

Palestinian territories

Information for applicants

Palestinian territories

The Palestinian territories are located between the Mediterranean Sea and Jordan, and comprise the Gaza Strip and 40% of the West Bank. The region is rich in culture and history, but the unresolved Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains one of the main obstacles to peace and sustainable development. The West Bank and the Gaza Strip are de facto and politically separated from one another. Import and export restrictions as well as the geopolitical fragmentation of the Palestinian territories are a barrier to the free movement of persons and goods, rendering economic development more difficult. Arabic is the official language.

Climate and sights

The Palestinian territories have a Mediterranean climate, with hot, dry summers and short, cold and damp winters.

There are many fascinating cultural projects and cultural institutions in the East Jerusalem, Ramallah and Bethlehem regions.

Medical care

Israel has very good medical services; emergency care and childbirth procedures are provided exclusively in the excellently appointed state health care system. Medical services in the Palestinian territories are also very good, especially in Ramallah.

Accommodation and quality of life

There is an adequate supply of good accommodation. Foreign nationals are popular tenants, even if they have to pay slightly higher rents. You should expect occasional power failures, especially in winter. There can be problems with the water supply in some regions in summer. However, bottled drinking water can be purchased anywhere and at any time.

Shops and services

All standard foodstuffs are available in both Ramallah and Jerusalem. The region's cuisine is considered among the very best.

Access to cash is very good in Jerusalem and in the major cities, with many ATMs available.

Accompanying partners and children

In principle, Israel is responsible for issuing work permits. However, Israeli laws generally permit accompanying partners to work. This applies to the occupied territories (West Bank/East Jerusalem) in particular. Two different scenarios can be distinguished here: For married couples, the accompanying partner needs an official passport to receive a 'service visa' that allows them to work.

If the accompanying partner is not a spouse or registered partner, Israel can issue a work visa valid for up to one year with standard passports upon submission of an employment contract. However, this is discretionary and is not guaranteed.

Schools: There are international schools in Jerusalem.

Childcare: Childcare services are available in Ramallah and Jerusalem.

Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/palaestinisensischegebiete-node>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/379.html>

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