

# November

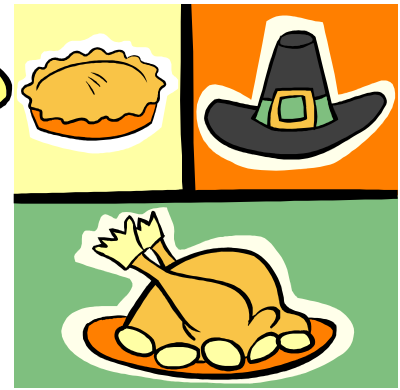
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b> Beltane or Samhain All Saint's/ All Saint's Day Revolution Day (Algeria) Children's Day (Panama)	<b>2</b> Anniversary of the crowning of Haile Selassie All Soul's All Soul's Day of the Dead	<b>3</b> Culture Day (Japan) Independence Day (Panama) Sandwich Day (USA)	<b>4</b> Bandi Chhor Divas
<b>5</b> Guy Fawkes Day (England) Floating the Flower Boats Festival (Thailand)	<b>6</b> Installation of Holy Scriptures as Guru Granth Sahib Ji Constitution Memorial Day (Dominican Republic)	<b>7</b> Melbourne Cup (Australia) Commemoration Day (Tunisia) Thanksgiving Day (Liberia)	<b>8</b> Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji	<b>9</b> Berlin Wall Opening Day (Germany) National Independence Day (Cambodia)	<b>10</b> Police Day (Russia) Cry of Independence (Palau)	<b>11</b> Veteran's Day Matinmas Sadie Hawkins Day (USA)
<b>12</b> Birth of Bahauallah Father's Day (Finland)	<b>13</b> Harvest Festival (US Virgin Islands)	<b>14</b> National Day of Mourning (Germany)	<b>15</b> Shichi-go-san (7-5- 3) Republic Day (Brazil) Peace Day (Ivory Coast)	<b>16</b> Correction Day (Syria) International Day for Tolerance Anniversary of Huaripampa (Peru)	<b>17</b> Student Youth Day (Turkmenistan) Malabo Fiesta (Equatorial Guinea) Army Day (Zaire)	<b>18</b> Flag Day (Uzbekistan) Mickey Mouse's Birthday (USA) Vertieres' Day (Haiti) National Day (Latvia)
<b>19</b> US Marine Corps Day (USA) Discovery Puerto Rico	<b>20</b> Children's Day (USA) Teacher's Day (Vietnam)	<b>21</b> Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji (Nanakshahi) World TV Day	<b>22</b> Feast of St. Cecilia (St. Lucia) Independence Day (Lebanon) JFK Assassination (USA)	<b>23</b> Labor Thanksgiving Day (Japan)	<b>24</b> Thanksgiving (USA) Woman's Day (Denmark)	<b>25</b> Mange Yam
<b>26</b> Day of the Covenant	<b>27</b> Anniversary of Cerro de Pasco (Peru)	<b>28</b> Ascension of Abdul-Baha Flag Day (Albania)	<b>29</b> Unity Day (Vanuatu) Republic Day (Serbia) Liberation Day (Albania)	<b>30</b> St. Andrew's Day Bonifacio Day (Philippines)		

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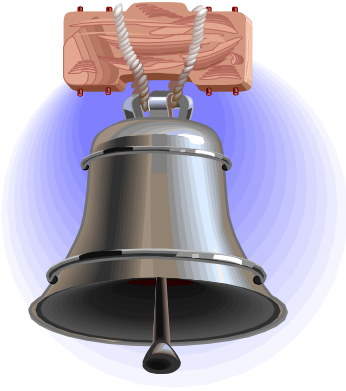
# December

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					<b>1</b> World Aids Day Restoration Day (Macau)	<b>2</b> Republic Day (Laos) International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
<b>3</b> International Day for People with a Disability (Australia)	<b>4</b> Kamolol Day (Marshall Islands)	<b>5</b> King's Birthday (Thailand) International Volunteers Day	<b>6</b> St. Nicholas Day (Italy) Constitution Day (Spain)	<b>7</b> Good Neighborliness Day (Turkmenistan) Pearl Harbor Day (USA)	<b>8</b> Immaculate Conception Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji (Bikarami)	<b>9</b> Constitution Day (Northern Marinas) Independence Day (Tanzania)
<b>10</b> Ganga-Bois Human Rights Day	<b>11</b> Proclamation of the Republic (Burkina Faso)	<b>12</b> Agoue-Arroyo Constitution Day (Russia)	<b>13</b> St. Lucia (Sweden) National Tree Planting Day (Malawi)	<b>14</b> Chingshan Wang's Birthday (Taiwan)	<b>15</b> Fast of Tebet (Israel) Kingdom Day (St. Martin) Constitution Day (Nepal)	<b>16</b> Day of Reconciliation (S. Africa) Hanukkah (through January 23 <sup>rd</sup> )
<b>17</b> National Day (Bhutan) Special Holiday Western Province (Solomon Island)	<b>18</b> Republic Day (Niger)	<b>19</b> Separation Day (Anguilla) St. Nicholas Day (Orthodox) Ukraine	<b>20</b> Day of Mourning (Panama) Louisiana Purchase Day (USA)	<b>21</b> Winter Begins Alban Arthuan or Alban Heruin Litha or Yule	<b>22</b> Army Day (Vietnam) Winter Solstice Holiday (Hong Kong)	<b>23</b> Feast of the Radishes (Oaxaca only) (Mexico) Queen's Birthday (Sweden)
<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Constitution Day (Micronesia)	<b>25</b> Christmas Bain de Noel Johnkanus Children's Day (Congo)	<b>26</b> Kwanzaa Zartusht-No-Diso Boxing Day (Canada)	<b>27</b> Public Holiday (Hong Kong) Family Day (Vanuatu)	<b>28</b> Holy Innocents' Day (Mexico)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Republic Day (Madagascar) Rizal Day (Philippines)
<b>31</b> New Years Eve Omisoaka Asara B'Tevet						

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**Hanukkah** (הַכֹּנֶה *ḥānukkāh*, or הַכּוֹנֶה *ḥānūkkāh*) is a Jewish holiday, also known as the **Festival of lights**. "Hanukkah" is a Hebrew word meaning "dedication". The first evening of Hanukkah starts after the sunset of the 24th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, and the holiday is celebrated for eight days. Since in Jewish tradition the calendar date starts at sunset, Hanukkah begins on the 16th. Before the 20th century, Hanukkah was a relatively minor holiday. However, with the rise of Christmas as the biggest holiday in the Western world and the establishment of the modern state of Israel, Hanukkah began increasingly to serve both as a celebration of the restoration of Jewish sovereignty in Israel and, more importantly, as a December family-oriented gift-giving holiday which could be a Jewish substitute for the Christian one. Hanukkah celebrates the Maccabees and Judas Maccabeus' successful rebellion against the ancient Greeks, the purification of the Temple, the miracle of the Menorah's lights burning for eight days with only enough (olive) oil for one day and the victory of the "few" over the "many", the "pure" over the "impure"



The **Day of the Dead** (*Día de los Muertos*, *Día de los Difuntos* or *Día de Muertos* in Spanish) is an ancient Aztec celebration in memory of deceased ancestors, celebrated on November 1 (All Saints' Day) and November 2 (All Souls' Day). The holiday is especially popular in Mexico, where it is a national holiday, and is celebrated in the Philippines, in Mexican-American communities in the United States, and to a lesser extent in other Latin American countries. It is a public holiday in Brazil, where many Brazilians celebrate it by visiting cemeteries and churches, bringing flowers, lighting candles and praying. Though the subject matter may be considered morbid from the perspective of some other cultures, Mexicans celebrate the Day of the Dead joyfully, and though it occurs at the same time as Halloween, All Saints' Day and All Souls Day, the traditional mood is much brighter with emphasis on celebrating and honoring the lives of the deceased, and celebrating the continuation of life; the belief is not that death is the end, but rather the beginning of a new stage in life.

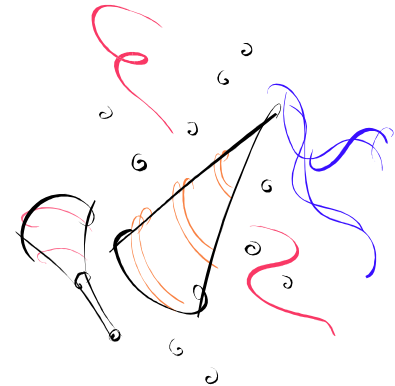


**Guy Fawkes Night** is an annual celebration on the evening of the 5th of November primarily in the United Kingdom, but also in New Zealand, South Africa, the province of Newfoundland (Canada), and formerly in Australia. It celebrates the failure of the Gunpowder Plot, in which a group of Catholic conspirators attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London on the evening of 5 November 1605, when the Protestant King James I (James VI of Scotland) was within its walls. The celebrations, which in the United Kingdom take place in towns and villages across the country, involve fireworks displays and the building of bonfires on which "guys", or dummies, representing, Guy Fawkes, the most famous of the conspirators are burnt. In the United Kingdom, there are several other traditions that accompany Guy Fawkes/Bonfire night: the eating of bonfire toffee, a dark type of toffee made with black treacle; Parkin, a cake made with the same black treacle; toffee apples, the traditional 'apple lollipop', which consists of an apple coated in toffee on top of a stick; and baked potatoes, which are wrapped in foil and cooked in the bonfire.

Key:

- Baha'i
- Celticism
- Christianity
- Judaism
- Zoroastrian
- Nonreligious
- Paganism
- Rastafarian
- Shinto
- Sikhism
- Voudon

**Christmas** (literally, the *Mass of Christ*) is a holiday in the Christian calendar, usually observed on December 25, which celebrates the birth of Jesus. According to the Christian gospels, Jesus was born to Mary in Bethlehem, where she and her husband Joseph had traveled to register in the Roman census. Christ's birth, or nativity, was said by his followers to fulfill the prophecies of Judaism that a messiah would come, from the house of David, to redeem the world from sin. In predominantly Christian countries, Christmas has become the most economically significant holiday of the year, and it is also celebrated as a secular holiday in many countries with small Christian populations. It is largely characterized by exchanging gifts within families, and by gifts brought by Santa Claus or other mythical figures. Local and regional Christmas traditions are still rich and varied, despite the widespread influence of American and British Christmas motifs through literature, television, and other media.



**Thanksgiving** is an annual holiday celebrated in much of North America, generally observed as an expression of gratitude. The most common view of its origin is that it was to give thanks to God for the bounty of the autumn harvest. Thanksgiving is traditionally celebrated with a feast shared among friends and family. In both Canada and the United States, it is an important family gathering, and people often travel long distances to be with family members for the celebration. Thanksgiving is closely related to harvest festivals that had long been a traditional holiday in much of Europe. Most people recognize the first Thanksgiving as taking place on an unremembered date, sometime in the autumn of 1621, when the Pilgrims held a three-day feast to celebrate the bountiful harvest they reaped following their first winter in North America.

**Kwanzaa** is a week-long holiday observance held from December 26 to January 1 honoring African-American heritage, primarily in the United States. Kwanzaa is not a religious holiday, but a cultural one based on various elements of the first harvest celebrations widely celebrated in Africa, around the 10th month of the year. The additional "a" was added to "Kwanza" so that the word would have seven letters, one for each of the Seven Principles, or *Nguzo (originally, Nguzu) Saba*, of Blackness. Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the following principles. In order, they are: *Umoja* (Unity), *Kujichagulia* (Self-determination), *Ujima* (Collective work and responsibility), *Ujamaa* (Cooperative economics), *Nia* (Purpose), *Kuumba* (Creativity), and *Imani* (Faith).

**Boxing Day** is a public holiday observed in many Commonwealth countries on 26 December. In many European countries it is also a holiday, called **St Stephen's Day** or the **Second Day of Christmas**. There is much dispute over the true origins of Boxing Day, but one common story of the holiday's origins is that servants and tradesmen received Christmas gifts from their employers on the first weekday after Christmas, the day after the family celebrations. These were generally called their "Christmas boxes." Another story is that this is the day that priests broke open the collection boxes and distributed the money to the poor. Boxing Day in the UK is traditionally a day of sport, usually football and horseracing. In Canada, Boxing Day is also observed as a public holiday, and is a day when stores sell their excess Christmas inventory at significantly reduced prices. Boxing Day has become so important for retailers that they often extend it into a "Boxing Week".