

This calendar encourages public awareness of Jewish religious observances. The Jewish calendar, also known as the Hebrew calendar, follows the lunisolar cycle in sync with the natural sun and moon cycles. Each month begins with a new moon (Rosh Hodesh in Hebrew). We hope that this calendar will assist you as you schedule public events.

Jewish holiday and Shabbat observances begin the evening before, a few minutes before sundown, and conclude the following day at sundown, typically marked by the appearance of three stars in the sky.

Shabbat (Sabbath) is the Jewish weekly day of rest and is observed from Friday night through Saturday evening. The Sabbath is considered the most sacred observance in Judaism.

Rosh HaShanah* (Head of Year) is the Jewish New Year and is observed for two days. It is the first of the Jewish High Holy Days, marking the beginning of a period of repentance and prayer that ends with Yom Kippur.

Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement) is the day the Jewish people ask for forgiveness for the wrongs committed over the past year. Fasting and refraining from work and leisure provides time and space for deep prayer and reflection.

Sukkot (Booths) is a seven-day festival marking the time of the harvest. Many families erect a booth outside their home, commemorating our ancestral journey during the harvest in ancient Israel. In the sukkah (booth), families can share meals and prayer.

Shmini Atzeret (Assembly of the Eighth Day) falls at the conclusion of Sukkot. Daily prayers include a special prayer for rain, which is essential to sustain life and integral to strength and survival. In Israel, Shmini Atzeret marks the beginning of the rainy season.

Simchat Torah (Rejoicing in the Torah) celebrates the conclusion of the yearly reading of the Torah (the first five books of the Hebrew Bible) and the festivity of beginning the reading once again. Simchat Torah marks the end of the fall holidays and is celebrated with dancing and singing.

Hanukkah (also known as the Festival of Lights) is an eight-day holiday that commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem in the second century BCE following a revolt against a tyrannical monarch. The holiday is observed in the present by lighting candles on each of the eight nights, enjoying foods fried in oil, and exchanging gifts. The root of the word Hanukkah in Hebrew means "dedication."

Purim (Feast of Lots) is a joyous holiday recounting the saving of the Jewish people from a threatened massacre during the Persian period of 539-330 BCE. The Book of Esther is read during Purim.

Pesach (Passover) is an eight-day observance that commemorates the exodus from Egypt. Passover is celebrated with a ritual meal (seder), which provides a place for discussion about freedom and social justice. Matzah (unleavened bread) is eaten during Passover to mark the time in ancient Egypt when the Israelites had to flee persecution and did not have time for their bread dough to rise.

Yom HaShoah (Day of Holocaust Remembrance) honors the memories of Jews who perished during the Holocaust. Since 1953, it has been a day in which our community gathers in solidarity with Holocaust survivors and their families. Yom HaShoah was established in Israel in 1953 and is commemorated by Jewish communities and individuals worldwide.

Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) is the day of national remembrance in Israel, honoring Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terror.

Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) celebrates Israel's independence from the British Mandate in 1948. Its observance begins immediately after Yom HaZikaron. It is celebrated with dancing, fireworks, and barbecues, similar to America's 4th of July.

Shavuot (Feast of Weeks) marks the completion of the harvest in Israel and celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. It is customary for congregations to host Torah study sessions and for community members to enjoy dairy products (referencing biblical texts that describe the promised land as flowing with milk and honey).

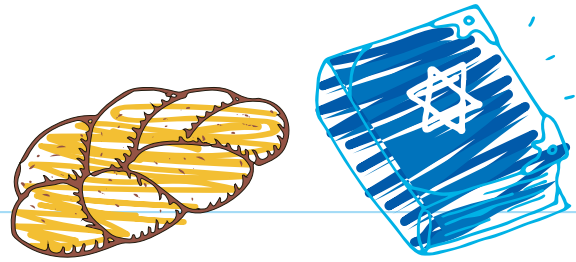
For further information on Jewish holidays and celebrations:

<https://www.hebcal.com/holidays/2024>
www.myjewishlearning.com
www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org
www.hebcal.com

*Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur are the holiest days of the year; expect Jewish students to be absent from school and extra-curricular activities.

Blue colored holidays may require absence from work, school, or extracurricular activities.

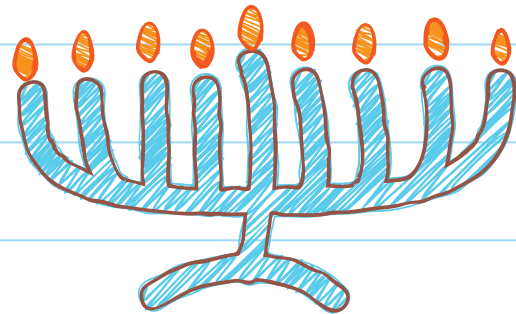
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2023-2028 JEWISH HOLIDAY CALENDAR



**Five Year Calendar of
Major Jewish Holidays
& Religious Observances**

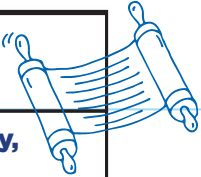


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ORANGE COUNTY

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JewishOC.org/RoseProject

All Jewish holidays begin at sundown the evening before the day listed.
Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur are the holiest days of the year; expect Jewish students to be absent from school and extra-curricular activities.



FALL SEMESTER	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year	Saturday-Sunday, September 16-17	Thursday-Friday, October 3-4	Tuesday-Wednesday, September 23-24	Saturday-Sunday, September 12-13	Saturday-Sunday, October 2-3
Yom Kippur Day of Atonement	Monday, September 25	Saturday, October 12	Thursday, October 2	Monday, September 21	Monday, 11 October
Sukkot Harvest Festival	Sat-Sun, Sept 30-Oct 1 Mon-Fri, October 2-6	Thurs-Fri, October 17-18 Sat-Wed, October 19-23	Tues-Wed, October 7-8 Thurs-Mon, October 9-13	Sat-Sun, September 26-27 Mon, Sept 28-Fri, Oct 2	Sat-Sun, October 16-17 Mon-Fri, October 18-22
Shemini Atzeret Assembly of the Eighth Day	Saturday, October 7	Thursday, October 24	Tuesday, October 14	Saturday, October 3	Saturday, October 23
Simchat Torah Rejoicing in the Torah	Sunday, October 8	Friday, October 25	Wednesday, October 15	Sunday, October 4	Sunday, October 24
Hanukkah Festival of Lights	Friday-Friday, December 8-15	Thursday-Thursday, December 26-January 2	Monday-Monday, December 15 - 22	Saturday-Saturday December 5-12	Saturday - Saturday, December 25 -January 1
SPRING SEMESTER	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Purim Feast of Lots	Sunday, March 24	Friday, March 14	Tuesday, March 3	Tuesday, March 23	Sunday, March 12
Pesach Passover	Tues-Wed, April 23-24 Mon-Tues, April 29-30	Sun-Mon, April 13-14 Sat-Sun, April 19-20	Thurs-Fri, April 2-3 Wed-Thurs, April 8-9	Thurs-Friday, April 22-23 Wed-Thurs, April 28-29	Tues-Wed ,April 11-12 Mon-Tues April 17-18
Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day	Monday, May 6	Thursday, April 24	Tuesday, April 14	Tuesday, May 4	Monday, Apr 24
Yom HaZikaron Israel's Memorial Day	Monday, May 13	Wednesday, April 30	Tuesday, April 21	Tuesday, May 11	Monday, May 1
Yom HaAtzmaut Israel Independence Day	Tuesday, May 14	Thursday, May 1	Wednesday, April 22	Wednesday, May 12	Tuesday, May 2
Shavuot Festival of Weeks	Wednesday-Thursday, June 12-13	Monday-Tuesday, June 2-3	Friday-Saturday, May 22-23	Friday-Saturday, June 11-12	Wednesday, May 31 -Thursday, June 1

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