

## 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.

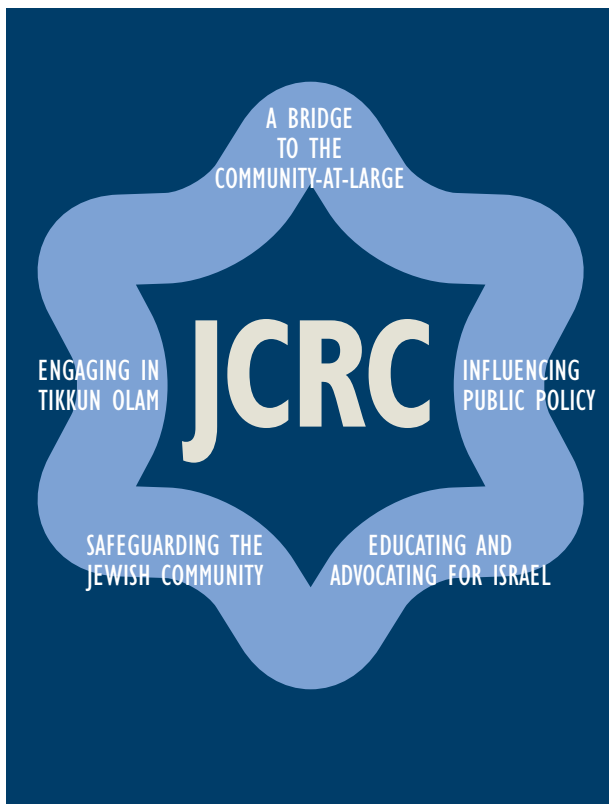
### **SHABBAT**

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](mailto:JCRC@MilwaukeeJewish.org)

# 5 YEAR JEWISH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 2018-2023

A Planning & Scheduling Guide for:

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



**Jewish Community  
Relations Council**  
**MILWAUKEE**  
JEWISH FEDERATION

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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	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>SHABBAT</b> 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	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>ROSH HASHANAH</b> Jewish New Year	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)	September 7, 8 Tues. & Wed. (begins at sunset Sept. 6)	September 26, 27 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Sept. 25)
<b>YOM KIPPUR</b> Day of Atonement	September 19 Wednesday (begins at sunset Sept. 18)	October 9 Wednesday (begins at sunset Oct. 8)	September 28 Monday (begins at sunset Sept. 27)	September 16 Thursday (begins at sunset Sept. 15)	October 5 Wednesday (begins at sunset Oct. 4)
<b>SUKKOT</b> Feast of Tabernacles	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)	September 21, 22 Tues. & Wed. (begins at sunset Sept. 20)	October 10, 11 Mon. & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 9)
<b>SHEMINI ATZERET &amp; SIMCHAT TORAH</b> Closing of High Holidays	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)	September 28, 29 Tues. & Wed. (begins at sunset Sept. 27)	October 17, 18 Mon & Tues. (begins at sunset Oct. 16)
<b>CHANUKAH*</b> Festival of Lights	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)	Nov. 29-Dec. 6 Mon.-Mon. (begins at sunset Nov. 28)	December 19-26 Mon.-Mon. (begins at sunset Dec. 18)
SPRING	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>PURIM*</b> Festival of Esther	March 21 Thursday (begins at sunset March 20)	March 10 Tuesday (begins at sunset March 9)	February 26 Friday (begins at sunset Feb. 25)	March 17 Thursday (begins at sunset March 16)	March 7 Tuesday (begins at sunset March 6)
<b>PASSOVER</b> Observes the exodus of Jews from slavery in Egypt. The first 2 and last 2 days are holy days.	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)	April 16-23 Sat-Sat. (begins at sunset April 15)	April 6-13 Thurs.-Thurs. (begins at sunset April 5)
<b>SHAVUOT</b> Feast of Weeks	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)	June 5, 6 Sun. & Mon. (begins at sunset June 4)	May 26, 27 Fri.-Sat. (begins at sunset May 25)

\*It is permissible to go to work and attend school on these holidays. This calendar is also available online at [MilwaukeeJewish.org/JCRC](http://MilwaukeeJewish.org/JCRC).