

# The MODERN JEWISH EXPERIENCE

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A Contemporary Twist to Jewish Life in Chicago

Since 2018

## BACK TO SCHOOL TIPS

Read more on page 24.

### THE DO'S AND DON'TS: FOODS THAT YOU DON'T ACTUALLY NEED TO KEEP IN THE REFRIGERATOR

Do you ever wonder if certain foods actually belong in the refrigerator or not? Do you ever find that specific items aren't lasting you as long as you expect? Learn about the truth behind which food belongs in the fridge and which don't on page 26.



### THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

As the days, months and years go by, there are becoming fewer and fewer Holocaust survivors. Now more than ever, teaching about the Holocaust is something that every teacher should consider a part of their curriculum. Find out more about the importance of Holocaust Education on page 18.



End Your  
**SUMMER**  
WITH SAVINGS

AT THE ALL-NEW  
**ZEIGLER**  
LINCOLNWOOD



# AROUND THE WORLD

## SPENDING SHAVUOT IN PUERTO VALLARTA WITH CHABAD

By Mira Temkin

We had an opportunity to visit Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in June. But we also wanted to celebrate Shavuot. Could we do both? Thanks to Chabad of Puerto Vallarta, we were able to enjoy Shabbat services, followed by a festive Shabbat dinner as well as services and an Ice Cream Social for the holiday.

Chabad of Puerto Vallarta, located in downtown Puerto Vallarta, offers a variety of traditional holiday services, year round Shabbat services and Shabbat dinners as well as access to kosher food. They also offer fresh catered meals delivered directly to your hotel room via [www.kosherVallarta.com](http://www.kosherVallarta.com).

Helmed by Rabbi Shneur Hecht, who was born and raised in Chicago, his lovely wife, Mushkie and their two adorable children, Chabad offers a range of programs for the local Jewish community as well as visitors from across the globe. If you're going to be

in Puerto Vallarta for Passover, Purim, Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur Sukkot and Simchat Torah or Shabbat, become a part of their vibrant Jewish community while you're there. [www.Chabadvallarta.com](http://www.Chabadvallarta.com).

Velas Properties – All Inclusive Resorts  
Our vacation destination was the Velas Vallarta resort, located near the Puerto Vallarta Marina ([www.velasvallarta.com](http://www.velasvallarta.com)). This popular, all-inclusive family-friendly beachfront resort offers three sparkling swimming pools, waterfalls, lush tropical gardens and a lazy river. A championship 18-hole golf course is just steps away. The resort offers a range of accommodations with fully-stocked kitchens for those early morning breakfasts or snacks throughout the day. Kids are king at the resort with a Kids Club that rocks for those 4-12.

Supervised activities include treasure hunts, cooking classes, water balloon fights, making sand castles as well as a variety of arts and crafts projects and tennis clinics. Does your little one love music? Let them take guitar and maracas lessons from a local musician!

As another option, Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit ([vallarta.grandvelas.com](http://vallarta.grandvelas.com)) is located about 20 minutes north of Puerto Vallarta. The resort features 267 ocean-view suites,

some with private plunge pools, and all with fully stocked mini bar, L'Occitane amenities and Nespresso machines. The resort has six restaurants serving French, Italian and Mexican gourmet cuisine. Other features include a fitness center, 24/7 in suite service, water sports, business center, tennis, baby concierge, Kids' Club, and state-of-the-art Teens' Club.

If you'd like to go sans children, consider the adults-only Casa Velas ([hotelcasavelas.com](http://hotelcasavelas.com)) which offers 80, all-inclusive luxury accommodations, right around the corner from Velas Vallarta. This intimate, boutique resort on the beach offers a relaxing environment in an oasis of peace and tranquility. Enjoy Asian-inspired dishes at their Ocean Club or creative gourmet cuisine in an elegant dining space at Emiliano's. World-class golf is just a few steps away.

For your next vacation, consider Puerto Vallarta. From glorious beaches and gourmet dining to great outdoor adventure and fabulous shopping, Puerto Vallarta has more than enough to keep you busy – or keep you happy doing nothing at all. [Visitpuertovallarta.com](http://Visitpuertovallarta.com)

*Resort pictures courtesy of Velas Vallarta.*



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