

insideinformation – fact sheet

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

All dates are shown using the British calendar. Some dates may vary regionally because they are determined by the lunar Calendar. Jewish festivals normally start at dusk on the day before. Festivals (in Bold) are where prisoners are normally excused from work; there may be other dates also.

January

Friday 1 January

Christian : Circumcision, New Year's Day, Festival of St Basil the Great
Shinto: Oshogatsu or Shogatsu - Shinto New Year

Sunday 3 January

Christian: Epiphany (Catholic Church in England and Wales)

Tuesday 5 January

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Wednesday 6 January

Armenian Orthodox: Christmas Day

Christian: Epiphany (also known as Dia de los Reyes - Three Kings Day)
Christian (Orthodox): Theophany (Orthodox)

Thursday 7 January

Christian (Orthodox): Christmas Day
Rastafari: Christmas Day (Ethiopian)

Sunday 10 January

Christian: First Sunday after Epiphany, Baptism of the Lord

Wednesday 13 January

Christian: St Hilary's Day

Thursday 14 January

Hindu: Makar Sankrant

Friday 15 January

Christian: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (start)
Shinto: Seijin Shiki (Adults' Day)

Wednesday 20 January

Hindu: Vasant Panchami - The beginning of Spring

Thursday 21 January

Christian: St Agnes - Patron Saint of girls

Monday 25 January

Christian: St Paul's Day

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Wednesday 27 January

UK: National Holocaust Memorial Day (the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau)

Thursday 28 January

Christian: St Thomas Aquinas

Saturday 30 January

Jewish: Tu B'Shevat

Sunday 31 January

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Har Rai (Nanakshahi Calendar)

February

Tuesday 2 February

Christian: Candlemas

Pagan: Imbolc

Wednesday 3 February

Shinto: Rissun (Setsubun)

Monday 8 February

Buddhist: Parinirvana - Nirvana Day

Thursday 11 February

Christian: Our Lady of Lourdes

Friday 12 February

Hindu: Maha Shivratri

Sunday 14 February

Chinese: Chinese New Year (Tiger)

Christian: St Valentine's Day

Monday 15 February

Buddhist: Nirvana day (alternative date to 8 February)

Christian (Orthodox): Beginning of Lent

Tuesday 16 February

Christian: Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Day, Mardi Gras

Wednesday 17 February

Christian: Ash Wednesday (start of Lent)

Thursday 25 February

Jewish: Fast of Esther (Taanit Esther)

Friday 26 February

Muslim: Milad un Nabi (Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad)

Sunday 28 February

Hindu: Holi - The Hindu spring festival.

Jewish: Purim

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

March

Monday 1 March

Christian: St David's Day

Jewish: Shushan Purim

Sikh: Hola Mohalla (Lunar Calendar)

Tuesday 2 March

Bahai: Nineteen Day Fast (Start - ends 20 March)

Wednesday 3 March

Muslim: Milad un Nabi (Shia)

Shinto: Hina-matsuri - Festival of Dolls

Friday 5 March

Christian: St Piran's Day (Cornwall), Women's World Day of Prayer

Sunday 14 March

Christian: Mothering Sunday

Wednesday 17 March

Christian: St Patrick's Day

Bank Holiday (Northern Ireland)

Friday 19 March

Christian: St Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 20 March

Pagan: Easter - Spring Equinox

Sunday 21 March

Bahai: Naw-Ruz - Baha'i New Year

Shinto: Shubun-sai - Equinox day (Also associated with Buddhism in Japan)

Zoroastrian: Jamshedi Noruz (Fasli) - New Year's Day in the Fasli Calendar

Wednesday 24 March

Hindu: Rama Navami, Swaminarayan Jayanti

Thursday 25 March

Christian: Annunciation

Friday 26 March

Zoroastrian: Khordad Sal (Fasli)

Sunday 28 March

British Summertime begins

Christian: Palm Sunday

Jain: Mahavira Jayanti

Monday 29 March

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Jewish: Fast of the Firstborn

Tuesday 30 March

Buddhist: Theravada New Year, Magha Puja

Hindu: Hanuman Jayanti

Jewish: Passover (until 6th April)

April

Thursday 1 April

Christian: Maundy Thursday

Christian (Orthodox): Holy Thursday

Friday 2 April

Christian: Good Friday

Saturday 3 April

Buddhist: Buddha's Birthday

Sunday 4 April

Christian: Easter Sunday

Christian (Orthodox): Easter

Monday 5 April

Easter Monday - Bank Holiday

Tuesday 6 April

Jewish: Passover (final day)

Sunday 11 April

Jewish: Yom Hashoah - The Jewish Holocaust Memorial Day

Sikh: Vaisakhi / Baisakhi

Wednesday 14 April

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Nanak (Nanakshahi Calendar), Hola Mohalla (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Sunday 18 April

Jewish: Yom Hazikaron

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Nanakshahi Calendar), Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Monday 19 April

Jewish: Yom Ha'atzmaut - Israel's Independence Day

Wednesday 21 April

Bahai: Ridvan - first day

Rastafari: Anniversary of Haile Selassie's visit to Jamaica

Friday 23 April

Christian: St George's Day

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Thursday 29 April

Bahai: Ridvan - ninth day

May

Saturday 1 May

Pagan: Beltane

Sunday 2 May

Bahai: Ridvan - twelfth day

Jewish: Lag B'Omer

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Monday 3 May

Early May Bank Holiday (England and Wales and Northern Ireland)

Wednesday 12 May

Jewish: Yom Yerushalayim - Jerusalem Day

Thursday 13 May

Christian: Ascension Day

Sunday 16 May

Christian (Catholic Church in England and Wales): Ascension Day

Wednesday 19 May

Jewish: Shavuot (1st day) - Pentecost

Sunday 23 May

Bahai: Declaration of the Bab

Christian: Pentecost - Whitsun

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Thursday 27 May

Buddhist: Wesak or Buddha day

Saturday 29 May

Bahai: Ascension of Baha'u'llah

Sunday 30 May

Christian: Trinity Sunday

Christian (Orthodox): All Saints' Day

Monday 31 May

Spring Bank Holiday (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)

June

Thursday 3 June

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Christian: Corpus Christi

Sunday 6 June

Christian: Corpus Christi (Catholic Church in England and Wales)

Wednesday 16 June

Sikh: Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Monday 21 June

Pagan: Summer Solstice - Litha (Longest day of the year)

Tuesday 29 June

Christian: St Peter's Day

Jewish: 17th Tammuz

July

Monday 5 July

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Hargobind (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Friday 9 July

Bahai: Martyrdom of the Bab

Monday 12 July

Orangemens' Day - Bank Holiday (Northern Ireland)

Thursday 15 July

Christian: St Swithin's Day

Tuesday 20 July

Jewish: Tisha B'Av

Zoroastrian: Jamshedi Noruz (Qadimi)

Friday 23 July

Rastafari: Birthday of Haile Selassie I

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Har Krishen (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Saturday 24 July

Mormon: Pioneer Day

Sunday 25 July

Zoroastrian: Khordad Sal (Qadimi)

Monday 26 July

Buddhist: Asala - Dharma Day

August

Sunday 1 August

Pagan: Lughnasadh - Lammass

Monday 2 August

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Summer Bank Holiday (Scotland)

Friday 6 August

Christian: Transfiguration

Thursday 12 August

Muslim: Ramadan (start)

Sunday 15 August

Christian: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday 17 August

Rastafari: Birthday of Marcus Garvey

Thursday 19 August

Zoroastrian: Jamshedi Noruz (Shenshai)

Tuesday 24 August

Hindu: Raksha Bandhan - Rakhee

Zoroastrian: Khordad Sal (Shenshai)

Monday 30 August

Summer Bank Holiday (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)

September

Thursday 2 September

Hindu: Janmashtami - Krishna Jayanti

Sunday 5 September

Jain: Paryushana

Wednesday 8 September

Christian: Feast of the Birth of Mary

Christian (Catholic): Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Christian (Orthodox): Nativity of the Theotokos

Thursday 9 September

Jewish: Rosh Hashanah (1st day)

Friday 10 September

Muslim: Eid-UI-Fitr - End of Ramadan

Saturday 11 September

Jewish: Fast of Gedalliah

Rastafari: Ethiopian New Year

Saturday 18 September

Jewish: Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement

Thursday 23 September

Jewish: Sukkot

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Pagan: Autumn Equinox - day and night are of equal length

Wednesday 29 September

Christian: Michaelmas / St Michael's Day

Jewish: Hoshanah Rabbah

Thursday 30 September

Jewish: Shemini Atzeret

October

Friday 1 October

Jewish: Simchat Torah

Friday 8 October

Hindu: Navaratri (start)

Saturday 9 October

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Ram Das (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Wednesday 13 October

Christian: St Edward's Day

Sunday 17 October

Hindu: Dussera

Wednesday 20 October

Bahai: Birth of the Bab

Sunday 31 October

Christian: All Saints' Day (Catholic Church in England and Wales)

Christian: Hallowe'en (All Hallows' Eve)

Pagan: Samhain (Hallowe'en)

November

Monday 1 November

Christian: All Saints' Day

Tuesday 2 November

Christian: All Souls' Day

Rastafari: Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I

Friday 5 November

Hindu: Diwali - The Festival of Lights

Jain: Diwali

Sikh: Diwali

Thursday 11 November

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Armistice Day

Friday 12 November

Bahai: Birth of Baha'u'llah

Sunday 14 November

Remembrance Sunday

Monday 15 November

Shinto: Shichigosan (7-5-3 festival)

Wednesday 17 November

Muslim: Eid-UI-Adha

Sunday 21 November

Sikh: Birthday of Guru Nanak (Lunar Calendar)

Tuesday 23 November

Shinto: Niinamesei

Wednesday 24 November

Sikh: Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Nanakshahi Calendar)

Friday 26 November

Bahai: Day of the Covenant

Sunday 28 November

Bahai: Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha

Christian: Advent Sunday

Tuesday 30 November

Christian: St Andrew's Day

Bank Holiday (Scotland)

December

Thursday 2 December

Jewish: Hanukkah

Tuesday 7 December

Muslim: Al-Hijira - Islamic New Year

Wednesday 8 December

Buddhist: Bodhi Day

Christian: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Monday 13 December

Christian: St Lucy's Day

Thursday 16 December

Muslim: Ashura

Religious Festivals and Public Holidays 2010

Tuesday 21 December

Pagan: Winter Solstice - Yule

Friday 24 December

Christian: Christmas Eve

Saturday 25 December

Christian: Christmas Day

Sunday 26 December

Boxing Day

African-American: Kwanzaa begins

Christian: St Stephen's Day

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Information is given on a strictly 'without-liability' basis, and should be considered for use as guidance only. If you propose taking further action based upon this information you are strongly advised to take further and more specific legal advice before doing so.

insidetime *the National Newspaper for Prisoners*

Re R&PH/Oct.09