

Explanation of Holidays

ROSH HASHANAH

Marks the beginning of the Jewish year and the period considered the High Holy Days.

YOM KIPPUR

Day of Atonement and the holiest day of the Jewish year.

SUKKOT

Eight-day harvest and thanksgiving festival.

SHEMINI ATZERET

Eighth and final day of Sukkot.

SIMCHAT TORAH

Celebrates the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Hebrew Bible (Torah) and the beginning of the next cycle.

CHANUKAH*

Eight-day festival of lights.

PURIM*

Festive holiday celebrates the rescue of the Jewish community recounted in the Book of Esther.

PASSOVER

Eight-day festival commemorates the exodus of Jews from slavery in Egypt. The first two and last two days are observed as holy days.

SHAVUOT

Commemorates the receiving of the Torah by the Israelites on Mt. Sinai.

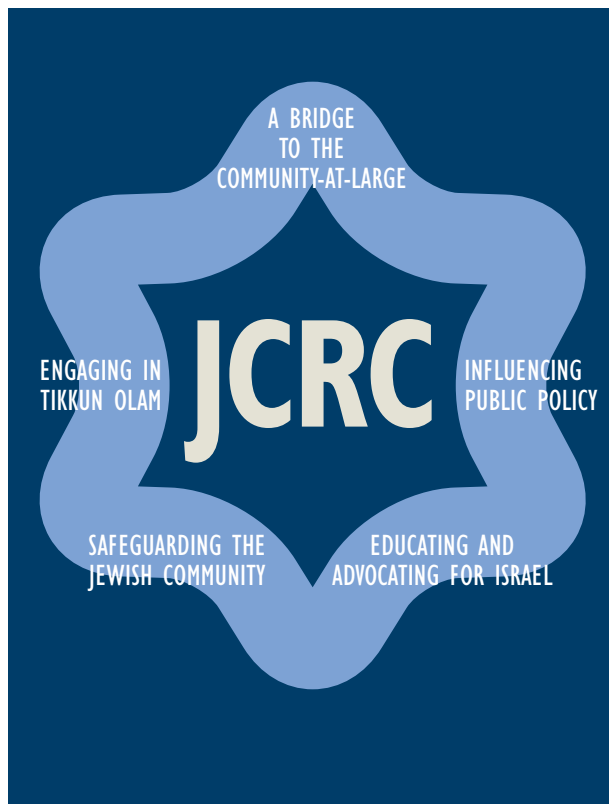
SHABBAT

The Jewish Sabbath is observed every Saturday. It reflects God's rest on the seventh day and is considered to be a day dedicated to prayer, reflection and rest. Observant Jews are unable to participate in secular events occurring between sunset on Friday and sunset on Saturday.

All dates in **red** are High Holy Days.

All dates in **blue** are Holy Days.

***It is permissible to work and attend school on these holidays.**



Vision and Mission

The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation envisions a just community that reflects American and Jewish values.

Its mission is to speak as the representative of the Jewish community on issues of public affairs and public policy by convening and mobilizing the Jewish community through education, advocacy, social justice and support for Israel.

To learn more about Jewish holidays, culture or the Jewish community, contact the Jewish Community Relations Council.
414-390-5781 • JCRC@MilwaukeeJewish.org

5 YEAR

JEWISH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 2016-2021

A Planning & Scheduling Guide for:

- School Administrators
- Teachers and Coaches
- Government Agencies
- Private Employers



**Jewish Community
Relations Council**
MILWAUKEE
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5-YEAR CALENDAR OF MAJOR JEWISH HOLIDAYS & RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

During observance of these major holidays, work is traditionally prohibited. As a result, Jewish individuals may be absent from work and school.

All dates in **red** are High Holy Days: Expect virtually *all* Jewish students and staff to be absent. All dates in **blue** are Holy Days: Expect *some* Jewish students to be absent.

Jewish holidays begin at sunset on the evening preceding the holiday.

WEEKLY	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SHABBAT The Jewish Sabbath	Every Friday eve through Saturday eve	Every Friday eve through Saturday eve	Every Friday eve through Saturday eve	Every Friday eve through Saturday eve	Every Friday eve through Saturday eve
FALL	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ROSH HASHANAH Jewish New Year	October 3, 4 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 2)	September 21, 22 Thurs. & Fri. (begins at sunset Sept. 20)	September 10, 11 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Sept. 9)	September 30, October 1 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Sept. 29)	September 19, 20 Sat. & Sun. (begins at sunset Sept. 18)
YOM KIPPUR Day of Atonement	October 12 Wednesday (begins at sunset Oct. 11)	September 30 Saturday (begins at sunset Sept. 29)	September 19 Wednesday (begins at sunset Sept. 18)	October 9 Wednesday (begins at sunset Oct. 8)	September 28 Monday (begins at sunset Sept. 27)
SUKKOT Feast of Tabernacles	October 17, 18 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 16)	October 5, 6 Thurs. & Fri. (begins at sunset Oct. 4)	September 24, 25 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Sept. 23)	October 14, 15 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 13)	October 3, 4 Sat. & Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 2)
SHEMINI ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH Closing of High Holidays	October 24, 25 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 23)	October 12, 13 Thurs. & Fri. (begins at sunset Oct. 11)	October 1, 2 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Sept. 30)	October 21, 22 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 20)	October 10, 11 Sat. & Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 9)
CHANUKAH* Festival of Lights	December 25-January 1 Sun.-Sun. (begins at sunset Dec. 24)	December 13-20 Wed.-Wed. (begins at sunset Dec. 12)	December 3-10 Mon.-Mon. (begins at sunset Dec. 2)	December 23-30 Mon.-Mon. (begins at sunset Dec. 22)	December 11-18 Fri.-Fri. (begins at sunset Dec. 10)
SPRING	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PURIM* Festival of Esther	March 12 Sunday (begins at sunset March 11)	March 1 Thursday (begins at sunset Feb. 28)	March 21 Thursday (begins at sunset March 20)	March 10 Tuesday (begins at sunset March 9)	February 26 Friday (begins at sunset Feb. 25)
PASSOVER Observes the exodus of Jews from slavery in Egypt. The first 2 and last 2 days are holy days.	April 11-18 Tues.-Tues. (begins at sunset April 10)	March 31-April 7 Sat.-Sat. (begins at sunset March 30)	April 20-27 Sat.-Sat. (begins at sunset April 19)	April 9-16 Thurs.-Thurs. (begins at sunset April 8)	March 28-April 4 Sun.-Sun. (begins at sunset March 27)
SHAVUOT Feast of Weeks	May 31-June 1 Wed. & Thurs. (begins at sunset May 30)	May 20, 21 Sun. & Mon. (begins at sunset May 19)	June 9, 10 Sun.-Mon. (begins at sunset June 8)	May 29, 30 Fri. & Sat. (begins at sunset May 28)	May 17, 18 Mon.-Tues. (begins at sunset May 16)

***It is permissible to go to work and attend school on these holidays. This calendar is also available online at MilwaukeeJewish.org/JCRC.**