



Magen Avot

Succot-Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah Edition



Shabbat/Succot 26-27 September 2026 / 15-16 Tishrei 5787

Light From	Friday Mincha	Yom Tov/תּוֹב	Earliest Kiddush	Shabbat/Yom Tov Shacharit	SZ Kriat Shema	Magen Minis and Maxis	Succah Crawl	Mincha and Shiur	Lighting and Maariv	Succot 2 Shacharit	SZ Kriat Shema	Mincha 2 and Shiur	Yom Tov Ends
5:38 PM	6:35 PM	6:38 PM	7:41 PM	9:30 AM	9:52 AM	10:45 AM	4:00 PM	6:37 PM	7:37 PM	9:30 AM	9:53 AM	6:34 PM	7:34 PM

Shabbat / Succot

Magen Minis and Maxis:	Meets at 10:45 AM
Y@MA:	Meets after Mussaf Kedusha
Kriat Hatorah:	Dan Artman
Shabbat Drasha:	Rabbi Golker
Post Mincha Speaker:	Prof Laurence Lovat - Our Israel Succah
Succah Crawl:	See box on right side.
Hoshanot:	After Mussaf both days
Kiddush:	Kiddush for both days Succot is kindly sponsored by Liora and Derek Diamond
Succot 2 Kriat Hatorah:	Dr David Cohen

Rabbi Golker's Succot Guidelines

- * The earliest time for candle lighting on Friday is 5.38pm, and candles should be lit no later than 6.38pm. A 48-hour candle should also be lit before Shabbat/Yom Tov, to provide a pre-existing flame for the second night.
- * Kiddush on the first night should not be recited before nightfall at 7.41pm.
- * If it is raining on the first night of Succot and it seems likely that the rain will stop, one should wait an hour or two for it to subside in order to recite Kiddush and eat in the succah.
- * However, if members of the household are hungry and/or tired, and waiting would unduly disturb the enjoyment of Yom Tov, one is not required to wait. Similarly, if the rain appears steady and likely to continue, one should make Kiddush in the succah (without the bracha of Leishev BaSuccah) and eat a k'zayis of bread there. The remainder of the meal may then continue inside the house.
- * If the rain subsequently stops, it is preferable to return to the succah, recite the bracha of Leishev BaSuccah and eat a k'beitzah of bread.
- * The arba minim (lulav and etrog) are not taken on the first day of Succot this year, as it falls on Shabbat. They are taken for the first time on Sunday, at which point Shehecheyanu is also recited.
- * No work or preparation may be done for the second day of Yom Tov before nightfall at 7.37pm. Candles for the second night should also be lit only from this time, and from a pre-existing flame.
- * Kiddush on the second night also includes Borei Meorei Ha'Eish and Havdalah from Shabbat to Yom Tov (no besamim are used), as well as Leishev BaSuccah and Shehecheyanu.
- * If it is raining on the second night, one is not required to make Kiddush or eat in the succah. However, if the rain stops, it is proper to go into the succah, recite Leishev BaSuccah and eat a k'beitzah of bread.
- * Succah decorations should be securely attached before Yom Tov. They should generally not be removed or moved on Shabbat or Yom Tov.
- * Yom Tov ends on Sunday night at 7.34pm. At Havdalah, only the brachot of Borei Pri HaGafen and HaMavdil are recited (without a candle or besamim). Havdalah should be recited in the succah.

Mazal Tov!

Mazal Tov to this year's Chattanim: Daniel Ehreich (Chattan Torah) and Baruch Zekaria (Chattan Bereishit). We wish them and their families a hearty Mazal Tov and look forward to celebrating with them on Simchat Torah!

Location: Succot in OYH Hall, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah upstairs

We're delighted to be hosting the first days of Succot downstairs in the OYH Hall, and we'll be back upstairs for Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah.

Succah Crawl this Shabbat 26th September

The Magen Avot Succah Crawl meets on first day chag, Shabbat 26th September for Minis, Maxis and Y@MA. The crawl will start and finish at Magen Avot and will be from 4.00-6.30 PM (leaving 4.15 PM promptly - BST not Jewish Time!). Group 1 will be Minis and Maxis and Group 2 will be Y@MA.

Simchat Beit HaShoeva at the Golkers' (Wednesday Evening 30th September)

The whole community is invited to the Simchat Beit HaShoeva with Indian food at the Golkers on Wednesday evening between 8.30 and 10.00 PM. Everyone welcome - young, old and those in the middle! Bring an instrument, a bottle and your ruach!!

Rabbi Golker's 2nd Day Succot Shiur after Mincha

Title: "Holiday or Weekday? Tefillin, Melachah, Simchah - and what makes Chol HaMoed unique."

Join us for Simchat Torah Lunch

Magen Avot is delighted to, once again, be putting on our hugely popular Simchat Torah lunch where we will be honouring our Chattanim. **Final day to book is Monday 28 September. Note:** Seating will be pre-allocated with no option to turn up on the day. Use the additional information field on the form once you've entered your name to tell us about any seating requests. <https://myus.theus.org.uk/events/163567/simchat-torah-lunch2026/>

Kol Nidrei Appeal

To make good on your pledges from our Kol Nidrei appeal please visit <https://kolnidre.org.uk/pledge/magen>

Shemini Atzeret - Shabbat 3rd October and Simchat Torah 4 October 2026 - 22/23 Tishrei 5787

Shacharit Hoshana Rabba	Light From	Friday Mincha	Yom Tov/שבת	Shabbat/Yom Tov Shacharit	SZ Kriat Shema	Yizkor approx	Mincha and Shiur	Light, Maariv, Hakafot	Minis and Maxis	Simchat Torah Shacharit	SZ Kriat Shema	Mincha Shiur	Yom Tov Ends
7:30 AM	5:25 PM	6:20 PM	6:22 PM	9:15 AM	9:57 AM	10:30 AM	6:21 PM	7:21 PM	10:45 AM	9:15 AM	9:58 AM	6:18 PM	7:18 PM

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah

Shacharit/Hoshana Rabba:	7.30 AM Friday morning
Maxis and Minis Shemini Atzeret:	10.45 AM
Y@MA:	Meets after Mussaf Kedusha
Kriat Hatorah Shemini Atzeret:	Dan Artman
Shabbat Drasha Before Yizkor:	Rabbi Golker
Post Mincha Speaker:	Dr David Cohen
Kriat Hatorah Simchat Torah:	Daniel Ehreich

Hoshana Rabba Shacharit 2nd October at 07.30 AM-Upstairs Hall

We will be davening shacharit at 07.30 AM 2nd October on Hoshana Rabba in the upstairs hall. **Hoshanot will be available and are kindly sponsored by Julia and Daniel Greenberg CB in loving memory of Julia's mother and Daniel's mother and father.**

Women's Simchat Torah Breakfast (4th October)

We are delighted to announce our annual Women's Simchat Torah Breakfast, a much-loved community tradition and a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in celebration. Join us on Simchat Torah, Sunday 4th October, following Hallel and the first Hakafah, for a special morning of inspiration, connection and friendship. We are privileged to have wonderful women from our own community sharing words of inspiration, making this a truly meaningful and uplifting occasion. We look forward to celebrating Simchat Torah together and sharing this special morning with you all.

Yahrzeits

Name	Relationship	Date	Hebrew date
David Abramowitz	Grandfather	27/09/2026	16 Tishri 5787
Ari Goldberg	Father	29/09/2026	18 Tishri 5787
David Marks	Mother	29/09/2026	18 Tishri 5787
Ashley Katz	Father	30/09/2026	19 Tishri 5787
David Abramowitz	Father	08/10/2026	27 Tishri 5787
Jeremy Schryber	Father	08/10/2026	27 Tishri 5787
Trudy Coleman	Father	09/10/2026	28 Tishri 5787

Rabbi Golker's Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah Guidelines

- * The earliest time for candle lighting on Friday is 5.25pm, and candles should be lit no later than 6.22pm. The bracha concludes Lehadlik Ner Shel Shabbat V'Shel Yom Tov, and Shehecheyanu is also recited. A 48-hour candle should also be lit before Shabbat/Yom Tov to provide a pre-existing flame for the second night.
- * The meals of Shemini Atzeret should be eaten in the succah, but the bracha of Leishev BaSuccah is not recited. If it is raining, there is no requirement to wait for the rain to stop or to eat in the succah, and the meal may be eaten indoors.
- * Megillat Kohelet is usually read on Shabbat Chol HaMoed Succot. As there is no Shabbat Chol HaMoed this year, it is read on Shemini Atzeret. Yizkor is also recited on Shemini Atzeret.
- * Tefillat Geshem is recited during Mussaf on Shemini Atzeret, and from this point onwards משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם is recited in the Amidah. In the UK, we continue to say ותן ברכה at this stage.
- * No work or preparation for the second day of Yom Tov may take place before nightfall at 7.21pm. Candles for Simchat Torah should be lit only from this time, using a pre-existing flame.
- * Kiddush on Saturday night follows the order of YaKNeHaZ and includes Borei Meorei Ha'Eish, Havdalah from Shabbat to Yom Tov, and Shehecheyanu. No besamim are used.
- * On Simchat Torah, we no longer eat in the succah.
- * Yom Tov ends on Sunday night at 7.18pm. At Havdalah, only the brachot of Borei Pri HaGafen and HaMavdil are recited; there is no candle or besamim.

Next Gen event

The first Magen Avot Next Gen event on erev Yom Kippur was a success, with more than 30 young professionals attending for breakfast and learning. Attendees came together for chaburah style learning about Kol Nidrei, followed by an inspiring panel discussion led by Rabbi Golker with Magen Avot members Melanie Mirvis, Daniel Greenberg CB, and Rabbi Dr Steven Gaffin. The event received wonderful feedback, and more Next Gen programming is on the way.





MAGEN AVOT
שמחת בית השואבה
SIMCHAT BET HASHOEVA

WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2026
 19 TISHREI 5787 • CHOL HAMOED SUCCOT
 8:30 PM–10:00 PM

FAMILY GOLKER
כּי בִּיְהוּי בִּית־חַפְּזָה יִקְרָא לְכָל־הָעָמִים
 ISAIAH 56:7

EVERYBODY WELCOME — YOUNG AND OLD
 BRING AN INSTRUMENT, A BOTTLE & YOUR RUACH!



Magen Avot
Succah Crawl

Shabbat 26th September

Start/Finish at Magen Avot

16:00 - 18:30
(leaving 16:15 prompt)

Group 1: Minis & Maxis
Group 2: Y@MA



Holiday or Weekday?

The Chol HaMoed Paradox

*Tefillin, Melachah, Simchah —
and what makes Chol HaMoed unique*

Shiur given by **Rabbi Golker**

Second Day Yom Tov

Sunday, 27th of September

Mincha: 6:34 p.m.

Followed by Shiur

Motzaei Yom Tov / Maariv: 7:34 p.m.

→ *Between Mincha and Maariv* ←

*Is Chol HaMoed an ordinary weekday with a festive feel,
or a Yom Tov in disguise?*