



OPTIMA  JURIS™
THE INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITION AGENCY

HOW TO SCHEDULE **A DEPOSITION IN ISRAEL**



ISRAEL

DEPO BASICS

When it's time to schedule your deposition in Israel, we want you to have the most comprehensive information available at your fingertips. That is why our experts have put together this easy-to-follow guide on setting up a deposition in Israel. First, let's answer some of the most important questions:

1

Any restrictions on holding a U.S. depo in Israel?

Taking voluntary depositions of U.S. citizens in Israel can be conducted without any special permissions. However, depositions of Israeli citizens and third country nationals require prior permission from the Israeli Central Authority for the Hague Evidence Convention. A deposition can be taken on notice from either party's attorney or pursuant to a commission issued by a U.S. court. If taken on notice, the notice must state the time, place for taking the deposition and the name and address of each person to be examined. If the deposition is taken pursuant to a commission, prior permission of the Israeli Central Authority is required.

2

Can depositions in Israel take place at any venue?

Once permission is granted, depositions in Israel can take place at the venue of your choosing, whether that be a hotel, law firm office, conference room, or videoconferencing facility.

3

Does a U.S. passport holder need a visa to enter Israel?

U.S. passport holders may enter Israel for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa.

4

How early should we plan for a depo in Israel?

Give yourself a minimum of 4 weeks to plan. The further you plan ahead, the more likely it is that you'll be able to locate and book the right professionals for your deposition.

5

Are there court reporters for U.S. depositions in Israel?

Yes! Optima Juris has local court reporters in Israel, which means little to no travel costs for you.

6

Depo Options: should the attorney attend the depo in person or remotely?



Attending Deposition In-Person

Attorneys, court reporters, legal videographers, and/or deposition interpreters travel to the location of the witness.

Advantages:

Typically this an ideal scenario to get the clearest record and you are less likely to encounter technical issues.

Disadvantages:

Travel costs can add up quickly.



Videoconference Facility

Attorneys participate remotely at a videoconference facility. Reporter, videographer, and interpreter should attend deposition with the witness.

Advantages:

Videoconferencing offers the most reliable remote connection and allows attorneys to see the witness while not having to travel to the deposition destination.

Disadvantages:

Videoconference facilities are expensive. Costs typically fall within the USD \$400 per-hour range.



DepoAnywhere™ Web-based Videoconferencing

Attorneys participate remotely via a web-based videoconference solution that connects on any laptop, smartphone or tablet.*

Advantages:

Cost-effective solution for minor witnesses, sworn statements, or when your budget is really tight. DepoAnywhere™ includes a backup telephone dial-in feature, and an Optima Juris team member to monitor your connection to provide real-time help.

Disadvantages:

Remote connections can be prone to pauses, interruptions, and/or connection lost due to network issues.

*For the best and clearest record we always recommend that the court reporter, videographer and interpreter be physically present with the witness.

7

How can we swear in a witness outside of the U.S.?

When attorneys need to swear in witnesses abroad, the time-honored solution is for both sides to stipulate on the record that the court reporter can swear in the witness. Using a U.S. certified court reporter is not enough, because notary powers do not apply when they venture outside of U.S. territory. Stipulating on the record is an excellent solution and it works in all cases, with both U.S. certified and foreign certified reporters (i.e.: British or Canadian reporters). Stipulating on the record is the easiest way to assure the admissibility of your witness's testimony.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Every situation, covered

Whether you're an attorney, paralegal, or a court reporting firm looking to set up an international depo, we've got your back.



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[Schedule Depo](#)

Essential travel information for Israel

Traveling to Israel for a deposition? Get the most out of your visit by brushing up on the culture with these useful travel tips.



CURRENCY

Israel uses the Israeli Shekel. Before you leave, notify your bank, credit card company, or other financial institutions that you are going overseas.



GENERAL TIPPING

Tipping in Israel is discretionary but expected, similar to most of the Western world. Waiters and bartenders are generally paid a low salary with the majority of their earnings coming from tips. 10 to 15 per cent is a good rule of thumb.



MAJOR AIRPORT

Ben Gurion International Airport, Tel Aviv, TLV

ISRAEL DEPO CHECKLIST

Optima Juris' comprehensive checklist for your deposition in Israel.

When scheduling an international deposition, we ideally recommend getting started four to six weeks in advance. Of course, it's possible to work within a much shorter timeframe, just keep in mind you need to allow sufficient time for noticing your witness, arranging for resources on the ground (like court reporters, interpreters, conference rooms), and planning travel.

Getting there

3-1 weeks before your deposition

- ☐ If the attorney is traveling, be sure to make all travel arrangements, including air, hotel, and any travel insurance or special shipping arrangements for the deposition exhibits. The earlier you book your travel, the cheaper it will be.
- ☐ Prepare and send your deposition notices.
- ☐ Submit any relevant documents to the case that you would like the team to review prior to the deposition.

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Plan ahead

4-6 weeks before your deposition

- ☐ Determine whether the witness in question is willing to be deposed. If the witness is willing, mutual stipulation of the parties can allow for depositions to be planned quickly. If the witness is unwilling, contact us for your options.
- ☐ If you are deposing an Israeli citizen you must obtain prior permission from the Israeli Central Authority for the Hague Evidence Convention. A deposition can be taken on notice from either party's attorney or pursuant to a commission issued by a U.S. court. If taken on notice, the notice must state the time, place for taking the deposition and the name and address of each person to be examined. If the deposition is taken pursuant to a commission, prior permission of the Israeli Central Authority is required.
- ☐ Determine which deposition services will be required:
 - ☐ Court reporter (realtime or standard delivery)
 - ☐ Legal videographer
 - ☐ Deposition interpreter (determine language pair needed)
- ☐ Determine where your deposition will take place:
 - ☐ Hotel or conference room
 - ☐ Videoconferencing facility
 - ☐ Web-based videoconferencing (Optima Juris DepoAnywhere™)
- ☐ Contact Optima Juris to book your reporter and any other depositions services you require.

That's it

Everything has been set...

- ☐ Upon conclusion of the deposition, the attorney will place their orders with the court reporter for the transcript and/or video copies.
- ☐ Submit payment for transcripts and video, and await the arrival of your order.
- ☐ You deserve a pat on the back - your international depo went off without a hitch. Bravo!