



*Chag Sameach!*

# Sukkot

Jewish

soo - kawt



Sukkot, lasting one week, starts five days after the High Holy Day of Yom Kippur and is named after temporary, flimsy shelters called sukkahs that Jews build and dwell in to remind them of the transitory 40 years spent wandering in the desert after they escaped slavery in ancient Egypt. Sukkot also celebrates the bounty of the seasonal harvest.

## Date

- Observed five days after Yom Kippur in September or October.
- Jewish holy days begin and end at sundown.
- Dates may vary depending on how one observes.
- Check the [Calendar Index](#) for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

## Greetings

None for non-Jewish people. Depending on tradition, Jewish people might say, "[Chag Sameach!](#)" (Happy Holiday!) to one another.

## Common Practices and Celebrations

- Building a family sukkah for spending time and eating meals in.
- Visiting family and friends' sukkahs.
- Eating seasonal foods.
- Shemini Atzeret adds an eighth day to the week of celebration, and the Jewish community begins to pray for rain in the land of Israel.

## Common Dietary Restrictions

- Some observers of Judaism follow kosher rules of eating.
- Meat and dairy are not eaten together.
- Pork and seafood are not eaten.

## Impact to U-M Community

- Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities during the first two and last two days of these Holy Days.
- Expect that observers will not attend meetings or communicate during the first two and last two days of these Holy Days.
- Link to [U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts](#).

## U-M Campus Resources

- [Maize Pages - Jewish](#), U-M
- [Association of Religious Counselors](#), U-M

## Information Sources

- [Sukkot](#)
- [Kosher Eating](#)

## Photo credit:

iStock/chameleonseye



This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M's Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email [DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu](mailto:DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu).

Edited 7/28/2021