SUKKA: LEAVING

SUKKA: LEAVING: FIRST NIGHT

Sukka: Leaving: First Night: Rain

Rain on the first night of *Sukkot* is only considered a bad omen in *Eretz Yisrael*.

REASON It does not normally rain there at that time of year.

Sukka: Leaving: First Night: Rain, Cold, Bees

You may leave the *sukka* due to extreme cold or heat, rain, or bees. **You should not stay in a *sukka* if it is raining or very cold or will otherwise make people suffer.**

If it is raining on the first night of *Sukkot* and the rain is sporadic, wait until midnight before saying *kiddush* indoors.

If it is raining on the first night of *Sukkot* and the forecast predicts rain all evening, you do not need to wait to see if the rain will stop before saying *kiddush*. Instead:

- Say *kiddush* in the *sukka* (without saying *leisheiv ba'sukka*), even in the rain.
- Wash hands and say *ha'motzi*.
- Eat at least 1.3 fl. oz. (39 ml, or 1/6 cup) of bread in the *sukka*.
- Go inside the house and finish your meal inside.

NOTE You do not need to say *birkat ha'mazon* in the *sukka*. If the rain stops, go back outside, say *leisheiv*, eat at least 1.9 fl. oz. (56 ml) more of bread in the *sukka*, and finish your meal in the *sukka*.

SUKKA: SHMINI ATZERET

Sukka: Shmini Atzeret

Outside *Eretz Yisrael*, you should eat your meals in the *sukka* on *Shmini Atzeret*, but do not make a blessing on the *sukka*.

© Copyright 2026 Richard B. Aiken | www.practicalhalacha.com