# JEWISH FESTIVAL: WHICH DAY

# JEWISH FESTIVAL: INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

#### **Jewish Festival: Dateline Considerations**

If unsure which day to start the <u>Jewish festival</u> because you are near the International Dateline, follow guidelines for <u>Shabbat</u>; see Introduction to <u>Shabbat</u>, IDL, and Region of <u>Safek/Doubt</u>.

## JEWISH FESTIVAL: ONE DAY OR TWO

### **Jewish Festival: One Day or Two**

Outside of Eretz Yisrael, Jewish festivals are observed for two days instead of one.

REASON In ancient Jerusalem, the Sanhedrin declared the new month based on testimony of at least two

witnesses. Since Jews who lived far from Jerusalem did not find out when the <u>Jewish festivals</u>

began until as much as two weeks after the fact, a two-day festival was declared and we

continue to observe that two-day holiday outside of *Eretz Yisrael*.

SITUATION You are in *Eretz Yisrael* for any of the *Jewish festivals*. You want *melacha* done for you on

the second day of the festival.

WHAT TO DO You may ask a resident of *Eretz Yisrael* to do *melacha* for you. (You may not ask a non-Jew to

do melacha for you!)

REASON It is no longer a *Jewish festival* for him/her.

NOTE If you are outside of *Eretz Yisrael*, you may not ask a resident of *Eretz Yisrael* (who is visting

you) to do melacha for you on the second day of the Jewish festival, even though he/she is no

longer observing the festival.

REASON He/she may not do any *melacha d'oraita* even in private and not even for him/herself.

### Jewish Festival: One Day in Eretz Yisrael

To keep one day only of a <u>Jewish festival</u> in <u>Eretz Yisrael</u>, you must live most of year in <u>Eretz Yisrael</u> and fulfill certain other requirements. Consult a <u>rabbi</u> for details.

## Jewish Festival: One Day for a Year Plus in Eretz Yisrael

If you are living in <u>Eretz Yisrael</u> for one year and might stay longer, ask a <u>rabbi</u> if you must keep one or two days of the <u>Jewish festival</u>.

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