

EXPLANATION OF HOLIDAYS

ROSH HASHANAH

Jewish New Year, marks the beginning of the period considered the High Holy Days.

YOM KIPPUR

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

SUKKOT

Eight-day harvest and thanksgiving festival.

SHEMINI ATZERET

Marks the final day of Sukkot.

SIMCHAT TORAH

Joyous holiday that marks the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Torah (Hebrew Bible) and the beginning of the next cycle.

CHANUKAH*

Eight-day festival of lights.

PURIM*

Celebrates the rescue of the Jewish community recounted in the Book of Esther.

PASSOVER

Commemorates the Jewish exodus from Egypt. Work is allowed during the middle days of Passover.

SHAVUOT

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

SHABBAT

The Jewish Sabbath is observed every Friday evening to Saturday evening. Observant Jews refrain from work to devote time to prayer, reflection and rest.

To learn more about Jewish holidays, culture, or the local community, visit:
JewishVA.org/JCRC

For a printable version of this calendar, visit:
JewishVA.org/5-Year

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

RESOURCES & TOOLS FOR ADDRESSING ANTISEMITISM, BIAS, & HATE

JEWISHVA.ORG/COMBATANTISEMITISM

- ADL's [Antisemitism Uncovered: A Guide to Old Myths in a New Era](#)
- AJC's [Translate Hate](#)
- AJC's [Short Guide to Jewish Religion, Culture, and Holiday Observances](#)
- AJC's [Call to Action Against Antisemitism in America Action Guides](#)
- SCN's [Introduction to Judaism: For Law Enforcement Officers and Security Professionals](#) (A valuable resource for all readers)
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's [Resources on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial](#)

ABOUT THE JCRC

The Jewish Community Relations Council of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater (JCRC) convenes, educates, and acts on behalf of the local Jewish community. As a convener of leaders and communities, the JCRC fosters partnerships, provides meaningful educational and engagement opportunities, and builds consensus in pursuit of justice. The JCRC is a trusted resource for our diverse community, a partner for our political and faith-based allies, and a mobilizer of advocacy on the critical issues facing the Tidewater Jewish community.

5 YEAR JEWISH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 2026-2031

A planning & scheduling guide for:

School Administrators, Teachers and Coaches, Government Agencies, Private Employers, Civic Organizations, & Nonprofits



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5 YEAR CALENDAR OF MAJOR JEWISH HOLIDAYS & RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

The Jewish Community Relations Council has prepared this 5-year calendar of Jewish holidays as an aid for planning and scheduling events to minimize conflicts that involve the absence of Jewish community members.

Some members of the Jewish community will not participate in events during Shabbat. Chanukah and Purim do not require an absence from school or work.

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

	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
ROSH HASHANAH Jewish New Year	September 12-13 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Sept. 11)	October 2-3 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 1)	September 21-22 Thu.-Fri. (begins at sunset Sept. 20)	September 10-11 Mon.-Tue. (begins at sunset Sept. 9)	September 28-29 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Sept. 27)
YOM KIPPUR Day of Atonement	September 21 Monday (begins at sunset Sept. 20)	October 11 Monday (begins at sunset Oct. 10)	September 30 Saturday (begins at sunset Sept. 29)	September 19 Wednesday (begins at sunset Sept. 18)	October 7 Monday (begins at sunset Oct. 6)
SUKKOT Eight-day harvest and thanksgiving festival. Labor is traditionally prohibited on the first two days of Sukkot.	September 26-27 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Sept. 25)	October 16-17 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 15)	October 5-6 Thu.-Fri. (begins at sunset Oct. 4)	September 24-25 Mon.-Tue. (begins at sunset Sept. 23)	October 12-13 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 11)
SHEMINI ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH The end of Sukkot and closing of the High Holiday season.	October 3-4 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 2)	October 23-24 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 22)	October 12-13 Thu.-Fri. (begins at sunset Oct. 11)	October 1-2 Mon.-Tue. (begins at sunset Sept. 30)	October 19-20 Sat.-Sun. (begins at sunset Oct. 18)
CHANUKAH* Festival of Lights	December 5-12 Sat.-Sat. (begins at sunset Dec. 4)	December 25- January 1 Sat.-Sat. (begins at sunset Dec. 24)	December 13-20 Wed.-Wed. (begins at sunset Dec. 12)	December 2-9 Sun.-Sun. (begins at sunset Dec. 1)	December 21-28 Sat.-Sat. (begins at sunset Dec. 20)
PURIM* Festival of Esther	March 23 Tuesday (begins at sunset Mar. 22)	March 12 Sunday (begins at sunset Mar. 11)	March 1 Thursday (begins at sunset Feb. 28)	March 19 Tuesday (begins at sunset Mar. 18)	March 9 Sunday (begins at sunset Mar. 8)
PASSOVER Commemorates the Exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt	April 22-29 Thu.-Thu. (begins at sunset April 21)	April 11-18 Tue.-Tue. (begins at sunset April 10)	March 31-April 7 Sat.-Sat. (begins at sunset Mar. 30)	April 18-25 Thu.-Thu. (begins at sunset April 17)	April 8-15 Tue.-Tue. (begins at sunset April 7)
SHAVUOT Feast of Weeks	June 11-12 Fri.-Sat. (begins at sunset June 10)	May 31- June 1 Wed.-Thu. (begins at sunset May 30)	May 20-21 Sun.-Mon. (begins at sunset May 19)	June 7-8 Fri.-Sat. (begins at sunset June 6)	May 28-29 Wed.-Thu. (begins at sunset May 27)

*It is permissible to work and attend school on these holidays. This calendar is also available online at JewishVA.org/5-Year