Jerusalem is central and holy to three religions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The most holy sites for each of these religions are situated in the Old City of Jerusalem: The Western Wall and Temple Mount for Jews, The Church of the Holy Sepulcher for Christians and Al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques for Muslims.

One of the most iconic world maps, The Bünting Clover Leaf Map, also known as The World in a Cloverleaf, is an historic mappa mundi (map of the world) drawn by the German Protestant pastor, theologian, and cartographer Heinrich Bünting. The map was published in 1581. A mosaic model of the map is installed on the fence of Safra Square at the site of Jerusalem’s city hall.

The shape is a symbol of the Christian Trinity. The city of Jerusalem is represented as the center, surrounded by three central continents, with some more areas of the world being accordingly illustrated separately from the clover.

**Resources**

Clover Leaf Map - Wikipedia
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%BCnting_Clover_Leaf_Map](en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%BCnting_Clover_Leaf_Map)

Midrash about Jerusalem - Midreshet (in Hebrew & English)
[https://tinyurl.com/ycqfs9on](https://tinyurl.com/ycqfs9on)
This map, estimated to represent 13th century BCE, depicts the territory and boundaries of The Twelve Tribes of Israel. The tribes (Reuben, Simeon, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Ephraim and Manasseh) are the traditional divisions of the ancient Jewish people. Estimated historical era - 13th century BCE. Biblical tradition holds that the twelve tribes of Israel are descended from the sons and grandsons of the forefather Jacob and are called “Israel” from Jacob’s name given to him by God. After the Exodus and the 40-year wandering in the desert under Moses’ leadership, the children of Israel enter the land of Canaan under Joshua’s leadership. After conquering the land, the tribes are each allotted an individual territory to settle.
Official Map of Israel
Current Political Map
From: Israel Ministry of Tourism

Israeli official maps convey an inconsistency in outlining the state’s borders. Maps 3 and 4 are examples of inclusion and omission of the Green Line.

In 1949, with UN mediation, Israel concluded armistice agreements with Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon, thus reaching an official cessation of hostilities of the first Arab-Israeli war that had started in May 1948. The parties agreed that the armistice agreements would serve as interim arrangements until replaced by permanent peace treaties. The 1949 Armistice Lines between Israel and its Arab neighbors came to be known as The Green Line.

The Green Line is often referred to as pre-1967 borders or the 1967 borders or 1949 Armistice lines by many international bodies and national leaders.

The Green Line is discussed in more details in Units 2 and 3.

Sources
Israel Tourist Information
https://info.goisrael.com/en/

About the omission of the Palestinian territories:
Ha’aretz
www.haaretz.com/israel-s-tourism-ministry-is-wiping-palestinians-off-the-map-1.289387

Times of Israel
http://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/71707/
Israel proclaimed Jerusalem as its capital in 1960, but the US, like nearly all other countries, maintains its Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The West Bank and Gaza Strip are Israeli-occupied with current status subject to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement—permanent status to be determined through further negotiation.
Israeli official maps convey an inconsistency in outlining the state’s borders. Maps 3 and 4 are examples of inclusion and omission of the Green Line.


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*The Green Line* is often referred to as “pre-1967 borders” or the “1967 borders” or “1949 Armistice lines” by many international bodies and national leaders.

*The Green Line* is discussed in more detail in Units 2 and 3.
On the Map

Unit 1

16 Maps
This topographical map of the central and northern regions of Israel shows the Jezreel Valley separating the Northern Galilee region from the central mountain range. The Jordan River connects the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea. The Negev Desert is to the south. Altitude numbers are shown in meters. The lowest point on earth is the surface of the Dead Sea (in Hebrew: “Salt Sea”), about 400 meters below sea level. The map marks no borders, cities, etc.
The map represents the topography of the land marked as Palestine (pre 1948). “Palestine” was the name used for this area under the Ottoman Empire. After World War I, the name “Palestine” was applied to the territory that was placed under British Mandate; this area included not only present-day Israel but also present-day Jordan. It was not a Palestinian state. The map marks only Arab cities and villages and mixed Jewish and Arab cities (Haifa, Jaffa). It omits Tel Aviv, which was established in 1909, and all other existing Israeli cities, periphery towns, kibbutzim, and moshavim (cooperative agricultural communities).

“Palestine” is discussed in more detail in Unit 3. The Palestinian connection to the land is discussed in more detail in Unit 4.

Resources
Origin of the name “Palestine”

www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/palname.html

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_the_name_%22Palestine%22
Notice the difference in color between the topography within and beyond the Green Line. The darker area within the Green Line are forests planted mainly by JNF. Notice a difference in color along the southwestern border with Egypt. The lighter color is due to Bedouin owned herds grazing on the Egyptian side of the border.
Maps drawn to same scale.
Israel shown in blue.

Information Regarding Israel’s Security
http://www.iris.org.il
How does Israel compare to California? Consider size, territories, cities, etc.

Comparison maps of Israel are usually meant to illustrate how small Israel is in comparison to its neighboring Arab countries and to give a perspective to educators and students who study about Israel.

From
Israel Size Comparison maps
The Israeli Home Front Command published this map to inform the public on the regional defense zones that were used during Operation Protective Edge in the summer of 2014. The map details the individual defense zones and the amount of time citizens have to get to a shelter or protected area should a siren signal a missile attack from Gaza. You’ll notice that the entire state of Israel is within missile range.
Illustrated Map
Artist: Rutu Modan
The Map of Israel as Illustration, Artwork and Icon
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

This retro-style tourist map was used as the cover to the catalog of the Israel Museum’s “On the Map: The Map of Israel as Illustration, Artwork and Icon” exhibition in 2008. It marks places and events. The artist includes items that might not have been displayed on an actual tourist map such as a weapon-bearing soldier near Gaza, Arabs and Bedouins, and the controversial Haifa oil refinery’s chimneys.
Do you find anything unusual about this map?
Is there anything missing?

The map displays a wide range of traditional Arab and Bedouin clothing styles. A person’s attire was largely dependent on locality, whether the person were a villager, Bedouin or townsperson, their marital status, religion, class and the time period. The map includes holy places such as the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, and marks only Arab villages and towns.

See more about the Palestinians’ connection to the land in Unit 4.

**Resources**

- **Palestinian Poster Project**
  [http://www.palestineposterproject.org/poster/palestinian-traditional-costumes-map](http://www.palestineposterproject.org/poster/palestinian-traditional-costumes-map)

- **Palestinian Clothing**
  [http://www.raqs.co.nz/me/clothing_palestine.html](http://www.raqs.co.nz/me/clothing_palestine.html)

- **Palestinian Costumes**
Eretz Moledet (Homeland)
My Israel - JNF Poster

This map, which is part of an educational kit, depicts the land as a lush green oasis, as described in Shir Ha’amaalot (Song of Ascents, Psalms 126) which recounts the joy of returning to Zion and rejuvenating the land.

The Jewish National Fund, Keren Kayemet LeYisrael, was founded by the Fifth Zionist Congress in Basel in 1901 with Theodor Herzl’s support, in order to buy and develop land for Jewish settlement. The JNF is a non-profit organization. By 2007, it owned 13% of the total land in Israel. Since its inception, the JNF says it has planted over 240 million trees in Israel. It has also built 180 dams and reservoirs, developed 250,000 acres of land and established more than 1,000 parks. JNF continues to be involved in many initiatives of community building, water solutions, forestry and green innovation.

When looking at this map, it is important to note that the perspective is from the West, as a 3D perspective from above, as if a bird’s eye view or, that of a landing airplane. Also, the green areas are misrepresented. The vast majority of the area beyond the Green Line is hilly and barren, not lush and green as depicted here, as is the Negev desert.

Resources
Eretz Moledet - JNF (in Hebrew)
http://www.kkl.org.il/moledet/

Shir Ha’maalot - Mechon Mamre
Introduction to Images 13 and 14
David Reeb and Avner Bar Hama are artists who use the map of Israel in their artwork and present opposing political views. The questions they raise represent a central machloket (constructive conflict) in Israeli society – the issue is the Green Line and its inclusion or omission from official maps.

Orange Map: Today Gush Katif–Tomorrow Jaffa
Artist: Avner Bar Hama 2008
Conceptual Art

Exhibited at “L (A) T T I T U D E S” – an exploration of maps of Israel and Palestine created by ten contemporary artists, at Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery, Washington DC

The map was made up of artificial oranges and “Jaffa” stickers to create a 25-foot map of Israel on the floor of the gallery.

The color orange was embraced by the Israeli settlers and their supporters who opposed the 2005 unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the Israeli army’s dismantlement of the settlements. Among them were 17 settlements that comprised a bloc known as Gush Katif (Harvest Bloc). In addition to being a variety of oranges (“Jaffa Oranges”), Jaffa is also a city located directly next to Tel Aviv, and is a mixed Arab-Jewish town.
Introduction to Images 13 and 14

David Reeb and Avner Bar Hama are artists who use the map of Israel in their artwork and present opposing political views. The questions they raise represent a central machloket (constructive conflict) in Israeli society – the issue is the Green Line and its inclusion or omission from official maps.

Green Line
Artist: David Reeb

In the mid-1980s, the Green Line (which marks the pre-1967 borders of the State of Israel) became a dominant component of David Reeb’s paintings. His representation of this charged political frontier makes a statement about the permanent status the occupation acquired in Israeli consciousness.

From Tel Aviv Museum of Art
http://www.tamuseum.org.il/collection-work/4487
Hityashvut
Artist: Michael Sgan-Cohen
Conceptual Art

*Hityashvut* is a simple wooden classroom chair, its seat painted with free brush strokes depicting a general map of Israel, and its back painted as blue skies. The word *Hityashvut* (settlement) denotes both the act of sitting down (*lashevet*) and the act of settling the land of Israel. To clarify: In Hebrew, the common term for the Israeli settlements outside the Green Line is *hitnakhluyot*. This term was introduced when the Likud party came to power in 1977, evoking Biblical injunctions and promises to “inherit” the land through settlement; it officially replaced the earlier and emotionally neutral word *hityashvut*. The term *hitnakhluyot* is still widely used in the media and in public, although some think it has acquired a derogatory connotation in recent years. The settlers themselves are called *mitnakhalim*. Most settlers, their supporters, and most official Israeli government references use the term *yishuvim* for settlements and *mityashvim* for settlers, evoking a continuation of earlier Zionist settlement history.

From Tel Aviv Museum of Art
http://www.tamuseum.org.il/
collection-work/4487

About Sgan-Cohen (in Hebrew)
https://tinyurl.com/ycqflfdp
An iconic snapshot of Israel’s first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, doing a headstand on the beach in Herzlyia in September 1957 (below), provides the basis for this cartoon. Moshik Lin is showing the upright figure of Ben-Gurion set alongside a map of Israel turned on its head. The scene reverses words attributed to Ben-Gurion when explaining his fondness for headstands: “I stand on my head so that the State of Israel could stand on its feet.”

The political cartoon allows Israeli artists to deal with highly sensitive political and societal issues with a mix of humor and seriousness. Appreciated for their provocative nature, these cartoons often convey opinion as effectively as any political speech, newspaper article or newscast.