

# What You Need To Know

In an effort to continue to keep High Holidays safe and secure, expect to see a few changes implemented at this year's services. We ask in advance for your patience, understanding, and attention to communications we share to ensure a smooth and sacred experience for all.

### Arrival, Parking & Seating

The Denver Botanic Gardens are located at **1007 York St, Denver, CO 80206**. Services will start exactly on time in recognition of those watching the livestream.

We recommend giving yourself plenty of time to arrive, as traffic can be a challenge. Parking at and around the Gardens will be extremely limited. We recommend carpooling, using a ride share, biking, or walking. Find more details on where to park <u>here</u>.

We want to ensure the safety and security of all guests. Please be prepared to show either a printed version of your registration or a digital version from your phone.

#### **Group Entrance**

Attendees will enter through the **group entrance**, just south of the Gardens' main entrance. The entrance is along York Street. Attendees will be greeted by uniformed workers who will do a bag security search. Review <u>this visual map</u> for parking, arrival, and service expectations at the Gardens.

From the group entrance, attendees will then be directed to the event spaces by signs and volunteers.

Seating for in-person events is **first-come, first-seated**, unless you are a High Holiday sponsor, Board Member, speaker, or honoree. There will be multiple location options for attending a service in person.

- **The Tent:** The Open Tent will be set to hold approximately 1,300 people. The space feels intimate while still capturing the outdoor spirit of Colorado. This is the only location that will have a live service on a stage with all of the spiritual leaders of Judaism Your Way.
- **The Bowl:** The Amphitheater Bowl will be available with professional livestreams of the service on a jumbo screen in the lawn outside the Tent with picnic-style seating. Bring your own blanket to sit on the sloped lawn and consider that you will likely be in direct sun and other weather, so a short concert umbrella is nice. This will also be the best location if you are looking for a socially-distanced seating option.
- **The Hall:** Holding more than 300 people, Mitchell Hall is air-conditioned and situated close to restrooms. This space is ideal for those who prefer to be indoors and have access to facilities. Attendees in this space will watch the service on a large screen via livestream.

## **Inclusivity & Accessibility**

#### **Physical Space**

All locations at the Gardens are wheelchair accessible. Space along the aisles or on the perimeter of each location can accommodate wheelchairs, though please ask a volunteer if you need additional assistance.

The Amphitheater Bowl is an ideal place for anyone who desires more physical space around them. With the professional livestream of the service on a jumbo screen, all will be able to fully participate in services.

Please feel free to move away from services at any time to create your own "Shalom (peace) Zone." The beauty of the Gardens is that we have access to all the open space around us! We also invite you to bring any quiet sensory items that might help you and your family have the best experience. It is of utmost importance to respect this sacred space and keep unnecessary noise to a minimum.

#### Hearing

There will be an American Sign Language interpreter on-site for the seven services at the Gardens. The interpreter will be located under the Tent. Look for the special signage or ask a volunteer for assistance if needed. Al-generated closed captioning will also be provided on all projected and streamed services.

For those who would benefit from amplified projection, the speakers at the Gardens project quite loudly and we encourage you to sit close to one of these speakers. For those with sound sensitivity, we encourage you to sit further away from the speakers and consider bringing headphones or earplugs for very young or highly sensitive ears.

#### Sight

There will be several large monitors within the Tent to provide high-quality visibility of the stage for all. In addition, there will be a livestream of the service on a jumbo screen within the Bowl area as well as inside the Hall.

Both printed and digital Machzors (prayerbooks) will be available, and the digital version can be zoomed in to accommodate a large print need. You are, of course, welcome to bring your own magnifying tools if you would like.

#### Restrooms

Accessible restrooms are available throughout the Gardens. This includes within the Bonfils-Stanton Visitor Center, across from Mitchell Hall in the Boettcher Memorial Center, and inside Marnie's Pavilion adjacent to the Tent. In addition, there are family restrooms across from Mitchell Hall and nonbinary gender restrooms in the Freyer-Newman Center. Please ask a volunteer on-site if you need directions.

## Nursing Parent's Room

A private nursing parent's room is available upstairs in Marnie's Pavillion - Evergreen B Room. Please ask a volunteer onsite if you need directions.

### **Machzors (Prayerbooks)**

Printed Machzors will be provided at Erev Rosh Hashanah, the Rosh Hashanah Main Service, Kol Nidre, and the Yom Kippur Main Service. Digital versions will be available for downloading and viewing for all services (including the Family Service).

If you would like to have a digital version, please visit **jewishhighholidays.org**\* and click on Machzors in the upper right corner.

\*Please note that this site will not be live until we are closer to the High Holidays.

## Safety & Health Protocols

To support the safety of our community during High Holidays, we are implementing many security measures throughout the Gardens. There will be uniformed officers throughout the service spaces to monitor concerns. Know that there will be a bomb-sniffing dog roaming the Gardens. We will have a dedicated team of volunteers at each service acting as additional eyes to watch for issues.

Based upon the recommendations of our security team, if children will be joining you at services, please ensure that they stay close to you as we have had missing children in the past. Strollers and car seats are not permitted in the tent due to safety and egress issues. There will be stroller parking available outside the Tent.

There will be paramedics on-site to assist community members in case of a health issue. While we pray there are no safety incidents, we ask that each community member be alert and report anything of concern to a designated volunteer or uniformed police officer. Together, we can keep our community safe.

For any health and safety restrictions or protocols, please check directly with the Gardens. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, please honor the health and well-being of others and consider joining us through the livestream service instead of attending in person.

## What to Wear & Bring

The weather for services will vary depending on forecasted weather conditions. Check the weather for the Gardens <u>here</u> to best plan attire and inclement weather gear. <u>Services will</u> <u>happen rain or shine</u>, though in the case of a severe weather occurrence, evacuation plans are in place. For those sitting outside, wear clothing that is warm and comfortable. Indoor attendees may consider an additional layer due to the air conditioning.

We will be offering yarmulkes (head coverings) this year. Please plan to bring your own prayer shawls.

Be sure to stay hydrated! Water will be available at each service space, as well as at the Gardens' various food locations. We highly recommend that you bring your own water bottle for refilling.

There will be no food offered on-site by Judaism Your Way. Food can be purchased at one of the Gardens' restaurants. <u>Find more information here.</u>

As we mentioned earlier, quiet sensory items that might help you and your family have the best experience are welcomed. However, we ask that you do not bring toys that will be loud or a distraction to others (specifically no balls).