

HIGH HOLYDAY GUIDE

2026 / 5787



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED

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BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

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Message from your Co-Chairs

DEAR MEMBERS

Welcome to Belsize Square's 2026/5787 High Holyday guide. A great number of people are involved in planning and organising our beautiful Services and while we won't thank them individually, we would like to acknowledge the time and effort this takes.

Please take some time to read through this helpful booklet and see what Belsize has to offer this year. You will find details of friends & family tickets, prayer books, parking arrangements, transport, the creche and much more!

Also enclosed are your High Holyday tickets and the synagogue calendar for 2026/27. **Please note that our Kol Nidrei Service will start at 7.00pm.**

TICKETS & SEATING

Security remains an absolute priority and admission to the services is by ticket only. It should be noted that tickets are named and numbered and are not transferable. For the 2nd day Rosh Hashanah arrangements please see below. Tickets do not reserve seats, everyone is welcome to choose where they sit, as at our weekly Services. It is advisable to sit in the front section of the sanctuary if you wish to take advantage of our hearing loop.

DECORUM

To preserve decorum we ask that you are respectful when entering the main Service, particularly when the Ark is open, during the sermons, silent prayers and Mazkir. Ushers will be in the sanctuary to advise you when it is appropriate to enter and they will direct you to available seats.

COMFORT

Members should note that if the sun is shining the Synagogue can get very warm and so the air conditioning will be on. You may want to bring a cardigan or sweater for comfort as it gets chilly when sitting by an air conditioning unit.

FAMILY SERVICES & KIKAR KIDS

Our revamped Family Services are more interactive, inspiring and engaging than ever. We have listened to your feedback and there will be further changes/upgrades this year, including reducing the length of these Services. Family Services will be held during the morning in the hall, check your tickets for the timings. We hope to be able to admit everyone but as seating is limited, adults will need to be aware of whether space is available. Our second day Rosh Hashanah Family Service will have a more relaxed feel. Please do feed back to us afterwards.

Ilana Banana will lead the under 5s Kikar Kids Service in the creche on both days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur – more details further on in the booklet.

PRAYER BOOKS

Unlike at our regular Services, there will only be a very small number of prayer books available, so we strongly advise that you purchase your own books in advance. See details of the special offer further on in the booklet.

TALLITOT

Gentlemen are respectfully reminded that it is customary for a Tallit to be worn at the Kol Nidrei Service. A small number of Tallitot will be available if you do not have one.

OFFICE HOURS

As well as normal opening hours, the synagogue office will be open between 10.00-12.00 (noon) on Sunday 6 September to enable you to collect prayer books, parking vouchers and visitor tickets which have been pre-booked.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Please do tell you friends and family who belong to a Synagogue that keeps only the first day of Rosh Hashanah that they are welcome to join our Rosh Hashanah second day service as long as they are able to show a ticket from their own Synagogue.

If you have any questions on any of the contents of this booklet, please contact the synagogue office.

On behalf of the Ministers, Honorary Officers and the members of the Board, we wish you a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Annette Nathan & Jimmy Strauss Co-Chairs



BelsizeLIVE

If you're unable to attend Services, don't worry, we've got you covered!
All of our Services will be streamed on BelsizeLIVE.

Accessing BelsizeLIVE could not be easier. Just follow these simple instructions:

1. From your computer, smartphone or tablet – visit the Synagogue website
www.synagogue.org.uk
2. Click on the BelsizeLIVE button at the top of the page



SERVICE TIMES

SERVICE TIMES ARE DISPLAYED ON YOUR TICKET

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah 1 st Evening	Friday 11 September	6.45pm
Rosh Hashanah 1 st Day	Saturday 12 September	9.30am
Rosh Hashanah 2 nd Evening	Saturday 12 September	6.45pm
Rosh Hashanah 2 nd Day	Sunday 13 September	9.30am
Supervised play (children over 6)	Sat & Sun 12-13 September	10.00am
Kikar Kids	Sat & Sun 12-13 September	10.15am
Family Service	Sat & Sun 12-13 September	11.00am

YOM KIPPUR

Kol Nidrei	Sunday 20 September	7.00pm
Shacharit	Monday 21 September	10.00am
Zen with Ben (for 18-30s)	Monday 21 September	11.30am
Minchah	Monday 21 September	3.30pm
Mazkir	Monday 21 September	5.00pm
Havdalah (Fast ends 7.51pm)	Monday 21 September	7.51pm
Supervised play (children over 6)	Monday 21 September	10.00am
Kikar Kids	Monday 21 September	10.15am
Family Service	Monday 21 September	11.00am

Supervised Play

If you have a child aged between 6-12, there will be a supervised area for you to leave them between 10.00-11.00 on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This gives you the opportunity to attend the main Service or take a younger sibling to Kikar Kids, before the Family Service begins at 11.00am.

Zen with Ben

For anyone aged 18-30, our very own Ben Bilefield will lead two short meditations, grounded in the themes of Yom Kippur. Open to complete beginners or ultra yogis, join us at 11.30am on Yom Kippur in the upstairs classroom.

CRECHE FACILITIES



We will be operating a crèche run by qualified nursery staff for children from 6 months old to 6 years during the daytime High Holyday Services.

Please note that the crèche will not operate during the evening services on Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidrei.

Nursing mothers are advised to use the crèche if they require some privacy. Changing facilities can be found in the ladies' toilets on the ground floor and the disabled toilet by the hall.

We are delighted that children's entertainer, Ilana Banana will be involved in our creche Services on both days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.



FOOD FOR UNDER 13s ON YOM KIPPUR

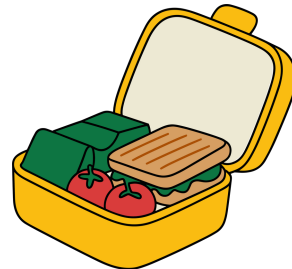
Do you have to leave early on Yom Kippur to feed your children?

Do you want to stay in the main service while your kids are fed and looked after?

Well we have the SOLUTION for you! A dedicated group of volunteers will be preparing lunch packs for children to eat following the Family Service on Yom Kippur.

Lunch packs will include:

- Sandwich (cream cheese or strawberry jam)
- Crisps
- Cake
- Apple
- Carton of juice



The cost to order a lunch pack is only **£5**. Book through the synagogue website (www.synagogue.org.uk/payment).

Lunch packs must be ordered in advance by Friday 18 September.

The hall is also available following the youth services for any congregant who is unable to fast due to health concerns

PARKING & TRANSPORT

PARKING

There are no parking facilities at the synagogue. It would be helpful if, as many members as possible share cars, use public transport or walk.

There are very few pay and display bays in the area. The Residential Controlled Parking in the Belsize Park area CA-B is from 9.00am - 6.30pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am – 1.30pm on Saturday. We have some residents parking vouchers available from the Synagogue Office. Please note that you can only have a maximum of 4 hours permits on display in your car at any time. After 4 hours it will be necessary to move your car and put more vouchers on display.

Vouchers cost £2 per hour. The maximum number of vouchers that can be purchased is 12 hours which would cover all daytime services. To purchase vouchers please make payment through the website (www.synagogue.org.uk/payment). No vouchers can be bought or collected at services and must be posted or picked up before.

Drivers who have a “Blue/Orange badge” may park in the area in the usual way, in accordance with the rules laid out by the Council who issued the badge.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Underground: Belsize Square Synagogue is equidistant from Belsize Park (Northern Line) and Swiss Cottage (Jubilee Line) underground stations. We are also walkable from Finchley Road Station (Jubilee and Metropolitan Line).

Overground Trains: Finchley Road and Frognal is the closest station.

Thames Link: West Hampstead then Jubilee Line to Finchley Road or Swiss Cottage Underground Stations.

Buses: **1** Holborn Station to Royal Free Hospital; **13** North Finchley via Golders Green to Swiss Cottage; **46** Kings Cross to Swiss Cottage; **113** Edgware to Swiss Cottage; **187** O2 Centre to Swiss Cottage; **268** Finchley Road Underground Station the O2 Centre, and Golders Green to St Peter's Church Belsize Square; **603** Muswell Hill to Swiss Cottage; **C11** Archway to Brent Cross.

NEED A LIFT / OFFERING A LIFT

In order to maintain, what has now become a Belsize Square Synagogue tradition of trying to ensure that as many members as possible are able to attend the High Holyday Services, we would greatly appreciate offers of lifts from those members who are travelling by car.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO OFFER A LIFT TO OTHERS IN YOUR AREA OR NEED A LIFT YOURSELF, PLEASE CONTACT THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

FRIENDS & FAMILY TICKETS



We would love to welcome your family and friends to our Services. Attendance at Services is by ticket only so please order them through the office or on the website. Adult tickets are £60 and children up to the age of 21 years are free but must have a valid ticket.

In the interests of security, each ticket will be numbered and allocated to a specific name. Tickets are not transferable. Please note that each ticket covers all High Holyday Services; reduced price tickets for individual services are not available.

Tickets will not be available for collection at Services.

To purchase tickets, please visit the synagogue website (www.synagogue.org.uk/payment)

PRAYER BOOKS



Belsize Square Synagogue is unique in that it is the only Jewish community in this country which has published a collection of prayer books for Shabbat and the Festivals specifically designed to help worshippers to appreciate all aspects of its religious services throughout the year. Each volume features, in addition to the order of prayers and, in the case of the Festivals, the relevant Scripture readings, a selection of passages from rabbinic literature for study and contemplation.

Please note: Prayer Books will not be available for collection at the High Holyday Services.

Part I	Shabbat	£30.00
Part II	Festival	£40.00
Part III	Rosh Hashanah	£30.00
Part IV	Yom Kippur	£40.00
Parts III + IV	High Holyday Set	£60.00

SPECIAL OFFER UNTIL 6 SEPTEMBER 2026
25% OFF A FULL SET OF 4 BOOKS - ONLY £97.50!

SUKKOT SERVICES



The holiday season doesn't close when the fast ends on Yom Kippur, as we quickly move on to Sukkot. Please join us for Services and share the mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah at Kiddush.

Sukkot 1 st Evening	Friday 25 September	6.45pm
Sukkot 1 st Day	Saturday 26 September	10.00am
Sukkot 2 nd Evening	Saturday 26 September	6.45pm
Sukkot 2 nd Day	Sunday 27 September	10.00am
Erev Shemini Atzeret	Friday 2 October	6.45pm
Shemini Atzeret	Saturday 3 October	10.00am
Erev Simchat Torah (Under 5s party)	Saturday 3 October	5.00pm
Erev Simchat Torah (FAMILY SERVICE)	Saturday 3 October	6.45pm
Simchat Torah	Sunday 4 October	10.00am

LULAV & ETROG ORDERING



The Sukkot harvest festival is full of beautiful and ancient symbolism of fertility and spirituality. It is a mitzvah to sit with friends in our Sukkah and to wave the Lulav and Etrog.

Join us for services on Sunday 27 September when you will be able to fulfil this mitzvah.

The Lulav (palm frond) is a wonderful reminder of ancient and happy times and we have negotiated a special price this year so that everyone can have one at home for Sukkot and come and wave it together at Services.

The cost of a full Lulav and Etrog set is £45.00. Please contact the Synagogue office no later than Tuesday 22 September to place your order.