



BTEE High Holidays 411

The start of the Jewish New Year is a meaningful time for reflection and spiritual accounting. It is the time of year when we gather together that transformation happens. From soul-searching, to community-wide musical High Holidays centered around the three themes of: Forgiveness (*T'shuva*), Prayer (*Tefilla*), and Generosity (*Tzedakah*) - this month offers something transformational for everyone. We gather as a community to celebrate and grieve experiences of this year - throughout our High Holiday season. We gather to evolve, to give thanks, and to recommit to our communal values and by doing so, we stay woven into the ancient and innovative traditions that shape diverse, beautiful tapestry of Jewish life and identity today.

Among us are religious Jews that carry the torch of tradition as our in-house wisdom keepers. Among us are secular, cultural Jews that legit have no interest in prayer. Also among us are countless Two-Faith Families that have raised their kids into adulthood together at BTEE. We believe that diversity is key to a vibrant collective, rooted in growth and learning. This might just change the world.

BTEE warmly welcome YOU to join us for *Erev Rosh HaShanah*, *Rosh HaShanah* Day 1 and Day 2, *Erev Yom Kippur*, *Yom Kippur*, *Sukkot*, *Simchat Torah* and the Sisterhood Lunch! We have a comprehensive slate of inclusive, intergenerational programming for elders and teens, singles or young families, and everyone in between! We invite you to join any of our offerings by getting your BTEE Passport for the High Holidays, [here](#).

As you think about how you want to orient your life this coming year, listen [here](#) or click [here to listen to the shofar every day](#) during this Hebrew month of Elul. Consider taking time to light a candle and respond to this prompt from Kohenet Miki by writing in your journal or sharing your answers aloud with a loved one: ***A concrete step I will take towards becoming an advocate for change in this New Year, is...*** What kind of challenges and blessings did I meet over the course of the past year?

Shana Tova – Happy New Year,

Devorah Brous, Executive Director, BTEE

Where in the world is my BTEE Passport Valid?

This unique Passport is valid HERE at BTEE for all events of the season (aside from *Yoga, and the *Sisterhood Sukkot dinner). Your passport comes with your Membership to BTEE. Once you've renewed your membership, you receive a Passport. It enables you to travel to our High Holidays Offerings! **Wear your passport to all events - it is your RSVP, your nametag, and it is our Green Light to let you come/go as you please!** Please click [here](#) to renew so we can keep track of our community, and keep us all safe.

Do I need to pay membership in full to get my Passport?

No. Just pay 20% by September 5th and we will invoice you.

I am not a member. How can I join BTEE for the High Holidays?

Click [here](#) to buy High Holiday Tickets

What To Say On High Holidays?

L'Shanah tovah. It's Hebrew for *have a good new year.* Shanah is *year*, tov is *good*. Or say "Happy New Year." Or, try this: *Hatima Tova.* Meaning, may you be signed in the Book of Life. Or, *Tzom Kal.* For people who fast on Yom Kippur, it means, "Easy Fast."

What is (Erev) Rosh Hashanah?

All Jewish celebrations begin in the evening: Erev means the Night of Rosh Hashanah. The Jewish New Year is celebrated traditionally with apples and honey, and the head of a fish - instead of champagne (although you do you). Rosh Hashanah is introspective, communal, and meaningful - as you come full circle and explore where you are, in relationship to where you were last year, and where you'd like to be next year. At the core, accounting for your actions, so you can carve out a fresh slate.

What are the 10 Days of Awe?

The 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are a great opportunity to get started by asking yourself where you're hitting the mark and where you need some adjusting. It's not a coincidence that Rosh Hashanah is also about the trifecta of forgiveness: apologizing, forgiving, and receiving forgiveness. Making amends with loved ones and even forgiving yourself can be the most powerful part of the holiday. If you like introspection, consider journaling in response to a daily online prompt throughout this sacred period by [clicking here](#).

What is (Erev) Yom Kippur?

Erev means night in Hebrew. *Erev Yom Kippur* kicks off the Jewish Day of Atonement—the most transformation day of the Jewish year. A 25-hour period devoted to self-examination, and the chance to begin the New Year with a clean slate.

Apples & Honey, Anyone?

The traditional start of the Rosh Hashanah meal is apples dipped in honey. The honey is to call in a sweet year, and a chance to thank the bees for their hard work pollinating our food-bearing plants. And the apple? Jews know that apples have healing qualities to keep the doctor away, and herald a fresh start to a new season! [Rosh Hashanah](#)

[challahs](#) can be full of raisins and round instead of the typical braided shape - to signify the sacred circle of life. BTEE will do our best to source the best Round Challah for you!

Sound & Silence

At *Rosh Hashanah* services at BTEE, please come to hear the wisdom of the Torah chanted, the ancient heart-opening prayers, and our [shofar](#). The Shofar is an intense sound emitted through a ram's horn, meant to wake us up so that we show up better next year for ourselves, our families, for the community, and for the earth. On *Yom Kippur*, come to hear the Cello for *Kol Nidre* - a prayer said three times in a row. It's powerful stuff. Throughout this season, listen in, and hear the still small sound of silence so we can Pause and Reflect, together.

What is Sukkot?

A Jewish agrarian celebration of the fall harvest. Temporary Earthen Huts are constructed during the holiday of Sukkot, and it is traditional to eat, sing, study, pray, and, for some, to sleep in a Sukkah for seven days. Sukkot is one of the three major festivals in Judaism, an agricultural harvest festival and a commemoration of the forty-year period during which the children of Israel wandered in the desert, living in temporary shelters as they traveled toward the Promised Land. Sukkot is also a harvest holiday and the beginning of the season of prayers for rain. Important ritual objects on sukkot include the *lulav* (pronounced loo-LAHV), a bundle of different types of branches, and an *etrog* (pronounced et-ROWG), a citron. Click [here](#) to order your BTEE Lulav/Etrog - made from Date Palm branches, which is hand woven by our very own Eric Hernandez.

I've never heard of *Shemini Atzeret*!

You're not alone. Literally the "8th day of assembly," this holiday marks the end of Sukkot with an annual prayer for rain. Which may seem weird given the recent hurricane and a very abundant season of winter rains. The ecosystem of LA and the Mediterranean climate is very similar - and we will always need more rain!

What is Simchat Torah?!

The culminating holiday that marks the end and the beginning of the annual Torah reading cycle. We sing, dance in circles (Hakafot) and celebrate by opening the entire Torah scroll! You won't want to miss this one! Bring your grandparents! Bring your kids!

Where are BTEE services held?

Location: All BTEE services will be held in-person at 1302 Glenoaks Blvd, Burbank, 91504) and streamed on Zoom, with captions.

Will there be childcare? Parking?

Food?

Yes! We will have the option for Kid-centered programming / childcare, nosh, and plenty of parking. BTEE is delighted to offer Childcare to give our families the chance to experience the services with or without their children! Per Service Childcare: \$18 - \$36 All Services Childcare: \$72.

What Accessibility Measures does BTEE take?

*Live ASL Interpretation provided at online services. *All restrooms are fully accessible per ADA specifications. *Voices and music will be amplified. *Services will be held both

indoors and outdoors. You are welcome to wear a mask and there will be a mask-only section.

What kind of kids' programming do you offer?

We welcome kids from age 12 and up into the services. Older kids are warmly invited to participate in parts of the Torah services. For younger kids, BTEE offers supervised childcare at all of our High Holy Days services with crafts, and nosh.

How can I help and volunteer?

We're grateful for our HHD volunteers! Volunteers play essential roles in ensuring the warm, welcoming experience for all attendees. Greeters! Check-in! Ushers! Set up and break down, serving food, and beaming a smile. We're offering training on August 28th, please reach out to the office at office@btee.org.

BTEE Ticket Cost?

Tickets are Free for BTEE members. Members will receive a BTEE Passport for High Holidays events. Non-Members can source Early-Bird tickets through Eventbrite [here](#) for \$360. If you are able, please consider contributing additional funds to support those who cannot pay, so we can Pay-It-Forward and enable low-income and no-income participants to join our BTEE community.

Is it true that at BTEE, No One Is Turned Away for Lack of Funds?!

One of our most important values is making our High Holidays services affordable and accessible to our community. We know that this continues to be a challenging financial time for many. If this is your experience please choose the ticket type PAY WHAT YOU ARE ABLE in the Donation section of the ticket page and enter the amount that you are able to pay. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Consider paying as much as you are able. Most of the BTEE offerings throughout the year are sliding-scale or Free, and producing our High-Holidays well is an expensive endeavor.

What events are NOT included in my BTEE Passport?

1) Yoga: Suggested Donation of \$18-\$36, 2) Sukkot Dinner: \$50 for adults, \$120 for a family of four, \$18 for kids (under 16) Just Venmo, Zelle, Check, Cash, through at www.btee.org to reserve your spot.

Will there be an option to Zoom into BTEE services?

Yes! When you register for BTEE's LIVE-STREAMED SERVICES ticket in the Donation section of our ticket page, you'll get a confirmation email with the links to each service. We'll also send reminder emails with the Zoom links before each service.

Will there be ASL Interpretation?

Yes, every Zoom service will include closed captioning, however, for our in-person services, ASL is not an option at this time.

Scan QR Code for High Holidays Passport and Information

