

✓ Fascinating Things Come in Small Packages. It takes 6 hour to drive from top to bottom of Israel. From the Mediterranean Sea in the west to the Dead Sea in the east, the width of Israel can be crossed by car in less than 90 minutes.



✓ Israel is the only country in the world to actually have a net gain in its number of trees during the 21st Century. No, it's not just desert!



✓ Israel is home to the lowest points on Earth! Beside the Dead Sea, the Sea of Galilee is the lowest freshwater lake in the world.



✓ The Weizmann Institute of Science has been voted the best university in the world for life scientists to conduct research by The Scientist magazine.

✓ In regard to its population, Israel has the highest ratio of college degrees, scientist and doctors. Ratio of its museums and startup companies is also extremely high!

✓ Israel is the only liberal democracy in the Middle East

✓ Life's a Beach: Israel has 137 official beaches (but only 273 km of coastline). Israel is no doubt a haven for sun lovers - 318 days of sunshine a year



- ✓ Israel has more orchestras per capita than any other nation in the world
- ✓ Israel has two official languages: Hebrew and Arabic. Hebrew is the only ancient language to be revived into a national language in the world. However no need to worry, most Israelis speak English and most signposts are also in English.
- ✓ With more than 3,000 high-tech companies and start-ups, Israel has the highest concentration of hi-tech companies in the world (apart from the Silicon Valley) Israel has the largest number of NASDAQ listed companies (Apart from the US).
- ✓ Israelis, per capita, are the world's biggest consumers of fruits and vegetables.



- ✓ At least 500 million birds of 200 different species migrate across Israel each spring and autumn. Eilat and the Hula Valley Reserve are among the best bird-watching sites in the world



✓ Israel won top prize in an American Airlines international contest of gay-friendly places to visit. Tel Aviv was crowned the world's Best Gay City



✓ There are 35 commercial wineries in Israel, and over 250 boutique wineries, producing anything from 600 to 13 million bottles a year.



✓ The City of Tel Aviv was awarded the title, “World's Smartest City”. Tel Aviv stood out among 250 competing cities among which were London, New York, and Amsterdam

✓ Israel was the country to develop the USB flash drive. Used by nearly everyone we know, it surely is one of the most useful modern inventions.

✓ Israel has even made its mark on salads! Cherry tomatoes were originally engineered in Israel in 1973.



✓ **Waze** was invented by Israel. This GPS- based travel app gives you turn- by- turn information and up to date traffic statistics. It is now in use in over 100 countries, making it a hugely popular app for motorists.



✓ Last Valentine's Day, 60 million Israeli flowers were sent to Europe for sale.



✓ An estimated one million notes are left in the Western Wall each year

