



HIAS

HOLIDAY CALENDAR 2022-2023/5783

Rosh Hashanah

September 25 – 27, 2022

Yom Kippur

October 4 – 5, 2022

Sukkot

October 9 – 16, 2022

International Human Rights Day

December 10, 2022

Hanukkah

December 18 – 26, 2022

Refugee Shabbat

February 3 – 4, 2023

Purim

March 6 – 7, 2023

Passover

April 5 – 13, 2023

Yom Ha'Shoah

April 17 – 18, 2023

Shavuot

May 25 – 27, 2023

Anniversary of MS St. Louis June 6, 2023

World Refugee Day

June 20, 2023

Anniversary of 1951 UN Refugee Convention

July 28, 2023

Bringing Refugees Home

Since the destruction of the Temple, our homes have become our sanctuaries, tables our altars, and bread our offering. In our homes we bless our children and are comforted in our mourning. In our people's scattered diaspora, home is sacred, and home is safe.

Until it isn't.

Time after time, we have fled our homes and sought refuge in strange places. We know intimately the destabilizing trauma of leaving everything behind and starting over somewhere else. We know the challenges of making ourselves at home in new lands, and we know the immeasurable value of welcome and support from those around us.

On Yom Kippur morning, we sit in synagogue, fasting and praying. We hear the prophet Isaiah speak to us in the voice of God: "Is this the fast that I desire?" and the answer rings out clearly: NO. The fast that God desires is for us to let the oppressed go free, to share our food with those who hunger, and to **bring the refugee home**.

While we can never recreate or replace the homes from which today's refugees have fled, we **can** create the conditions under which refugees are able to create new homes and new connections, and to build sustainable and secure lives.

When we challenge dehumanizing rhetoric used by friends, family, or politicians;

When we push our governments to uphold their commitments under international law;

When we listen to refugees' stories, respect their agency, and empower them to make informed choices about their lives;

When we freely offer the resources of our communities to create a soft landing for newcomers, and support them in bridging the gap between what was and what will be;

In all of these actions, singly and together, **we bring refugees home**.

Visit hias.org/highholidays2022 for more resources.



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.