



Faith Calendar

JANUARY

01	Gantan-sai	Start of three day celebrations to mark the New Year	卐
05	Birth of Guru Gobind Singh	Tenth Sikh Guru and the last one in human form; founded the Brotherhood of the Pure (Khalsa)	⚔
06	Epiphany	Celebrates the visit of the Three Wise Men (Magi) to the infant Jesus	✝
07	Christmas Day (celebrated in Ethiopia)	Celebrated on this day to coincide with Christmas in Ethiopia	🦁
07	Christmas Day (Eastern Orthodox)	Celebrated on this day by Eastern Orthodox Christians	✝
12	Birthday of Swami Vivekananda	Celebrates the birth of one of the most celebrated spritual leaders of India	ॐ
13	Maghi/Lohri	Celebrates the sacrifice of the 40 Sikhs who fought for Guru Gorbind & is celebrated with bonfires	⚔
21	Tu B'Shevat	Marks the beginning of the 'new year' for trees	🍷
27	Holocaust Memorial Day	Remembering the millions of people killed in the Holocaust	

FEBRUARY

01	Imbolc	Honours the goddess Brigid and marks the return of Spring	⬮
02	Candlemas	Commemorates the presentation of the baby Jesus in the Jerusalem Temple and the purification of his mother after giving birth	✝
03	Setsubun	Part of the Spring festival with special ritual to ward off evil	卐
05	Chinese New Year	Most important of the traditional Chinese holidays	🌸
10	Saraswati Puja	Celebrating the Goddess Saraswati - the goddess of knowledge	ॐ
15	Parinirvana	Celebration to mark the final passing of the Buddha	🌸
19	Maga Puj	Takes place on the full moon day commemorating the life of the Buddha	🌸
25-01	Ayyám-i-Há	Intercalary days	🌸

MARCH

01	St David's Day	Commemorates the patron Saint of Wales	✝
01	Nineteen Day Fast	Adults fast from sunrise to sunset for 19 days; important time for prayer, reflection and spiritual renewal	🌸
04	Maha Shivaratri	Festival celebrated in reverence of Lord Shiva	ॐ
05	Shrove Tuesday	The day of preparation for Lent (the 40 days leading up to Easter), traditionally marked by eating pancakes	✝
06	Ash Wednesday	First day of Lent Many Christians receive a cross of ash on their foreheads in church as a symbol of mortality and penance	✝
08	Birthday of Sri Ramakrishna	Celebrating the birth of the Hindu mystic and saint	ॐ
17	St Patrick's Day	Commemorates the patron Saint of Ireland	✝
20	Spring Equinox	Celebration of Spring	⬮
20-21	Holi	Festival of Colour marking the end of winter	ॐ
20-21	Naw-Rúz	End of the 19 day fast and the beginning of the Baha'i New Year	🌸
21	Purim	Celebration of Jewish deliverance as told in the Book of Esther	🍷
21	Birthday of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and Holi	Celebrating the birth of the Hindu mystic and saint	ॐ
21	Shubu-Sai	A day for visiting graves	卐
28	Khordad Sal	Celebrating the birth date of Zoroaster	✠

APRIL

08	Hanamatsuri	Flower festival celebrating the birthday of Shakyamuni, whose teachings form the basis of Buddhism	卐
14	Palm Sunday	The first day of Holy Week, commemorating Jesus' triumphal arrival in Jerusalem before his arrest and death	✝
14	Ram Navami	Celebrates the founding of the Khalsa, the Brotherhood of the Pure by Guru Gobind Singh	ॐ
14	Vaisakhi	Marks the creation of Sikhism and the ordination of the Khalsa	⚔
17	Mahavir Jayanti	Celebrates the birth of Lord Mahavira, the last Tirthankara (saviour)	👉
18	Maundy Thursday	Commemorates the Last Supper	✝
19	Good Friday	Commemorates the death of Jesus by crucifixion	✝
19	Hanuman Jayanti	Celebrated to commemorate the birth of Hanuman	ॐ
20-27	Passover	Celebrates the Exodus, the freedom from slavery of the Children of Israel from ancient Egypt that followed the Ten Plagues	🍷
21	Easter Day	Christians celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead The Easter season lasts for 50 days to Pentecost	✝

21-02	Feast of Ridván	Start of festival commemorating the commencement of Baha'u'llah's prophethood	🌸
23	St George's Day	Commemorates the patron Saint of England	✝
28	Easter Day (Orthodox Christianity)	Based on the Julian calendar	✝
29	Ninth Day of Ridván	Day when Baha'u'llah's family joined him at the Najibiyyih Garden, Baghdad	🌸

MAY

01	Beltan	Celebration of fertility marking the beginning of Summer	⬮
02	Yom HaShoah	Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, serves as a day of remembrance for those who perished in the Shoah (Holocaust)	🍷
02	Twelfth Day of Ridvan	Close of the festival	🌸
03	Isra and Mi'raj	Commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and his ascent into heaven	🌙
06	Ramadan	Starts the most significant month for Muslims; precise date varies as it is determined by the sighting of the crescent moon Marks a period of daily fasting from dawn to sunset	🌙
18	Wesak	Celebration of Buddha's enlightenment	🌸
23-24	Declaration of the BáB	Celebrates The Bab's declaration of his mission as the messenger of God	🌸
29	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Commerates death of Bahá'u'lláh, founder of the Bahá'í faith	🌸
30	Ascension Day	Marks the ascension of Jesus Christ to Heaven after he rose from the dead on Easter Sunday	✝

JUNE

01	Laylat al-Qadr	Marks the night in which the Qur'an was first revealed	🌙
04-05	Eid al-Fitr	Marks the end of Ramadan with an additional morning congregational prayer in the mosque	🌙
09-10	Shavuot	Celebrates the giving of the Torah (Five Books of Moses), the first harvest, and the ripening of the first fruits	🍷
09	Pentecost/Whitsun	Marks the appearance of the Holy Spirit	✝
16	Martyrdom of the Guru Arjan Dev	Commemorates the fifth Sikh Guru and first Sikh martyr	⚔
21	Midsummer's Day	A celebration of the sun's power on the longest day of the year	⬮
29	Feast of Saints Peter and Paul	Observed by Roman Catholics, Anglicans and Lutherans	✝

JULY

04	Rath Yatra	Public procession and chariot festival	ॐ
10	Martyrdom of the Bab	Commemorates The Bab's execution in 1850, after which his teachings continued to spread	🌸
16	Guru Purnima Day	An Indian and Nepalese festival dedicated to spiritual and academic teachers	ॐ
17	Asala-Dharma Day	Commemorates Buddha's first teaching to the five ascetics in the Deer Park near Benares, India	🌸
23	Birthday of Emperor Halle Selassie I	A holy day of commemoration for Rastafarians	🦁

AUGUST

01	Lughnasadh	Marks the first day of harvest	⬮
09-14	The Hajj	Once in a lifetime pilgrimage to Makkah; is the largest gathering of Muslims anywhere in the world	🌙
10	Yawm Arafah	2nd day of Hajj, day of repentance and acceptance of supplications, many non pilgrims fast on this holiest day in Islam	🌙
11	Tisha B'Av	Anniversary of the destruction of the Temple of Solomon by Nebuchadnezzar and of the Second Temple by Titus	🍷
11-15	Eid al-Adha	Marks the sacrifice made by Prophet Abraham	🌙
15	The Blessed Virgin Mary	Celebration of the mother of Jesus, Catholic Christians keep this day as Mary's Assumption into heaven before death.	✝
15	Raksha Bandhan	Celebrates the love and duty between sisters and brothers	ॐ
23	Janmashtami	Celebrates the birthday of Lord Krishna, believed to have shown himself in human form 5,000 years ago	ॐ
31-01	Al-Hijra	The Islamic New Year	🌙

SEPTEMBER

02	Ganesh Chaturthi	Festival that commemorates God Ganesha's birthday	ॐ
03	Samvatsari	Holiest day of the Jain calendar, spent in prayers and contemplation	👉

OCTOBER

03	Durga Puja-Dussehra	End of Navratri	ॐ
09	Yom Kippur	Holiest day of the Jewish calendar, marked by a 25-hour fast and solemn prayer to repent for the previous year's sins	🍷
12	Lakshmi Puja	Most important day of Diwali devoted to Goddess Lakshmi	ॐ
14-20	Sukkot	Tabernacles or Feast of Booths	🍷
20	First reading of Guru Granth Sahib	The Sikh scripture is installed at the Golden Temple for the first time	⚔
21	Shemini Atzeres	The "eighth day" following Sukkot	🍷
22	Simchat Torah	Celebrates and marks the conclusion of the annual cycle of public Torah reading	🍷
27	Bandi Chhor Divas	Commemorates the peaceful release of 52 kings and princes by sixth Sikh Guru (Guru Hargobind) darkness and knowledge over ignorance	⚔
27	Diwali	Festival of lights symbolising the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance	ॐ
28-29	Birth of the BáB	Celebrates the birthday of The Bab, forerunner, who prepared their way for Baha'u'llah	🌸
29-30	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	One of the twin founders of the Baha'i faith, who was born in 1817	🌸
31-01	Samhain	Marks the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter	⬮

NOVEMBER

01	All Saints Day	Honours all Saints in Christian history	✝
02	All Souls Day	Commemorates the faithful departed,family members and friends who have died	✝
09-10	Mawlid	Observance of the birthday of prophet Muhammed	🌙
10	Remembrance Sunday	Commemerating the contribution of military service people in the two World Wars and later conflicts	
11-18	Inter Faith Week	A week to focus on inter faith understanding and cooperation	
12	Guru Nanak Birthday	Celebrates the birth of the first Sikh guru	⚔
12	Sangha Day	Celebration in honour of the Sangha, and a chance for people to reaffirm their commitment to Buddhist practices and traditions	🌸
15	Shichi-Go-San	Festival celebrating the growth and well-being of young children	卐
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur	Commemorates the 9th Sikh guru who undertook the sacrifice for protection of the oppressed	⚔
25-26	Day of the Covenant	When Bahá'is celebrate the appointment of `Abdu'l-Bahá as the Centre of Baha'u'llah's Covenant	🌸
28	Ascension of `Abdu'l-Bahá	Commemorates the death of `Abdu'l-Bahá	🌸
30	Saint Andrew's Day	Feast day of Saint Andrew	✝

DECEMBER

01	Advent Sunday	The first day of the season of Advent	✝
07	Geeta Jayanti	Commemorates the birthday of Bhagvad Gita, the sacred text of Hindu	ॐ
13	Bodhi Day	Commemorates the day that the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni) experienced enlightenment	🌸
22	Birthday of Holy Mother Sarada Devi	Commemorates the birthday of the Hindu mystic and saint	ॐ
23-30	Hanukkah	Celebrates the rededication of Jerusalem's Second Temple and the miracle of its menorah, which was kept alight for eight days with one day's oil	🍷
24	Christmas Eve	The day before Christmas Day	✝
25	Christmas Day	Commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ and is widely celebrated by the exchanging of gifts	✝

Dates used are correct to the best of our knowledge. Some dates may vary regionally because they are determined by the lunar calendar. All Muslim festivals are subject to confirmation of sighting of the crescent moon.



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