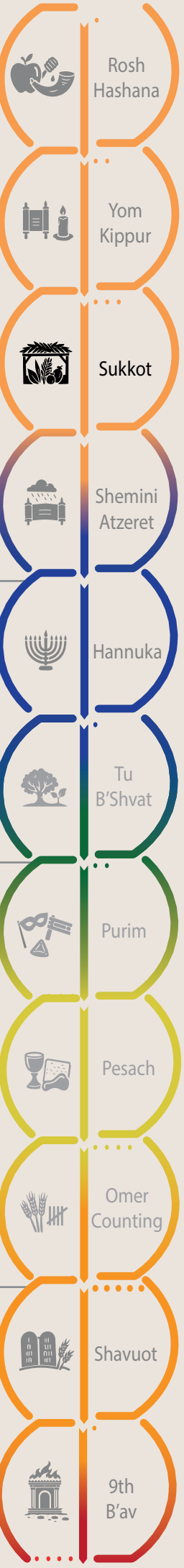
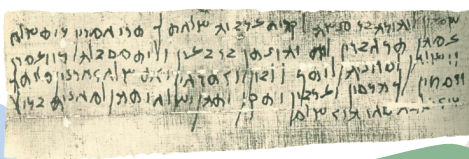


Late Summer/Autumn
Winter
Spring
Summer



Sukkot Festival of Booths

Jews celebrated Sukkot 1,900 years ago in Israel during the Bar Kochva Revolt



Found in the Cave of Letters (Nahal Hever), Bar Kochva requests the Lulav and Etrog to celebrate Sukkot.

Sukkot סוכות

Hebrew Date:
15th - 22nd Tishrei

Different names for Sukkot

Sukkot English	סוכות Hebrew
Booths or Tabernacles	סוכות Sukkot
Harvest or "In-Gathering" Festival	חג האסיף Chag Aa-Asif
The Time of Our Rejoicing	זמן שמחתנו Z'man Simchateinu

What is Sukkot?

Jews dwell in "Sukkot" (special booths) for seven days.

The harvest festival, thanking God for the annual harvest.

The holiday recalls the Israelites' temporary shelters (sukkot) during their Biblical journey in the wilderness.

It's a time when we pray for rain for the winter season

It's a time when Israel prays for the well-being of the nations

Sukkot in Biblical Texts

Leviticus 23:33-43: "... On the **fifteenth day of this seventh month** is the feast of tabernacles for **seven days** unto the L-RD...you shall take you on the first day the fruit of goodly trees, branches of palm-trees, and boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook, and ye shall rejoice before the L-RD your G-d [Four Species]... you shall dwell in booths seven days

Numbers 29:12-40 (The Sacrificial Offerings, **70 bulls for the nations**)

Nehemiah 8:13-18: (Historical Observance) "And Nehemiah, ... and Ezra the priest the scribe ... taught the people... 'Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches...and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as it is written."

Zechariah 14:16-19: (Prophetic Significance for future): And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations that came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the L-RD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.



Sukkot is one of the three Biblical Festivals mentioned in the Bible when men were required to make Aliyah (ascent) to Jerusalem.



Learn more about the Biblical festivals



Why Does Sukkot Matter?



Sukkot celebrates the harvest, reminding us to **take account** of our lives and know that **our food and livelihood** come from God.



The Sukkah is by design “flimsy”, reminding us that **God is our true protection**, not bricks and stone.



The **Four Species** represent all of **Israel** (the simple, the learned, those helping others, those struggling), **all unified as one**.



The **Hakafot** and water festivals at the **Temple** were said to be the most joyous celebrations in ancient times, reminding us to **increase our own joy**.



Israel offered **70 bulls** (representing the 70 nations) to **pray for the welfare of the nations**, reminding us that Jews care for all people of the world.



Sukkot in Ancient Israel

In the Temple:

Daily additional offerings including 70 bulls over 7 days on behalf on the nations

Water Libation: water was carried from the Gihon spring by the priests and poured on the altar together with the daily continual wine offering. It was accompanied with great joyous celebration.

The **new wheat offering** (switching from barley) was brought in the Temple

Sukkot, as you can see, is one of the many holidays that tie Jews to the Land of Israel



Jews have celebrated Sukkot in Israel for thousands of years. Discover ancient findings and manuscripts telling our story



READ MORE:



Ancient manuscript mentioning Hoshana Raba (7th day of Sukkot) on the Mount of Olives 1,000 years ago

Key Rituals

1

Dwelling in a sukkah—a temporary booth; families eat meals and sometimes even sleep in the sukkah overnight!



2

Hakafot or dancing in circles, with singing and rejoicing.

3

On the last day of Sukkot, we start to **pray for rain** during the winter season

4

Four Species (Arba Minim): waving and carrying the **lulav** (palm), **hadas** (myrtle), **aravah** (willow), and **etrog** (citron—it's like a lemon) daily.

Bar Kochva Revolt Coin with the Lulav, one of the four species, 132-136 CE



During Sukkot, we increase our joy through gratitude to God. What are the things you are grateful for?



For more information on Sukkot

