



## **GUIDE FOR VISITORS**

### **SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE - TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY**

#### **i. Before You Leave Home**

##### **1. Visa Requirements**

For information on the different types of visas to enter Israel you can check this link:

<http://www.tau.ac.il/visitors/visas.html>

In case you will need to apply for a visa you can get assistance from the Interacademic Affairs Office at TAU ( contact person: Hava Shani, Tel. : 03-640-5119 or at: [acadaff@tauex.tau.ac.il](mailto:acadaff@tauex.tau.ac.il) ).

##### **2. Insurance**

We recommend that you arrive in Israel with prearranged health insurance from your home country. This may be supplemented with policies for automobile, home, health and life insurance by local companies:

Bela Lavon—Klal Bituah agency, located on campus in the Academy of Music building, tel. 6408850.

Sahar-Shiloah agency, tel. 6408016.

Amos Gilboa—Yedidim agency, tel. 052-3250975.

##### **3. Accommodation**

Foreign Students and visitors who wish to experience the Tel-Avivian life may prefer to rent an apartment in one of the central parts of the city. Please notice that renting an apartment in those may be a bit expensive, depending on size, location and the shape of the apartment. For that reason, many students prefer renting a roommates apartment.

##### **Long Term Stay :**

Tel Aviv University has very limited space in its dormitories. If your visit will be for at least 6 months during the academic year or during the months of the summer break (July-September) it might be possible to find you an available room for the period, so please let us know as soon as possible.



Don't Despair. Finding an apartment in Tel-Aviv is possible!. There are those who get lucky and find their dream apartment in a day and there are those who need more time. Focus on the three most important criterias for your apartment, - space, elevator, quiet, parking, neighborhood, etc. - and it will be fine. The exact length of your searching period depends on many factors including how aggressive you are, what your budget is and how much time you have available to view apartments.

If you've had enough of searching on your own or you simply want to start your search with some professional help, there are tons of real estate agents (metavech in Hebrew) that would love to help you. The standard pay for this service is one month's rent should they match with a place that fits your fancy.

Many smaller apartments in Tel Aviv were originally one unit that was subdivided into two or even three smaller units. This often creates a situation where apartments are lacking a defined kitchen with a spot for the fridge, gas stove and other kitchen-related amenities. If you don't mind the lack of a real kitchen, you'll probably find an apartment faster since there are a lot of these types of apartments in Tel Aviv.

For your convenience, here are some of the largest billboards in Israel:

<http://telaviv.craigslist.org/>

<http://www.homeless.co.il/> (Using Google translate)

<http://www.yad2.co.il/> (Using Google translate)

<http://www.winwin.co.il/Homepage/Page.aspx> (Using Google translate)

<http://www.telavivme.com/Accommodation>

### **Short Term Stay :**

Tel-Aviv University has a few hotels in central Tel-Aviv that are offering a reduced price of stay for Tel-Aviv University guests. We advise you to check the option with your host.



## ii. Arriving in Israel

### 1. Currency Exchange

The Israeli currency is the new Israeli shekel (NIS). You can check the daily exchange rate for the dollar or euro at: <http://www.israel.gov.il/eng.shearim/index.php>.

Bank accounts can be opened at all banks using details from your passport. If you are receiving payment from the university, you must open a local account for the direct deposit of your salary or scholarship. The following banks are located in the vicinity of the university:

**Bank Discount**, at Entin Square (Gate 7), the main entrance to the campus, tel. 6464222.

**Bank Hapoalim**, opposite the student dormitories, Bart St., tel. 65532407.

There are branches of other banks nearby in Ramat Aviv, Ramat Aviv Gimmel and Neve Avivim.

### 2. Ben Gurion Airport

Do not leave the airport until you are satisfied that any missing bags have been reported to the appropriate authority.

You will find the following link for Ben Gurion Airport most useful:

<http://www.iaa.gov.il/Rashat/en-US/Airports/BenGurion>

### 3. Transportation to Tel-Aviv from Ben Gurion Airport

**Public Transportation** services are located in the three-storey bridge on the second floor, next to Gates 21 and 23.

In the next link you'll be able to find which bus will be most suitable for you:

**Egged Bus Company:**

<http://mslworld.egged.co.il/EggedTimeTable/WebForms/wfrmMain.aspx?width=1024&language=en&company=1&state=>

**The Taxi Companies** at Ben Gurion Airport operate under supervision of the Israel Airports Authority. The Taxi Stations and dispatcher's counter at Terminal 3 are located on Level G of the Multi Level Road. It is recommended not to use random Taxi services.

**The Train Station** is located on Level S of the Landside Building, adjacent to the Greeters' Hall. Passengers arriving at BGA by train will go up to the Greeters Hall on Level G and from there to the Check-in Hall, via elevators, escalators or stairs.



Passengers and visitors who would like to go to the Sky Hall and Buy & Bye Mall, will go up to Level G.

Train tickets can be purchased through automated ticket dispensers on Level G of the terminal. For information on schedules and fares call Israel Railways Information Service, 03-6117000 or \*5770 from any cellular phone or on their site:

<http://www.rail.co.il/EN/Pages/HomePage.aspx>

#### **4. Post Office**

There's a post office located just in front of the campus on Haim Levanon 67 (Tel. 03-6425109).

For information about the different services they provide here's their site:

<http://www.israelpost.co.il/hpcontent.nsf/EntryHomePage?ReadForm&L=EN>

#### **5. Local Mobile Phone**

A mobile phone account can be arranged with the following companies:

- Orange, at the Dionon Bookstore near the main entrance to the campus, Entin Square (Gate 7), tel. 6426656.
- Celluline Ltd., Ramat Aviv Mall, tel. 6437764.
- To purchase a SIM card for GSM phones – Steimatzky bookstore in Ben Gurion Airport (located to your right when exiting into the arrivals hall).

#### **6. Emergency Phone Numbers**

Police 100

First Aid 101

Fire Department 102

#### **7. Touristic & Cultural resources**

Tel-Aviv Jaffa Tourism site - <http://www.visit-tlv.com/>

Restaurants - <http://www.telavivme.com/Restaurants>

Attractions - <http://www.telavivme.com/Attractions>

Dance Shows - <http://www.suzannedellal.org.il/?CategoryID=166>

Theater - <http://www.telavivcity.com/eng/stage.asp>

Cinema - <http://www.kehillaton.com/en/movies.asp>

Art - <http://www.telavivcity.com/eng/art.asp>

Architecture - <http://www.telavivarchitecture.com/>

Nightlife - <http://www.telavivme.com/NightLife>



### iii. On Campus

#### 1. Transportation to Tel-Aviv University

**Buses:** The campus is served by numerous bus routes, listed below according to the two main bus companies, **Egged** and **Dan**. The campus was designed for pedestrians rather than vehicles, and it is generally more convenient to travel to the campus using public transportation. Buses stop near all gates, providing easy access to campus buildings.

**Egged, tel. 6948888, or from cell phone \*2020.**

**<http://www.egged.co.il>**

From	Bus Route No.	First Bus – Last Bus*	Frequency*
Holon and Bat-Yam, through Tel-Aviv Central Bus Station	74	05:10-21:40	Every 20 minutes
Holon and Bat-Yam through Tel-Aviv Central Station	86	05:05-20:40	15-20 minutes
Herilya	572	06:20-19:10	30-60 minutes
Rishom Lezion, Ness Tziona and Rehovot	274	05:50-20:25	15-30 minutes
Netanya	604	06:54-21:00	45-60 minutes

**Dan, tel. 6394444**

**<http://www.dan.co.il/>**

From	Bus Route No.	First Bus – Last Bus*	Frequency*
Ramat Aviv, Neve Avivim (University's area)	13	06:30-20:00	Every 30 minutes
Bat Yam, through Jaffa, Shuk Hacarmel, King George & Iben Gvirol	25	04:50-23:45	5-15 minutes
Carmelit terminal to Ramat Hasharon	24	05:30-00:00	15-20 minutes
Tel Hashomer Hospital, Bar Ilan University	45	06:00-20:00	Every 30 minutes
Petach Tikva	49	05:40-20:35	20-30 minutes
Wolfson Hospital, Holon	7	05:00-22:00	15-25 minutes

\*Relevant only for regular weekdays (Schedule is different on weekend and National & Religious holidays).

**Note: Bus schedules and routes are subject to change. Check with the bus companies for the latest information.**



**Trains :** The University Railway Station is within walking distance from campus (on its southeast flank), or you can catch Dan bus #7 or #45 or #289 to the station. Train destinations include Ben Gurion Airport. An online timetable is available at: <http://www.israrail.org.il/English> or call 03-5774000.

**Taxi companies:**

Shekem, tel. 5270404.  
Kastel, tel. 6993322.  
New York, tel. 5226660, 5237722.  
Taxi Card, tel. 9522229.

**Car rental:**

Shlomo SixT, toll free tel. 5612050, English website  
Eldan, tel. 5271166, <http://www.eldan.co.il>  
Avital Rent a Car, tel. 5794076, <http://www.avital.co.il>  
Europcar, tel. 5777111, <http://www.europcar.co.il>

Advise: We don't recommend renting a car if you're staying mostly in Tel-Aviv since there's heavy traffic and parking isn't easy to find.

**Parking on campus:**

There are a few parking lots surrounding the University with a daily/hourly tariff. In case you are interested in parking inside campus please check with your host if it is possible.

**2. Working hours in Israel and at TAU in specific**

The Israeli work week is from Sunday through Thursday, with a few offices also open on Friday mornings. The weekend for most office workers is Friday and Saturday. Stores in Israel are generally open from Sunday through Friday afternoon. Some malls and stores also open for Saturday-evening shopping.

**Tel Aviv University**, courses are held and administrative offices are open from Sunday through Thursday. Each administrative office has different hours, therefore it is best if you check in advance when it is best for you to arrive.

Here is information on some of the main gates on campus:

**Gate No. 8** ( Dan Bouchner Gate) is open 24 hours a day.



**Gate No. 7** ( Frenkel Gate) is the official pedestrian gate to TAU. Open hours are 7:30-19:00 on weekdays, on Fridays and Holiday Eve open from 7:30-12:00.

**Gate No. 2** (Metytya) is the one closest to **Schreiber Building**, it is also called the Diaspora Museum gate. Open on weekdays from 06:30-19:30, Fridays & Holiday Eve open from 7:30-13:30.

**Schreiber building hours:** The building is open from Sunday to Thursday from 7:00-20:00, on Fridays or Holiday Eve from 7:00-13:00. There is the option if needed to get a special permission to enter the building during closing time – please contact your host if it's relevant.

### 3. **Offices & Labs**

Most CS offices are located in Schreiber building, but there are some offices and labs in the Exact Science Buildings. In case you'll need a place to work during your visit, please let your host know in advance so a suitable place can be arranged. You will be given a key, by your host, which you will have to give back either to your host or at the secretariat of school located in room 213 or 223 in Schreiber Building.

### 4. **Wifi & Printers on Campus**

You can connect to Wi-Fi in all of the campus buildings.

The general TAU Wi-Fi network: **Public-Tau** , Key: **public-tau**

Schreiber building Wi-Fi network: **Tau-Cs**, Key : **public-tau**

If access to printers is needed please contact our Helpdesk located on the ground floor of Schreiber Building or at (03) 640-8823.

### 5. **TAU email accounts**

A TAU email account can be created only for long term visitors and are created by the Helpdesk (located on the ground floor of Schreiber Building or at (03) 640-8823).

### 6. **Phones on Campus**

In every lab and office on campus you will find a phone for inside campus calls and external line (landlines & mobiles inside of ISRAEL).

For inside calls it's enough to dial the last 4 digits of the phone number. For example: (03) 640-8040, inside campus will be 8040.



When calling outside of TAU but to a landline in the Tel Aviv area (03 area code), when picking the phone you have to dial "3" and once you get a line click the rest of the phone number, without the area code ("03").

When calling outside of TAU but to a landline outside of the Tel Aviv area (area codes 02, 04, 08, 09, 077), when picking the phone you have to dial "3" and once you get a line click the rest of the phone number, including the area code. Same is when it comes to cellular lines which usually have 3 digits for supplier code and start with "05x-xxxxxxx".

## **7. Emergencies & Security**

All of TAU gates are secured and you will have to go through a short security check when entering the University.

In any case where you see a suspicious person or activity (like theft for example), please contact Security at (03)640-5555 or inform the guard in the closest gate.

In case of injury inside campus that requires a paramedic please also contact Security at (03)640-5555.

If you are stuck in an elevator, in most of them you will find an emergency phone so you can either call security at 5555 or in Schreiber building you can contact the supervisor at 8030 or in some elevators you will see an emergency number written near the doors.

## **8. Eating Places**

You will find in every building on campus vending machines for snacks, soft and worm drinks. Also there is no shortage of places to eat on campus, and ALL facilities comply with kashrut regulations. However, most of the facilities are of the fast food type.

Most of the Cafeterias close around 18.00 but you can always order Takeaway and ask them to bring it to the closest gate for you on campus (we advise to ask in advance if they supply deliveries to Ramat-Aviv and also make sure the gate is open at that time).

Here is a site that gathers most of the restaurants in Tel-Aviv (and outside) :

<http://www.restaurants.co.il/>

## **9. Sports Facilities**



Extensive sports facilities are available on campus, including a fitness center, swimming pool, tennis and squash courts and a basketball court. A TAU Student ID Card entitles the holder to a discounted membership fee to most of the sports facilities. Regular membership is for 1 year but in case you are visiting for over 1 month and would like to have access to these facilities let us also know in advance and we might be able to get a special permission for a shorter memberships period. Use of the tennis courts and fitness center requires a one-time nominal fee. Important: You will need to bring with you a doctor's certificate, stating that you are in good health and able to use the fitness center, if you wish to work out in the gym.

#### **10. Useful Links**

Campus map : <http://www2.tau.ac.il/map/unimap1.asp>

CS Faculty members : [http://www.cs.tau.ac.il/research\\_areas.htm](http://www.cs.tau.ac.il/research_areas.htm)

School of CS site : <http://www.cs.tau.ac.il/>

Phone & Email Staff Directory: <http://www.tau.ac.il/dirsearch-eng.html>