

APOSTILLE CERTIFICATION

When Is an Apostille Needed?

If you are located abroad and need to have your signature witnessed on a document to be used in Israel or if you are presenting an official document such as a birth, marriage, or death certificate for use in Israel, you will typically require official validation.

There are three main options:

- Validation at the local Israeli consulate
- Certification by a local notary followed by apostille legalisation.
- Certification by an Israeli notary

What Is an Apostille?

An apostille is an internationally recognised form of document authentication for use between countries that are parties to the Hague Convention of 1961. Countries such as Israel, the UK, the USA, and Australia accept this certification for official use of documents originating abroad. Apostille legalisation confirms the authenticity of the signature, seal, or stamp on a public document allowing it to be recognised in Israel without further verification.

Information Contained in the Apostille Certificate

A valid apostille certificate will typically contain:

1. The country from which the document originates;
2. The name and capacity of the person signing the document;
3. The date and place of certification and certificate number;
4. The official seal and authorised signature of the issuing authority.

How to Obtain an Apostille

The procedure for obtaining an Apostille varies from country to country. For example, in the UK, Apostille certifications are issued by the Legalisation Office of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). In the United States, the process is managed by individual state authorities, usually via a notary public and the Secretary of State.

Our office can recommend notaries in various jurisdictions.

Tips for Ensuring Validity

To avoid delays, make sure that your document is signed before the correct official and clearly states their name, title, and position and, if you are signing a document, that they have identified you with your Israeli ID number or your passport number, as appropriate.

This fact sheet is presented as a general information service only and does not constitute legal or financial advice. You should obtain specific advice before taking (or deciding not to take) any action. Please contact us for further information.