

Your Jewish Connection – Next Year in Yerushalayim!

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee

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It's that time again when we clean our homes, sell our chametz, and get ready for eight days of matzah and Pesah traditions. At the end of the Seder, we'll say "Next year in Yerushalayim!" That's a lovely thought, and one I hope to fulfill in the future. In the meantime, join me in being an armchair traveler on the Internet.

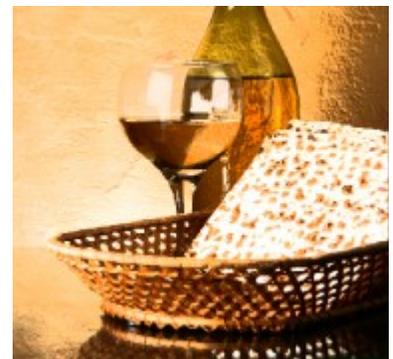
In Israel, there are seven days of Pesah. Here in the Diaspora, there are eight days. Check out <http://judaism.about.com/od/holidays/a/passoverdays.htm> for an explanation of why this is.

If you're looking for some basic information on Pesah and what's kosher for Pesah, go to these Web sites:

- <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/holidaya.html>
- [http://www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays/Jewish\\_Holidays/Passover.shtml](http://www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays/Jewish_Holidays/Passover.shtml)
- <http://www.oukosher.org/index.php/passover>
- <http://www.kashrut.com/Passover/>

Considering traveling during Pesah? Be prepared by checking out your destination in advance. And you may want to bring some Pesah food with you. You can go to <http://www.google.com> and search on your destination.

One place to start exploring travel to Israel is [http://www.goisrael.com/Tourism\\_Eng/Pages/home.aspx](http://www.goisrael.com/Tourism_Eng/Pages/home.aspx), under the auspices of the Israel Ministry of Tourism. On the left side, you can find information By Interest or By Region. To understand the differences between here and there, click on the Before You Go tab near the top of the page for information on transportation, visas, electrical appliances, weather, and more. Also check out the maps and photos on the site! And if you're inclined, you can order an information kit (scroll to the bottom of the page and look in the Online Tools list).



If you're interested in having a tour guide, go to <http://tour-guides.co.il/index.php>, operated by the Israel Tour Guides Association. All of the guides listed are certified Israeli tour guides.

For some ideas on what others think of travel in Israel, surf over to [http://www.virtualtourist.com/travel/Middle\\_East/Israel/TravelGuide-Israel.html](http://www.virtualtourist.com/travel/Middle_East/Israel/TravelGuide-Israel.html). You'll find plenty of photos and videos plus comments on just about anything you can think of. On the left side of the page is



a list of categories. Some interesting ones are Local Customs, Warnings and Dangers, Tourist Traps, and Off the Beaten Path.

If you enjoy having everything planned for you, go to Google and search on Israel travel. You'll have your pick of many travel companies and types of travel. Sites like <http://www.virtualtourist.com> and <http://www.tripadvisor.com> can provide information and comments on whatever you're curious about.

Like a Boy Scout, always be prepared. This is especially true for travel. With some forethought and planning, you'll have a wonderful trip with many photos and memories to share. Next year in Yerushalayim!