

The Spring Yamim

The Hebrew word yamim (ימים) is the plural form of the word yom or "day," and can refer to a time, a specific age, or a season. In Israel and in the Jewish diaspora, "the spring yamim," refer to three national holidays on the Israeli calendar: Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day), and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day). All three of these yamim, or days, fall sequentially in the late spring, and although distinct, they are grouped together on some level in the consciousness of Jews all around the world.

**Happy
Israel 77!**



Hebrew Phrase

**Gesharim Shel Tikvah,
Bridges of Hope - גשרים של תקווה**

Yom HaShoah

Evening of Wed April 23 - Thurs April 24, 2025

This is the day that Israel and Jewish communities around the world commemorate the victims of the Holocaust, the full name is "Yom Hashoah VeHagvurah"- literally the "Day of Remembrance (of the Holocaust) and the Heroism."



Yom HaShoah is observed on the 27th of Nisan in the Hebrew calendar. In Israel, on the eve of Yom HaShoah and the day itself, places of public entertainment are closed by law, and low-key songs are played on the radio. Flags on public buildings are flown at half mass. Throughout the country, every school, town, city, village, and public institute has a ceremony to mark the event.

Yom Hazikaron

Evening of Tues April 29 - Wed April 30, 2025

A week after Yom Hashoah, Israelis mark Yom Hazikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) to honour and remember those who died fighting for their country and those murdered in terror attacks.



A televised state ceremony is held at the Western Wall and neighborhoods throughout the country hold their own ceremony in public places with the participation of the youth.

On the evening before Israel's Memorial Day and the following morning itself, Israelis collectively stand in silence as a siren sounds, calling us to remember the sacrifices that were made by family and friends for Israel's freedom and security.

Heroic Stories for Children & Teens

A special project was created by Hadassah Ben Ari and other women to help children cope with the events of October 7, through heroic stories and illustrations for children, showing the value of humanity, kindness and hope.



www.giborim-kids.com/en

Yom Ha'atzmaut

**Evening of Wed April 30 -
Thurs May 1, 2025**

Israel Independence Day (Yom Ha'atzmaut) is Israel's birthday. The day Israel became a country, and is celebrated each year on the Hebrew date 5 of Iyar. This year Israel is turning 77 years old!

The major State Ceremony takes place on the eve of Yom Ha'atzmaut at Mount Herzl, Israel's National Ceremony in Jerusalem. This event marks the end of Yom HaZikaron and the beginning of the celebration for Yom Ha'atzmaut. The ceremony involves performances, speeches, and ceremonial lighting of twelve torches which symbolize the twelve Tribes of Israel by twelve citizens who have made a great impact on the country.

At the same time, towns and cities across the country have parties and fireworks displays.

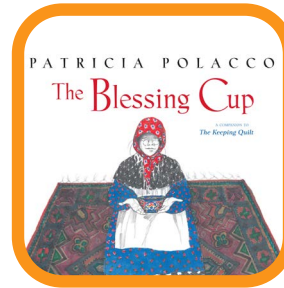
The following day, a famous International Bible Competition, and the ceremony for the Israel Prize which is Israel's highest award and honour. This prize is given each year to about 10 -15 people in the presence of the President, Prime Minister, the Knesset Chairperson, and the Supreme Court president.

Families celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut by flocking to National Parks, hiking trails. They also host barbecues and picnics.



Did You Know

- Israel recycles 90% of its wastewater. It's one of the leading nations in water recycling.
- The most popular sport in Israel is football followed by baseball.
- Israel is the only country in the world to have revived a dead language. Hebrew is now the official language of Israel.
- The national animal of Israel is the gazelle.
- In Israel, scientists succeeded in growing dates from 6th century seeds that were found in Masada and Qumran.
- Israel has a grand total of 137 beaches.
- The water of the Dead Sea is 9.6 times more salty than the water in any ocean on this planet. This water is referred to as "hyper saline".
- Israel's Negev Desert only gets 32 millimeters of rain a year.
- Golda Meir was the 3rd woman in history to serve as a country's prime minister.
- Israel is only 1/4 of 1% of the landmass of the Middle East.



Blue's Favourite Books:

- The Blessing Cup by Patricia Polacco
- Six Million Paper Clips: The Making of a Children's Holocaust Memorial by Peter W. Schroeder and Dagmar Schroeder-Hildebrand
- Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox
- Up to the Sky: A Boy Dreams of Israel by Chana Liora Mega

Blue's Favourite Activities



Israeli Independence Day Flag and Crafts DIY

[Link to Activity](#)



Homemade Sand Clay Recipe

[Link to Activity](#)



How to Tie Star of David Shoelaces

[Link to Activity](#)

Blue's Purim recipes



Zaatar Spiced Crispy Chickpeas

[Link to Activity](#)



Easy Baklava Cups

[Link to Activity](#)



Israeli Tiramisu

[Link to Activity](#)

