

What is Tu Bishvat?

Tu Bishvat is the **“New Year of the Trees”**, (some people say it’s the Birthday of the trees!) a Jewish festival that marks the beginning of a new growing cycle for fruit trees, particularly in the Land of Israel. Today, many people celebrate Tu Bishvat by focusing on environmental awareness, Jewish connections to the land, and the importance of caring for the natural world.

When is Tu Bishvat?

Tu Bishvat falls on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat (that’s what “Tu Bishvat” means), usually in late January or early February. In 2026, Tu Bishvat begins on the evening of Sunday February 1st and ends at nightfall on Monday February 2nd.

How is Tu Bishvat Celebrated?

Tu Bishvat is often marked with a special meal or “seder” featuring a variety of fruits and nuts, especially the Seven Species associated with the Land of Israel: wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates. Many people also plant trees, donate to tree-planting or environmental projects, and take part in activities relating to the environment.



Will my Jewish colleagues be available over the festival?

Tu Bishvat is a festival with no work restrictions, so most Jewish colleagues will be working as usual. Some may also choose to attend community events, school activities or synagogue celebrations.

What greeting can I give my Jewish colleagues?

You can wish your colleagues “Happy Tu Bishvat” or in Hebrew, “Chag Tu Bishvat Sameach” (the “Ch” in Chag is guttural like in “ch” in “Bach” or “Loch”.)

Where can I learn more?

- [My Jewish Learning – Tu Bishvat](#)
- [Chabad – Tu Bishvat](#)
- [Museum of Jewish Heritage – Tu Bishvat](#)

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