboration with Zionism, 1917-1948* (UC Press, 2008)

Elon, Amos. *The Israelis: Founders and Sons* (Penguin, 1983)

Fromkin, David. *A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East* (Owl Books, 1989)

Gilbert, Martin. *Israel: A History* (William Morrow & Company, 1998)

Goldhill, Simon. *Jerusalem: City of Longing* (Harvard University Press, 2010)

Gordis, Daniel. *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn* (Harper Collins, 2016)

Hazon, Yoram. *The Jewish State: The Struggle for Israel's Soul* (Basic Books, 2000)

Laquer, Walter. *A History of Zionism: From the French Revolution to the Establishment of the State of Israel* (Knopf Doubleday, 2004)

Morris, Benny. *1948: A History of the First Arab-Israeli War* (Yale University Press, 2008)

Oren, Michael B. *Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East* (Ballantine, 2003)

Segev, Tom. *One Palestine, Complete: Jews and Arabs under the British Mandate* (Picador, 2001)

Segev, Tom. *1967: Israel, the War, and the Year that Transformed the Middle East* (Metropolitan Books, 2005)

Shapira, Anita. *Ben-Gurion: Father of Modern Israel* (Yale University Press, 2014)

Shapira, Anita. *Land and Power: The Zionist Resort to Force, 1881-1948* (Oxford University Press, 1992)

The Conflict

Abulhawa, Susan. *Mornings in Jenin* (Bloomsbury, 2010)

Bard, Mitchell. *Myths and Facts: A Guide to the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (AICE, 2003)

Dershowitz, Alan. *The Case for Israel* (John Wiley & Sons, 2003)

Gilbert, Martin. *Atlas of the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (Oxford University Press, 1993)

Gordis, Daniel. *Saving Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War That May Never End* (John Wiley & Sons, 2009)

Grossman, David. *The Yellow Wind* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1988)

Halevi, Yossi Klein. *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor* (Harper & Row, 2018)

Morris, Benny. *One State, Two States: Resolving the Israel/Palestine Conflict* (Yale University Press, 2010)

Oz, Amos. *Israel, Palestine and Peace: Essays* (Harcourt Brace, 1995)

Parkes, James. *Whose Land? A History of the Peoples of Palestine* (Tavling, 1971)

Ross, Dennis. *The Missing Peace: The Inside Story of the Fight for Middle East Peace* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005)

Shepherd, Robin. *A State Beyond the Pale: Europe's Problem with Israel* (Orion, 2009)



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BOOKS ABOUT ISRAEL / 2

Life in Israel

Cohen, Asher and Bernard Susser. *Israel and the Politics of Jewish Identity: The Secular-Religious Impasse* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000)

Colorni, Angelo. *Israel for Beginners: A Field Guide for Encountering the Israelis in Their Natural Habitat* (Gefen, 2011)

Gordis, Daniel. *Home to Stay: One American Family's Chronicle of Miracles and Struggles in Contemporary Israel* (Three Rivers Press, 2003)

Halevi, Yossi Klein. *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for Hope with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land* (HarperCollins, 2002)

Oz, Amos. *A Tale of Love and Darkness* (Harcourt, 2004)

Rosenthal, Donna. *The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land* (Free Press, 2005)

Sztokman, Elana Maryles. *The War on Women in Israel: A Story of Religious Radicalism and the Women Fighting for Freedom* (Sourcebooks, 2014)

Innovation and the Economy

Senor, Dan and Saul Singer. *Start-Up Nation: The Story of Israel's Economic Miracle* (Twelve, 2009)

Siegel, Seth M. *Let There Be Water: Israel's Solution for a Water-Starved World* (Thomas Dunne Books, 2017)

Historical Fiction

Collins, Larry and Dominique LaPierre. *O Jerusalem!* (Simon and Schuster, 1972)

Hoffman, Alice. *The Dovekeepers* (Simon and Schuster, 2011)

Michener, James A. *The Source* (Random House, 1965)

Uris, Leon. *Exodus* (Bantam, 1959)

General Fiction and Poetry

Amichai, Yehuda. *Poems of Jerusalem and Love Poems: A Bilingual Edition* (Sheep Meadow Press, 1981)

Bialik, C.N. *Selected Poems* (Overlook Duckworth Books, 2005)

Grossman, David. *To the End of the Land* (Knopf, 2010)

Rabinyan, Dorit. *All The Rivers* (Random House, 2017)

Shalev, Meir. *A Pigeon and a Boy* (Random House, 2007)

Yehoshua, A.B. *Friendly Fire: A Duet* (Mariner, 2009)

For Kids aged 4-7

Newman, Vivian. *Ella's Trip to Israel* (Kar-Ben Publishing, 2011)

For Kids aged 8-11

Allon, Hagit and Lena Zehavi. *The Mystery of the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Jewish Publication Society, 2003)

Scharfstein, Sol. *Understanding Israel* (Ktav, 2004)

Sofer, Barbara. *Keeping Israel Safe: Serving in the Israel Defense Forces* (Kar-Ben Publishing, 2008)

Vogel, Carole G. and Yossi Leshem. *The Man Who Flies with Birds* (Kar-Ben Publishing, 2009)