

March - Adar-Nissan | אדר-ניסן

April - Nissan-Iyar | ניסן-אייר

Hebrew Phrase:

לְדוֹר וָדוֹר - L'Dor V'Dor

From generation to generation;
our responsibility to preserve
our Jewish identity



Photo: Purim in Israel - Adloyada



March 2025

Adar: The 12th month of the Jewish year, corresponding to February-March. Adar has 29 days in an ordinary year and 30 days during a leap year. Adar 7th is the traditional date of the birth and death of Moses. Adar 13th is the Fast of Esther, Adar 14th is Purim, and Adar 15th is Shushan Purim.

Jewish Holiday: Purim

**Evening of Thursday March 13 -
Friday March 14, 2025**

Purim is the most festive Jewish holiday, the holiday celebrates the story of a brave queen named Esther who saved the Jewish people with the help of her uncle Mordechai. We dress up in costumes, eat special cookies called hamantaschen, and read a special story called the "Megillah" in the synagogue, all to remember how Queen Esther was courageous and stood up for what was right.

In Israel, purim celebrations last sometimes two days and spill out into the streets with parades, serious fun for both kids and adults.

Most Jews celebrate Purim on the 14th of Adar. However, Jews in Jerusalem instead observe Purim on the 15 Adar, known as Shushan Purim. (because Jerusalem is a city with a wall from the days of Joshua)

Adloyada: In Israel, Purim is also a common time for desert retreats, circuses, and music festivals. The most notable Purim celebration is the adloyada, this phrase refers to Purim parades. The first adloyada was organized in Tel Aviv in 1912. Today it's organized by the local municipality and features colorful processions of dancers, musicians, cartoonish characters, street performers and kids with their costumes.



Did You Know

- March is a vibrant month in Israel, marked by the transition from winter to spring. As the temperatures begin to rise and the landscape comes to life with blooming flowers and green fields.
- March 1949 Ben-Gurion and Israel's first Government took Office.
- March 1922 - First ever Bat Mitzvah was celebrated in the United States.
- Marathon month: March is Israel's marathon month! The country hosts several races, including the Jerusalem marathon and the Tiberias marathon.
- Bach Festival in Jerusalem - Immerse yourself in the enchanting world of classical music, commemorating the birth of German composer Johann Bach.



Blue's Favourite Activities for Purim



Courage Catcher
[Link to Activity](#)



DIY At- Home Purim Carnival
[Link to Activity](#)



Blue's Purim recipes



Pizza Hamantaschen
[Link to Activity](#)



Apple Hamantaschen Galette
[Link to Activity](#)



Chicken Orzo Soup
[Link to Activity](#)



Tahdig - Crispy Persian Rice
[Link to Activity](#)

Blue's Purim Playlist



- אני פורים - שירים לילדים ב ילדות ישראלית
- מישה מישה
- The Hamantaschen Train| Purim Songs for Kids| Jewish Holidays
- Purim Train



Blue's Favourite Books for Purim

- **A Queen in Jerusalem** by Tami Shem-Tov and Rachella Sandbank
- **Kayla and Kugel's Playful Purim** by Ann D. Koffsky
- **The Big Transformation of Morty the Hamantash** by Sarah Mazor
- **Esther's Gragger- A Toyshop Tale of Purim** by MarthaSeif Simpson



April 2025

Nissan: April in Israel is a month full of excitement, from Pesach celebration to discovering nature, making this the perfect month to take full advantage of the warmer weather. Nature is blooming and the diverse landscapes are even more picturesque. April mild temperatures means that more events can take place outdoors. During the Passover break, when children are not in school, families visit and experience Israel to the fullest.

Israel's northern region is a wonderful place to explore. Spend some time visiting these vibrant port cities that sit along the Mediterranean coast. Each destination has unique outdoor attractions, like Haifa's Baha'i Gardens, Akko's bustling docks and wander the Roman ruins in Caesarea from 2,000 years ago.

Jewish Holiday: Passover

**Evening of Saturday, April 12 -
Sunday, April 20, 2025.**

Passover is a major holiday that celebrates the liberation of the Jews from slavery in Egypt. The festival also symbolizes rebirth, renewal, and the beginning of something new!

The highlight of Passover is the Seder, a family feast that includes eating matzah, bitter herbs, and drinking wine or grape juice. The Seder also includes reading the Haggadah, which tells the story of the exodus from Egypt. During Passover, Jewish people avoid eating anything leavened.

The Passover story emphasizes five major concepts:

- **Memory:** the story of Passover is a reminder of the Israelites slavery in Egypt and their exodus to freedom.
- **Optimism:** With God's help, any difficulty can be overcome.
- **Faith:** the story is rooted in the belief that God supports the Jewish people.
- **Family:** it teaches us that families are the foundation of the world.
- **Responsibility:** it reminds us the importance of remembering the past and using that knowledge to shape the future.



Pastries and sweets for Mimouna

Did You Know

- The word Passover comes from the 10th plague, when the angel of God passed over the houses of the Israelites and were spared from the firstborn plague that was brought upon the Egyptians.
- The Passover holiday has other names; it's sometimes referred to as 'Chag HaMatzot', (festival of unleavened bread). Some people also call it 'Chag HaHerut' (festival of freedom) or 'Chag HaAviv' (festival of spring).
- Some Jews from Iran and Afghanistan have the tradition of whipping each other with green onions before the singing of "Dayenu".
- The five grains that are forbidden to eat on Passover are: wheat, rye, barley, oats and spelt.
- Every Passover, an Israeli bank sponsors free entrance to over 40 museums, national parks, and heritage sites in Israel as part of their social program.
- Mimouna is a festival originally celebrated by Moroccan Jews that has since become a part of mainstream Israeli culture. Held annually at the conclusion of Passover, it is a joyous feast, featuring a mouthwatering variety of delicious Moroccan pastries and sweets. On the following day, many families enjoy the country's parks and gardens, traditionally hosting barbecues and picnics. This year, Mimouna is April 19-20, 2025.



Blue's Favourite Passover Activities



Moses Parting the Red Sea Card

[Link to Activity](#)



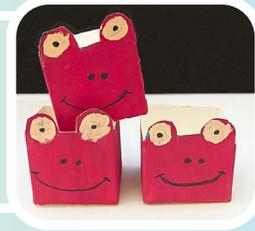
Passover Story Character Puppets

[Link to Activity](#)



Passover Acrostic Poem

[Link to Activity](#)



Milk Carton Frog Passover Craft

[Link to Activity](#)

Blue's Favourite Passover recipes



Cranberry Apple Quinoa Salad

[Link to Activity](#)



Matzo Lasagna

[Link to Activity](#)



Chocolate Caramel Matzo Brittle:

[Link to Activity](#)



Pavlova Cupcakes

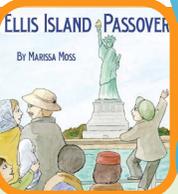
[Link to Activity](#)

Blue's Passover Playlist

- Ma Nishtana (The Four Questions)**
Learn what they mean and how to sing them
- On Passover - The Kiboomers Preschool Songs for Jewish Holidays**
- Six13 - The Red Sea Shanty: A Pirate Passover**
- Pesach Pesach - Passover song in Hebrew & English**



Blue's Favourite Books for Passover



- **Ellis Island Passover** by Marissa Moss
- **The Little Red Hen and the Passover Matzah** by Leslie Kimmelman
- **Happy Passover Edie Rose!** by Joy Preble
- **The Passover Zoo Seder** by S. Daniel Guttman



Big news! As part of JNF Families' mission to help you bring Israel closer to home, you can now access all these fun facts and activities in the Digital Blue Box App. Download it at jnfdigitalbluebox.ca.

