

## Calendar of Jewish festivals and holy days 2023-2028 / 5783-5789

		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
<b>Asara b'Tevet</b> Fast of 10 Tevet		Tue 3 Jan	<i>[22 Dec 2023]</i>	Fri 10 Jan	<i>[30 Dec 2025]</i>	<i>[20 Dec 2026]</i>	Sun 9 Jan
<b>Tu Bishvat</b> New Year for Trees		Mon 6 Feb	Thu 25 Jan	Thu 13 Feb	Mon 2 Feb	Sat 23 Jan	Sat 12 Feb
<b>Ta'anit Esther</b> Fast of Esther		Mon 6 Mar	Thu 21 Mar	Thu 13 Mar	Mon 2 Mar	Mon 22 Mar	Thu 9 Mar
<b>Purim</b> Festival of Lots	Eve	Mon 6 Mar	Sat 23 Mar	Thu 13 Mar	Mon 2 Mar	Mon 22 Mar	Sat 11 Mar
	Day	Tue 7 Mar	Sun 24 Mar	Fri 14 Mar	Tue 3 Mar	Tue 23 Mar	Sun 12 Mar
<b>Ta'anit Bechorot</b> Fast of the Firstborn		Wed 5 Apr	Mon 22 Apr	Thu 10 Apr	Wed 1 Apr	Wed 21 Apr	Mon 10 Apr
<b>Pesach</b> Passover	Eve	Wed 5 Apr	Mon 22 Apr	Sat 12 Apr	Wed 1 Apr	Wed 21 Apr	Mon 10 Apr
	1st Day	 Thu 6 Apr	Tue 23 Apr	Sun 13 Apr	Thu 2 Apr	Thu 22 Apr	Tue 11 Apr
	2nd Day	 Fri 7 Apr	Wed 24 Apr	Mon 14 Apr	Fri 3 Apr	Fri 23 Apr	Wed 12 Apr
	Intermediate days	Sat 8 - Tue 11 Apr	Thu 25 - Sun 28 Apr	Tue 15 - Fri 18 Apr	Sat 4 Apr - Tue 7 Apr	Sat 24 - Tue 27 Apr	Thu 13 - Sun 16 Apr
	Eve	Tue 11 Apr	Sun 28 Apr	Fri 18 Apr	Tue 7 Apr	Tue 27 Apr	Sun 16 Apr
	7th Day	 Wed 12 Apr	Mon 29 Apr	Sat 19 Apr	Wed 8 Apr	Wed 28 Apr	Mon 17 Apr
	8th Day	Thu 13 Apr	Tue 30 Apr	Sun 20 Apr	Thu 9 Apr	Thu 29 Apr	Tue 18 Apr
<b>Shavuot</b> Festival of Weeks	Eve	Thu 25 May	Tue 11 Jun	Sun 1 Jun	Thu 21 May	Thu 10 Jun	Tue 30 May
	1st Day	 Fri 26 May	Wed 12 Jun	Mon 2 Jun	Fri 22 May	Fri 11 Jun	Wed 31 May
	2nd Day	Sat 27 May	Thu 13 Jun	Tue 3 Jun	Sat 23 May	Sat 12 Jun	Thu 1 Jun
<b>Shivah Asar b'Tammuz</b> Fast of 17 Tammuz		Thu 6 Jul	Tue 23 Jul	Sun 13 Jul	Thu 2 Jul	Thu 22 Jul	Tue 11 Jul
<b>Tisha b'Av</b> Fast of 9 Av	Eve	Wed 26 Jul	Mon 12 Aug	Sat 2 Aug	Wed 22 Jul	Wed 11 Aug	Mon 31 Jul
	Day	 Thu 27 Jul	Tue 13 Aug	Sun 3 Aug	Thu 23 Jul	Thu 12 Aug	Tue 1 Aug
<b>Rosh Hashana</b> New Year	Eve	Fri 15 Sep	Wed 2 Oct	Mon 22 Sep	Fri 11 Sep	Fri 1 Oct	Wed 20 Sep
	1st Day	 Sat 16 Sep	Thu 3 Oct	Tue 23 Sep	Sat 12 Sep	Sat 2 Oct	Thu 21 Sep
	2nd Day	Sun 17 Sep	Fri 4 Oct	Wed 24 Sep	Sun 13 Sep	Sun 3 Oct	Fri 22 Sep
<b>Tzom Gedaliah</b> Fast of Gedaliah		Mon 18 Sep	Sun 6 Oct	Thu 25 Sep	Mon 14 Sep	Mon 4 Oct	Sun 24 Sep
<b>Yom Kippur</b> Day of Atonement	Eve	Sun 24 Sep	Fri 11 Oct	Wed 1 Oct	Sun 20 Sep	Sun 10 Oct	Fri 29 Sep
	Day	  Mon 25 Sep	Sat 12 Oct	Thu 2 Oct	Mon 21 Sep	Mon 11 Oct	Sat 30 Sep
<b>Sukkot</b> Festival of Tabernacles	Eve	Fri 29 Sep	Wed 16 Oct	Mon 6 Oct	Fri 25 Sep	Fri 15 Oct	Wed 4 Oct
	1st Day	 Sat 30 Sep	Thu 17 Oct	Tue 7 Oct	Sat 26 Sep	Sat 16 Oct	Thu 5 Oct
	2nd Day	 Sun 1 Oct	Fri 18 Oct	Wed 8 Oct	Sun 27 Sep	Sun 17 Oct	Fri 6 Oct
	Intermediate days	Mon 2 - Fri 6 Oct	Sat 19 - Wed 23 Oct	Thu 9 - Mon 13 Oct	Mon 28 Sep - Fri 2 Oct	Mon 18 - Fri 22 Oct	Sat 7 - Wed 11 Oct
<b>Shmini Atzeret</b> Eighth Day of Assembly	Eve	Fri 6 Oct	Thu 23 Oct	Mon 13 Oct	Fri 2 Oct	Fri 22 Oct	Wed 11 Oct
	Day	 Sat 7 Oct	Fri 24 Oct	Tue 14 Oct	Sat 3 Oct	Sat 23 Oct	Thu 12 Oct
<b>Simchat Torah</b> Rejoicing with the Torah	Day	 Sun 8 Oct	Sat 25 Oct	Wed 15 Oct	Sun 4 Oct	Sun 24 Oct	Fri 13 Oct
<b>Chanukah</b> Festival of Dedication	1st Night	Fri 8 Dec	Thu 26 Dec	Sun 14 Dec	Fri 4 Dec	Fri 24 Dec	Tue 12 Dec
	8th Night	Fri 15 Dec	Thu 2 Jan	Sun 21 Dec	Fri 11 Dec	Fri 31 Dec	Tue 19 Dec
<b>Asara b'Tevet</b> Fast of 10 Tevet		Fri 22 Dec	<i>[10 Jan 2025]</i>	Tue 30 Dec	Sun 20 Dec	<i>[9 Jan 2028]</i>	Thu 28 Dec



Day on which work is not permitted



Fast day

## Why is the Jewish calendar different?

Jewish calendar years are counted from the Biblical date of creation, which corresponds to 3760 BCE (before the common era). Consequently, the year **2022/2023** corresponds to the Jewish year **5783**. The Jewish calendar takes account of both the lunar and solar cycles, rather than simply the solar. Therefore, although the Jewish date of a festival is constant, the date according to the civil calendar changes each year.

## Timings

Days begin and end at **sunset**, and Jewish festivals and holy days always commence a short time *before* sunset and terminate at nightfall the following day – approximately a 25 hour period.

Times of the commencement of the Sabbath and festivals will **vary** according to the season and local sunset times. These times are available online.

Please note that if leave of absence for religious observance is requested, the person making the request will want to reach home in good time on the **eve** of the festival in order to complete any tasks that will not be permitted once the festival starts.

## Requests for leave and deferral of examinations

Naturally levels of observance vary within the Jewish community, and whilst some people will only observe Yom Kippur, many others will wish to observe the other festivals detailed in the calendar accompanying this note. If a request for **time off** is made, it should be regarded as a genuine and conscientious wish to observe a festival or holy day - which also applies to the weekly Sabbath.

Jewish Law prohibits '**work**' on the Sabbath and certain festivals. The traditional Jewish interpretation of 'work' includes any kind of creative activity, including writing, spending or handling money, operating equipment (including lights, computers and telephones), travelling (other than on foot), engaging in commercial transactions, and many other activities which may not be considered as 'work' in ordinary parlance. Judaism is almost unique in having this complete prohibition about work on holy days.

Attending classes or taking examinations are also classified as work. Students may therefore ask for help in changing dates if exams or classes fall on these dates.

There is no provision in Jewish Law for a **dispensation** to be given by a rabbi from these restrictions and obligations but, as noted above, levels of observance vary between individuals and some may be less concerned than others.

## Shabbat

'Shabbat' (the Sabbath) is the **weekly** day of rest, commencing just before sundown on Friday and terminating Saturday at nightfall.

Observant Jews will wish to reach home in good time to prepare for the Sabbath. In winter months, this will mean leaving work, school or college quite early on **Friday afternoons**.

## Please note

For '**Yom Kippur**' (the 'Day of Atonement'), a 25 hour **fast observed by most Jews**, it is imperative that time be allowed for a full meal to be taken at home immediately before the holy day commences.

The two days of the Jewish New Year and the Day of Atonement, which are known as the 'High Holy Days', generally have a special significance for all Jews, regardless of their level of observance at other times.

Observant Jews - whether as employees, students, pupils or teachers - do not expect 'special treatment' and should make every effort to make up time and reduce any burden on their non-Jewish colleagues.

Most Jews will take leave for their religious festivals as part of their annual entitlement, whilst others may wish to enter into reciprocal arrangements and agreements to make up the time elsewhere.

This calendar and information are also available on our website.

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