

Ushpizin Info Sheets

Day 1: Avraham

Avraham's story: Avraham was guided by God to Eretz *Yisrael*, the land of Israel – then known as the land of Canaan, where he was chosen to be the leader of the Israelites, and promised by God to receive great blessings. Together with his wife, Sarah, he taught people about the existence of only one God. Despite waiting for many years for a child, Avraham always trusted in God and eventually was blessed with a son, Yitzhak. It is said that Avraham had to undergo ten tests or difficult challenges, the hardest among them being *akeidat Yitzhak*, in which God asked Avraham to sacrifice his son, something which Avraham was prepared to do and therefore was greatly rewarded for.

Avraham's character traits: Avraham is known for the quality of love, accepting everyone and spreading love wherever he went. Avraham is also known for the quality of *chesed*, loving-kindness, and for his hospitality. It is said that Avraham's tent was open on all four sides, welcoming in anyone who passed by and caring for all of their needs. Avraham is also known for his bravery, leaving behind his home to follow God's command to come to *Eretz Yisrael*, as well as his other tests.