Key Dates In Israel's History

February 14, 1896  
Publication of Theodor Herzl's treatise "The Jewish State"

August 29, 1897  
Opening of the First Zionist Congress at Basel, Switzerland

November 2, 1917  
Issuing of Boycott (on the Jewish community of Palestine)

July 22, 1946  
Irgun bombs King David Hotel

February 14, 1947  
Britain gives UN responsibility for Palestine

November 29, 1947  
UN Partition Plan approved (Resolution 181)

May 14, 1948  
Declaration of the State of Israel

May 15, 1948  
Outbreak of War of Independence. Ends January 1949
January 25, 1949
Israel's first national election; David Ben-Gurion elected Prime Minister

May 1950
Operation Ali Baba; brings 113,000 Iraqi Jews to Israel

September 1950
Operation Magic Carpet; 47,000 Yemeni Jews to Israel

Oct. 29-Nov. 6, 1956
Suez Campaign

October 10, 1959
Creation of Fatah

January 1964
Creation of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)

January 1, 1965
Fatah first major attack: try to sabotage Israel's water system

May 15-22, 1967
Egyptian Mobilization in the Sinai/Closure of the Tiran Straits

June 5-10, 1967
Six Day War

November 22, 1967
Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 242
April 4, 1968
Establishment of Jewish settlement in Hebron

July 18, 1968
Hijacking of El Al airliner by PLO

February 1-4, 1969
Arafat becomes PLO Chairman

March 8, 1969
War of Attrition begins, lasts to August 1970

September 5, 1972
Massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at Munich Olympics

October 6-24, 1973
Yom Kippur War

October 17, 1973
Arab Oil Embargo declared

October 22, 1973
Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 338

May 15, 1974
Terrorist Attack on school in northern Israeli town of Ma'alot

November 10, 1975
“Zionism is Racism” resolution passed by the UN
November 19, 1977
Egyptian President Anwar Sadat visits Jerusalem

September 17, 1978
Camp David accords signed

March 26, 1979
Egypt-Israel peace treaty signed

June 7, 1981
Israel attacks Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor

June 6, 1982
Operation “Peace for the Galilee” launched; start of Lebanon War

November 1984
Operation Moses airlifts 7000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel

October 7, 1986
Hijacking of Achille Lauro cruise ship

December 8, 1987
Start of the First Intifada

January 16, 1991
Gulf War; Iraq launches SCUD missiles at Israel

May 24, 1991
Operation Solomon brings 14000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel
October 30, 1991
Madrid Peace Conference

December 16, 1991
UN repeals "Zionism is Racism" resolution

September 13, 1993
Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles (Oslo Accord) signed

December 30, 1993
Israel and Vatican sign "Fundamental Agreement"

February 25, 1994
Jewish gunman kills 29 Palestinian worshippers in Hebron

April 6, 1994
Afula suicide bombing, kills 8. In the next years, numerous suicide attacks were perpetrated in Israeli cities, including bus bombings, in restaurants, and malls across the country

May 4, 1994
Agreement on the Gaza Strip and Jericho reached

May 13, 1994
Israel withdraws from Jericho, followed by Gaza on May 18

July 1, 1994
Arafat enters Gaza

October 9, 1994
Hamas kidnaps and kills an Israeli soldier Nachshon Wachsman

October 14, 1994
Rabin, Peres, and Arafat awarded Nobel Peace Prize

October 26, 1994
Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty

December 1, 1994
Transfer of West Bank administrative control to Palestinians

September 28, 1995
Signing of Oslo II agreement

November 4, 1995
Assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

November 13, 1995
Israel redeploy from Palestinian population centers

January 20, 1996
First Palestinian elections

September 24, 1996
Palestinian "Tunnel Riots" erupt

January 17, 1997
Israel withdraws from Hebron
March 13, 1997
Jordanian soldier kills 7 Israeli schoolgirls

October 23, 1998
Israel-Palestinian "Wye Memorandum" signed

December 10, 1998
Palestinians vote to change PLO charter in presence of President Bill Clinton

May 24, 2000
Israel withdraws from southern Lebanon

July 11-25, 2000
Camp David Summit

September 29, 2000
Outbreak of widespread Palestinian violence, "Second Intifada" begins. In the next years there were scores of suicide bombings on buses, restaurants, night clubs and city streets

October 12, 2000
Two Israeli soldiers lynched by Palestinian mob in Ramallah

January 4, 2002
Israel intercepts massive Palestinian arms shipment on Karine A ship

March 27, 2002
Suicide bomber kills 30 at Passover seder at Netanya hotel

March 29, 2002
IDF begins Operation Defensive Shield to uproot terrorist infrastructure in West Bank

April 30, 2003
The “Road Map for Peace” is presented by the Quartet to the Israelis and Palestinians

January 29, 2004
Israel swaps prisoners with the terrorist group Hezbollah; releases 435 Arab prisoners in return for the remains of murdered soldiers and a kidnapped Israeli businessman

August 25, 2004
Windsurfer Gal Fridman wins Israel’s first Olympic gold medal at the Athens games

August 31, 2004
Two simultaneous suicide bombings in Beersheba kill 16

November 11, 2004
Yasir Arafat dies in a Paris hospital

December 23, 2004
The first phase of PA municipal elections are held; Hamas secures nearly half the seats

February 26, 2005
The Knesset gives final approval to the Disengagement Plan, rejects calls for a national referendum
July 12, 2005
Suicide bombing of Netanya mall kills 5

August 17-22, 2005
Evacuation of settlers from the Gaza Strip

August 23, 2005
Evacuation of four settlements in the northern West Bank

September 12, 2005
Israeli military completes withdrawal from the Gaza

January 4, 2006
Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon incapacitated by massive stroke; Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert appointed Acting Prime Minister

January 26, 2006
Palestinian parliamentary elections; Hamas wins 74 seats in the 132-seat legislature

June 25, 2006
IDF Corporal Gilad Shalit is kidnapped by Hamas from IDF army post; Israel responds with military operation

July 12, 2006
Hezbollah sparks the Second Lebanon War when they cross the border into Israel and attack an Israeli military patrol, killing eight soldiers and kidnapping two others

August 11, 2006
The U.N. Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1701 for ceasefire in the Lebanon War

June 15, 2007
Hamas takeover of Gaza

July 16, 2008
Hezbollah releases the bodies of captive Israeli soldiers Eldad Regev and Ehud Goldwasser, whose kidnapping sparked the Second Lebanon War

December 27, 2008
In response to increasing rocket barrages Israel launches Operation Cast Lead against Hamas in Gaza

January 18, 2009
Israel signs a unilateral ceasefire. Twelve hours later Hamas agrees to a week-long ceasefire

May 31, 2010
Israel intercepts a flotilla of six ships en route to Gaza

October 18, 2011
Kidnapped IDF Corporal Gilad Shalit is released in a prisoner exchange deal with Hamas

November 14, 2012
Israel launches Operation Pillar of Defense to end rocket attacks from Gaza. A ceasefire was reached on November 21

April 23, 2014
Palestinian Authority (Fatah) and Hamas sign reconciliation agreement to create a Palestinian unity government, effectively ending Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

**June 12, 2014**

Israeli teenagers Naftali Fraenkel, Gilad Shaer and Eyal Yifrah are abducted and killed by Palestinian terrorists. Their bodies are discovered on June 30th.

**July 2, 2014**

Jewish extremists kidnap and kill 16 year-old Palestinian Mohammed Abu Khdeir.

**July 7 - August 26, 2014**

Israel launches Operation Protective Edge against Hamas to end rocket fire from Gaza and destroy Hamas’ terror tunnels. Operation expands to a ground operation on July 17. An open-ended ceasefire between Israel and Hamas is reached.