

Jewish calendar for 2009

All dates are shown using the Gregorian (Western) calendar.

Jewish festivals usually begin at sunset on the day before the date given.

Tuesday 6 January

10th Tevet

An important Jewish fast day.

Tuesday 27 January

National Holocaust Memorial Day

The UK Holocaust Memorial Day was first held in January 2001. The date was chosen as the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Monday 9 February

Tu B'Shevat

The Jewish New Year for trees - For religious accounting purposes all trees have their anniversaries on this festival, regardless of when they were planted.

Monday 9 March

Fast of Esther (Taanit Esther)

A fast in commemoration of the fast of Mordechai and Esther. This is not a major Jewish fast.

Tuesday 10 March

Purim

Purim commemorates the time when the Jewish people living in Persia were saved from extermination by the courage of a young Jewish woman called Esther.

Wednesday 11 March

Shushan Purim

In some places Purim is celebrated one day later. In this case it is called Shushan Purim.

Wednesday 8 April

Fast of the Firstborn

Observed only by firstborn males, on the day before Passover. This fast celebrates the survival of Jewish firstborn sons from the 10th Plague of Egypt.

Thursday 9 April

Passover (1st day)

The start of the season of Passover when Jews commemorate the liberation of the Children of Israel who were led out of Egypt by Moses. Work is not permitted on the first two and the last two days of Passover.

Thursday 16 April

Passover (final day)

The eighth and final day of Passover. Note that Passover lasts for seven days in Israel.

Tuesday 21 April

Yom Hashoah

The Jewish Holocaust Memorial Day. The date is chosen as the closest date (in the Jewish calendar) to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Tuesday 28 April

Yom Hazikaron

A day of remembrance on the day preceding Israel's Independence Day.

Wednesday 29 April

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Israel's Independence Day

Tuesday 12 May

Lag B'Omer

A minor holiday on the 33rd day of the Omer commemorating a break in the plague during the lifetime of Rabbi Akiva.

Friday 22 May

Yom Yerushalayim

Jerusalem Day

Friday 29 May

Shavuot (1st day)

Shavuot is a two-day festival that marks the time when the first harvest was taken to the Temple. Also known as the Festival of Weeks. Work is not permitted for the duration of the festival.

Thursday 9 July

17th Tammuz

An important Jewish fast day.

Thursday 30 July

Tisha B'Av

A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years, many of which have coincidentally happened on this day.

Saturday 19 September

Rosh Hashanah (1st day)

Jewish New Year. A two-day festival during which work is not permitted.

Monday 21 September

Fast of Gedalliah

Fast in memory of the assassination of Gedalliah Ben Achikam, the Governor of Israel during the days of Nebuchadnetzar, King of Babylonia.

Monday 28 September

Yom Kippur

Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.

Saturday 3 October

Sukkot

Sukkot or The Feast of Tabernacles, commemorates the years that the Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land, and celebrates the way in which God took special care of them under impossible conditions. Sukkot lasts for seven days, and work is not permitted on the first two days.

Friday 9 October

Hoshanah Rabbah

The 7th day of Sukkot.

Saturday 10 October

Shemini Atzeret

Shemini Atzeret can be translated as "the assembly of the eighth (day)." In Israel the festival is combined with Simchat Torah.

Sunday 11 October

Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah means "Rejoicing in the Torah." This holiday marks the completion of the yearly cycle of weekly Torah readings.

Saturday 12 December

Hanukkah

Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple by the Maccabees in 164 BCE. Hanukkah is celebrated at roughly the same time as Christmas, but there is no connection at all between the festivals.

Thursday 17 December

10th Tevet

An important Jewish fast day.

Jewish calendar for 2010

Wednesday 27 January

National Holocaust Memorial Day

The UK Holocaust Memorial Day was first held in January 2001. The date was chosen as the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Saturday 30 January

Tu B'Shevat

The Jewish New Year for trees - For religious accounting purposes all trees have their anniversaries on this festival, regardless of when they were planted.

Thursday 25 February

Fast of Esther (Taanit Esther)

A fast in commemoration of the fast of Mordechai and Esther. This is not a major Jewish fast.

Sunday 28 February

Purim

Purim commemorates the time when the Jewish people living in Persia were saved from extermination by the courage of a young Jewish woman called Esther.

Monday 1 March

Shushan Purim

In some places Purim is celebrated one day later. In this case it is called Shushan Purim.

Monday 29 March

Fast of the Firstborn

Observed only by firstborn males, on the day before Passover. This fast celebrates the survival of Jewish firstborn sons from the 10th Plague of Egypt.

Tuesday 30 March

Passover (1st day)

The start of the season of Passover when Jews commemorate the liberation of the Children of Israel who were led out of Egypt by Moses. Work is not permitted on the first two and the last two days of Passover.

Tuesday 6 April

Passover (final day)

The eighth and final day of Passover. Note that Passover lasts for seven days in Israel.

Sunday 11 April

Yom Hashoah

The Jewish Holocaust Memorial Day. The date is chosen as the closest date (in the Jewish calendar) to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Sunday 18 April

Yom Hazikaron

A day of remembrance on the day preceding Israel's Independence Day.

Monday 19 April

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Israel's Independence Day

Sunday 2 May

Lag B'Omer

A minor holiday on the 33rd day of the Omer commemorating a break in the plague during the lifetime of Rabbi Akiva.

Wednesday 12 May

Yom Yerushalayim

Jerusalem Day

Wednesday 19 May

Shavuot (1st day)

Shavuot is a two-day festival that marks the time when the first harvest was taken to the Temple. Also known as the Festival of Weeks. Work is not permitted for the duration of the festival.

Tuesday 29 June

17th Tammuz

An important Jewish fast day.

Tuesday 20 July

Tisha B'Av

A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years, many of which have coincidentally happened on this day.

Thursday 9 September

Rosh Hashanah (1st day)

Jewish New Year. A two-day festival during which work is not permitted.

Saturday 11 September

Fast of Gedalliah

Fast in memory of the assassination of Gedalliah Ben Achikam, the Governor of Israel during the days of Nebuchadnetzar, King of Babylonia.

Saturday 18 September

Yom Kippur

Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.

Thursday 23 September

Sukkot

Sukkot or The Feast of Tabernacles, commemorates the years that the Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land, and celebrates the way in which God took special care of them under impossible conditions. Sukkot lasts for seven days, and work is not permitted on the first two days.

Wednesday 29 September

Hoshanah Rabbah

The 7th day of Sukkot.

Thursday 30 September

Shemini Atzeret

Shemini Atzeret can be translated as "the assembly of the eighth (day)." In Israel the festival is combined with Simchat Torah.

Friday 1 October

Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah means "Rejoicing in the Torah." This holiday marks the completion of the yearly cycle of weekly Torah readings.

Thursday 2 December

Hanukkah

Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple by the Maccabees in 164 BCE. Hanukkah is celebrated at roughly the same time as Christmas, but there is no connection at all between the festivals.

Jewish calendar for 2011

Wednesday 5 January

10th Tevet

An important Jewish fast day.

Thursday 20 January

Tu B'Shevat

The Jewish New Year for trees - For religious accounting purposes all trees have their anniversaries on this festival, regardless of when they were planted.

Thursday 27 January

National Holocaust Memorial Day

The UK Holocaust Memorial Day was first held in January 2001. The date was chosen as the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Thursday 17 March

Fast of Esther (Taanit Esther)

A fast in commemoration of the fast of Mordechai and Esther. This is not a major Jewish fast.

Sunday 20 March

Purim

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Monday 21 March

Shushan Purim

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Monday 18 April

Fast of the Firstborn

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Tuesday 19 April

Passover (1st day)

The start of the season of Passover when Jews commemorate the liberation of the Children of Israel who were led out of Egypt by Moses. Work is not permitted on the first two and the last two days of Passover.

Tuesday 26 April

Passover (final day)

The eighth and final day of Passover. Note that Passover lasts for seven days in Israel.

Sunday 1 May

Yom Hashoah

The Jewish Holocaust Memorial Day. The date is chosen as the closest date (in the Jewish calendar) to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Sunday 8 May

Yom Hazikaron

A day of remembrance on the day preceding Israel's Independence Day.

Monday 9 May

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Israel's Independence Day

Sunday 22 May

Lag B'Omer

A minor holiday on the 33rd day of the Omer commemorating a break in the plague during the lifetime of Rabbi Akiva.

Wednesday 1 June

Yom Yerushalayim

Jerusalem Day

Wednesday 8 June

Shavuot (1st day)

Shavuot is a two-day festival that marks the time when the first harvest was taken to the Temple. Also known as the Festival of Weeks. Work is not permitted for the duration of the festival.

Tuesday 19 July

17th Tammuz

An important Jewish fast day.

Tuesday 9 August

Tisha B'Av

A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years, many of which have coincidentally happened on this day.

Thursday 29 September

Rosh Hashanah (1st day)

Jewish New Year. A two-day festival during which work is not permitted.

Saturday 1 October

Fast of Gedalliah

Fast in memory of the assassination of Gedalliah Ben Achikam, the Governor of Israel during the days of Nebuchadnetzar, King of Babylonia.

Saturday 8 October

Yom Kippur

Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.

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Sukkot

Sukkot or The Feast of Tabernacles, commemorates the years that the Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land, and celebrates the way in which God took special care of them under impossible conditions. Sukkot lasts for seven days, and work is not permitted on the first two days.

Wednesday 19 October

Hoshanah Rabbah

The 7th day of Sukkot.

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Shemini Atzeret

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Simchat Torah

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Tuesday 13 December

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Hanukkah

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Jewish calendar for 2012

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The Jewish Holocaust Memorial Day. The date is chosen as the closest date (in the Jewish calendar) to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

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Yom Hazikaron

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Thursday 26 April

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Israel's Independence Day

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Jewish calendar for 2014

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