

June-July 2024 | Iyar, Sivan, Tammuz

Hebrew word: גיבורים (Giborim)
Heroes

Jewish Holidays:

Yom Yerushalayim Jerusalem Day - 28th of Iyar

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

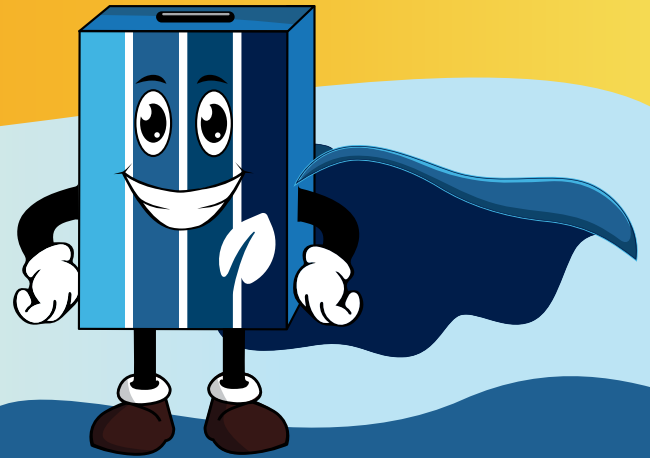
Celebrating the heart of Israel!

Yom Yerushalayim is an Israeli national holiday commemorating the reunification of the city of Jerusalem in 1967. The Chief Rabbinate of Israel declared Jerusalem Day a minor religious holiday for answering the 2,000-year old prayer of "Next Year in Jerusalem". This year we commemorate the 55th anniversary of Jerusalem's reunification.



Jerusalem Day is normally an exciting time to be in Jerusalem! Events are spread over several days. Parents have many options on how to celebrate this special day:

- Family Fun Day at the Tower of David - face painting, balloon art, "instush Museum" and more. Plus performances by well-known and loved Israeli artists.
- Annual Jerusalem Flag Parade - walk the streets of the city with thousands of marchers dancing in the streets.
- Jerusalem of Joy: Performance in the Sultan's Pool - this is a spectacular show, with performances by the best artists.
- A festive prayer at the Western Wall, to mark the 55th anniversary of the liberation of the city. The prayer will be accompanied by the unfolding of a giant Israeli flag and dancing.



Did you know?

- Jerusalem is the largest city in Israel and the capital of the country.
- Jerusalem has more than 2,000 active archaeological sites.
- It is not uncommon for it to snow in Jerusalem in the winter, and even summer nights can get chilly and yet, the capital city of Israel is practically surrounded by the desert.
- Jerusalem is a walled city: its walls are about 2.5 miles long, 49 feet tall, and 8 feet thick.
- Municipal law requires all structures to be covered in Jerusalem stone.
- Jerusalem's emblem has a lion, a wall and an olive branch.
- The Israel Museum is home to the Dead Sea Scrolls, some of the oldest Biblical manuscripts ever found.





Shavuot

**Evening of June 11
to the evening
of June 13, 2024,
the sixth of Sivan**

Shavuot means 'weeks' in Hebrew and the festival is also referred to as "the Feast of Weeks" because the festival falls seven weeks after Passover. In an agricultural sense, Shavuot marks the beginning of the wheat harvest. On Shavuot we celebrate G-d giving the Torah to the Israelites at Mount Sinai. Traditionally, we celebrate the holiday by eating dairy products and decorating homes and synagogues with flowers and fruits.

Did you know?

- Many young Israelis mark the festival with a full blown water fight. Maybe because it's so hot on Shavuot.
- Shavuot is a time for kids to wear white, don their flower crowns and straw baskets filled with fruits and vegetables that is called italicize tene in Hebrew.
- It is interesting to note that the date of Shavuot is not given in the Bible, it is simply the 50th day after bringing to the temple the first sheaf of barley.
- Visit a kibbutz or moshav - they make a big fuss of Shavuot. They have great ceremonies including kids riding on the back of a tractor. Israeli farmers use this holiday to display their hard work which is absolutely delicious!!
- In June and July, summer is in full swing in Israel. You can expect soaring daytime highs and little to no precipitation. The coastal cities are bustling, and the beaches are full of locals and tourists cooling off in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Each July, Jewish dancers from around the world come to Karmiel to participate in the Israeli Folk Dance Festival, which is filled with performances, workshops, and cultural events.
- Jerusalem Arts and Crafts Festival - dozens of artists showcase and sell their creations. Visitors can watch artists work and attend live concerts and dance performances.



Blue's Favourite Activities for Yom Yerushalayim.



Gates of Jerusalem Collage Art

[Link to Activity](#)



Important Sights in Jerusalem

[Link to Activity](#)



Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda Market

[Link to Activity](#)



Jerusalem Graffiti

[Link to Activity](#)

Blue's Favourite Activities for Shavuot:

Shavuot Decorations Flowers and Vines

[Link to Activity](#)



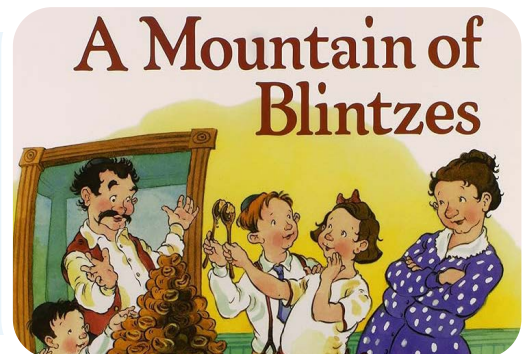
10 Commandments Origami

[Link to Activity](#)



Blue's Favourite Books

1. **In air David** by Sara-Ester Varnai
2. **Snow in Jerusalem** by Deborah da Costa
3. **A Mountain of Blintzes** by Barbara Diamond Goldin
4. **Tossing and the Monkeys - A Shavuot Story**
5. **Kindness is my superpower** by Alicia Ortego



Blue's Favourite *Recipes* for Yom Yerushalayim:

**Jerusalem
Artichoke Salad**
[Link to Activity](#)



**Sweet Sultan
Rice Pudding**
[Link to Activity](#)



Blue's Favourite *Recipes* for Shavuot:



Crepes Suzette
[Link to Activity](#)



**Fried Mozzarella
Veggie Skewers**
[Link to Activity](#)



**Cheese
Cauliflower Fritter**
[Link to Activity](#)



**Apple Pie Yogurt
Cheesecake**
[Link to Activity](#)

Blue's Favourite Playlist





Jerusalem Day

-  Jerusalem Day Jubilee Celebrations, Part III: Hallelujah!
-  Am Yisrael Chai Jerusalem 2024 (English Subtitles) Eyal Golan
-  JERUSALEMA ISRAEL (Hebrew and French version)
-  Shalom Sesame: Grover in Jerusalem



**TOUR
WITH
GROVER**

Shavuot

-  Shavuot Song for Kids What is Shavuot?
-  Chag Shavuot - Morah Leah
-  Sissu v'simhu - Shavuot (Festival of Weeks) Songs
-  HAPPY SHAVUOT, Shavuot SONG

