

MAY 2022

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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JEWISH CALENDAR

The Hebrew calendar is a **lunisolar** calendar, which indicates both the moon phase and the time of the solar year.

A Jewish calendar day does not begin at midnight, but at either sunset or when 3 medium sized stars should be visible.

Therefore, most Jewish holidays begin at sundown and end at sundown.

2022 JEWISH HOLIDAYS

4/15-4/23
PASSOVER



A celebration of the exodus of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The holiday begins with a Seder (a traditional meal) where the story of the exodus is recounted. Many Jewish people do not eat bread or other grains for the 8 days of Passover.

5/3-5/4
YOM
HAZIKARON



A day commemorating the soldiers who have fallen fighting for Israel's independence and defending its security.

3/16-3/17
PURIM



A joyous festival celebrated with costumes and noise makers to commemorate the survival of the Jewish people in 5th century BCE, who were marked for death by their Persian rulers.

4/27- 4/28
YOM
HASHOAH



A day to mourn the loss of six million Jewish lives lost during the Holocaust.

5/4-5/5
YOM
HAATZMAUT



A day celebrating the independence of the State of Israel.

2022 JEWISH HOLIDAYS

9/25–9/27
ROSH
HASHANAH

The Jewish New Year. The holiday is observed with apples & honey, festive meals and a day spent in prayer.

10/9–10/16
SUKKOT

A celebration of the fall harvest. It commemorates the protection of the Jewish people when they left Egypt. Sukkot is celebrated by building a foliage-covered booth (a sukkah) where many Jewish people eat meals, or spend time during the holiday.

6/4–6/6
SHAVUOT

A celebration of the giving of the Torah to the Jewish people.

10/4–10/5
YOM KIPPUR

The Jewish Day of Atonement. It is the most solemn day of the Jewish Year. A day devoted to self-examination, and the chance to begin the New Year with a clean slate. Many Jewish people fast on the day of Yom Kippur.

12/18–12/26
HANUKKAH

A celebration of the recovery of Jerusalem and the holy temple during the Maccabean revolt. It is observed for 8 days and nights, by lighting candles, eating festive foods, singing songs, playing dreidel, and giving and receiving gifts.

JEWISH CUISINE

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PURIM: Hamentashen



PASSOVER: Matzo Ball Soup Charoset



HANUKKAH: Potato Latkes Sufganiyot



YOM KIPPUR: Bagels & Lox



ROSH HASHANAH: Jewish Brisket Noodle Kugel

Click each dish name for a recipe written by a Jewish chef



MYTH BUSTERS

1. MYTH: Being Jewish means being religious

FACT: Some Jewish people consider religious practices as an important part of their identity, but others identify with ethnic, ancestral, or cultural ties to Judaism.

2. MYTH: Anti-Semitism is no longer a problem

FACT: Anti-semitic stereotypes and conspiracy theories, such as global domination schemes, greed, or undying loyalty to Israel are prevalent, and hate crimes targeted at Jewish people have increased in recent years.

3. MYTH: Being Jewish is synonymous with supporting Israeli government.

FACT: Many Jewish Americans feel a strong connection to Israel, and support its existence as a part of their Jewish identity. However, much like the general American public, Jewish Americans have diverse opinions on actions of the Israeli government.

4. MYTH: Hanukkah is a major Jewish holiday

FACT: Hanukkah is probably the most well-known holiday, since it falls around the same time as Christmas. However, Hanukkah has little religious significance compared to other "high holidays" such as Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur.

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MOVIES

Three major Oscar contenders this year had Jewish ties:

- 1) Steven Spielberg & Tony Kushner's remake of "West Side Story"
- 2) "Licorice Pizza" stars Jewish rock musician Alana Haim as a young aspiring actress in the 1970's
- 3) "The Tragedy of Macbeth" marks the solo directing debut for Joel Coen, one of the greatest Jewish filmmakers of the modern era



MUSIC

- Black and Jewish rapper Doja Cat became one of the world's most streamed artists
- Jack Antonoff, a Jewish producer, won a Grammy for his work on Taylor Swift's "Folklore"



WEST SIDE STORY

TELEVISION

- Netflix reality series "My Unorthodox Life" following controversy of "ex-Orthodox" family
- Jewish actress Mayim Bialik was crowned co-host of Jeopardy!
- HBO phenomenon "Succession" introduced a Jewish character



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JEWISH CELEBRITIES

