

SPECIAL CULTURAL DATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

DECEMBER

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

3

First Sunday
of Advent

4

5

International
Volunteer Day

6 St. Nicholas Day

National Day of
Remembrance and
Action on Violence
Against Women

7

8

Bodhi Day- Buddhist

9

10

Human Rights Day

11

12

Our Lady of
Guadalupe - Mexico

13

Aga Khan's Birthday
- Islam Ismaili

14

15

16

Hanukkah - Jewish

Posadas - Latin America

17

18

International
Migrants Day

19

20

21

Tohji-Tasai - Shinto
Yule - Wicca
Winter Solstice

22

Joseph Smith's
Birthday - Mormon

23

Posadas - Latin America

24

Christmas Eve

25

Christmas Day

26

Boxing Day
Death of Prophet
Zarathustra -
Zoroastrian
Wren Day/St.
Stephen's Day - Ireland

27

28

29

30

Posadas - Latin America

Junkanoo - Bahamas

Kwanzaa

31

New Year's Eve
Hogmanay - Scotland
Omisoka - Japan

Junkanoo - Bahamas

Kwanzaa



Religious & Spiritual Celebrations


























Cultural Celebrations



Awareness Day



FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT EACH OF THESE CULTURAL DATES, CHECK OUT THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS CALENDAR!

	December 2 - International Day for the Abolition of Slavery - This day is dedicated to ending modern forms of slavery, such as sexual exploitation, human trafficking, the most heinous kinds of child labour, forced marriage, and the forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.
	December 3 - First Sunday of Advent - Many churches in Canada prepare Advent liturgies at this time of the year. In some Presbyterian churches, there is a liturgy for each Sunday of Advent, starting from the first Sunday of Advent in the lead-up to Christmas
	December 5 - International Volunteer Day - An international observance mandated by the UN General Assembly in 1985.
	December 6 - St. Nicholas Day - Is a festival for children in many countries in Europe related to surviving legends of the saint, and particularly his reputation as a bringer of gifts.
	December 6 - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - This day commemorates the anniversary of the École Polytechnique massacre in 1989 and serves as a day to reflect on and take action against violence against women.
	December 7-15 - Hanukkah - The Jewish Festival of Lights usually falls in December, commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem.
	December 8 - Bodhi Day (Buddhist) - Buddhists celebrate the day that Siddhartha Gautama achieved enlightenment through meditation. The word Bodhi means awakening or enlightenment. Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism, is popularly known as the Buddha.
	December 10 - Human Rights Day - Is a day when people around the world celebrate the idea that everyone deserves to be treated fairly and with dignity. It's a reminder that every person has basic rights, like the right to be free, safe, and treated equally.
	December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexico) - The celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe is marked by religious ceremonies, processions, and festivals. Many people make pilgrimages to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, which is one of the most visited Catholic shrines in the world.
	December 13 - Aga Khan's Birthday (Islam Ismaili) - The Aga Khan's birthday celebration, also known as Salgirah, is a special day for Ismaili Muslims who follow the Aga Khan, their spiritual leader. It's a joyful occasion where followers come together to celebrate the Aga Khan's birthday. They express their gratitude and good wishes for his leadership.
	December 16-24 - Posadas (Latin America) Las Posadas derives from the Spanish word posada (lodging, or accommodation) which, in this case, refers to the inn from the Nativity story. It uses the plural form as the celebration lasts for a nine-day interval (called the novena) during the Christmas season, which represents the nine-month pregnancy of Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ.
	December 18 - International Migrants Day - It is a day designated by the United Nations to raise awareness about the challenges and opportunities that migration presents and to recognize the contributions of migrants to the development and well-being of both their countries of origin and destination.
	December 21 - Yule (Wicca) - In modern times, some Neopagan and Wiccan communities continue to celebrate Yule as a festival marking the winter solstice, often incorporating various rituals and ceremonies.
	December 21 - Winter Solstice - Celebrated by various cultures and spiritual traditions, the winter solstice marks the shortest day and the longest night of the year.
	December 21 - Tohji-Tasai (Shinto) - The sun is of central importance in Japan and this day celebrates the end of the Yin period of the Sun in its declining strength and the growing power of the Yang period.
	December 23 - Joseph Smith's Birthday (Mormon) - Mormon Joseph Smith's Birthday He was the American Mormon Leader, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.
	December 24 - Christmas Eve - It is widely celebrated around the world as part of the Christmas season.
	December 25 - Christmas Day - Christian holiday commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ.
	December 26 - Boxing Day - A secular holiday that originated in the United Kingdom but is observed in Canada, where people traditionally give gifts to service workers and those in need.
	December 26 - Death of Prophet Zarathustra (Zoroastrian) - This day marks the death of the founder of the Zoroastrian faith.
	December 26 - Wren Day/St. Stephen's Day (Ireland) - This day is dedicated to St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr.
	December 26-January 1 - Junkanoo (Bahamas) - A festival that combines elements of Mardi Gras, mummers' parades, and ancient African tribal rituals.
	December 26-January 1 - Kwanzaa - A celebration of African-American culture and heritage, emphasizing principles such as unity, self-determination, and cooperative economics.
	December 31-January 4 - Gahambar Maidyarem (Zoroastrian) - This day celebrates the creation of animals. It is also a time for the equitable sharing of food.
	December 31 - Omisoka (Japan) - To usher in the new year, families clean their homes, eat toshi-koshi buckwheat noodles in the hope that one's life will be stretched out as long as these noodles. As midnight approaches, Shinto temples around the country begin ringing out the old year, sounding the temple bell 108 times, signifying the 108 human worldly desires removed by the striking of the bell.
	December 31 - Hogmanay (Scotland) - The Scottish New Year, Hogmanay is derived from the French phrase meaning 'Lead to the mistletoe'. Fire ceremonies, banging of pots and pans at midnight and bringing bread, salt and coal to their hosts to symbolize life, hospitality and warmth mark this exuberant occasion.
	December 31 - New Year's Eve - The celebration of the last day of the year, often marked by parties and fireworks.