

WHEN TO GO TO THE CEMETERY

PERMITTED / FORBIDDEN

Who can visit a cemetery? When? There are so many doubts, good and unfounded customs...regarding the idea of going to a cemetery to visit a relative or even a righteous person. Here is a clear picture on this subject:

	PERMITTED	FORBIDDEN
SHABBAT		X
ROSH CHODESH		X <i>Permitted in case of great need, but no tears may be shed.¹</i>
YOM TOV		X
CHOL HAMOED		X <i>Permitted in case of great need, but no tears may be shed.²</i>
CHANUKA AND PURIM		X <i>Permitted in case of great need, but no tears may be shed.³</i>
MONTH OF NISSAN		X <i>Permitted in case of great need, but no tears may be shed.⁴</i>
NIGHT	✓ ⁵	
FIRST YEAR OF MARRIAGE	✓ ⁶	
WOMEN	<i>The Vilna Gaon says ✓ that women should not go unless they need to. Forbidden according to Kabbala⁷</i>	
PREGNANT WOMAN	<i>The Vilna Gaon says ✓ that pregnant women should not go unless they need to. To avoid if possible⁸</i>	
WOMAN DURING MENSTRUATION	<i>The Vilna Gaon says ✓ that they should not go unless they need to. Some avoid going during this time.⁹</i>	
CHILDREN	✓ ¹⁰	

SOURCES: | 1: Yalkut Yossef, Avêlut [edition 5767], pg 630. | 2: Yalkut Yossef, Avelut [edition 5767], pg 628-629. | 3: Yalkut Yossef, Avelut [edition 5767], pg 632. | 4: Yalkut Yossef, Avelut [edition 5767], page 630. | 5: See Talmud Nidda 17a, Talmud Sanhedrin 65b and Shmirat Haguf Vehanefesh, chapter 121, Halacha 1. | 6: Yalkut Yossef, Avelut [edition 5767], pg 242 and 322 | 7: Yalkut Yossef, Avelut [edition 5767], pg 240 and 252-253. | 8: Yalkut Yossef, Avelut [edition 5767], pg 253 | 9: But for the seven days, the 30 days and the year, it is normal to permit it | 10: No such prohibition is mentioned anywhere. On the contrary, it can help them to better understand the world.

