



What is Yom Ha'Atzmaut?

Yom HaAtzmaut [Ha-Ah-ts-ma-oot] is Israel's Independence Day, commemorating the declaration of the modern State of Israel in 1948 and celebrating self-determination in the indigenous homeland of the Jewish people.

When is Yom Ha'Atzmaut?

Yom Ha'Atzmaut is normally observed on the 5th Iyar on the Hebrew calendar, but the date can shift if needed to avoid conflict with Shabbat.

In 2026, Yom Ha'Atzmaut begins at sundown on Monday, April 21st and ends at nightfall on Tuesday, April 22nd.

How is Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebrated?

Yom HaAtzmaut is generally marked with ceremonies, music, gatherings, barbeques and expressions of national pride and celebration. In Israel, the shift into Yom HaAtzmaut begins immediately after Yom HaZikaron ends. This is a purposeful emotional transition between remembering loss and celebrating national pride.

In the diaspora, many Jews host or attend events to celebrate the day. The Jewish communities in most cities host events including food and dancing to mark the occasion.

How can I mark Yom Ha'Atzmaut?

Yom HaAtzmaut can be marked by celebrating Israeli culture, history, peoplehood, and the significance of Jewish self-determination for those who observe the day in that way:

- Learn about a new aspect of Israeli culture such as music, food, language, innovation, or community life.
- Consider offering an internal educational moment about the link between Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut, and why the transition between the two days matters.
- Respectfully ask your Jewish colleagues what Yom Ha'Atzmaut means to them.

Where can I learn more?

- My Jewish Learning - [Yom HaAtzmaut](#)
- Israel forever foundation - [Yom HaAtzmaut](#)



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