

# National Days, Festivals and Celebrations

Information from: South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission - Calendar of Multicultural and Ethnic Communities' National Days, Festivals and Celebrations; UNICEF; and Equity and Diversity Unit - University of Technology, Sydney.

## A selection of Holidays, Festivals and Celebrations celebrated by various Communities in Australia

### 1998

#### JANUARY

- 01 New Year's Day - International
- 01 Liberation Day - Cuba
- 01 Independence Day - Haiti
- 01 National Day - Sudan
- 04 Independence Day - Myanmar (Burma)
- 05 National Day - Kiribati
- 06 Epiphany - Catholic, Protestant
- 06 Blessing of the Waters - Greek Orthodox
- 07 Christmas - Russian, Belarusian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Serbian and Ukrainian Orthodox
- 14 New Year's Day - Julian calendar
- 26 Australia Day, Aboriginal Survival Day - Australia
- 28 Lunar New Year - Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese

- 30 Eid al Fitr (end of Ramadan) - Islamic

#### FEBRUARY

- 04 National Day - Sri Lanka
- 06 Waitangi Day - New Zealand
- 11 Victory of the Islamic Revolution - Iran
- 11 National Foundation Day - Japan
- 16 Independence Day - Lithuania
- 18 National Day - Gambia
- 22 Pre-Lenten Carnivals begin - Christian
- 23 Independence Day - Brunei
- 23 National Day - Guyana
- 24 Independence Day - Estonia
- 25 National Day - Kuwait
- 27 Independence Day - Dominican Republic

#### MARCH

- 01 Independence Day - Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 01 St David's Day - Wales
- 03 National Day - Bulgaria
- 06 Independence Day - Ghana
- 08 International Women's Day
- 12 National Day - Mauritius
- 12 Purim - Jewish

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|-------|--|-----------|---|
| 15    | National Day - Hungary   | 27        | Freedom Day - South Africa                                  |
| 17    | St Patrick's Day - Ireland   | 28        | New Year - Islamic  |
| 20    | Independence Day - Tunisia   | 30        | Independence Day - Israel                                   |
| 21    | Independence Day - Namibia   | 30        | National Day and Queen's Birthday - Netherlands             |
| 21    | Nowruz, New Year - Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Baha'i, Kurdish, Parsi |           | <b>MAY</b>  |
| 21    | International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination     | 01        | May Day   |
| 25    | Independence Day - Belarus   | 01        | International Labor Day                                     |
| 25    | Independence Day - Greece  | 03        | Buddha's Birthday - China, Korea                            |
| 26    | Independence Day - Bangladesh                                      | 03        | National Day - Poland                                       |
| 28    | Nawabarsha (New Year) - India, Nepal                               | 15        | National Day - Paraguay                                     |
|       | <b>APRIL</b>   | 17        | Constitution Day - Norway                                   |
| 04    | Independence Day - Senegal   | 22        | National Day - Yemen  |
| 07    | Id-Al-Adha (Festival of Sacrifice) - Islamic                       | 24        | Independence Day - Eritrea                                  |
| 11-18 | Pesach (Passover) - Jewish   | 25        | National Day - Argentina                                    |
| 12    | Easter - Christian   | 25        | National Day - Jordan                                       |
| 13-17 | Songkran, Thingyan (Solar New Year) - Asia                         | 26        | National Day - Georgia                                      |
| 16    | Queen's Birthday and National Day - Denmark                        | 27        | Anniversary of Referendum for Aboriginal Rights - Australia |
| 17    | National Day - Syria   | 27-June 3 | National Reconciliation Week - Australia                    |
| 18    | National Day - Zimbabwe  | 28        | National Day - Azerbaijan                                   |
| 19    | Pascha (Easter) - Eastern Orthodox                                 | 30        | Republic Day - Croatia                                      |
| 23    | St George's Day - England  | 30        | Dragon boat festival - Chinese                              |
| 25    | Anzac Day - Australia and New Zealand                              |           | <b>JUNE</b>   |
| 26    | National Day - Tanzania  | 01        | International Children's Day                                |
|       |  | 01        | National Day - Samoa  |

02 National Day - Italy  
04 Independence Day - Tonga  
05 Independence Day - Algeria  
06 National Day - Sweden  
09 National Day - Portugal  
11 Independence Day - Philippines  
17 National Day - Iceland  
18 Independence Day - Egypt  
25 Independence Day - Mozambique  
25 National Day - Slovenia  
26 National Day - Madagascar

## JULY

01 National Day - Canada  
04 Independence Day - USA  
05 National Day - Venezuela  
06 Prophet Mohammed's Birthday - Islamic  
06 National Day - Malawi  
07 National Day - Solomon Islands  
14 Bastille Day - France  
17 National Day - Iraq  
20 National Day - Colombia  
21 National Day - Belgium  
24 Simon Bolivar's Birthday - South America  
26 National Day - Maldives  
27 National Day - Belarus

28 Independence Day - Peru  
30 Independence Day - Vanuatu  
AUGUST  
01 Foundation Day - Switzerland  
04 National Day - Cook Islands  
05 National Day - Jamaica  
06 Independence Day - Bolivia  
08 Beatification of Mary McKillop - Australia  
09 National Day - Singapore  
10 National Day - Ecuador  
14 Independence Day - Pakistan

15 Independence Day - India  
15 National Day - Republic of Korea  
17 Independence Day - Indonesia  
20 National Day - Hungary  
24 Independence Day - Ukraine  
25 Independence Day - Uruguay  
27 National Day - Moldova  
31 National Day - Malaysia  
31 National Day - Kyrgyzstan

## SEPTEMBER

01 Constitution Day - Slovakia  
01 National Day - Uzbekistan  
02 Independence Day - Vietnam  
06 National Day - Swaziland

07 Independence Day - Brazil  
 09 National Day - Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
 09 National Day - Tajikistan  
 15 National Day - Costa Rica  
 15 National Day - El Salvador  
 15 National Day - Guatemala  
 15 National Day - Honduras  
 15 National Day - Nicaragua  
 16 Independence Day - Papua New Guinea  
 16 Independence Day - Mexico  
 18 National Day - Chile  
 21 Independence Day - Malta  
 21-22 Rosh Hashanah (New Year) - Jewish  
 23 National Day - Saudi Arabia  
 28 Confucius' Birthday - Chinese  
 30 National Day - Botswana  
 30-Oct 1 Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) - Jewish

#### **OCTOBER**

01 National Day - China  
 01 National Day - Cyprus  
 01 Republic Day - Nigeria  
 02 Gandhi's Birthday - India  
 03 National Day - Germany  
 05 Mid-autumn festival - Chinese

09 Independence Day - Uganda  
 10 National Day - Fiji  
 12 National Day - Spain  
 15 Liberation Day - Tunisia  
 19 Divali (Festival of Lights) - Hindu  
 24 Independence Day - Zambia  
 26 National Day - Austria  
 27 National Day - Turkmenistan  
 28 Independence Day - Czech Republic  
 29 Republic Day - Turkey

#### **NOVEMBER**

03 National Day - Panama  
 09 Independence Day - Cambodia  
 15 National Day - Palestinian  
 18 Independence Day - Latvia  
 18 Independence Day - Morocco  
 18 National Day - Oman  
 22 Independence Day - Lebanon  
 29 National Day - Albania  
 30 St Andrew's Day - Scotland

#### **DECEMBER**

01 National Day - Romania  
 01 World AIDS day  
 02 National Day - Laos  
 02 National Day - United Arab Emirates

- 05 King's Birthday and National Day - Thailand
- 06 Independence Day - Finland
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 12 Independence Day - Kenya
- 14-22 Hanukah (Festival of Lights) - Jewish
- 16 National Day - Bahrain
- 21 Ramadan begins - Islamic
- 23 Emperor's Birthday and National Day - Japan
- 25 Christmas - Western Christian
- 28 King's Birthday and National Day - Nepal