

Ten Year Calendar of Jewish Holy Days

The Jewish Calendar has been central and fundamental to the faith, observance, and culture of the Jewish People for over 3000 years. During the course of a year, the Holy Days guide the Jewish person and community through a series of important and healthy experiences: appreciation of Creation, responsibility for our actions, harvest celebrations, study, freedom, revelation, historical joy or sadness, and more.

Holy Day observance **requires** participation in personal or communal rituals such as hearing the *shofar* (ram's horn) on the New Year, fasting on Yom Kippur or eating *matzah* (unleavened bread) on Passover. Observance also **prohibits** normal weekday behavior such as writing, dealing with financial matters, driving in a car or other vehicle, use of electricity (computers, phones, elevators, etc.) and any acts of construction or destruction. It is for these reasons that Jewish employees, students, or members of organizations are unable to attend or perform regular work, school, or other functions or tasks on these days.

We ask that all places of employment, schools and organizations respect these long-standing traditions by:

- 1) being sensitive when scheduling workplace, school or communal events;
- 2) honoring the request of Jewish people seeking time off from responsibilities on Holy Days; and
- 3) partnering to find alternative dates on which professional or school assignments can be completed.

Please feel free to contact the Jewish Federation of Arkansas (501) 663-3571 or www.jewisharkansas.org with any questions. Thank you.



Important Notes: The Jewish calendar day goes from sundown to sundown (unlike the secular calendar day which goes from midnight to midnight). **Therefore all Holidays actually begin at sundown the previous day.** For example, if Yom Kippur 2015 is listed as Wednesday Sept. 23rd, it means the Holy Day actually begins at sundown on Tuesday Sept. 22nd.

The Jewish Federation of Arkansas (JFAR) is the central address for Jewish life in Arkansas and has coordinated activities and services since its founding in 1912.

JFAR exists to strengthen, support, and sustain the Jewish Community in Arkansas and to support Jews in need worldwide. We fulfill our mission by:

- Acting as a statewide information and resource center for the Jewish community.
- Fundraising and allocating funds to benefit and provide for the needs of Jewish individuals and communities.
- Supporting and providing programs and services that broaden our knowledge and perspectives of Jewish life and history, encourage fellowship and foster Jewish identity.
- Respecting the different expressions of Judaism and Jewish life.
- Basing our decisions and actions on the values of *Klal Yisrael* (shared community), *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world), and Tzedakah (justice, righteousness, and philanthropy).

The following holidays do not require cessation of work/school activities, but do include personal and communal observances that are required and meaningful:

Hanukkah - The Festival of Lights. Celebrates the rescue of the Holy Temple from a much larger Syrian Army seeking assimilation or death. Culturally important as winter-time Jewish counterpart to the Christmas Holiday, which is not celebrated by Jews.

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Dec 16-24	Dec 6-14	Dec 24-Jan1	Dec 12-20	Dec 2-10

Purim - Based on the Book of Esther in the Bible - Celebrates the victory of the Jews in Persia against the wicked Haman who again sought their destruction.

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Mar 15-16	Mar 4-5	Mar 23-24	Mar 11-12	Feb 28-Mar 1

Tisha B'Av - The Jewish version of 9/11. Multiple catastrophes have befallen the Jewish people on the same calendar date. Fasting (no food or drink) is required this day of every healthy adult Jew.

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Aug 5	Jul 26	Aug 14	Aug 1	Jul 22

Yom HaShoah - Memorial to 6 million Jews killed by Nazis in WWII.

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Apr 28	Apr 16	May 5	Apr 24	Apr 12

2014 - 2023

5775 - 5784



Jewish Federation®
OF ARKANSAS

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.
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For School Years 2014 - 2023 / 5775-5784

	Shabbat (Sabbath) Observance begins every Friday at sunset concluding at sunset on Saturday	Shabbat and all Jewish Holy Day begin at sunset extending to the next sunset. We request that the Holy Days and Shabbat be respected when scheduling events. For further information or assistance please call the Jewish Federation of Arkansas at 501-663-3571									
		2014/5775	2015/5776	2016/5777	2017/5778	2018/5779	2019/5780	2020/5781	2021/5782	2022/5783	2023/5784
	Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year, Anniversary of creation. Begins Ten Days of Penitence.	Sep 24 Wed Eve Sep 25-26 Thu, Fri	Sep 13 Sun Eve Sep 14-15 Mon, Tue	Oct 2 Sun Eve Oct 3-4 Mon, Tue	Sep 20 Wed Eve Sep 21-22 Thu, Fri	Sep 09 Sun Eve Sep 10-11 Mon, Tue	Sep 29 Sun Eve Sep 30-Oct 1 Mon, Tue	Sep 18 Fri Eve Sep 19-20 Sat, Sun	Sep 06 Mon Eve Sep 7-8 Tue, Wed	Sep 25 Sun Eve Sep 26-27 Mon, Tue	Sep 15 Fri Eve Sep 16-17 Sat, Sun
	Yom Kippur Day of Atonement. The most solemn Holy Day devoted to prayer, repentance, and fasting.	Oct 03 Fri Eve Oct 4 Sat	Sep 22 Tue Eve Sep 23 Wed	Oct 11 Tue Eve Oct 12 Wed	Sep 29 Fri Eve Sep 30 Sat	Sep 18 Tue Eve Sep 19 Wed	Oct 8 Tue Eve Oct 9 Wed	Sep 27 Tue Eve Sep 28 Mon	Sep 15 Wed Eve Sep 16 Thu	Oct 4 Tue Eve Oct 5 Wed	Sep 24 Sun Eve Sep 25 Mon
	Sukkot Festival of Booths. Fall harvest festival of thanksgiving.	Oct 8 Wed Eve Oct 9-10 Thu, Fri	Sep 27 Tue Eve Sep 28-29 Mon, Tue	Oct 16 Sun Eve Oct 17-18 Mon, Tue	Oct 4 Wed Eve Oct 5-6 Thu, Fri	Sep 23 Sun Eve Sep 24-25 Mon, Tue	Oct 13 Sun Eve Oct 14-15 Mon, Tue	Oct 2 Fri Eve Oct 3-4 Sat, Sun	Sep 20 Mon Eve Sep 21-22 Tue, Wed	Oct 9 Sun Eve Oct 10-11 Mon, Tue	Fri Sep 29 Fri Eve Sep 30-Oct 1 Sat, Sun
	Shmini Atzeret Eighth Day of Assembly (in Israel, combined with Simchat Torah)	Oct 15 Wed Eve Oct 16 Thu	Oct 4 Sun Eve Oct 05 Mon	Oct 23 Sun Eve Oct 24 Mon	Oct 11 Wed Eve Oct 12 Thu	Sep 30 Sun Eve Oct 1 Mon	Oct 20 Sun Eve Oct 21 Mon	Oct 9 Fri Eve Oct 10 Sat	Sep 27 Mon Eve Sep 28 Tue	Oct 16 Sun Eve Oct 17 Mon	Oct 6 Fri Eve Oct 07 Sat
	Simchat Torah Celebrates the conclusion of the yearlong cycle of reading the Torah (5 Books of Moses) and renewing the cycle.	Oct 16 Thu Eve Oct 17 Fri	Oct 5 Mon Eve Oct 06 Tue	Oct 24 Mon Eve Oct 25 Tue	Oct 12 Thu Eve Oct 13 Fri	Oct 1 Mon Eve Oct 2 Tue	Oct 21 Mon Eve Oct 22 Tue	Oct 10 Sat Eve Oct 11 Sun	Sep 28 Tue Eve Sep 29 Wed	Oct 17 Mon Eve Oct 18 Tue	Oct 7 Sat Eve Oct 8 Sun
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Pesach (Passover) Festival of Freedom, recounting the deliverance from slavery and the spring harvest. This is an 8 day observance and includes special dietary rules. The first two and last two days are observed as Holy Days.	Apr 3 Fri Eve Apr 4-5 Sat, Sun Apr 9 Thu Eve Apr 10-11 Fri, Sat	Apr 22 Fri Eve Apr 23-24 Sat, Sun Apr 28 Thu Eve Apr 29-30 Fri, Sat	Apr 10 Mon Eve Apr 11-12 Tue, Wed Apr 16 Sun Eve Apr 17-18 Mon, Tue	Mar 30 Fri Eve Mar 31-Apr 1 Sat, Sun Apr 5 Thu Eve Apr 6-7 Fri, Sat	Apr 19 Fri Eve Apr 20-21 Sat, Sun Apr 25 Thu Eve Apr 26-27 Fri, Sat	Apr 8 Wed Eve Apr 9-10 Thu, Fri Apr 14 Tue Eve Apr 15-16 Wed, Thu	Mar 27 Sat Eve Mar 28-29 Sun, Mon Apr 2 Fri Eve Apr 3-4 Sat, Sun	Apr 15 Fri Eve Apr 16-17 Sat, Sun Apr 21 Thu Eve Apr 22-23 Fri, Sat	Apr 05 Wed Eve Apr 6-7 Thu, Fri Apr 11 Tue Eve Apr 12-13 Wed, Thu	Apr 22 Mon Eve Apr 23-24 Tue, Wed Apr 28 Sun Eve Apr 29-30 Mon, Tue
	Shavuot - Festival of Weeks Marks the giving of the Torah (revelation) on Mt. Sinai and the summer harvest.	May 23 Sat Eve May 24-25 Sun, Mon	Jun 11 Sat Eve Jun 12-13 Sun, Mon	May 30 Tue Eve May 31-Jun 1 Wed, Thu	May 19 Sat Eve May 20-21 Sun, Mon	Jun 8 Sat Eve Jun 9-10 Sun, Mon	May 28 Thu Eve May 29-30 Fri, Sat	May 16 Sun Eve May 17-18 Mon, Tue	Jun 4 Sat Eve Jun 5-6 Sun, Mon	May 25 Thu Eve May 26-27 Fri, Sat	Jun 11 Tue Eve Jun 12-13 Wed, Thu